



**Western
Kansas
Manufacturers
Association**

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*Merry Christmas & Happy
New Year!*



**WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD FORUM UPDATE
Invitation to Kansas Workforce Summit 2007**

The Local Area I Workforce Investment Board Employer Forums held across the state of Kansas were completed the end of November and have proven quite fruitful! Information collected will be extremely valuable to the board during their strategic planning process.

Data collected during the forums will be used to design systematic solutions that will assist employers with current and future workforce needs, and a compiled forum report will be sent to all participants sometime in December. The board next meets in January to develop short-term and long-term strategic plans. For more information, visit www.la1lwib.org, call (620) 792-7032 or email info@la1lwib.org.

All forum participants were invited to continue the workforce discussions during the upcoming Kansas Workforce Summit to be held at the Topeka Capital Plaza January 24 and 25, 2007. For complete information and registration forms, visit www.kansasworkforcesummit.com.

EXPORTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

It is once again time for the Annual Exporter of the Year Award nominations. The Kansas International Trade Coordinating Council is accepting nominations for Exporter of the Year. The KITCC is an independent council that operates with the facilitating assistance of the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing. One of the objectives of the Council is to identify for-profit Kansas corporations that excel in the field of international business. The annual presentation of the Governor's Exporter of the Year Award is the culmination of that activity.

Companies do not need to be a KITCC member to submit nominations. **Self-nominations are encouraged!**

Nomination forms are enclosed for your convenience. If you have any questions, please contact WKMA at (620) 227-8082. **Nomination deadline is January 26, 2007.**

**NEW PRODUCT AWARD
NOMINATIONS WANTED**

The WKMA New Product Award is an award given at the Annual Meeting held each February. If your company has developed a new product you would like considered for this award, please send us a letter of interest along with product information. Don't let another year slip by without *YOUR* product being recognized!

**AWARD ENTRY
DEADLINE :**
January 5, 2007

PRESENTATION:
Annual Meeting
February 16, 2007



**NEW PRODUCT
AWARD
2007**


WKMA ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED


As tuition at technical schools, colleges and universities across the nation continue to rise, Western Kansas Manufacturers Association is proud to continue supporting the annual scholarship program. More and more, our youth depend on scholarships such as ours to make post-secondary education possible. We are pleased to announce scholarships have been awarded to the following freshman students for the 2006-2007 school year. Congratulations to these recipients:

- Barton County Community College \$500.00 scholarship to **Darren Goetz**, a Grinnell High School graduate, majoring in Business.
- Colby Community College \$500.00 scholarship to **John Morgan**. John is a graduate of Colby High School and is an Engineering student at Colby Community College with plans to transfer to Kansas State University after completing his Associate of Arts Degree.
- Dodge City Community College \$500.00 scholarship to **Melinda Downey**. Melinda is a Spearville High School graduate enrolled in business courses at Dodge City Community College including Financial Accounting, Economics and Computer Science.
- North Central Kansas Technical College \$500.00 scholarship to **Dylan Gross**, a Western Plains High School graduate, enrolled in Welding Technology.
- Seward County Community College \$500.00 scholarship to **Martin Hernandez**, a Liberal High School graduate, majoring in Business.
- Southwest Kansas Technical School \$500.00 scholarship to **Felipe DeLaTorres**, a Liberal High School graduate, enrolled in Auto Mechanics Technology.
- Fort Hays State University \$700.00 scholarship to **Andrew Leiker**, a Thomas More Prep-Marian High School graduate, majoring in Physics.
- University of Kansas \$700.00 scholarship to **Emily Young** of Syracuse. Emily is majoring in Engineering.

WKMA would also like to thank those individuals and businesses who support this scholarship program through the purchase of commemorative 3iSHOW belt buckles. This program would not be possible without your support! Buckles for the 2007 3iSHOW in Garden City are currently available. Visit the Merchandise tab at www.3ishow.com to view this year's buckle and for ordering information, or call (620) 227-8082. Past years' buckles are also available for purchase with an inventory also available online as to which buckle numbers are available for each year.

2007 3i SHOW Buckles & Hats



Orders are now being filled for the 2007 Commemorative Belt Buckle. This *brass antique* plated buckle (pictured in pewter) is the Fifth of the Sixth Series. There are only 300 buckles made each year, each individually numbered.

The pictured 2007 buckle commemorates the 52nd annual 3iSHOW to be held in Garden City May 10, 11 and 12, 2007. Buckles are here and ready for delivery! Orders will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Proceeds from the buckle sales go to the WKMA Scholarship Fund. This fund provided scholarships for nine students from Western Kansas for the 2005-2006 school year.

To order your buckle, send \$25.00 to the WKMA Scholarship Fund. Indicate the buckle number desired. A printable order form is available online under the Merchandise Tab at www.3ishow.com. Past buckles are also available with a buckle number inventory available online.

Also, watch for more information regarding the opportunity to bid on two 1983 buckles which have recently become available. 1983 was the inaugural buckle and sold out completely at that time!

GARDEN CITY VISITOR INFORMATION

Once again, our 3iSHOW host community Convention and Visitors Bureau will make it easier for 3iSHOW exhibitors and vendors to find information regarding hotel rooms and RV parks as well as restaurants, shopping and tourist attractions. Amy Weaver, the newly appointed CTB Director, has coordinated a link on their website to make your travel plans easier for the upcoming 3iSHOW in Garden City. For assistance with travel reservations, click on the 3i SHOW link at www.gardencity.net/chamber/ctb.

Thank you Amy for coordinating this link!

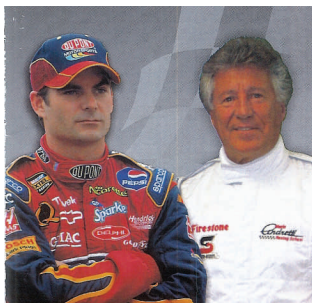


TIME IS RUNNING SHORT....

to reserve your prime space location for the 2007 3iSHOW for Garden City!!

The 3iSHOW is off to an incredible start with more than 400 exhibitors already contracted for their space! If you haven't contracted *your* space, do it today for the best selection!

Show space gets more and more limited with every passing day!!

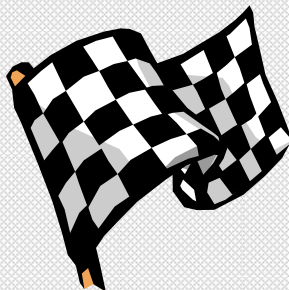


Jeff Gordon and Mario Andretti Racing School

Eddie Estes, WKMA President/CEO, has organized a "double package" racing school. The school is scheduled for Sunday, July 8, 2007, at the Kansas Speedway.

The "double package" includes driving an authentic Nextel Cup car as well as an Indy-style race car on the super-speedway. Experience the best of both worlds!

For complete information, contact Eddie at (620) 227-8082.



ROY'S RULES

JANE AND MICHAEL STERN,
pop culture mavens:

"Our wish is for more people to stick to the membership rules of the Roy Rogers Riders Club, founded in the 1940s."

1. Be neat and clean.
2. Be courteous and polite.
3. Always obey your parents.
4. Protect the weak and help them.
5. Be brave but never take chances.
6. Study hard and learn all you can.
7. Be kind to the animals and care for them.
8. Eat all your food and never waste any.
9. Love God and go to Sunday school regularly.
10. Always respect our flag and our country.

Dates to Remember

December 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS!!
January 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
January 5	New Product Award Deadline
January 24	Kansas Workforce Summit Begins, Topeka Capital Plaza
January 26	Exporter of the Year Deadline
February 16	WKMA Annual Meeting
May 10-12	3i SHOW
July 8	Kansas Speedway Racing School