Seven Honorees Lauded For Woodwork Excellence

Out of 16 remarkable architectural woodwork projects featured in four recent editions of AWI’s quarterly Design Solutions Magazine, six rose to the top and achieved Standard of Excellence Awards and were recognized at the 67th AWI Annual Convention, Oct. 6-8. Six AWI Manufacturing Members were honored for excellence in the following categories: Residential, Corporate, Hospitality, Education, Healthcare, and Retail.

In addition, one—Brochsteins, Inc.—was singled out for its extraordinary creativity and execution of a high-visibility woodwork project, winning the “Overall” Standard of Excellence Award. The firm’s project is the Texas Tower at 609 Main in Houston. The 42-story, 1.85 million sq. ft. office tower featured woodwork manufactured from Basswood and Eucalyptus.

For details about the challenges faced on each project, see AWI's Design Solutions Magazine at www.awinet.org.

AWI Board Appoints New Executive VP

On Aug. 27, 2019, the AWI Board of Directors reviewed the AWI Executive Vice President Search Committee’s report and recommendation of Doug Hague as Philip Duvic’s successor effective Jan. 1, 2020. Following the Board’s unanimous vote on that recommendation, directors enthusiastically endorsed Doug Hague in his new role as the AWI EVP. Phil Duvic has been associated with AWI since November 2000 and was appointed Executive Vice President in 2005.

Search & Selection
Prior to the Board’s vote, Doug Mock, chair of the EVP Search Committee, reported that nearly 80 applications were received and reviewed in the evaluation process which resulted in a selection of three qualified finalist EVP candidates. Each of the three finalist candidates was interviewed by the committee in face-to-face meet-

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ings in early August. At the conclusion of those interviews, the EVP Search Committee selected Doug Hague as their recommended EVP candidate for consideration by the AWI Board of Directors.

“The EVP Search Committee vetted dozens of applications and I am pleased that Doug Hague’s name rose to the top of the list. AWI’s future leadership is now secure and I am so very grateful that Doug stepped forward in this opportunity. I am confident that Doug will lead AWI and our Staff team to new heights of superlative performance with unsurpassed outcomes,” Executive VP Phil Duvic said about his successor. Phil will retire on Dec. 31, 2019 after 19 years of service to AWI.

Acceptance
In accepting the EVP appointment, Doug said, “It is an honor to be selected for this position. This tremendous opportunity to lead our association that is recognized as a global leader is both exhilarating and a big responsibility. I look forward to engaging members so they can experience the value of their association membership. AWI has so much to offer and I am grateful to be a part of it. I thank Phil for his 15 years of leadership and am eager to learn during the transition process. My ability to make change in the Education area was primarily due to the support of our volunteers, Board of Directors leadership, and staff. I aim for the same support in this new role to ELEVATE our association to new heights.”

Background
Doug joined the AWI National Staff as Education Director on July 1, 2016, where he has focused on upgrading AWI’s core seminars, contributed fresh fund-raising ideas to the AWI Education Foundation, introduced students to AWI members at selected national events, and began development of a revolutionary digital learning portal to enhance AWI members’ learning opportunities.

Doug is a Pittsburg State University (PSU) graduate with a BST in Wood Technology and a MS in Career and Technical Education. He has participated in all areas of fabrication from Design/Sales to final Installation. Doug’s primary industry roles were office related: Estimating, Project Management, Drafting/Engineering, and CNC programming — specializations which are key components among AWI’s current education offerings for woodworkers.

Directly out of school Doug gained employment with a small high-end residential shop that also did commercial work. Initially, Doug was a drafter/engineer using AutoCAD to produce submittal drawings for review, and shortly thereafter he performed takeoffs and prepared estimates using an in-house Excel system. An increased company workload led Doug to Project Management and more, overseeing the timeline, maintaining communication with customers, procuring materials, and ensuring customer satisfaction through the end of the process. After the firm purchased Microvellum in 2004, Doug advanced to oversight of projects through their entirety. Thereafter, for nine years Doug served as an Associate Professor at PSU, where he taught a variety of coursework and helped prepare individuals for the woodworking industry. It was from PSU that Doug returned to the industry, gaining employment at AWI.

Transition
Commencing Oct. 1 and extending through December, Phil and Doug will work together to ensure a successful transition and hand-off into his new role as the AWI Executive VP.
With Appreciation: Long-Standing Members

Member support for AWI contributes to its strength and ability to serve the architectural woodwork industry. We are grateful for the continued support of AWI members over the years.

This month, during the 67th AWI Annual Convention, 14 Manufacturing Members were recognized for their long-standing membership in AWI. Thanks for contributing to our success! We join you in celebrating your 25-year and 50-year membership anniversaries. Your continuous support of AWI is also testament to your company’s lasting success in the industry.

25-Year Anniversary

Artifex Millwork Inc.  
Wyoming, MN
Cabinets by Perrier  
Harahan, LA
Centre Interiors Woodworking Company, Inc.  
Ozone Park, NY
Classic Millwork & Products, Inc.  
El Paso, TX
Delta Cabinet Company, Inc.  
Delta, CO
Discher Architectural Millwork  
Oshkosh, WI
Forum Manufacturing, Inc.  
Milford Center, OH
Iannuzzi Millwork, Inc.  
Fraser, MI
JLR – Fondell  
Lehi, UT
Memphis Masterworks, LLC  
Memphis, TN
R.B. Woodcraft, Inc.  
Syracuse, NY
The Woodworks Architectural Millwork Company  
Londonderry, NH
Walsh Commercial Group dba Wood Dimensions  
Cleveland, OH

50-Year Anniversary

E. B. Endres, Inc.  
Huntingdon, PA

Thanks for contributing to our success!
OVERALL
Project: Office Tower at 609 Main, Houston, TX
Woodworker: Brochsteins, Inc., Houston, TX
Design Solutions: Spring 2019
Brochsteins manufactured a trellis of solid Basswood and figured and plain quartered Eucalyptus; lobby paneling at elevators and ceilings; a fitness center with reclaimed wood walls and locker rooms; resin/metal walls in corridors; lacquer paneling and credenzas in the conference room; and decorative laminate cabinetry throughout the space. The wood screen (trellis) on the second floor of the atrium was the most intricate woodwork element in the entire project, according to the architect.

HOSPITALITY
Project: Lumen at Beacon Park, Detroit, MI
Woodworker: MOD Interiors, Inc., Ira, MI
Design Solutions: Summer 2019
Lumen is a new restaurant building and park with architectural woodwork highlights featuring interior and exterior solid wood panels (ship lap) and a custom solid wood ceiling system with custom metal brackets and connectors. The undulating and louvered ceiling was one of the most challenging elements of the design. The entire project was built from quarter sawn FSC Sapele.

EDUCATION
Project: Harvard Business School Klarman Hall, Boston, MA
Woodworker: Millwork One, Cranston, RI
Design Solutions: Summer 2019
Extensive paneling, along with casework, running trim, stairs, and doors were fabricated for the project. FSC quartered Anigre panels, blueprint matched, bookmatched and center balanced were used for most of the work. FSC solid Maple stained to match the Anigre was used for the trim. Over 1,000 panels were needed to align across large spans and upwards of three floors. Panels were built to coordinate with architectural metal and a curved concrete wall and was accomplished based on CAD drawings.
RETAIL
Project: Shreve & Company Retail Space, San Francisco, CA
Woodworker: Bernhard Woodwork, Ltd., Northbrook, IL
AWI Supplier Members: Häfele America Company & Crown Veneer
Design Solutions: Winter 2019
The world-renowned jeweler relocated its store to a new 13,000 sq. ft., multi-level facility. Woodwork elements included all lighted / lockable glass showcases using Häfele Dialock RFD locking system; stand alone and wall vitrines including custom metal surrounds; radius wall panels at stair; stair cladding with a curved woodwork base unit; wall vitrines encapsulated with a monolithic metal sculpture; and two-story tower. Plain sliced Walnut was used on the first floor, and quartered figured Anigre was used on the second floor.

CORPORATE
Project: Chicago Tribune Headquarters, Chicago, IL
Woodworker: Inter Ocean Cabinet Company, Elmhurst, IL
Design Solutions: Spring 2019
The relocated Tribune headquarters was comprised of 150,000 sq. ft. of space. The largest woodwork element – a monumental stair – was an architectural addition to the building. In addition, many other bold woodwork accents included built-in bookshelves in the executive conference room; a wood surround display for etched glass front pages in the elevator corridor; and stadium seating on four floors. In addition to reclaimed Oak on the stairs, plain sliced Oak and plain sliced Walnut were also used throughout the project.

HEALTHCARE
Project: Rush Copley Medical Center, Surgery Addition and Main Entry, Aurora, IL
Design Solutions: Fall 2018
Woodwork elements for the project include reception desks; nurses’ stations; standard cabinets; mixed material paneling; monumental/curved staircase; wall paneling systems; intricate shelving; and lobby partitions and columns. Plain sliced Black American Cherry lumber and veneer with a dark Walnut stain were used across the project in addition to Oak that was primarily used for moldings. Cherry veneer was also used in the lobby partitions and columns.

LEARN MORE The source of project descriptions is Design Solutions Magazine, AWI’s quarterly journal of architectural woodwork. For full details about the winning Standard of Excellence projects, visit www.awinet.org and on the top menu bar, click on “Publications” and then “Design Solutions.”
The AWI Project Management Seminar hosted by the Great Lakes Chapter, Sept 5-6 in Grand Rapids, MI, gained a huge NPS score* of 87.88%, equivalent to earning a 94% on an exam. Thirty-four attendees gave an “Excellent” rating in terms of overall satisfaction, with an equal (84.5%) number of participants satisfied that the seminar “Met Expectations.” The three instructors—Bob Krejci of Riverside Architectural Millwork; John VanErem of RCS Millwork, L.C.; and Doug Hague of AWI—earned “Excellent” ratings for personal experience examples, public speaking skills, passion about teaching, and ability to engage the audience.

What Attendees Had to Say...

It’s an eye opener and potential lift-off to better business. A learners paradise!

General Comments
- “Comprehensive training for experienced PMs and beginners.”
- “It’s an eye opener and potential lift-off to better business. A learners paradise!”
- “Extremely dynamic and engaging.”
- “Great opportunity to exchange ideas and meet with others in the industry.”
- “Very informative. Material and information was easy to digest.”

Most Liked
- “Clearer understanding of the industry and processes that others use.”
- “The variety of perspectives.”
- “Great content with positivity and light-hearted attitude/humor.”
- “The games were helpful to get ideas across to us.”
- Open discussion - clear visuals and activity.”

A Business Owner’s View...

The Project Management Seminar and all of the AWI education offerings are a great opportunity for learning and collaboration.

“I think that the Project Management Seminar and all of the AWI education offerings are a great opportunity for learning and collaboration. I personally believe that the education seminars are the best thing that AWI has to offer its members. This is typically the only interaction that the employees of AWI companies have with AWI events since most companies do not send their team to the Annual Convention or the Spring Leadership Conference.

I had four (4) people from my project management team attend the PM seminar and they all really enjoyed it. I believe they were able to take away a lot of things, including validation of what they are doing well, and challenges for what they can improve on.

I personally love the AWI events because they are catered so specifically to our industry and the real-life experiences that are shared are so relatable. Having my team involved with this event helps give them some better perspective and appreciation for the time that I spend serving on our local chapter board and attending national events. I think they see the value in AWI to a much greater extent now.”

Shawn Hager
President – Business Owner
Grand Valley Wood Products
November PM Learning Forum

The next Project Management Seminar will take place Nov. 7-8, 2019 in Charlotte, NC. Send your PM team to sharpen their skills and start off 2020 with renewed enthusiasm and energy to tackle demanding project management challenges in the New Year.

Nov. 7-8, 2019
Doubletree Charlotte Airport
Charlotte, NC

Host: AWI Carolinas Chapter

Information/Registration: www.awinet.org/education/seminars

KEY PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION TOPICS
• The Hand-off
• Contracts and Purchase Orders
• Cash Flow, Invoicing and Draws
• Project Planning
• Shop Drawings and Submittals
• Project Management During Production
• Purchasing and Outsourcing
• Project Scheduling
• Change Orders and Back Charges
• Time Management
• Job Costing and Financial Statements
• Delivery, Installation, Damages and Shortages
• Care and Storage
• Close-out Documents and Project Wrap-up
• Communications and Conflict Resolution
• Implementation / Q&A

A Happy Hour and a Shop Tour will follow the first day’s presentation, offering attendees additional networking and learning opportunities.

This is the final AWI Outreach Education Seminar in 2019. Stay tuned for more learning opportunities in 2020.

A Presenter’s Perspective...

The diversity among the presenters and the attendees varies substantially at different seminars.

Bob Krejci told NewsBriefs about the magic mix that makes conversation a major factor in the success of the seminar. “We attempt to make it conversational, not presentation. At the beginning of the seminar, veteran attendees are grouped with novices, setting them up for a mentoring experience. Depending on how particular topics engage attendees, we go ‘off script’ and let the dynamics guide discussion. Everyone learns from the successes and mistakes discussed. The openness of the presenters drives attendees to share among themselves.”

Bob recommends that Project Managers register for the seminar several times, like he did. In fact, Bob’s own attendance at several seminars inspired him to get involved as a presenter. “The diversity among the presenters and the attendees varies substantially at different seminars due to market specialization, size of business, geography, experience levels, technological advances, and more.”

He praised new PM presenter John VanErem (a Woodworking Network “Wood Industry 40 Under 40” designee) for taking PM to another level by sharing some of RCS tools as they transition to a paperless process. “An interactive exercise on batch size proved to be enlightening about increasing production and sales by reducing batches. It was one example of a great takeaway. Change is daunting and learning how an operation can be successful by embracing change can give others courage to explore new techniques.”

Volunteer Presenters...

Presenters for AWI’s core seminars are always needed.

Presenters for AWI’s core seminars are always needed, according to Bob. If you would like to share your knowledge and wish to get involved in the AWI Education Outreach Program, contact either AWI’s Doug Hague at dhague@awinet.org or AWI Board of Directors member Bob Krejci at rsk@riverside-architectural.com.

* The NPS® measures customer experience and predicts business growth. This proven metric transformed the business world and now provides the core measurement for customer experience management programs the world round.
Second Comment Period Open For Draft Casework Standards

In conjunction with the ANSI canvass process for the accreditation of the upcoming AWI 0641 – Architectural Wood Casework Standard, the AWI Standards Development Team has released the draft document for public comment. Changes to the standard draft implemented in response to feedback obtained during the previous public comment period include the following:

- Expanded options for panel products
- Changes to permissions for hardboard in premium-grade dividers
- Changes to veneer grade requirements for transparent-finished semi-exposed surfaces
- Altered language regarding performance requirements for decorative laminate used at exposed exterior surfaces of casework

Each of these changes to the draft standard has been thoroughly discussed by the AWI Technical Committee and staff and has been implemented in response to feedback from architectural woodwork industry professionals.

The draft standard and Public Comment Response Form are available for download at http://www.goawi.com/standards. Individuals who would like to provide feedback regarding the draft standard may do so via the Public Comment Response Form. Commentary submissions received through avenues other than the Public Comment Response Form will not be considered by the AWI Technical Committee.

The public comment period is scheduled to conclude on Nov. 4, 2019.

The Architectural Woodwork Institute has produced and collaborated on the development of standards in accordance with its mission from its founding in 1953 to the present day. www.awinet.org

Founded in 1918, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is a private non-profit organization that administers and coordinates the U.S. voluntary standardization and conformity assessment system. www.ansi.org