Plan Ahead - WMMA 2019 Upcoming Events

January 25-28, 2019
Winter Industry Networking & Snow Sports Event
Little America Hotel
Salt Lake City, UT
Event description and details listed below. Keep reading for more info!

February 19-22, 2019
WMMA Industry Washington, DC Fly-In
SAVE THE DATE – email Dan@wmma.org if you are interested in attending and receiving more information!

April 2-5, 2019
Woodworking Industry Conference (WIC19)
Omni Amelia Island Plantation
Amelia Island, FL

May 27-31, 2019
LIGNA 2019
Hannover Exhibition Grounds
Hannover, Germany

July 17-20, 2019
AWFS Vegas
Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV USA

September 30 – October 2, 2019
WMMA Regional Networking Meeting
Hotel Commonwealth
Boston, MA

Click here to view our full Calendar of Events

We are focusing bigger than ever on NETWORKING this year, Jan 25-28 at Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City.

THE TOPIC-OF-THE-DAY was introduced at WINS 2018. It was very popular as a way to focus a large portion of our networking on a particular subject each day. We are tweaking it this year, based on suggestions from numerous attendees last year.

- Topics will be announced further ahead of time
- There will be organized breakfasts, lunches, apres ski & dinners
- (avid skiers can, of course, do their own thing for lunches)
- At dinner each night, anyone can give a 2-3 minute presentation on the topic (a vignette, a tip, an
We will vote, and whoever presented the most useful information will win a free lift ticket for the following day (or equivalent)

Obviously there is a lot more for you to talk about than just the Topic-of-the-Day, WINS is a great format for networking. (Ask anyone who has attended!)

Chairlift and slopeside discussions are as popular and as effective as meals, and this year we are adding

**NEW NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES**

- **SNOWMOBILING:** For the many folks who enjoy it, there will be two organized days of “sledding” (as it’s called in Utah.) (A tip of the hat to Renee Stritar for doing all the heavy lifting with that.)
- **SNOWCAT SKIING:** For the avid (advanced and expert) skiers and boarders, there will be a day of snowcat skiing before WINS on Thurs, Jan 24th
- **BACKCOUNTRY TOURING:** For the hike up “Earn Your Turns” crowd, there will be an A.T. day after WINS on Tuesday, Jan 29th

**LET US KNOW NOW IF YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST!**

Rather than clutter everyone’s inbox, those 3 special events will have separate mailing lists. Let us know if any of them is something you’re interested in, and we will add your name to the extra list(s.)

**REGISTRATION FEES:** In response to the post-WINS survey, there will be no change to registration fees for 2019. WINS is still a real bargain!

**SPONSORS!** That is only possible because of our amazing, generous sponsors! Thank you!! Last year’s sponsors are listed below.

Details on everything will be coming soon in followup emails, but meanwhile, feel free to send your questions (or suggestions) to any of us.

John Schultz - jschultz@superthinsaws.com
Gordon Burdis - gordon@jamesltaylor.com
James Scarlett - james@scarlettinc.com

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**Join WMMA in DC to Advocate for the Industry**

The next WMMA Industry Washington, DC Fly-In dates have been set. **February 19-21, 2019**

Industry leaders will come to Washington, DC to press for action on more funding for career and technical education, comprehensive healthcare reform and a fully functioning Export-Import Bank.

In 2018, representatives from the WMMA, Woodworking Machinery Industry Association and Association of Woodworking & Furnishings Suppliers achieved success on reauthorizing the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act and passing tax reform.

**What will industry leaders achieve in 2019?**

Come to DC in February and join industry efforts.

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**2019 Renewal Season is Here**

You will be receiving your 2019 WMMA Membership renewal notifications shortly. **Please utilize this time to confirm your roster** of representatives and add any new employees to receive our event notices, industry updates, involvement opportunities and more!
Interested in becoming more involved or having one of your employees more engaged within WMMA? Check out one of our committees here. Email Samantha@wmma.org with any questions.

Black Bros. Co. Celebrates Manufacturing Month

More than 300 community leaders, business professionals and local dignitaries got an inside view of how the Black Brothers Company operates at its Mendota, Illinois plant October 25 as the company held an event to celebrate Manufacturing Month.

The event featured plant tours of Black Bros. Co.’s corporate and manufacturing facilities, where many equipment upgrades have been made in the last two years. Attendees were able to watch live demonstrations and observe the processes necessary for Black Bros. to build, test and design the machinery it has come to be known for across the globe. Attendees were then able to witness live demonstrations of the end product — Black Bros. machinery. Demos included the Black Bros. ThermoFormer for 3D components, and a 775 Hot Melt Glue Spreader and Multi-Roll Rotary Pneumatic Press for Engineered Wood Flooring.

Guests were even able to take home souvenirs that were built on Black Bros.’ latest facility upgrade — a water jet cutter capable of cutting through six inches of steel at four times the speed of sound. The water jet was installed six months ago and allowed Black Bros. to immediately see improvements in efficiency.

In addition, Black Bros. Co. held a Discover Manufacturing Career Expo for area high school students on October 23. Similar to the event on October 25, the Expo showcased the Black Bros. Co. facilities and looked to introduce the students to the countless possibilities for careers in the Manufacturing industry.

Founded in 1882 in Scotland, Black Bros. Co. has called Mendota, Illinois — a rural farming community 90 miles southwest of Chicago — its home since the turn of the 20th century.

Join a WMMA Committee Today!

Members drive the WMMA programs and services that have a positive impact on their businesses, the industry and U.S. manufacturing. Committee and Task Force structures, comprised of interested and active leaders, professionals and executives from member companies, help to channel the many ideas, areas, and topics that members use to address the challenges of the
global marketplace. WMMA’s dedicated volunteers are an integral part of the Association's continued success. If you are interested in joining a WMMA Committee, submit the Committee Commitment form to kristin@wmma.org.

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**Call for Product Images for WMMA Website!**

Want free advertising for your products on the WMMA website? Send in images to info@wmma.org. There must be no noticeable branding on any photos.

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**ANSI Update**

Are you interested in contributing to the development and maintenance of these valuable industry safety standards? The ASCO1 is currently looking for members in the following categories:

* General Interest
* Government
* User

If you are interested in joining the ASCO1, contact Wmma Associate Director Samantha Devine at Samantha@wmma.org

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**Industry News**

**NAM Monday Economic Report:**

November 12, 2018

The Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged, as expected, but the Federal Open Market Committee is widely anticipated to hike short-term rates at its December 18–19 meeting. The Federal Reserve not only noted slowing business investment, but it also continued to acknowledge overall strength in the U.S. economy, especially the tight labor market.

[Click here for the full report from November 12, 2018.](#)
September housing data was tepid with several monthly declines in starts, permits, completions, and new single-family sales. Total private construction spending was minimally positive; conversely, single-family expenditures declined slightly on a monthly basis. All housing start data were positive on year-over-year starts. Housing under construction remained positive except for yearly multi-family data. Single-family housing completions were positive year-over-year, but negative on a monthly basis. Existing sales continued their stagnant trend, monthly and yearly. The November 9th Atlanta Fed GDPNow™ residential investment spending model projects an aggregate -1.5% decline. New private permanent site expenditures were projected for a 1.1% increase; the improvement spending forecast was a 3.3% increase; and the manufactured/mobile housing projection was a 10.1% improvement (all: quarterly log change and seasonally adjusted annual rate).