



LEWA Line Drops

A monthly publication for the Solidworks Users in our area



First Annual LEWA Design Contest

The LEWA User group is considering having their first annual Design Contest. Right now we are looking within the LEWA group to see if there would be any interest in having the contest. Prizes would be awarded for the top three contestants with the judging coming from the LEWA User group. If there is interest amongst the users please let either Betty Baker (bbaker@ashleyfurniture.com) or Shayne Johnson (sjohnson@ashleyfur

niture.com) know. Right now we are looking to try and get our VAR's to donate some prizes such as a CADMan 3D mouse or Nvidia based video cards.

If enough interest is shown, we will roll out the contest rules and deadlines for project submission. The Design contest will also be posted at the LEWA website at: www.LEWAusergroup.org



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Special points of interest:

- ♦ *Solidworks stability, bring your stories to the next meeting.*
- ♦ *Nextengine scanner, what do you think?*
- ♦ *Your dream computer for using SW. What's your set-up?*
- ♦ *Topics needed for the next meeting, if there is something you would like covered, send your ideas in.*

SolidWorks Standardization?

Many companies have multiple seats of Solidworks, and offices that range far and wide, other companies do not. Depending what category you fall into Solidworks standardization is a huge thing. How do you get users to use the

same blocks? How many people do you have creating macros, naming conventions for all of the different databases and objects that you create. This can be a daunting task for any one person or even a Department. Over the next couple of

issues we will be looking at the different problems faced by companies and give our users some tips on keeping everything organized and consistent.

www.LEWAUSERGROUP.org

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Quote of the day:

"...I wish I could say something classy, but that's just not our style."

-Keanu Reeves in the Replacements



The LEWA User group is a non-profit organization of area Solidworks professionals and VARs the meets 4 times a year to discuss and enlighten each other of the use of the Solidworks modeling software. During these meetings we have presentations by our local VARs and users on a multitude of Solidworks topics. Topics have ranged from API training in the last meeting to Photoworks, sheetmetal, and other interesting topics that cover the many facets of Solidworks. Our membership is also as varied as our topics. We have a wide membership area covering cities as far North as Rice Lake to South of the Winona area and as far west as Rochester. Our groups area covers almost two states and we have people who drive several hours to attend our meetings. Anyone and everyone is welcome! Come take in the food, prizes and fun atmosphere.

SolidWorks Tips & Tricks of the month

We tend to sometimes fall back to the basics and what we know, either we think everyone must know the same thing, or you don't want to feel stupid because you didn't know something. Here's the spot for a simple tip or trick for using SolidWorks

Tip of the month: To constrain two holes to the outside edge without going in and setting min and max variables in the property box, when dimensioning the two holes hold the Shift key down while picking the two circles, the dimension will automatically switch to the outsides of the circles. Mouse clicks saved:5

Member Close-up: A LEWA profile

Welcome to the first issue of LEWA Line Drops. Somehow I got elected to be the first member profile. Hopefully, we will get to know each other through this newsletter.

Most of you already know me but those of you that don't – my name is Betty Baker. I am the current President of the LEWA SolidWorks User Group. I have been an officer with this user group since its beginning serving as the Secretary before taking the role of President. Being an officer of the LEWA user group is a role that I thoroughly enjoy. I work closely with the other two LEWA officers, Shayne Johnson and Christopher Hurt. Without their help I wouldn't be able to pull together these quarterly meetings.

I am a



Betty Baker, Current LEWA User group President

Product Engineer at Ashley Furniture. Ashley Furniture produces residential furniture. I have been with Ashley Furniture for almost 22 years. I started working in Fabrication and eventually moved into Engineering. I am in charge of engineering a furniture group from start to finish. I have been using SolidWorks for 6 years after being an AutoCAD user. In April of 2005 I became a CSWP (Certified SolidWorks Professional). I live in Arcadia and I have been married for almost 20 years and have two sons ages 9 and 13.

I hope you enjoy reading LEWA Line Drops. This newsletter is for the LEWA members. Please send in your thoughts and answers to the questions and surveys.

LEWA Member Survey:

What video card are you currently using in your main computer that runs Solidworks?

E-mail your answers to sjohnson@ashleyfurniture.com

Results in next month's LEWA Line drops.

