



American Welding Society Pittsburgh Section

SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

SPARK UPDATE

2025/2026 NUMBER 1

Chairman's Announcement

The Pittsburgh AWS Section is proud to present a full line up of plant tours and technical presentations for its members for the 2025- 2026 year.

I hope that you will find these scheduled meetings of interest and plan to attend. If you have any ideas for our chapter or suggestions for a future meetings or plant tours, please contact any of our Board members.

Thank you,

Huck Hughes - Chairman, Pittsburgh AWS
hhughes@parkwaywest.org

October Technical Meeting: Thursday October 9, 2025

Topic: Handheld Laser Welding & Collaborative Robots (Cobots)

Speaker: Nathan Moyer - CWI, CWS Airgas Great Lakes - TCL Level 1
Automation Sales Manager

Join us for a presentation by Nathan Moyer who will be sharing his insights on handheld laser welding and collaborative robotic welding. Handheld laser welding systems which allow for easier operation, reduced distortion, and faster production, even for less experienced welders, has made it a significant development for precision-focused industries like aerospace. This process requires detailed safety and training which needs to be understood and implemented.

Collaborative robots, or cobots, are robots designed to work safely alongside humans in shared workspaces, rather than being isolated by cages. They are ideal for repetitive, menial tasks like inspection, picking, and machine tending, allowing human workers to focus on complex, problem-solving tasks. Cobots offer advantages such as lower cost, flexibility, ease of programming, and energy efficiency compared to traditional industrial robots. A summary of applications, training requirements, and budgetary costs associated with both of these rapidly growing technologies will be discussed.

About the Speaker: Nathan Moyer is a seasoned professional with 26 years of experience in the industry. As a degreed welding engineer from The Ohio State University, Nathan brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the table. He has been a dedicated member of the American Welding Society for 29 years and serves on the AWS A5.32 Committee. During his time in industry, he has served the role of Weld Process Specialist and Automation Sales Manager for Airgas. Today, Nathan will be sharing his insights on handheld laser welding and collaborative robotic welding."

In addition to the presentation, a tour of CCAC Community Maker Lab will be offered. It is an industrial-level facility designed to support entrepreneurs and regional small businesses. It is available for low cost and offers equipment for advanced manufacturing, prototyping, and design.

RSVP: hhughes@parkwaywest.org by October 2, 2025

Meeting Date: Thursday October 9, 2025

Meeting Time: Doors Open 5:00 PM; Presentation - 6:00

Meeting Location: CCAC West Hills Center
1000 McKee Rd
Oakdale, PA 15071

Cost: Free

We hope to see you there.
Huck Hughes - Chairman, Pittsburgh AWS
hhughes@parkwaywest.org

Next Meeting – **Joint ASM / AWS Technical Meeting**

Date: **TBD**

Location: **TBD**

Details will be announced in the November issue of "Spark"

AWS Seminars & Exam Schedule

The Pittsburgh Section hosts several Certified Weld Inspector (CWI) seminars & exams in 2026. Location and registration information is available on the AWS.org website.

TYPE	SEMINAR	EXAM DATE	SITE CODE
CWI Seminar	2/1 - 2/6, 2026	2/7/2026	PA00726
CWI 9 Year Seminar	2/22- 2/27, 2026	2/27/2026	YS01426
CWI Seminar	5/31- 6/1, 2026	6/2/2026	PA05026
CWI 9 Year Seminar	6/7- 6-12, 2026	6/12/2026	YS05726