



Addendum to Education Committee Annual Report

TO: AWCI Board of Directors

FROM: Jerry Faier, Chair AWCI Education Committee

SUBJECT: CEU Program

Members of the Board:

In the development of any program for AWCI, there should be some step wise method to grow and develop the skills, knowledge and dispositions that is expected of all members. These programs would offer the necessary steps to help prepare the member to improve their bench skills and get one step closer to the successful accomplishment of their specific certification. After *much* discussion and debate, the Ed Comm was not able to reach a unified solution for the proposed CEU program. There were attitudes that “the old CEU program was a disaster, and how will this be any different”; “no one who holds certification will be excited about having to do even more to keep it.” “The program submitted by one of the Committee members was too limiting and mainly addressed the CW21, what about the rest of us?.” Alternate approaches to extend and improve the debate and hopefully reach a consensus were tried, but also gave no results. As such, a paper was written to try and move the debate another direction, removing some previously challenging words and approaches, and hopefully would shift the Committee members thinking in a more positive and productive direction. To give an idea of the atmosphere that was created to help move the discussion, the following philosophy was given at the beginning of this paper to help encourage this new approach: “For any organization to develop, thrive and grow, the participation of its membership is critical. If the members do not grow, then neither does the organization that represents them. For the benefit of the total membership and for the development and/or maintenance of a member’s knowledge, skills and dispositions about the horological trades, this program is to be developed to set the guidelines for all the educational programming of AWCI.” The discussion about this seemed more positive but still left the issue unresolved. This, however, clearly points to a need to shift our efforts slightly requiring more time and effort for successful, quality completion.

As such, it is the committee’s recommendation at this point that the following be adopted in the short run to allow further discussion and definitive results for the future of both AWCI and this program.

- A. For at least one more year, suspend the requirements for CEU’s to allow the full development of a proper and appropriate program. We must have a definition of what is expected before we can set any standards.

- B. The concept must be broadened to cover the entire membership and not just those who carry 21st Century Certifications.
- C. As I see it now, there is a need for 4 categories to be developed under one heading of Educational Development Program (EDP):
 - 1. A CEU program that allows the input of the IAB for each and every company that is represented. The Chair of that committee would be responsible for this discussion and would present the summative results of the requests for any company that wished to have specific material in the education portfolio of a certified member. It would be an added bonus to have a structured statement of what is expected from the certified member over what period of time, covering what subject, skill or knowledge material.
 - 2. The following programs would include the rest of the membership:
 - a. A program for all members who are in the organization and want to grow their skills, etc.
 - b. A program for all other watchmakers who want to *become* certified or just grow their skills and keep as current as possible.
 - c. A program for all clockmakers both those who now hold certifications *and* those wishing to keep up their skills and up to date, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Faier, Chair AWCI Education Committee