



American Welding Society®

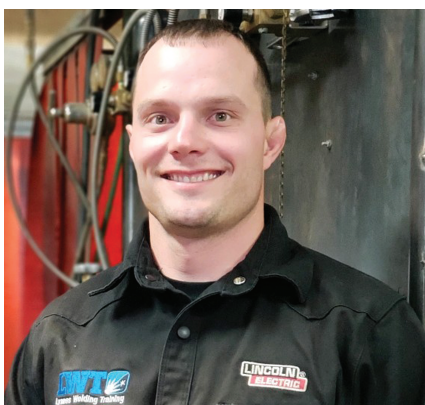
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
SINCE 1919

AWS Celebrates Its Past by Focusing on the Industry's Bright Future

The *Welding Journal* is celebrating its centennial by looking to the future and showcasing the welding industry's young professionals. From January to December 2019, Society News will profile AWS members under the age of 40 from each AWS District.

The following section profiles Adam Lynnes, Dist. 15, and Kassidy Kitzmiller, Dist. 16. To nominate an AWS member, contact Katie Pacheco at kpacheco@aws.org.

District 15 Member Profile



Adam Lynnes

With his father and grandfather as welders, Adam Lynnes has the craft running through his veins. He tried welding for the first time at the age of 12 when his father took him to a Pipefitters Apprenticeship class he was teaching at a technical college.

"I would sit and listen to his teachings and then go into an empty booth that wasn't being used and try not to weld the piece of metal to the table," he reminisced. "From that day forward, I went to every Saturday class he taught because I was determined to get better than the week before."

And "get better" he did. While working toward his bachelor's in business management, Lynnes joined his father's business, Dave's Welding & Metal Fabrication Inc., as a small parts welder for a local manufacturer. Lynnes' knowledge of welding symbols and blueprints expanded with the growth of the business and shop, allowing him to ascend to a fabricating/welding position, and later foreman. When his father's business merged with a bulk tank and structur-

al steel company, Lynnes became the production support/team lead.

The merger exposed Lynnes to new projects, such as one requiring 4-in.-thick, complete-penetration groove welds for joining columns to large, thick base plates. It took him five hours to finish two of the four welds.

"These welds were going to be tested by ultrasonic testing, so the quality of the welds were my top priority, and not knowing what was involved with that type of testing was nerve racking," he recalled. "By the end of the project, I found that I learned a lot about endurance and patience when producing high-level quality welds on thick material."

Following several years in the company, and after a military deployment, Lynnes transitioned to a welding instructor position at his father's welding school, Lynnes Welding Training, Fargo, N.Dak., where he has been for more than five years. Some of the subjects he teaches include gas tungsten, gas metal, flux cored, and shielded metal arc welding (plate); pipe welding; oxyacetylene cutting; plasma arc cutting and gouging; carbon arc gouging; safety; welding symbols; and blueprint reading. According to Lynnes, the classes give students the training they need to acquire a job in a short period of time.

"The most enjoyable thing about teaching the skill of welding is seeing my students' progression of their skills from the first day of class to their graduation day, and showing them that with hard work and dedication they can achieve a lot in a small amount of time," he affirmed. "I also love being able to pass my skills on to them, knowing they are going to be

great welders in the industry and make a great career out of it, which will lead to countless opportunities to better themselves."

Lynnes is also an American Welding Society (AWS) Certified Welding Inspector (CWI) and AWS Certified Welding Educator (CWE).

"The number one thing that motivated me to pursue and become a CWI and CWE is always wanting to challenge myself to continue to learn and contribute more to the welding industry," he explained. "I'm also striving to obtain and grow my knowledge to develop into a better instructor."

Lynnes' dedication to teaching has been recognized with two AWS accolades—the Howard E. Adkins Memorial Instructor Membership Award and the Private Sector Instructor Membership Award.

"The hard work, drive, and dedication that I have so far put forth is being noticed, and it gives me motivation to continue to give back to the welding industry by sharing my skills and knowledge with others to better their lives," he said.

On his off time, Lynnes enjoys hunting and fishing. He also volunteers with Cowboy Up, a nonprofit that raises money for the Sanford Roger Maris Cancer Center, Fargo, N.Dak. His time is further dedicated to the North Dakota Army National Guard, where he has served for nine years and specializes in electrical maintenance on a ground-to-air missile system. However, Lynnes is most fulfilled by the simple things in life: "With all of this, my greatest passion at this moment is my wife of almost a year, and the excitement of becoming a new dad this August."