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January 13, 2020



To: MWFA, CMC of NASF Members and Fastener Industry

From: Paula Evitts, MWFA President

Hopefully everyone is enjoying a good start to the New Year. With this being an election year and threats of a recession, we never know what direction the upcoming year's economy will trend and ultimately finish. This makes it appropriate to open the year with a presentation, on February 20<sup>th</sup>, by returning William Strauss, a senior economist and economic advisor from the Chicago Federal Reserve.

Join us as Mr. Strauss addresses the economic expansion following the "Great Recession" of 2008 and 2009. During the economic downturn the economy experienced outsized losses in the housing, manufacturing and jobs. Labor markets have significantly improved, interest rates have been fluctuating, the global market is sending mixed signals- but where are we now?

The collapse in energy prices has added some boost to the US economy, although due to greater domestic energy production, not as much as in the past. However, the surging value of the dollar over the past year has lowered growth as net exports deteriorated. Inflation has been low and below the Federal Reserve's target for several years, yet the Fed has begun to remove its very accommodative policy. Mr. Strauss will look at the performance of the overall macro economy with specific attention paid to key economic sectors and indicators for the U.S. economy over the next couple of years.

William A. Strauss works in the economic research department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, which he joined in 1982. His chief responsibilities include analyzing the current performance of both the Midwest economy and the manufacturing sector for use in monetary policy. He produces the monthly Chicago Fed Midwest Manufacturing Index and organizes the Bank's Economic Outlook Symposium and Automotive Outlook Symposium. In addition, he conducts several economic workshops and industrial roundtables throughout the year.

Strauss teaches as an adjunct faculty member at several universities. He was named winner of the 2010 Excellence in Teaching Award in the Business and Professional Programs at the University Of Chicago Graham School Of General Studies. His research papers include analysis of the manufacturing sector, the automotive sector, the Midwest regional economy, and the trade-weighted dollar, business cycles and Federal Reserve payments operations.

Strauss has been interviewed on numerous television and radio shows including Fully Threaded Radio and is regularly quoted in major business magazines and newspapers. He has also provided testimony concerning manufacturing issues to the U.S. Senate. He has spoken to the MWFA group in the past and has proven to be insightful and informative.

**We look forward to having you join us. Details of this important event are below.**

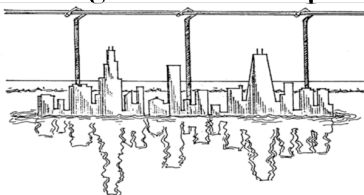
When: February 20, 2020  
Time: 6:00 p.m. Cocktails (1 Hour Open Bar)  
7:00 p.m. Dinner followed by presentation  
Where: Belvedere Banquets  
1170 West Devon Elk Grove Village, IL 847-534-0600  
Fee: \$60 MWFA & NASFCM Members  
\$75 Non Members

Please advise of any Vegetarian (Eggplant Parmesan) or Gluten Free requests.



# NASF

Chicago Midwest Chapter



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Return this form (with payment), for the February 20th meeting by mail or fax to 847-438-7580.  
Please return by February 13<sup>th</sup>.

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## **MWFA/CMC of NASF Dinner Meeting-Thursday-February 20, 2020**

**Belvedere Banquets Elk Grove Village, IL**  
**\$60 MWFA/CMC Member \$75 Non Members**

COMPANY\_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail:\_\_\_\_\_

\*Number of Attendees\_\_\_\_\_

\*Please advise of any Vegetarian (Eggplant Parmesan) or Gluten Free requests.

Attendee Names and E-Mails\_\_\_\_\_

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Note: To register on line go to [www.mwfa.net](http://www.mwfa.net), and from our Home Page scroll down to New Information and click on the event.

Payment Enclosed\_\_\_\_\_ Invoice Us\_\_\_\_\_ Bill Credit Card\_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number\_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date\_\_\_\_\_ Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Amt. Enclosed\_\_\_\_\_

Reservations must be placed prior to February 13<sup>th</sup> in order to place accurate reservations with the restaurant.  
Mail form to: MWFA P.O. Box 5 Lake Zurich IL 60047 or fax to 847-438-7580

**Reservations placed, but not filled will be invoiced-we are billed for guarantee given to restaurant.**

*Mid-West Fastener Association*  
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