



American Welding Society

Cleveland Section, District 10
Chartered in 1921, Over 500 members

P.O. Box 479
Grand River, OH 44045
<http://awssection.org/cleveland/>

Driving Growth in Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing

THURSDAY, February 13th, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

St. Demitrios Cultural Center

22909 Center Ridge Rd.

Rocky River, Ohio 44116

The Cleveland AWS section will be hosting an in-person meeting on **THURSDAY, February 13th at 6:00 pm**. The meeting will take place at the St. Demetrios Cultural Center located at 22909 Center Ridge Rd, Rocky River, Ohio 44116. *****PLEASE NOTE*** THIS IS A THURSDAY!**

We are excited to host a special program featuring speakers from Aerozone Alliance and TeamNEO. This program will highlight efforts to support the growth of aerospace and advanced manufacturing in Northeast Ohio. Speakers include Mary Schmidt, Director of Business Engagement at Aerozone Alliance; Keri Zipay, Director of Business Development for TeamNEO and Hrishue Mahalaha, Executive Director of Aerozone Alliance.

Mary and Keri will share insights from their Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) visits with local companies, focusing on opportunities to grow existing businesses and attract new ones to the region. They will also discuss resources like JobsOhio grants and workforce development initiatives. Hrishue will provide a high-level overview of Aerozone Alliance's mission to transform the 50-square-mile area around NASA Glenn Research Center and Cleveland Hopkins International Airport into a leading hub for aerospace innovation and economic development.

Aerozone Alliance is a nonprofit organization working to position Northeast Ohio as a leader in aerospace and advanced manufacturing. By fostering collaboration among businesses, academic institutions, and community partners, Aerozone Alliance drives innovation and supports economic growth.

TeamNEO is a key economic development organization for the region, dedicated to accelerating business growth and job creation. As part of the JobsOhio Network, TeamNEO connects businesses with resources, grants, and strategic partnerships to strengthen industries like manufacturing, aerospace, and defense.

Dinner and drinks will be served during the meeting. The cost is \$20 at the door, or \$18 if you RSVP by Monday, February 10th. To register, or if you have any questions or concerns, please send an email to the Cleveland section cleveland@awssections.org or call Mike Barrett at 216-212-2021.

Please let us know your email when you RSVP for this meeting. In the event of poor weather and the meeting needs to be cancelled, an email notification will be sent out from the cleveland@awssections.org email address.

AWS Scholarships

The Cleveland Section has three named scholarships, the **John Gerken**, the **Jack Buck**, and the **Ray Sacha**. Each of these awards has a specific focus. The **Gerken Award** helps pay for welding education at the community college and university level for up to four years. The student earning the **Buck Award** will receive a scholarship for learning pipe welding. The **Sacha Award** is to develop welding skills for students pursuing a post secondary degree in a welding related program and will assist with paying for hands on welding skills training. These scholarships are awarded to residents within the Cleveland Section boundaries -- Sandusky to Ashtabula, Cleveland to Akron. It is not necessary to be an AWS member or related to an AWS member to receive a scholarship.

For scholarship details contact our Scholarship Chairman by emailing cleveland@awssections.org. Students wanting to apply for the Gherkin scholarship can do so through the AWS website using the scholarship link below. In addition to the Cleveland Section Scholarships, the AWS Foundation has awards more than \$600,000 in scholarships at the national and the district levels every year. Applications for National Scholarships are now open. Please go to <https://scholarship.aws.org> to Apply! **Deadline to apply for National, District, and Section Scholarships is March 1st, 2025!**

*****Vic Matthews Grant*****

The Cleveland Section created a Vic Matthews Memorial Grant in 2024. The grant allows welding schools to buy welding equipment. Secondary and post secondary non-profit schools are eligible to apply for this \$10,000 grant. The money is to be used to further welding education. More information is available on the AWS grants website, [AWS Foundation Section Grant | Supporting Local Welding Initiatives](#). The deadline to submit an application is March, 15th 2025. Apply now!

Looking to Get Involved in the AWS?

The AWS Cleveland Section is welcoming volunteers to join the Cleveland Section Board. If you are interested in volunteering on the board, please email cleveland@awssections.org for more information. We currently have a Member at Large position open as well as other opportunities! We are also looking for a future Treasurer.

SPONSORS

Many of our sponsors offer their time as board members and volunteers and donate items for our annual auction, please support them.

Every month during the Section's business year, over six hundred welding professionals see the ads in this newsletter. That's over 5,000 opportunities each this year. Many of those welding professionals make purchasing decisions. A business card ad is a great way to get a buyer's attention and show support for the Cleveland Section. Please contact Harry Sadler at maineoutpost@gmail.com for more information. A business card ad is only \$200 for the entire year.

Regards,
Roman Martynyuk – AWS Cleveland Section Chair



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AWS National HQ

American Welding Society

8669 NW 36th St., #130

Miami, FL 33166-6672

Phone: (800) 443-9353

District 10 Director— Tom Kostreba

kostreba@hotmail.com

Mailing address to any board member:

P.O. Box 479, Grand River, OH 44045

Section Website: awssection.org/cleveland

Facebook: www.facebook.com/awscleveland

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CWIs are responsible to keep track of their Personal Development Hours. A form for tracking PDHs is available at the Welcome Table and can be used to track PDHs at Cleveland Section meetings and other technical society meetings. The Cleveland Section does not keep attendance records and cannot verify that an individual attended a specific meeting.

2024-25 AWS Cleveland Meeting Schedule

9/10/24 – AWS Social Meeting – Forrest City Brewery

10/8/24 – No Meeting – AWS Show

11/12/24 – AWS B2.1 Procedure Qualification

12/12/24 – Annual Holiday Party / Scholarship Auction

1/14/25 – NDE (Nondestructive Testing)

2/13/25 – Work Force Development / Aerozone Alliance

*** **2/13/25 is a Thursday!** ***

3/11/25 – TBD

4/8/25 – Compressed Gas Safety

5/13/25 – AWS Social (TBD)