



## Greater Kansas City Chapter

www.kcntma.org • 816-739-4422 • [execdir@kcntma.org](mailto:execdir@kcntma.org)

MANUFACTURING AMERICA'S FUTURE

# Chips 'N Comments

### UPCOMING 2014 EVENTS

#### September 17

Shop Meeting at Ruco Products

(See Right)

#### October 21-25

National Fall Conference-New Orleans

#### December 6

Christmas Party at Pieropos in Parkville

## Chapter Helps Out With SkillsUSA For Last Time: Crossland Honored

The Kansas City Chapter helped with the 25<sup>th</sup> and final SkillsUSA National Championship in Kansas City the week of July 23<sup>rd</sup>. NIMS (National Institute of Metalworking Standards) was the main sponsor of the CNC Milling, CNC Turning and Precision Machining Technology (PMT) events. The chapter helped with these events as they have for the last 25 years. The SkillUSA National competitions are moving to Louisville, Kentucky.

NTMA member companies volunteering or providing equipment/materials included **Crossland Machinery, Haas Automation, R&D Leverage, MCC's BTC and TCI Precision Metals.**

Nearly 150 post-secondary and high school students participated in these contests at the MCC's BTC.

At a Judges dinner the KC NTMA Chapter and Crossland Machinery were recognized for their 25 years of support and participation.

For Reservations or Information about meetings/events contact: Torree Pederson

816-739-4422 • [execdir@kcntma.org](mailto:execdir@kcntma.org)  
[www.kcntma.org](http://www.kcntma.org)

## Shop Meeting, Wed., September 17th @ RUCO Products

2620 SW US Hwy 40

Blue Springs MO 64015

(816) 229-3452 • [www.rucoproductsinc.net](http://www.rucoproductsinc.net)

### Pay attention to directions and address!

This is tricky to find! See Ruco's contact page for Google Maps directions from your location.

<http://www.rucoproductsinc.net/contact.htm>

You will actually come into the back entry of Ruco right off of HWY 40 (south). The north entrance/gate will be closed. Look for signage that day.

RUCO Products is a 47-year-old custom plastic injection molding company. Its operation includes 15 injection molding machines and a small shop for mold maintenance and repairs. The company also has expertise in light assembly and secondary operations. 3D printing has recently been added.

### 6:00 Reception/Tours

### 7:00 Dinner (Salvatore's Italian)

### 7:30 Speaker • \$35 per person

**Speaker: Omar Nashashibi of Franklin Partners. He will give political updates on KS, MO and the nation.**

**National NTMA Chair Ted Toth will also be attending the event**

Register Now:

<https://www.123signup.com/register?id=dnhvx>

# KC/St. Louis Meeting Held in Branson

The St. Louis and Kansas City Chapters of the National Tooling & Machining Association (NTMA) held their annual joint summer conference at the Chateau on the Lake in Branson, Missouri, on July 25-26.

Sponsors of the conference included Federated Insurance, CliftonLarsonAllen, Paulo Products, J&S Tool, Superior Die Set, United Community Bank and Sandvik Coromant.

Friday afternoon started off with a workshop on "The Great Game of Business" by Steve Baker.

A 2-hour industry roundtable was then held. It was facilitated by a team from the Quality Coach consultants of Washington, Missouri. Topics covered helping employees obtain an "owners attitude"; training and development of employees; how to keep employees informed and how to encourage and incentivize employees.

Friday night featured a social mixer/dinner and a concert at the Mickey Gilley Theater.

Activities during Saturday included golf, skeet shooting and a catamaran cruise on the lake.

The Saturday dinner featured a presentation by NTMA Chairman Ted Toth. He spoke about this year's theme (Retooling the Precision Manufacturing Industry), the different programs offered by the NTMA and the importance of training the next generation of employees and owners. The audience at the dinner was brought up to speed on NTMA developments and encouraged to attend national meetings. The featured speaker was Economist Chris Kuehl of Armada Corporate Intelligence on economic trends impacting manufacturing. More pictures from the event can be found on the chapter's website.



Above (l-r): St. Louis NTMA's Nick Berilla, NTMA Chair Ted Toth and KC NTMA's Roger Gubbels at the NTMA dinner.

## Jacobs Named Haas HFO GM



Above: Gene Jacobs

Haas Factory Outlet (HFO), a Division of NYMAT Machine Tool, has announced the appointment of Gene Jacobs as General Manager for the territory of Kansas, Missouri and Southern Illinois.

Jacobs joins the Haas team with over 35 years of experience in machine tool sales including 10 with Haas products. "We are excited to have someone with Gene's experience join our team. His knowledge of the industry, territory and strong customer relationships will be invaluable," stated Brian Cregg, HFO president.

Jacobs commented, "I look forward to building on the strong base Haas has established in this region. The quality of the equipment combined with the strong local support will give our customers a definite advantage when it comes to efficiency, speed and costs."

For more information visit [www.HaasCNC.com](http://www.HaasCNC.com).

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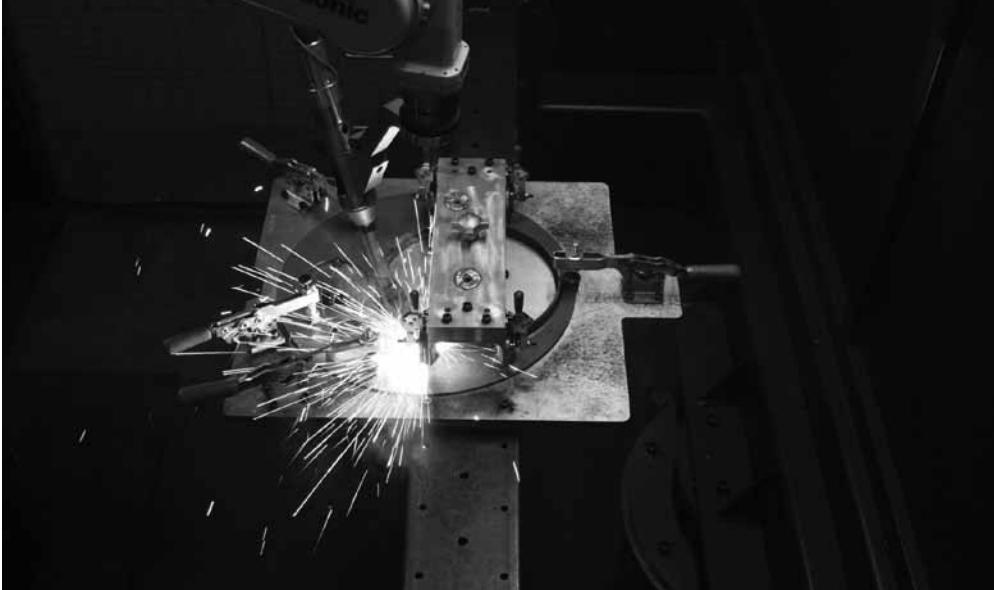
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# A&E Custom Mfg. Technologies Celebrates 55 Years



Above: A robotic welder at work at A&E Custom Mfg. Technologies

A&E Custom Manufacturing Technologies, Kansas City, Kansas, is celebrating its 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The firm, which is ISO-certified, offers a wide range of manufacturing services including: metal stamping; CNC turret punching, laser cutting; tooling and machining; metal fabrication; wire EDM; Mig & Tig & resistance welding; assembly and packaging.

A&E's impressive array of equipment includes fully automated fabrication cells and robotic welders.

"It is important to surround yourself with good people and leverage technology to stay ahead of the curve," noted A&E's Steve Hasty as he talked about the company's history. He noted that the average tenure of the management team is almost 20 years.

"We pursue new technology to improve our efficiency and make us

more competitive and eliminate waste," stated Clark Ward, A&E sales engineer and long-time industry veteran.

"Continually improving our systems and processes makes us more efficient, improves our turnaround time and frees up space," commented A&E's John Jaixen, a long-time employee.

Hasty credits industry trade groups (NTMA, FMA and SME) with providing numerous ideas for helping A&E survive and thrive over the years.

The firm serves such industries as: food, automotive, medical; transportation; displays; architectural and construction.

For estimates contact: Clark ext. 132. A&E Custom Manufacturing Technologies can be contacted at: (913) 371-1040; Fax (913) 371-1264; 3150 Chrysler Road, Kansas City, Kansas 66115; [tech@aecustommfg.com](mailto:tech@aecustommfg.com).

# Longtime NTMA Staffer Jim Grossmann Passes



Above: Jim Grossman 1953-2014

Jim Grossmann, a long-time advocate of manufacturing and staffer at the NTMA, recently passed away. An Air Force veteran, Grossmann served two tours of duty in Vietnam before he started a career in manufacturing. For the last 22 years he had been on the NTMA staff in a variety of positions. He worked with the St. Louis, Kansas City and Wichita chapters over his career.

NTMA President Dave Tilstone noted: "Jim's been an inspiration to all of us because of his passion and love for the NTMA and our industry. His dedication as our advocate for all that we stand for will always be remembered." Current NTMA Chairman Ted Toth observed, "When anyone thinks of dedication and relentless support for our members and the NTMA, Jim always comes to mind."

Grossmann is survived by his wife, Kim, and daughter, Julie.

For more information visit: <http://www.schrader.com/sitemaker/sites/>



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## 2014 NTMA-KC Officers/Directors

**President:** Roger Gubbels, K-Ter Imagineering

**1st Vice President:** Michael Bohning, Creative Blow Mold

**2nd Vice President:** Andy Borst, Clay & Bailey Mfg.

**Exec. Director:**

Torree Pederson (816) 739-4422 [execdir@kcntma.org](mailto:execdir@kcntma.org)

**Trustee:** Craig Schroer, Unitech, Inc.

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George Crossland; Crossland Machinery

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**Emerging Leaders:**

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**Chapter Web Site:** [www.kcntma.org](http://www.kcntma.org)

## Wise Chips:

*“The three great essentials to achieve anything worthwhile are hard work; stick-to-itiveness and common sense.”*

*Thomas Edison*

*“The day will happen whether or not you get up.”*

*John Ciardi*

## Marketing Opportunity

In order to make more activities of the chapter financially self-sufficient, business-card size ads are being accepted to offset the cost of the Chips ‘N Comments newsletter.

This is a great opportunity for members and associate members to gain exposure for their goods and services to more than 200 members and prospective members, as well as support the NTMA. (See examples inside).

Business card ads cost \$125 per issue (three minimum). The newsletter is published 5 to 6 times a year. Members and associate members receive priority for the limited spots that are available. For more information, contact Torree at: 816-739-4422 • [execdir@kcntma.org](mailto:execdir@kcntma.org)

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