

Hi all.

Here in New Jersey we're in a perpetual state of forward energy, having just completed our annual Deck For a Soldier (D4S) project, gearing up for our trend-setting, annual Deck Awards, and putting together plans for a NADRA members-only trip to tour the production facilities of NADRA member, TimberTech, who produce a wide range of industry-specific products. And since you're all doubtlessly well-informed of our DFS accomplishments and annual Deck Awards, I'd thought I'd tell you about our impending trip.

It was during the first day of our 2009 D4S project that local TimberTech rep Mike Schwartz offered the idea of the members-only escapade, asking if I thought we could fill the better part of 30 seats with Pennsylvania and New Jersey NADRA members.

It was a welcome proposal.

You see: I had been harassing Mike, for some time, to get me and my motley crew of deckknicians a tour of the facilities, which are located in and around Columbus, Ohio. And so it was without any hesitation that I embraced his offer for me to find the people to fill those seats.

Among those who have committed to attending are owners and deckknicians/deckologists from the following proud NADRA member companies: Barrett Contracting, Millstone Twp., NJ; Professional Deck Remodelers, LLC, South Brunswick, NJ; Hunterdon Builders, Flemington, NJ; Breyer Construction, Reading, PA; Natural Wonders Landscape Design, Schuylkill, PA; and DeckBuilder Custom Decks & Railings, Barnegat, NJ.

The tour will allow attendees to depart from either Newark Liberty International Airport, or Philadelphia International Airport. We'll fly out to Columbus on the morning of February 10th, and head straight to Wilmington, Ohio, for a tour of TimberTech's production facilities there. We've been promised a comprehensive experience, including hands-on product demonstrations and a questions and answers session with TimberTech executives.

When we're done in Wilmington, we'll head back to Columbus, where we've got seats reserved at a Blue Jackets hockey game--after dinner, of course.

The next morning we'll tour TimberTech's XLM and RadianceRail production facilities in Columbus, and then head back home.

And while all expenses are included in the tour, the most valuable component can't be measured in dollars and cents: The people at TimberTech, who are among the major players in the production of composite and cellular PVC products, will acquire a better measure of the quality of our ranks--of NADRA. It can only be through direct interaction between our manufacturers, distributors, dealers and builders that we can announce our position--that we can show that we are a cut above--that we can increase our associative value.

Couple those immeasurable benefits with the educational and networking opportunities available through such programs, and this type of multi-faceted journey could set a new level of cooperative opportunity for our Association, and for those interested in connecting with the best in the business: the members of NADRA.

There are still seats available for the tour. Send me an email at DeckBuilderMail@aol.com if you're interested.

I am,

Gary J Daley, America's DeckBuilder
DeckBuilder Custom Decks & Railings