



American Welding Society®
DETROIT SECTION



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SAVE THE DATE - AT A GLANCE -

- April 9:** National Welding Month Celebration at MCC
- April 12:** Ladies Night
- May 4-5:** CWI Seminar
- May 10:** CWI Exam
- June 13:** Sporting Clays Fundraiser
- Sept. 8-11:** FABTECH 2025 Chicago
- Sept. 25:** Annual Golf Outing

Check out the latest videos published by the American Welding Society on its YouTube page.

AWS Technical Nights are open to everyone! We encourage that members bring students and non-members to learn more about our organization and industry.



Affiliated With

2025 Ladies Night Scholarship Gala Detroit Section

WHERE: The Westin Southfield Detroit (Atrium) **«NEW VENUE»**

WHEN: Saturday, April 12th, 2025 **«SAVE THE DATE»**

Cocktails 6 to 7 p.m.

Dinner and Program . . . 7 to 9:30 p.m.

Afterglow Dancing 9:30 to 12 a.m.

For more information, email: awsdetregistration@awsdetroit.org

For overnight reservations call 248.827.4000 or **BOOK ONLINE HERE**



Chairman's Message
Russ Webster

Hello AWS – Detroit Members and Friends,

I want to start with a big thank you to AHB for the great tech night they hosted on March 14th. The main topic was diffusion welding, but it was also the showcase for TECNA to display several innovative new products. The presentation was given by Filippo Cortiglioni, Area Sales Manager USA/INDIA at TECNA where he covered diffusion welding... great job!

The next tech night will be held on May 8th at 5:30pm at Boellhoff in Troy. Check April's E-Bulletin for more information. Hope to see you there.

Ladies Night is here! It will be held on April 12th at the Westin Southfield Detroit. This is a fun filled evening to spend time with friends and meet some new ones. Come out and enjoy and evening. Also, this is a fundraising opportunity for Detroit AWS. This event helps us fund our student scholarship fund.

We also are accepting nominations for people interested in serving on the AWS Detroit Executive committee. If you've ever wondered what it's like to run this section and would like to try participating, please let us know by reaching out to myself at russ.webster@gm.com. People who are elected to participate will meet with the e-board once a month, in person, to network and update the team on their activities. Deadline for nominations is fast approaching so reach out ASAP.



Thank you for your support!

ONE HUNDRED PERCENT

of the Patron's Fund Donations are directed to scholarships for students who are pursuing careers in Welding Engineering and Welding Technology.

To become a Patron, contact Steve Gucciardo, AWS Detroit Section-Patron's Committee Chair, 810-623-6508 or email gucciardos@shapecorp.com

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(Emails linked where available.)

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TECH NIGHT MEETING
RESERVATIONS
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Our Mission is to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes worldwide, including brazing, soldering and thermal spraying. AWS Detroit provides support for the industry in many ways, including:

- Institutional Grants (endowment based);
- Scholarships through Application (endowment based);
- Scholarships through aptitude (HSWC);
- Vocational Support (case by case but budgeted each year), Institution (e.g. supply gas and materials), Local Contest (e.g. travel expense), International Contest (e.g. travel expense);
- Student Memberships (evaluated each year);
- Student Chapter (evaluated each year);
- Technical and Educational Opportunities.


MOTT COMMUNITY
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NATIONAL WELDING MONTH CELEBRATION

APRIL 9, 2025

EVENTS:

10 a.m.
Registration & Vendor Demos
11:30 a.m.
Sponsored Lunch
12:30 p.m.
Keynote: Welding & Education
with **Richard L. Holdren, PE**
American Welding Society President

1:30-3 p.m.
Live Welding Demonstrations
3-5 p.m.
Welding Job Fair (open to public)
by Student Employment Services

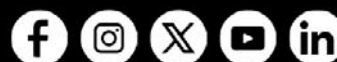
5-5:45 p.m.
Tour: MCC Welding Program
5:30-6 p.m.
Refreshments in the RTC Atrium
6-7 p.m.
Keynote: Welding & Education
& **Panel Discussion: Opportunities in Welding**

LOCATION:

MOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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Mott Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Ask the Welding Engineer

By Jason Nicholson

Q: *“What skill might be useful to you, regardless of position, industry or business?” Throughout my career I have worked in several industries and locations. When I was younger, I thought my skills in Welding and Engineering would be my best attributes, but over time I found that communication matters just as much, if not more, than skill or knowledge of Welding.*

A: As Welders in a shop or out in the field, we may not communicate with people very much. We are busy working! However, we do communicate with our equipment regularly. Get to know your equipment. Listen to it. A squeak from a wire feeder could mean that a drive wheel needs to be changed. The feeling of wire dragging through a weld gun could be a crimped liner or a worn-out tip. In any case, if your equipment doesn't feel right, it's trying to tell you something. Its up to you to interpret that communication and make the decision to act on it.

Most welders are familiar with Welding Symbols. Welding symbols are “the written language of welding.” The most popular standards for Welding Symbols in the U.S. are AWS A2.4 and AWS A3.0, among others. The fact is we don't all interpret these the same. For those who create drawings or write instructions, using the correct welding symbol is critical. I can't tell you how often I've seen a square groove weld when an edge weld or fillet weld is required. On the other end, not interpreting a welding symbol on the shop floor can cause re-work of all sorts or even scrap. Think of each other as internal customers. The person who makes the drawing serves the customer who will use the drawing. The person who uses the drawing is serving the external customer who needs the product. In the end, the standard is the referee and should be the basis for welding communication inside and outside the organization. These standards should be understood by all who use them and checked periodically for updates.

The welding industry can also have communication with people no matter your position. Training in any setting, management, and sales require clear and concise communication. One of the most important things about communicating with others is

the opposite of what most of us think communication is: Listening. Listening with dedication to the speaker, often known as “Active Listening,” is a skill that can be difficult to learn but is the best way to fully grasp what someone is saying. Active listening uses body language, focus, and checking for understanding. Active listening can help to build trust, increase communication effectiveness, and generally creates more positive outcomes. The opposite of Active Listening is listening to Respond. Listening to respond is when someone is more focused on what they want to say back. Listening to respond does not focus on the conversation. You can usually tell when someone is listening to respond, and it doesn't feel good. Put yourself in the situation: If you were learning how to weld, it would be a good idea to focus on your instructor and what they are trying to teach you. Now switch positions: If you are trying to teach someone how to weld and they aren't paying attention, they can't learn no matter what training you give.

The other side to communication is of course, speaking including forms like sign language. It is best to be familiar with the learning preferences of who you are talking to. People learn in various ways such as on-the-job training, reading tech manuals, conversation, or visualization.

Communicating to someone with their preferred learning method is one of the best ways to gain their trust. This is also the same for delivery of communication. Some people prefer to text, email, call, or speak face-to-face. If I send someone an email who prefers to talk over the phone, their response won't be the same, and our communication is

not likely to give the best result.

My last thought on communication is that is important to communicate with yourself. Check in with yourself. Its ok to think about how you are feeling or write down your goals for the day. Understanding yourself is the first and best step with communication. How you feel on the inside can mirror how you look on the outside. Its your choice to be conscious about it or not. Someone who is in touch with themselves is usually well prepared to work with others.

To wrap it up, communication with welding takes many forms. We experience communication every day from our equipment and materials. We work with written communication through Blueprints, Symbols, and Standards. We also work with people, where good communication will give clear directives and concise learning. Communication skills may be difficult to master but can be critical to success both on and off the job. I have taken my own journey

Continued on page 7



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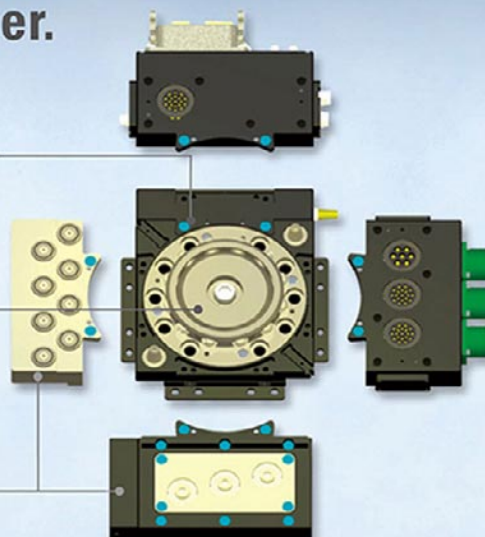
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American Welding Society Detroit Section

SEMINAR INFORMATION



American Welding Society
DETROIT SECTION

DATES

CWI Seminar

May 4 – May 9, 2025

Exam

May 10, 2025

LOCATION

Detroit Metro Airport Marriott

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Romulus, MI. 48174

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Ask The Welding Engineer

continued from page 4

to improve communication both professionally and personally. I am thankful for the training I have received and understand that it is my responsibly to work at it every day. In the end, you may not be able to control how someone else communicates, but you can control how you communicate.

Here are my recommendations for books on communication and leadership:

- “Your First Leadership Job: How Catalyst Leaders Bring out the Best in Others,” by Tracy Byham and Richard Wellins
- “The Four Agreements,” by Don Miguel Ruiz

If you have any questions or comments, I’d like to listen. Please feel free to contact me at:

Jason Nicholson
Welding Engineer
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Jason Nicholson is a Michigan native and Welding Engineer for General Dynamics: Land Systems. He started his career in Welding when joined the U.S. Navy as a Hull Maintenance Technician in 2004. While serving, he attained the Naval Enlisted Code (NEC) – 4955: U.S. Navy Certified Welder. He was Honourably discharged in 2010. He received his AS in Welding Engineering Technology from Delta Community College in 2012. He transferred to Ferris State University and graduated with a BS in Welding Engineering Technology in 2014. He has worked in a variety of industries from Submarines, Shipbuilding, and Automation, and has worked in locations across the world from Japan to Massachusetts.



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THE SCHEDULE:

- 9 to 9:30 - Coffee, Donuts,
and Networking (oh my!)
- 9:30 to 11 - Discussion

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April 21st, 2025



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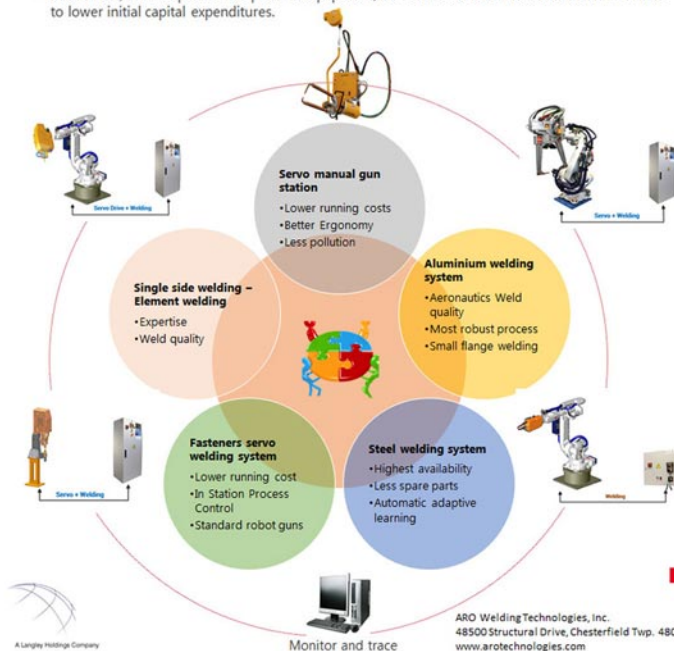
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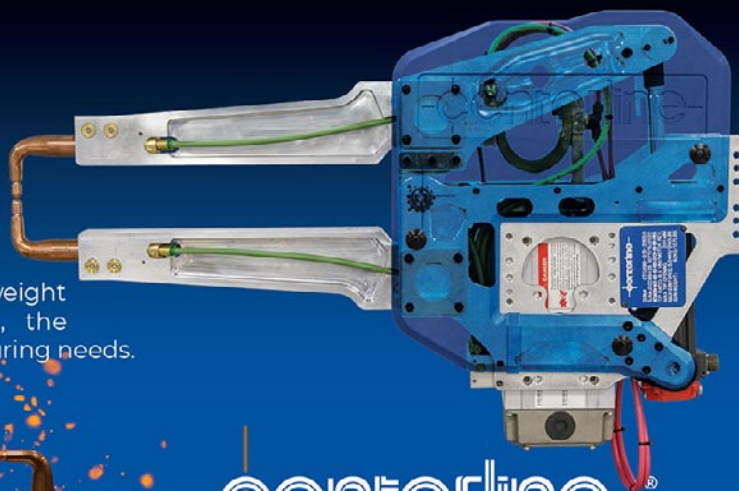
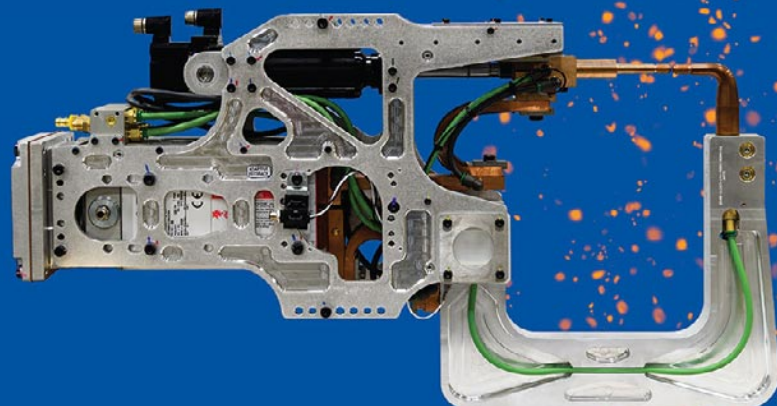
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AWS Detroit Section Presents:

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Friday June 13th @ 10 am

Huron Pointe Sportsmen Association, Lenox MI

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50 rounds of sporting clays, 25 rounds of 5 stand, 12 ga ammunition, heavy BBQ lunch, 2 drink tickets (cash bar after), commemorative patch and sticker. Shooting done in teams of four

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March Technical Meeting Re-cap

Last month's Technical Meeting took place on March 13, 2025, at AHB Tooling & Machinery in Roseville, Michigan. The event was organized in collaboration with Weld Systems Integrators (WSI) and featured a presentation on diffusion welding by Filippo Cortiglioni, the Area Sales Manager for the USA and India at TECNA.

Upon entering the AHB facility, attendees were impressed by the advanced machinery strategically placed throughout the shop. From Ermaksan brake presses to Flow water jets, AHB showcased state-of-the-art equipment that would be enviable to any professional.

The shop was buzzing with a diverse group of attendees, including automotive professionals and testing technicians. Conversations filled the air as participants introduced themselves and enjoyed gourmet food provided for the event. Before the TECNA presentation began, AWS honored our dedicated patrons with customized plaques. Moments like these highlight the depth of gratitude and sincerity that the AWS Detroit Section embodies.

Filippo Cortiglioni's presentation focused on the diffusion bonding process, demonstrating how TECNA equipment creates the controlled environment necessary for producing high-quality bonds. Diffusion welding relies on force, heat, and precise timing to join materials without adding extra material, thereby preserving the molecular integrity of the components. This process is particularly suitable for bonding large-scale bus bars used in electric vehicles, electric trucks, train locomotives, power generation, and renewable energy applications.

After the presentation, attendees had the opportunity to demo a Yaskawa Motoman Robotics America robot using a TECNA 160 kVA MFDC heavy-duty weld gun—the first single-transformer spot gun for



Continued on page 15

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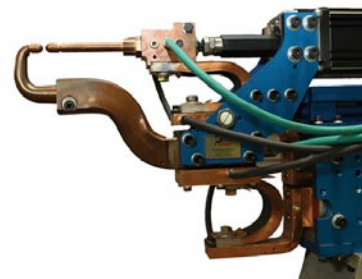
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March Meeting Re-cap

continued from page 13

aluminum—as well as the TECNA 3680Si portable industrial welding station with the SMART WELD function, which automatically recognizes thickness and material. They also got an exclusive first look at the TECNA SENSUM – 6158NX / 486, a 200 kVA MFDC press-type spot welder. SENSUM is a groundbreaking welding technology that allows for complete weld cycle control plotting integrated directly into the inverter, providing users with unmatched precision and real-time feedback both onsite and remotely.

We extend our gratitude to AHB Tooling & Machinery, TECNA, and Weld Systems Integrators for their participation and contributions to a successful technical meeting.



American Welding Society Annual Golf Outing

Save Date

—September 25th, 2025—



American Welding Society
DETROIT - SECTION 011



Open Range—7:30am
Registration—8:00am
Shotgun Start—9:00am

18 Hole—4 Person Scramble Format

Kurt VanDonkelaar—kvandonkelaar@romanmfg.com