



American Welding Society®

TIDEWATER SECTION

District 4

Hampton, Va. 23670

<http://awssection.org/tidewater>

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

“Miller Electric Laser Trailer”

Important to Note: Meeting this month is on a Wednesday!

Please be sure to wear closed-toe shoes and pants if you wish to try the laser welder

**Meeting will be held at
VPCC Work Force Development Center
600 Butler Farm Rd., Hampton, VA 23666**

**Food and Drink will be provided
Pizza served at 5:30, meeting begins at 6:00**

Come out and enjoy the food and fellowship!

Calendar of Events

***Nov 12, 2026 – Hypertherm
Plasma Cutting Demo
December 2026 - NO
MEETING***

**If you plan to attend
please call ARC3
(Hampton) to RSVP
(757)728-9353**

***CWIs are responsible to keep track of their Personal Development Hours (PDH).
A form for tracking PDHs is available at the sign-in table and can be used to track
PDHs at Tidewater Section meetings and other technical society meetings.
The Tidewater Section does not keep attendance records and cannot verify that an
individual attended a specific meeting.

Chairman's Corner

Greetings Welding Community,

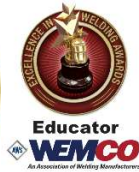
I would like to start by thanking all who participated in this year's **Larry O'Bryan AWS Golf Tournament** over the Labor Day weekend. This was our largest turnout yet, with 30 teams! We are incredibly grateful to our sponsors who make this event possible. I would also like to give a HUGE thank you to Derek Deitrich from Arc3Gases who always does such a fantastic job at planning the event. I hope that everyone had a great time.

This October we will have our first hands-on technical meeting with Miller Electric demonstrating their OptX 2kW Handheld Laser Welder at the Virginia Peninsula Community College Workforce Development Center in Hampton. This tool is designed for increased productivity, reduced training time, and reduced pre and post weld processing. Miller will give a presentation followed by hands-on demonstrations in the trailer outside. Be sure to wear pants and closed-toe shoes if you would like to try out the handheld laser welder.

In November we are looking forward to Hypertherm demonstrating plasma cutting at the VPCC. Be on the lookout for our November bulletin for additional details.

We are looking forward to seeing you in October.

Sincerely,
Pierrette Swan
Tidewater Section Chairman



TIDEWATER SECTION 2026-27 OFFICERS

Chairman: Pierrette Swan (NHREC).....(757) 493-1642
1st Vice Chairman: Kyle Kenreigh (TCC) (757) 849-3033
2nd Vice Chairman: Rachel Sciuillo (ATI)(786)213-1057
Secretary: Kyle Kenreigh (TCC) (757) 849-3033
Treasurer: Dean Johnson (retired NNS).....(757)870-2446

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Doug Carpenter (ARC3 Retired) (757) 870-7746
Lynn Showalter (NNS) (757) 688-6716
Wayne Smith (NNS retired) (757) 334-0445
Paul Miller (Smithfield HS) (757) 310-3322
Steve Harris (NNS retired)
Kristi Miller (Tidewater Tech) (757)503-1899
Bobby Perkins (VPCC) (757) 865-3122
Open to dedicated volunteers

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Program: Wayne Smith (see above)
Publicity: Doug Carpenter (see above)
Membership: Doug Carpenter (see above)
S.E.N.S.E. and Student Affairs: Paul Miller (see above)
Scholarships and Foundation Rep: Lynn Showalter (see above)
Certification: Lynn Showalter (see above)
Awards: Lynn Showalter (see above)

CWI CERTIFICATION

Lynn Showalter (see above)

DISTRICT 4 AWS DIRECTOR

Mark Sapp.....BSWE1987aws@gmail.com

WELDING – EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

EASTERN SHORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
29300 LANKFORD HWY, MELFA, VA. 23410..... 757-789-1798

CHESAPEAKE CENTER FOR SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY..... 757-547-0134

I.C. NORCOM (PORTSMOUTH)..... . 757-393-8822

NEW HORIZONS REGIONAL EDUCATION CENTER
HAMPTON CAMPUS 757-766-1100

NORFOLK SKILLS CENTER.....757-628-3482

NORFOLK VO-TECH CENTER..... 757-892-3300

THE COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMY AT PRUDEN (HAS AWS
STUDENT CHAPTER)..... 757- 923-5254

T. HALLET BAGER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
OAK HALL, VIRGINIA..... 804- 824-6386

TIDEWATER COMMUNITY COLLEGE (PORTSMOUTH).... 757-822-2433

THOMAS NELSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE..... 757-865-3122

VIRGINIA BEACH TECHNICAL & CAREER EDUCATION
CENTER..... 757-648-5850

PAUL D. CAMP COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FRANKLIN, VIRGINIA..... . 757-569-6761

RAPPAHANNOCK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SALUDA, VIRGINIA..... 804-333-6751

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE (ATI)
5700 SOUTHERN BLVD., VA BEACH 23462 1-800-468-1093

TIDEWATER TECH
5301 E. PRINCESS ANN RD., NORFOLK, VA. 23502... 757-858-8324

SMITHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
14171 TURNER DR., SMITHFIELD, VA. 23430..... 757-357-3108

Helpful Links

<http://www.aws.org/> Link to AWS National page

<http://awssection.org/tidewater> Link to AWS Tidewater page

<https://www.aws.org/foundation/page/scholarships> Link to AWS Scholarship info

SPONSORS



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Regional Manager

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