



Message from the Chair

By Tim Foley, Automation International

Hello, fellow RWMA members and survivors of 2021. I hope you are enjoying a good beginning to 2022. It's hard to believe that we are well into March already. I would start by extending my sincere appreciation to Don DeCorte as our past Chair and look forward to his involvement as he continues to be active as our Past Chair in helping guide and direct us into our bright future.

I am truly appreciative of the opportunity to serve as your Chairperson this year. I have no doubt that it will be challenging, but I also equally believe that there are exciting times ahead for all of us in the RWMA. The new leadership within our committees should help drive that excitement as we continue to build on our past. This includes Marketing led by Hamilton Terrell and Victor Padilla; Membership led by Fred Burton and Raschell Hickmott; plus, Education currently seeking a permanent Chair and Vice Chair, but presently supported by Kendall Ymker serving in this temporary position until we find candidates to serve in those roles.

Even though we could not meet in person in Napa, CA, for our Annual Meeting, we did meet virtually to wrap up the last year and look forward to getting into 2022. We look forward to increasing our outreach to present members and inviting new members to be more involved in our quest to optimize the mission of our organization.

Our Strategic Planning Committee, comprised of some very talented and capable voices from our membership, has already been meeting this year and has its sight set on the long-term focus for the RWMA as we pave our way to the future. In reflecting on some of those discussions, it was a good reminder to review the impact statement in our membership section on our web page - and if I could take the liberty to restate it below:

"The Resistance Welding Manufacturing Alliance (RWMA), an industry partner of the American Welding Society, is an active network of industry professionals dedicated to advancing resistance welding standards and processes. The alliance supports the industry's highest technical standards, shares best practices, and prepares future generations for success. All members have the same rights and privileges and may be officers of the RWMA."

I think we can all benefit from a reminder of what we have in our resistance welding community within this membership.

We look forward to our Fall Meeting, whose details are now being worked out and finalized. The plan is for this to be an in-person meeting, and I cannot wait to get back to normality, especially with the opportunity to network within our RWMA family. We will be encouraging all our members to attend, knowing the benefit that this will bring. We will provide more details about the meeting once they are confirmed.

Last but certainly not least, I am very thankful for the great work from Don's most recent leadership and the leadership provided by his predecessor, Matt Post. Their passion for RWMA has set an example for us to continue to build on. My thanks also go out to everyone at AWS, including our Program Manager, Adrian Bustillo, who advocates on our behalf and contributes to the success of RWMA.

I hope you, your families, and your fellow associates are safe and healthy. I wish we could quickly rid ourselves of the burden from the last 2-plus years in this awful pandemic that has changed many of our lives and left far too many scars, physically, emotionally, and beyond. My final desire is that the world trauma that seems all around us meets calmer minds and more thoughtful and decent respect to humanity. We do not need any more chaos in our world. I am looking forward to meeting the challenges and opportunities ahead of us with each of you.

Invite Others to Become RWMA Members

Continue to support the resistance welding industry by inviting industry peers to become an RWMA member. Prospective members can learn more and join [here](#).

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