



Fellow Woodworkers, Suppliers, and Affiliates,

I hope this letter finds you well. I want to extend my sincere appreciation for your continued support as well as share our renewed commitment to rebuilding our chapter's sense of community and engagement. I am writing to you as the President of the Carolinas Chapter of the Architectural Woodwork Institute, with a message that reflects both the challenges we've faced and the inspiring potential that lies ahead.

The past couple of years have tested our resilience in ways we could not have anticipated. The COVID-19 pandemic brought about a shift in our lives and routines, affecting our ability to come together in person and engage as we once did. While our recent events, particularly the member meeting in Greenville, SC, held in conjunction with the AWI National Financial Management Seminar, received immensely positive feedback, we recognize that the attendance fell short of our expectations. It's a reminder that our journey towards revitalizing our community is an ongoing effort that requires your invaluable participation.

With a renewed sense of purpose, we are excited to share with you our upcoming plans that aim to reignite the connection we once enjoyed. In the coming months, we are looking to foster a closer bond within our chapter through committee meetings that provide a platform for your voices to be heard and your insights to shape our collective direction. Moreover, I'm thrilled to introduce an event that not only promises a day of fun and competition but also serves a higher purpose.

Our Fall Skeet Shooting Tournament, scheduled for the near future, will not only be an opportunity to showcase your sharpshooting skills but also a chance to reconnect with fellow professionals. We understand the challenges our local high school woodworking shops and the SkillsUSA Cabinet Building Competition have faced due to recent events, and this event will help us raise funds to support them. By participating, you're not just renewing your membership or attending an event – you're contributing to the revitalization of our industry and nurturing the aspirations of budding woodworkers.

I invite you to stand alongside us as we embark on this journey of recovery and growth. Your active involvement and participation, be it by renewing your membership or engaging in our events, will be the cornerstone of our success. Together, we can overcome the obstacles that lie ahead and create a future that not only honors our craft but also empowers the next generation of woodworkers.

Renew your membership or consider joining us as a new member to be a part of this rejuvenated chapter. If you have any questions, suggestions, or thoughts, please don't hesitate to reach out to me personally.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to walking this path of renewal with you.

Warm regards,

*John C. Bostian*

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Carolinas Chapter AWI President