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www.afsbirmingham.org



Dinner is \$30.00
Reservations made before
Friday November 4 make
you eligible for one of two
\$25.00 early bird specials!

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Southeast Regional

Be Sure to mark you calendars now for the Southeast Regional on March 28 through 30, 2012 to be held at the Wynfrey. Tom Walton and his team have planned an informative schedule spanning technical to managerial programs. If you are interested in helping, please contact Tom Walton, Tel: (205) 669-5702 or twalton@grede.com

Next Meeting

We'll be ringing in the Christmas season with the *Just Friends Little Big Band* on Dec. 12. Bring your spouse and join us for this time of fellowship.

Birmingham Chapter November at The Wynfrey!

Monday
November 7, 2011

Board Meeting at 5:00
Social 1/2 Hour at 6:00
Dinner at 6:30



Mike Baker, of Dent, Baker & Company, will be joining us this month to discuss the challenges facing Alabama manufacturers in this uncertain economy. He was recently interviewed by Birmingham Business Journal on this subject.

A native of Birmingham, Alabama, Mike received a B. S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Auburn University and an accounting equivalency from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Mike joined Dent, Baker & Company in 1989, earned his CPA designation in 1990 and became partner in 1997. His practice is concentrated in the area of taxation and general business consulting. Mike heads the firms international practice assisting American companies seeking to conduct business abroad and foreign companies operating in the US.

Mike is also a Certified Financial Planner, holding the Series 7 and 63 licenses from the National Association of Securities Dealers.

Mike is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Alabama Society of Certified Public Accountants, the Financial Planning Association, and a chairman of the UAB Accounting Advisory Council. He is also a member of the International Business Development Committee for the PKF North American Network made of more than 430 accounting firms in over 100 countries.

Source: www.dentbaker.com

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From the CHAPTER CHAIRMAN...

Hello,

Well, most of you missed another terrific meeting. I don't know if it was because it was Columbus Day (although I have been assured that in the past it was not), or because the newsletter was late getting out (even though we advertised the date in the Golf outing notice) or maybe the Chapter isn't delivering like we should be. We want you to know your missed and we're interested in your ideas! Email me with your thoughts, dave@dscdcast.com. Thanks.

The topic at the October meeting was the EDPA. If you are like me, you don't (or didn't) know what EDPA stood for. It is the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama. A member had been receiving the NewsFlash+ and suggested we contact them. We did and they agreed to present at the meeting. As a note, even with all the work in the manufacturing sector EDPA has done, they were not aware of the existence of AFS. Angela Wier, VP for EDPA, gave a quick history of the organization. She has been with them for 17 years and has been involved with recruitment projects, the Foundations for Growth, and is president of Alabama Launchpad, a partnership between the state's university, business, and economic development communities to encourage and support innovation and high-growth entrepreneurship in Alabama. The EDPA, a private, not for profit, is about to celebrate its 20 year anniversary. It was instrumental in bringing Mercedes Benz to Alabama, as well as most of the other industries that have come into the state since then.

Bill Taylor, president of EDPA, former CEO of Mercedes-Benz U.S. International, then went on to explain that the EDPA continues to recruit new businesses, but that focus is broadening to assist existing industries in the state improve and grow. He had a statistic that 80% of the job growth in Alabama (22,000 new jobs this year to date) is coming from existing companies, not new companies coming into the state. Bill emphasized that they have resources for renewal (processes, technologies, customer base) and recruiting, but all of us, manufacturers and the local communities, need to work together. In doing so, we all contribute so we can be as successful as we can be.

For more information about EDPA, to know what resources they have, or to sign up for the NewsFlash+ go to www.edpa.org.

Dave Hughes
Chairman



Chapter News

November 2011

AFS Financial Contributions

Listed below are all those who have contributed to the Birmingham Chapter for the 2011-2012 year. Thanks for your continued support!

Platinum Level

(\$350 Contribution (or more))

ABC Coke Division of Drummond Co.
ABP Induction, LLC
American Cast Iron Pipe Co.
B & L Information Systems, Inc.
Dauber Company, Inc.
Diamond Tool & Abrasives, Inc.
DS & D Cast Solutions, Inc.
EC&S, Inc
Emsco, Inc.
Ervin Industries, Inc.
Foseco, Inc.
Goldens' Foundry & Machine Company
Grede – Columbiana, AL
HA – International, LLC
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Inductotherm Companies
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M & H Valve Company
Modern Equipment Company, Inc.
North American Construction Services
Pangborn Corporation
Perry Supply Inc.
Porter Warner Industries
R. Conner Warren
Reno Refractories, Inc.
Rex Heat Treat – Alabama, Inc.
Riverside Refractories, Inc.
S & B Industrial Minerals North America
Southeastern Foundry Products
Specialty Foundry Products, Inc.
Supreme Cores of the Carolinas, Inc.
T. Morris Hackney
Unimin Corporation
Vulcan Engineering Co.

Gold Level

(275 Contribution (\$349 to \$275))

Alabama Power Company
Kerlin Metallurgical, Inc.
Southern Alloy Corporation

Silver Level

(\$200 Contribution (\$274 or less))

ASF Chemicals L.P.
Bert Smith & Associates
Carbide Industries, LLC
Core Metals Group -- TAC
Fire Brick Engineers Company
Ford Meter Box Co. Inc. – Pipe Products Division
Highland Technical Services, Inc.
Levand Steel & Supply Corporation
Pryor Giggey Co.
Tampa Brass & Aluminum Corp.
Tommie Corporation



For Much More Information
Visit Our Website:
www.afsbirmingham.org

Do you want a “text message” meeting announcement?

A suggestion has been brought from the COC (Chapter Officer Conference) that some chapters have had success in utilizing a mass texting+of meeting announcements. If your phone can receive a text message, we can send you the meeting reminder by text. If you would like to participate we need your cell phone number. To participate please email your name and cell phone number to Dave Hughes at dave@dscast.com or call 205-663-0272.

Foundry in a Box!

We have been very successful with the Foundry in a Box presentations to the local school systems. Ken Murphy is the contact/lead for the program this year. Many thanks to Ken! The Chapter needs your help to maintain our success. If you are interested in volunteering (about a half-full day commitments), please contact Ken at:

kmurphy@american-usa.com

Office - 205-325-7828

Mobile - 205-965-4225

EDPA NewsFlash

To sign-up for the EDPA NewsFlash+or if you would like to look at past issues, go to www.edpa.org

2011/ 2012 AFS Birmingham Remaining Meeting Schedule

November 07, 2011*

December 12, 2011

January 16, 2012**

February 13, 2012

March, 28—30, 2012

April 09, 2012

May 14, 2012

• **Travel meetings**

• ***Note this is the first Monday of the Month**

• **** Note this is the third Monday of the Month**

Dinner Meeting

Christmas Party

Dinner Meeting

Dinner Meeting

South East Regional

Student Casting Competition

Past Chair / Awards

Wynfrey Hotel

Wynfrey Hotel

Wynfrey Hotel

Meridian, MS

Wynfrey Hotel

Wynfrey Hotel

Wynfrey Hotel

Regular Meeting Schedule

Meeting Place: Wynfrey Hotel, Birmingham, AL

5:00pm - Board Meeting

6:00pm - Meeting Registration & Social Hour

6:30pm - Dinner & Technical Presentation