

## Spring Issue 2015

### In This Issue

#### Featured Member

#### CMMA Golf Social

#### New Flyer of America - 2014 Manufacturer of the Year

#### Board Bio

#### CMMA Awards Grants

#### CMMA Launches Charitable Foundation

### Upcoming Events

#### May 28

CMMA Breakfast Meeting - Waite Park  
Tour DCI, Inc.

#### June 3

AMFA Golf Social - Grand Rapids  
Sugar Lake Lodge - [Click here](#) for flyer

#### June 16

CMMA Golf Social - Clearwater  
Eagle Trace Golf Center - [Click here](#) for flyer

#### July 23

TSMA Golf Social - Fergus Falls  
Pebble Lake Golf Club - [Click here](#) for flyer

Do you have suggestions for speakers or topics you'd like presented? Please contact the office.

## Letter From Les

*"The man who will use his skill and constructive imagination to see how much he can give for a dollar, instead of how little he can give for a dollar, is bound to succeed."* ~Henry Ford



Spring greetings to our CMMA members and friends! The grass is starting to green, lilacs are budding and the robin's song can again be heard. CMMA is vibrant with new energy and well positioned to cultivate our objectives in membership education, workforce development and legislative advocacy. CMMA is honored to recognize esteemed member, New Flyer, as the CMMA 2014 Manufacturer of the Year! We're proud of this company and grateful for their investment in our association; read more on Page 3.

CMMA would also like to recognize revered member St. Cloud Technical and Community College for their enlightening demonstration of modern manufacturing at the recent Central MN Job Fair in Monticello. Event attendees interacted with a 3D printer and 3D hand held scanner. The friendly and knowledgeable SCTCC representative did an awesome job of inspiring on-lookers and sharing career pathway information. Well done!

This newsletter announces the new CMMA Foundation (see pg 5). This fund will help broaden CMMA's meaningful work while providing a strategic financial planning tool for the membership.

CMMA membership continues to grow as we purposefully spotlight best practices, industry updates and innovation insight. Our workforce development strategies include college scholarships and support for the statewide Tour of Manufacturing (a CMMA first!). Our group collaborates with K-12 institutions by offering free membership, free meeting attendance and grants to help fund manufacturing programs, robotics teams, field trips and more. Internships, Apprenticeships and On-The-Job Training are significant workplace talent solutions; let CMMA connect you to the right people. CMMA's Government/Legislative group encourages manufacturers to invite elected officials on a tour of your shop. Share your manufacturing expertise along with your opinion on matters that are important to you and your business. CMMA can connect you, let us help.

The annual CMMA Golf Social is scheduled on June 16, plan now to attend! This event offers business and bonding opportunities, with all proceeds specifically targeted toward workforce development initiatives. Thanks to our planning committee, it's sure to be a beautiful day spent with fine company for a great cause.

Remember to take full advantage of your investment in CMMA. Post your open positions on CMMA's website and tap the innovative training and development tools available to you. We appreciate and utilize your feedback to construct meetings, events and resources that add value to your membership.

CMMA, Stronger Together and Moving Manufacturing Forward!

In service, Les Engel, CMMA President

## Featured Member: Galaxy Precision, Inc.

Galaxy Precision, Inc., located in Albany, MN, is a precision CNC job shop. CEO, Ralph Finken, used his 22 years of machining experience to found Galaxy Precision in 1989. Back then work was done on manual machines. How things have changed! By embracing new machine shop technology, Galaxy concentrates on CNC turning and milling on a range of sizes. The company believes a continuous commitment to CNC technology makes manufacturing more efficient, reduces cost, and saves the customers money.

The shop floor now houses 30 CNC machines, including both vertical and horizontal CNC machining centers, some with pallet changers and others with rotating pallets to make production as cost effective as possible. They also utilize large and small CNC turning centers with tailstocks and some with large through headstock capacity to accommodate short and long parts.

In 2014 alone Galaxy added two Doosan CNC lathes, including the Doosan Puma with a hydraulic chuck, 36" swing and over 10' of turning length ([click here](#) to see this lathe in action). To watch their Hyundai Wia CNC Mill in action (purchased in 2012), [click here](#). By posting these videos on YouTube, Galaxy has enhanced their company website and promoted their capabilities using visual technology.

Another key to Galaxy's growth is "accommodation." They make every effort to accommodate customer wants and needs. They often manufacture parts from CAD files and drawings. However, they also accommodate the customer that comes in with a sample part or a hand drawing. Galaxy Precision produces parts that range in size from less than an ounce to weighing over a ton, one piece or thousands. Using steel, aluminum, stainless steel, brass, plastic, cast iron and other materials, along with outsourcing operations such as heat-treating, plating, splines, and grinding, means the company can accommodate most jobs.

Quality is assured as they provide first piece, in-process, and final inspection documentation. They have new programmable software, along with a new computer for their Numerex Coordinate Measuring Machine, which is able to print out the results for customers to review and keep on record.

Galaxy Precision uses Shoptech E2 Software, a total shop control system used to keep jobs on schedule, materials ordered on time, and track production times for each operation. In 2012, Gibbs CAM software was implemented to enable advanced programming and improve efficiency.

*Galaxy Precision, con't pg 5*

## CMMA Golf Social

*3rd Annual!*

**Tuesday, June 16**

**Clearwater, MN**

Eagle Trace Golf Center

11 AM Complimentary Lunch,  
Registration, & Putting Contest  
Noon Shotgun Start  
5:30 PM Dinner/Awards Ceremony

**\$90/person**

Includes golf, shared cart, prizes, lunch and dinner

**Hole Sponsorships Available - \$200**

Includes one FREE golf registration.

### Hole Sponsors to Date:

All Pro Powder Coating  
Alliance Building Corp  
AmeriPride  
Darter Plastics  
Falcon National Bank  
Greater St. Cloud Dev Corp  
Innovative Power Systems  
King Solutions  
Lawing Financial  
MidCountry Bank  
Pro Staff  
Rengel Printing  
riteSOFT  
Spartan Staffing  
Stoneridge Software

### Event Sponsors:

Aerotek  
Brenny Transportation  
Carlson Advisors  
HealthPartners  
KDV  
Schlenner Wenner & Co.  
W. Gohman Construction

**Help us reach our Goal to raise \$10,000**

*Proceeds benefit scholarships and youth robotics programs in central Minnesota.*

*Galaxy Precision photos*



## CMMA 2014 Manufacturer of the Year:

Central Minnesota Manufacturers Association is proud to proclaim New Flyer of America as the 2014 CMMA Manufacturer of the Year. CMMA President Les Engel recently presented New Flyer representatives with this well-earned award to celebrate the company's commitment to and support of CMMA.

New Flyer of America is a six-year member of CMMA, having joined the organization one year after it was founded in 2008. This outstanding company has added value to CMMA and the manufacturing community in many ways:

- Active attendance at meetings and events
- Host facility tours for CMMA, youth, and more
- Guest speaker presentation at CMMA meetings
- Significant investment in innovation and technology, most recently with their Midi bus line
- Representation on the CMMA Board of Directors (Stan Voas)
- Job creation / economic vitality in the region

On behalf of the CMMA membership, thank you, New Flyer, for your partnership and your investment in manufacturing in Central Minnesota!



Les Engel, Central MN Manufacturers Association President (far right), presents the CMMA 2014 Manufacturer of the Year Award to New Flyer of America representatives (from left): Bret Gohman, Craig Ziebol, Vern Geislinger, and Eric Jensen.

## Board Bio



**Name:** Scott Doeden

**Where do you work, what do you do?**  
I am the Operations Manager at St. Cloud Window

**What was your first job?**  
My first job was taking care of a grape vineyard amongst other landscaping duties in Rice, MN. I was 15 years old and made \$3.15 per hour.

**Hometown:**  
Rice

**Family:**  
I live in Sartell with my wife Beth and 4 daughters... Abby, Ell, Emma and Amelia.

**Pets:**  
English Bulldog, Adrian. Two cats Oscar and Edna

**Do you have a favorite book or author?**  
Atlas Shrugged

**Favorite movie?**  
Shawshank Redemption... love slapstick and sports movies too.

**Favorite food?**  
Depends on my mood but I really enjoy whatever my wife cooks.

**Do you have any hobbies, play any sports or favorite games?**  
I am a big sports fan. Vikings, Twins, Timberwolves... enjoy going to the games. Played a lot of softball, volleyball and bowled quite a bit over the years but concentrate mainly on golf now.

**Comment on your involvement in CMMA:**  
I've been coming to the CMMA events for the past couple years. I've enjoyed the speakers and tours. I am excited in becoming a board member and look forward to helping grow the organization.

**What would CMMA members be surprised to learn about you?**  
I have what my wife calls an obsession with fantasy football.

# METAL MAKES LIFE MORE: *connected*

**FABTECH**  
NOVEMBER 9-12, 2015  
McCormick Place, Chicago, IL

NORTH AMERICA'S LARGEST METAL FORMING, FABRICATING, WELDING AND FINISHING EVENT

[fabtechexpo.com](http://fabtechexpo.com)

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## Invite Legislators to Tour Your Facility

In collaboration with the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and several other trade associations in the state, CMMA plans to energize the “Legislator Connection” program available to the membership. In an attempt to simplify the process for CMMA members, “Legislator Connection” offers manufacturers free assistance with coordinating legislative tours.

### FAQ...

**Is it important to be well informed about current affairs at the State Capitol?** No! Any owner or manager with knowledge of everyday issues relevant to your company is well equipped to host a tour. By simply sharing your company’s “story,” legislators will gain insight as to how decisions made at the Capitol impact the manufacturing industry.

**How do I identify my legislators?** The MN Chamber of Commerce makes it easy to identify your legislators. Members and nonmembers can simply enter their address at <http://grassroots.mnchamber.com/> to access a list of local, state and federal elected officials. Incidentally, this website also provides up-to-date information on key issues, voting records, bill tracking, and more. Check it out!

**When should I schedule the tour?** The Minnesota Legislature is typically in session from January to May, so your local legislators should be more accessible from June to December. Another optimal tour time is during “Easter break” each year. Or, you might find your legislators to be available on Friday afternoons during session.

**How much time will it take?** As little as one hour, depending on the size of your facility. You know your own shop floor, so consider how long it will take to tour your company (30 minutes? 60 minutes?) and add a suggested 30 minutes for “discussion time” either before or after the tour. Since shop floors are often noisy, consider moving to your reception area, conference room, lunch room, office, etc. for one-on-one discussion with your guest.

**Who should I invite?** Invite your State Senator and State Representative, separately or together. Invite federal officials. Keep the gathering small and personal, or feel free to invite other manufacturers and/or contacts from your local chamber, economic development, college, workforce center, etc. Invite your local media to attend, too.

**How do I get started?** Start planning now for a tour this summer. Contact the CMMA office today at 800-654-5773 or [midwest@runestone.net](mailto:midwest@runestone.net).

## CMMA Funds K-12 Programs

The CMMA Education Sponsorship Program encourages grant applications from K-12 institutions in the region. Although CMMA has disbursed funds in support of robotics programs for many years, the grant application procedure was formalized last year with the adoption of Guidelines that outline eligible projects and programs, communicate five application deadlines, and provide guidance on funding priorities.

Three applications were received prior to the February 28 deadline; CMMA awarded \$1,000 in support of all three applications. At Eden Valley-Watkins High School, the funds will aid in the purchase of a CNC Router to be used for classroom instruction. The Granite City Gearheads (Apollo High School) will use the funds for ongoing FIRST Robotics activities. Last but not least, Princeton Schools will use the funds to grow the VEX robotics program launched at the Middle and High school level this year.

Your membership dollars and volunteers efforts are making a difference! Feel free to encourage your local high school to submit an Education Sponsorship Application; call the office for details.

## Did You Know?

### MMA Directory Update

MMA Membership Directory will be hot off the press in May. All current members will receive a complimentary copy in the mail. If you’d like more than one free copy, contact the office.

### Bring a FREE guest!

CMMA members are encouraged to bring a prospective member to a CMMA breakfast meeting; your guest can attend (one time) free of charge!

### Educators are FREE!

Invite a representative(s) from your local high to an upcoming CMMA meeting. Teachers, administrators, and students are encouraged to attend FREE of charge (includes a free breakfast). And – membership in CMMA is FREE to area high schools!

### Job openings?

Post your manufacturing-related job openings on the CMMA website for FREE! Contact the CMMA office for details.

### What is LAMA?

It is Lakes Area Manufacturers Alliance, formerly Brainerd Lakes Chamber Manufacturing Alliance. LAMA is now one of four MMA affiliate associations.

## Galaxy Precision, con't

An expansion in 2011 added 10,500 square feet of production and warehouse space. Galaxy Precision now employs 25 people. Son, Mark Finken (COO) and daughter, Sharon Finken (CFO) are now co-owners with Ralph. CMMA has tentative plans to tour this ever-growing company in the fall of 2015.

[www.galaxyprecisionmn.com](http://www.galaxyprecisionmn.com)



Sharon, Mark and Ralph Finken

## Welcome New Members!

Absolute Sourcing, Inc.

B&F Fastener Supply

Braham High School

Brandl Motors

Morgan Stanley

Rocori High School

Sauk Rapids-Rice High School

Sterling Payment Technologies B2B Group

***Manufacturing Matters*** is edited and published at the Midwest Manufacturers' Association office, PO Box 150, Elbow Lake, MN 56531. Toll free: 800-654-5773. Email: [stephd@runestone.net](mailto:stephd@runestone.net). Office hours are 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. However, messages can be left on the answering machine at any time.

## CMMA Launches Charitable Foundation

The CMMA Board of Directors is excited to announce a new opportunity for members to support the association's extensive workforce development efforts in the region. CMMA recently partnered with the Central Minnesota Community Foundation to launch the new Central Minnesota Manufacturers Association Foundation (CMMA Foundation).

The new Foundation is governed by the IRS 501(c)3 tax code, which means, in a nutshell, that donations (from an individual or business) can be treated as a charitable contribution (a direct write-off) on the donor's tax return.

The Foundation's charter documents indicate that all donations will be used to encourage and support the manufacturing industry in central Minnesota through industry promotion and educational opportunities for students of all ages.

To learn more, contact the CMMA office at 800-654-5773.

**Bring a guest to a  
CMMA meeting  
for FREE!**

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A cost effective way to reach a broad manufacturing audience.

To learn more, contact  
Sandy Kashmark at 800-654-5773 or  
[midwest@runestone.net](mailto:midwest@runestone.net)