



WELCOME TO **NASHVILLE**

AWRF SPRING GENERAL MEETING

2024



**APRIL 28 – MAY 1
2024**



P.O. BOX 748
WALLED LAKE, MI 48390



+800.444.2973
+313.608.3884



awrf@awrf.org
www.awrf.org



HEY HOWDY!

We are so excited to have you join us at the beautiful, **Omni Nashville!**



LEVEL TWO



OMNI  HOTELSOMNI NASHVILLE HOTEL
BARS & RESTAURANTS**Bob's**
Steak & Chop House

A nationally renowned steak house specializing in the finest corn-fed, Midwestern prime beef. Our menu formula is simple: incredible meat, gigantic shrimp, fabulous salads and decadent desserts. Classic steak house food prepared and presented in a manner that Bon Appétit calls "the kind of fare you'll want to go back for again and again."

Enjoy traditional Southern dishes handed down from generation to generation at Kitchen Notes, offering sustainable dishes made from treasured family recipes. This innovative farm-to-table concept incorporates the freshest ingredients to create great food and a casual dining experience. The vintage interior is designed with repurposed materials that include décor discovered from local antique stores and flea markets.

Kitchen
*Notes***BARLINES**
NASHVILLE. TENNESSEE

Barlines is the perfect Nashville honky-tonk to take in some live music or watch your favorite sports teams on one of the many large video screens. You'll also enjoy a tasty menu of Southern comfort food along with Tennessee libations. Enjoy the big game from every angle on multiple LCD HDTVs and the HearTV® mobile app. You never know who will be playing on our Barlines stage! Catch live music seven days a week from some of Music City's rising stars.

Bongo is Nashville's oldest and most celebrated coffee company. We began with a single café in 1993 and have since grown to five cafés and two wholesale businesses supplying 100% Certified Organic coffee and gourmet baked goods. Our expert baristas take pride in their trade, serving up fresh locally roasted coffee, classic handcrafted espresso drinks and fresh baked goods all day long.

 **BONGO**
NASHVILLE



ABOUT AWRF

Our Association was formed in 1975 and incorporated the following year by a group of concerned businessmen who felt there was a need for sling fabricators and special rigging components manufacturers to join together to form a trade association. Originally created by representatives from nine companies in the United States, in two decades the organization grew to address the needs of over 400 member companies worldwide.

AWRF promotes interests common among companies manufacturing, fabricating, or distributing lifting, rigging and load securement devices made of chain, rope, and synthetic products. The association works to establish, acquire, preserve, and disseminate various technical information, and encourages the development of safety standards and programs, and product identification procedures. Assistance has been provided for establishing and maintaining adequate products liability insurance, as well as other insurance needs of the industry. Common problems and purposes of the industry, such as those involving production, distribution, service and safety are reviewed and advanced by lawful means on a regular basis.

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MONDAY

APRIL 29

- 7:00 am** Networking Breakfast & Milestone Membership Plaques
- 8:00 am** **Robert Wilson / Brian Dewey / Charlie Jaques** – AWRF Accreditation Program & Safety Program – UPDATE
- 9:00 am** **Curtis Dubay** – U.S. Chief Economist, Economic Policy
- 10:00 am** **Chris Richardson** – B30.30-24
- 10:30 am** **Chris Czarnik** – Recruiting and Retaining Talent
- 12:00 pm** Adjourn

TUESDAY

APRIL 30

- 7:00 am** Networking Breakfast & Association Business
- 8:00 am** **Bill Petit / Lee Allen** – Historic Railroad Replacement; SC&RA Job of the Year \$750,000-\$2 Million
- 9:00 am** **Mason Chant** – Testing and Risk Management
- 9:30 am** **Charlie Pullin / Darren Brennan / Nick Gladue** – Drop Shipment Tax Implications Panel Discussion
- 10:00 am** **Mitchem Boles** – Cyber Security
- 11:00 am** **Mike Marks** – Indian River Consulting Group
- 12:00 pm** Adjourn

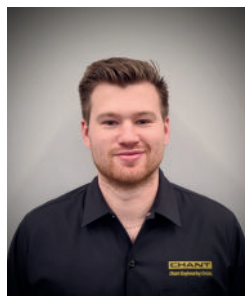
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE SPEAKERS



Chris Richardson Lone Star Rigging

President at Lone Star Rigging, LP in Beaumont, Texas. He started in the Rigging Industry in 1994 and worked primarily with Bechtel in the Rigging and Iron Worker craft. In 2000 he went to work for Maxim Crane Works in Sales and Lift Planning. In September of 2004 he founded Lone Star Rigging. Over the years as Lone Star Rigging has grown, it has expanded into rentals, designing and building a full line of lifting equipment. Chris's focus is in the crane rental industry where he specializes in wire rope performance issues and in lift design.

Chris is involved in several industry associations such as ASME, AWRF, OIPEEC, WSTDA, SC&RA and the Cordage Institute. Chris is an Alternate Member of the ASME B30 Main Committee and a member of ASME B30.30, ASME P30 and is also a member of the AWRF Technical Board and a former AWRF Board of Director.



Mason Chant Chant Engineering

Mason Chant is the Engineering Manager at Chant Engineering Company. He graduated from the University of Maine with a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

He has a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Bloomsburg University and the Pennsylvania EIT certificate, the first step to getting his Professional Engineering License.

Mason grew up in an engineering family and was inspired to pursue a career that blended his technical expertise with his passion for creativity.

For the last few years Mason has led a team of engineers designing and building standard and custom machinery for the lifting and rigging industry as well as the US Military and our allies.

MEET OUR SPEAKERS

PLEASE SEE
GUIDEBOOK FOR
COMPLETE
SPEAKER BIOS



Chris Czarnik

Chris Czarnik is an author, coach, trainer, and subject matter expert on talent recruiting, engagement, and retention in today's environment. Chris is the architect of critical theory and processes designed to transform your workforce. He has over 20 years' experience as a former military officer, human resource manager, career services manager, and job search advisor.

Chris created and refined an innovative process approach to job search and authored "The Human Search Engine" after working with thousands of jobseekers. The Human Search Engine was introduced to the 113th Congress as a national job search model. In 2016, the US Congress adopted this process as their outplacement tool for outgoing members and staff.



Curtis Dubay US Chamber of Commerce

Curtis Dubay is the Chief Economist at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. He tracks the condition of the economy, analyzes the impact of public policy on economic growth, and runs the Chamber's Chief Economists Committee. Previously, he was senior economist at the American Bankers Association and a research fellow in tax and economic policy at The Heritage Foundation. He also worked at the accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and at the Tax Foundation.

Previously, Dubay was senior economist at the American Bankers Association where he worked on tax issues and followed the economic trends affecting the banking industry. Prior to ABA, he was a research fellow in tax and economic policy at The Heritage Foundation. There he researched and published on tax and economic policy issues.



Mike Marks Indian River Consulting Group

Mike Marks co-founded the Indian River Consulting Group in April 1987. He began his consulting practice after working in distribution management for more than 20 years. Over the years, his narrow focus in B2B channel-driven markets has created an astonishing number of deep executive relationships with virtually every business vertical in construction, process, MRO/OEM, agriculture, and healthcare.

Mike had the good fortune to spend significant time with Dr. Peter Drucker when he was in graduate school. Like Dr. Drucker, he has aspired to be a professional observer of the distribution industry's growth and evolution over half a century.



Mitchem Boles Guidepoint Security

Mitchem Boles is an executive and strategic cybersecurity advisor for GuidePoint Security. His experience includes leading Information Security for a large Texas healthcare network, directing Security Operations for a major U.S. Electric Utility, and roles in security leadership for Energy, MSSP Services, and consulting. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University; certified CISSP, CCSP, and AWS; and his background of expertise includes: security strategy, cloud security, security operations and staff development, tools differentiation, and risk management.



Bill Petit Roll Group

Bill Petit joined Roll Group in 2020, bringing with him over 15 years of experience in quality, health, safety, security, and environment management. Bill has worked in various sectors, such as oil and gas, mining, and construction, where he developed and implemented QHSSE policies, procedures, and systems.

As the QHSSE Manager, Bill is responsible for overseeing and managing all aspects of QHSSE within the Roll Group, including the development, implementation, and review of the QHSSE strategy, objectives, and plans. He also coordinates and monitors the QHSSE performance of the projects and operations, and provides guidance and support to the project managers, site supervisors, and QHSSE officers.



Lee Allen Roll Group

Lee Allen has been with Roll Group since its inception in early 2014. Working his way from crane supervision and assembly & amp; disassembly, Lee was promoted into the Operations Manager, Crane & Rigging role in 2018. Lee has over 10 years of experience in managing crane operations, overseeing projects, and ensuring compliance with safety and quality standards.

Lee is passionate about crane and rigging technology and innovation, and he constantly seeks to improve his skills and knowledge. He holds several certifications, such as the Certified Crane Operator, the Certified Rigging Inspector, and the Certified Safety Professional. He enjoys sharing his expertise and mentoring new crane operators and riggers. He is a strong communicator and leader, who values collaboration, innovation, and accountability.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Join us on Monday, April 29th, after the General Session, to explore potential future convention sites. Your participation is valued, but attendance is optional, so come and share your insights if you can.

SUNDAY – APRIL 28

- 8:00 – 11:00 am – Board of Directors Meeting – *Music Row 5*
- 11:00 – 4:00 pm – Registration – *Legends*
- 4:30 – 5:30 pm – Emerging Leaders & First Timer’s Reception – *Music Row 5*
- 5:30 – 7:00 pm – Opening Reception – *Legends*

MONDAY – APRIL 29

- 7:00 – 8:00 am – Networking Breakfast & Membership Awards – *Legends Ballroom A-D*
- 8:00 – 12:00 pm – General Business Session** – *Legends Ballroom A-D*
- 12:15 – 1:00 pm – Emerging Leaders – Committee Meeting – *Music Row 3*
- 1:00 – 5:00 pm – Technical Committee Meeting *open to membership* – *Legends FG*
- 6:00 – 7:00 – Reception – *Legends*

TUESDAY – APRIL 30

- 7:00 – 8:00 am – Networking Breakfast – *Legends Ballroom A-D*
- 8:00 – 12:00 pm – General Business Sessions** – *Legends Ballroom A-D*
- 12:30 – 1:30 pm – Emerging Leaders – Mike Marks – Chart a Path for Growth – *Music Row 3*
- 1:00 – 5:00 pm – Technical Committee Meeting *open to membership* – *Legends FG*
- 5:30 – 6:00 pm – Reception – *Legends*
- 6:00 – 10:00 pm – AWRF Gala – *Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum*
Semi-Formal

WEDNESDAY – MAY 1

- 8:00 am – Networking Golf Tournament – Modified Shot Gun Start – *Hermitage Golf Course*
Bus Pickup @ 7:00 am – *Hotel Lobby*
- 4:30 – 6:00 pm – Closing Reception – *Grand View Terrace*

Schedule is subject to change

STAY UP TO DATE!
DOWNLOAD THE
GUIDEBOOK APP



guidebook
<https://guidebook.com/g/awrf24/>

NASH ACTIVITIES

CULTURE + CO.

Cheese and charcuterie pairing conveyor belt dining experience.
www.cultureandco.com

GRAND OLE OPRY

Experience the thrill of the Opry on a backstage tour.
www.opry.com/tours

BELMONT MANSION

Discover the largest house built in Tennessee prior to the Civil War.
www.belmontmansion.com

RIVERFRONT PARK

Enjoy the fresh air and take a walk around Riverfront Park.
nashvilledowntown.com/go/riverfront-park

TENNESSEE SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Take a tour at the TSHF.
<https://tshf.net/>

BELLE MEADE WINERY

Book a tasting at Nashville's oldest winery. Offering bourbon, wine and food pairings.
www.bellemeadewinery.com

BEST BARS ON BROADWAY

1. Tootsies Orchid Lounge
2. Roberts Western World
3. The Stage
4. Kid Rock's
5. Luke's 32 Bridge
6. Ole Red
7. Honky Tonk Central
8. Miranda Lambert's
9. Jason Aldean's
10. Nudies Honky Tonk



AWRF NEWS



AWRF STORE

Our AWRF Store is open to all AWRF members. The goal of this store is to have co-branded items available to our members. We hope that our members see much value in the AWRF brand, enough to tell your customers about us and the benefits of working with an AWRF member. If you are looking for a specific type of item and do not see it on our website, email cailin@awrf.org.

Planning to exhibit at the next PIE? Have your team show up in matching gear and represent your company and AWRF all in one shirt!



**SHOP
NOW**



MARKETING SUBMISSIONS

Please send all press releases and marketing materials to marketing@awrf.org. Any items sent to personal emails cannot be guaranteed.

JOIN US FOR TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS MONDAY/TUESDAY

Join us for an immersive experience at our upcoming Technical Committee Meeting, taking place on Monday and Tuesday. Dive deep into discussions, insights, and advancements shaping the forefront of our industry.

JOIN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Are you ready to elevate your impact and shape the future of AWRF? Joining the Board of Directors presents a unique opportunity to become a driving force behind our organization's growth and success. As a board member, you'll play a pivotal role in steering our strategic direction, fostering innovation, and championing our mission to advance the industry. Your expertise and leadership are invaluable assets as we navigate challenges and seize new opportunities in an evolving landscape. Take the next step in your journey with AWRF and join us in shaping a dynamic future for our industry.

Interested? Please email emily@awrf.org

FUTURE MEETINGS

2024 DATES

FALL GENERAL MEETING

La Quinta Resort & Club
10/27/2024-10/30/2024

LOOKING AHEAD 2025

PIE & TECHNICAL SUMMIT

Sheraton Denver
4/6/2025-4/9/2025

FALL GENERAL MEETING

Omni Charlotte Hotel
10/19/2025-10/22/2025

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

I PAY TWENTY A MEETING

IPTAM

The mission of IPTAM is to expand the Association’s scholarship funds, which ultimately will result in awarding additional scholarships to AWRF member employees, and their families.

For only \$20...a very small sum...IPTAM provides all conference attendees with a mechanism to be contributors to the scholarship efforts of AWRF.

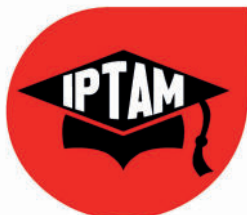
IPTAM opens the door for conference attendees, whose companies may not currently be donating to the scholarship program, with a way to support, and grow, AWRF’s scholarship efforts. Additionally, even if your company is currently donating to the scholarship program, IPTAM provides you the ability to personally contribute and be a difference maker.

Each meeting attendee that donates at the conference meeting will be recognized by affixing an IPTAM decal to their meeting badge. Additionally, attendees who donate will be recognized in Slingmakers Magazine.

We hope you choose to donate \$20 to IPTAM

WANT TO DONATE? HERE’S HOW!

- **FIND SOMEONE FROM THE AWRF STAFF TO DONATE CASH**
- **PAY BY PAY-PAL (QR CODE PROVIDED BELOW)**



APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

STANDARD SCHOLARSHIPS

\$42,000

- 3 AWRF Scholarships
- “The 16 Guys” Scholarship
- Ronald J. Worswick Memorial Scholarship
- The Bill Franz Memorial Scholarship
- Robert H. Ashley Memorial Scholarship
- Jurgen Prohaska Memorial Scholarship
- Green Pin Scholarship
- NACM Scholarship
- The Don Sayenga Memorial Scholarship
- Yoke Scholarship

TRADE SCHOLARSHIPS

\$14,000

- AWRF Trade Scholarship
- Mel Fireovid Trade Scholarship
- Oliver Crosby & Edwin Harrington Memorial Scholarship



SCAN FOR APPLICATIONS

COMPANY SPONSORED

"THE 16 GUYS" SCHOLARSHIP
 RONALD J. WORSWICK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (WORSWICK FAMILY)
 THE BILL FRANZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (MAZZELLA COMPANIES)
 ROBERT H. ASHLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (ASHLEY SLING, INC.)
 JURGEN PROHASKA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
 GREEN PIN SCHOLARSHIP (ROYAL VAN BEEST)
 THE DON SAYENGA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (NACM)
 YOKE SCHOLARSHIP (YOKE)
 MEL FIREVID TRADE SCHOLARSHIP (FULCRUM LIFTING)
 OLIVER CROSBY & EDWIN HARRINGTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (KITO CROSBY)
 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHAIN MANUFACTURERS SCHOLARSHIP (NACM)

COMPANY DONORS

ACME RIGGING	KENNEDY WIRE ROPE
ADB HOIST RINGS	KULKONI, INC.
ADVANTAGE RIGGING LLC.	M & G INDUSTRIES
AMERICAN WEBBING & FITTINGS	OZ LIFTING PRODUCTS
ARG INDUSTRIAL	PACIFIC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY
ASSEMBLY SPECIALTY PRODUCTS	PECK & HALE, LLC.
BAIRSTOW LIFTING PRODUCTS	PEWAG USA
BISHOP LIFTING	THE RUBICON GROUP
BRIDON BEKAERT - THE ROPES GROUP	SAHM SPLICE USA, LLC
CELIK HALAT	SLINGMAX
CERTEX USA	ST. PIERRE CHAIN & WIRE ROPE
CHANT ENGINEERING CO., INC.	UNITED RIGGING
CROMOX US	WEST COAST WIRE ROPE & RIGGING
DAKTOKA RIGGERS TOOL & SUPPLY	WIRECO
DCL MOORING & RIGGING	WIRE ROPE EXCHANGE
DOLECO USA	WIREROPE WORKS
ELITE SALES INC.	WISCONSIN LIFTING SPECIALISTS, INC.
KEN FORGING, INC.	

Is your company interested in being a donor or sponsor for 2025?
 Please contact emily@awrf.org

DONORS CURRENT
AS OF 4/16/2024

THANK YOU 2024
SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

THE FUTURE OF AWRF

Elevate your professional journey by joining the Emerging Leaders, a dynamic community within AWRF dedicated to individuals aged **40 and under**.

As part of this vibrant network, you'll have the opportunity to connect with fellow young professionals, exchange ideas, and cultivate invaluable relationships that propel your career forward. From exclusive networking events to mentorship opportunities and professional development resources, the Emerging Leaders program empowers you to thrive in the industry. Join us as we shape the future of AWRF and embark on a journey of growth, leadership, and innovation.

EL HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY

4:30-5:30 pm - EL Welcome Reception

MONDAY

12:15-1:00 pm - EL Committee Meeting

TUESDAY

12:30-1:30 pm - Speaker: Mike Marks
Chart a Path for Growth

see schedule of events for location details

I am passionate about this program because I remember what it was like going to my first meeting and the people who took me under their wing to show me the ropes. The impact they made on my career most likely kept me in this industry, and I believe that Emerging Leaders can have that same type of impact on others.

- *Luke Staten (VanBeest)*



EMERGING LEADERS



MILESTONE MEMBERS

40 YEARS

Commercial Group Lifting Products
Muncy Industries

30 YEARS

CECA, LLC
Nelson Wire Rope Corp.
Norex Manufacturing Co Ltd.
Pacific Industrial Supply Co., Inc.
pewag Chain Inc.
Rocky Mountain Wire Rope & Rigging
VER Sales, Inc.

20 YEARS

Ben Mor Cables
Industrial Magnetics Inc.
Northern Strands Co. Ltd.
Washington Wire Rope

10 YEARS

Allied Power Products
Axel Johnson International Ab, Lifting
B/A Products Co.
CARCANO SPA
Cleveland City Forge
CTS Cargo Tie-Down Specialty Inc.
Dillon Yarn Corporation
Eastern Sling & Supply
Elephant Lifting Products
Hoisting Wire Rope & Sling
Horizon Cable Service
JBL/Accu-Tech
Ropeblock B.V.
Verope USA

THANK YOU

