



**Hilton Garden Inn
109 US Highway 11
Meridian, MS 39301
Dinner is \$30.00**



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Don't Forget!! The AFS Scholarship info is on the website. Two scholarships will be awarded so get your high school senior or college student to apply today!

www.afsbirmingham.org



The **Southeast Regional Conference** this year is about building our businesses for our future. We make many investments in our businesses, none more important than investments in our people. This year's conference will provide experience based advice and clear examples of how our member companies are "casting a successful future, while performing well today". I believe you will be excited as you review our speaker list, and trust you will plan to join us in Birmingham, March 28th - 30th. Please visit our website for updated information and the forms needed for advertising as well as registering for attendance. We are expecting college and high school students to be there showing you what they are capable of. Please come and check them out. Visit www.afsbirmingham.org for details.

Birmingham Chapter Meridian or Bust!

***Monday
February 13, 2012***

*Social 1/2 Hour at 6:00
Dinner at 6:30*



Tim Storey, President of IMF North America, will bring us our presentation. He will be speaking on sand reclamation with a focus on the technology being used at two new IMF installations; Union and Waupaca. These systems take green sand and scrap no bake cores and process these two waste streams into useable core sand.

Tim began his 38 year career in the foundry industry as an industrial engineer at Valley Moulding Chicago Foundry in 1973. He later was promoted to superintendent, and eventually Western regional sales manager. In 1987 Tim reopened the foundry closed by US Steel at its Geneva Works in Provo, UT. He left Geneva in 1993 to join Navistar's Indianapolis Casting Corp where he was the plant manager until 1998. Tim also was instrumental in the startup of Advanced Resin Systems with his good friend Dr. Bill McKillip. He was part owner, board member, vice president, and managed finance for Advanced Resin Systems prior to its sale to HA International in 2005. In 2006, Tim joined IMF as President of IMF North America.

Tim earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame while employed at Valley Mould in 1984, and a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from Purdue University.

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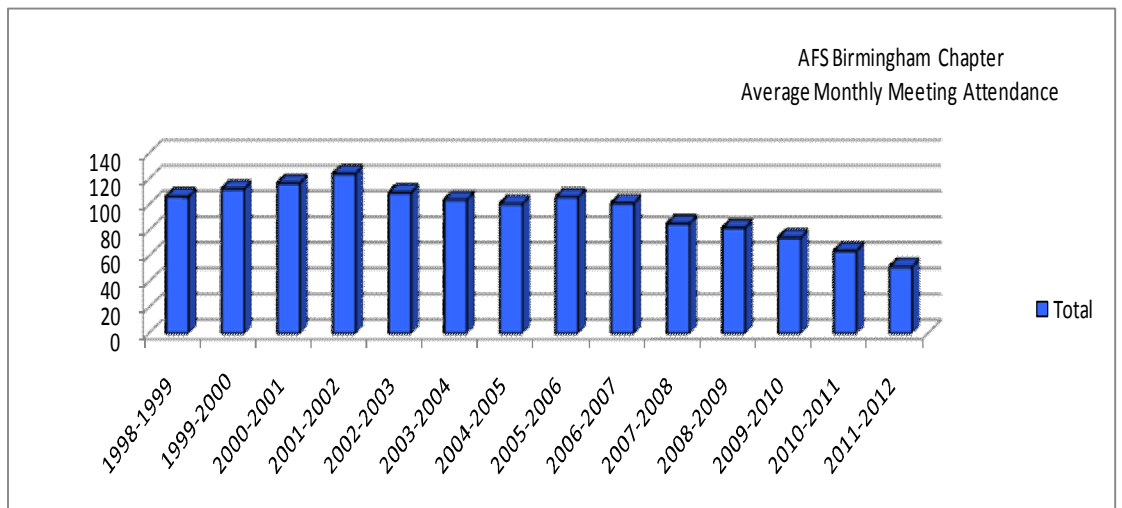
From the CHAPTER CHAIRMAN...

It was good to see so many students at the January meeting. We hope they keep coming back and bring more students with them.

Dr. Fred Linebarger had an excellent presentation on the status of the rare earth ferro-alloy market. For those not dealing with ductile iron, the rare earth elements are usually combined in small percentages in the ferro-alloys used in the melting / pouring processes. Just a few years ago, the elements that make up the rare earth group were selling for approximately \$2.00 / lb. adding a few cents to the overall cost of the ferro-alloy. Today, because of a combination of market manipulation, environmental regulations, domestic and foreign source closings, and emerging markets the cost has gone up 20 to 40 times that, with very little short term relief in sight.

Dr. Linebarger also gave some examples where reviewing the process with a focus on the overall cost combined with testing could achieve significant cost reductions while maintaining quality levels.

Including the students, we had 55 attend the meeting. As you can see from the graphic below, 2011-2012 continues a negative trend in meeting attendance that started from the 2005-2006 Chapter year. Obviously the economy has had a major effect, but is there something else the Chapter needs to be doing? The board has created a committee to investigate and develop some tactics to stop the trend. If you have thoughts or ideas or want to participate with the committee, please contact Ed Boyd.



For February we are back on the road to Meridian Mississippi. We look forward to seeing all those who cannot usually make the long drive to Birmingham. And don't forget the Regional is quickly coming. See you at both.

**Dave Hughes
Chairman**



Chapter News

February 2012

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.
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Goldens' Foundry & Machine Company
Grede – Columbiana, AL
HA – International, LLC
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Inductotherm Companies
Laempe Reich

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

New Board Member

The Board is happy to announce that Rick Walsh of Alabama Copper & Bronze has filled the position left vacant by Joe Puckett as a Director. His term will be expiring this year.

2011/ 2012 AFS Birmingham Remaining Meeting Schedule

February 13, 2012

March, 28—30, 2012

April 09, 2012

May 14, 2012

- **Travel meetings**

Dinner Meeting

South East Regional

Student Casting Competition

Past Chair / Awards

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