

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR AFS MEMBERS AND CHAPTERS

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Foundry Executive and Leadership Conference Delivers Insight on Future of Metalcasting

The 2017 Foundry Executive & Leadership Conference kicked off Sept. 17 at the Stowe Mountain Resort (Stowe, Vermont) with a spectacular sunny afternoon with the beautiful backdrop of leaves changing to fall colors on Mt. Mansfield.

Later, in the early evening, leaders in metalcasting gathered in an outdoor reception to greet each other, make new contacts, and reacquaint with old friends.

Jean Bye, vice president of AFS and president & CEO of Dotson Iron Castings (Mankato Minnesota) was this year's conference chair. Bye streamlined the event for a faster-paced schedule and 50% more content hours than previous conferences. Attendees received high-value education in a day and a half and were able jet back to the office after only two days away.

First on Monday morning, Jim Folk, CEO of the Folk Group, hit a theme that resonated throughout the conference when he mentioned ways foundries can improve their business with additive manufacturing and subtractive manufacturing. Additive is printed sand molds, printed wax for investment casting, and printed patterns. Subtractive concerns machined nobake molds and machined evaporative patterns which lower tooling costs and allow for faster build times.

Wade Newton of the Auto Alliance, presented the Future of Transportation Mobility. The

Continued on page 6



AFS 2nd Vice President Jean Bye (left) with USS Cole Commander Kirk Lippold.

Preparing for the Metalcasting Workplace of Tomorrow

The metalcasting industry's premier HR conference will be held in Clearwater Beach, Florida, Feb. 6-9, 2018.

As the premier human resources conference within the metalcasting industry, all managers and mid-level supervisors are encouraged to attend. By delivering a full spectrum of relevant labor relations and managerial information, this conference is designed to help you lead your workplace into the future.

Join us in sunny Florida to prepare your team for tomorrow.

Topics will include:

- Performance management of the future.
- Using technology for recruitment.
- Labor laws in 2018.
- Creating a flexible work environment for shopfloor employees.
- Managing change and succession planning.

Please visit www.afsinc.org/HRconference for information!

Coming Soon to AFS!

As a member of AFS, you have a range of events, publications, and services available to you. Several exciting changes are on the way, all with a shared goal of delivering a more substantial ROI on your membership investment.

Let's start with the **AFS Technical Library**. AFS has one of the best metalcasting libraries in the world, but it has not been easy to access the digital collection. The AFS staff is working to implement new software that will make it far easier to access the articles and journals in the digital collection.

Moreover, for the first, time, articles from the collection will be available at no charge to AFS members in good standing. **Free access** to this superb technical information will be a valuable member benefit.

AFS is also developing a **new website** to go live this winter. The site will

convey more clearly the importance of metalcasting and inform job seekers, students and educators of the great careers available in our industry for those who have the right skills. Further, the site will feature streamlined navigation, offering you a superior experience when you interact with us on the web.

In the interim, we are continuing to update the existing website, and this includes extensive **silica regulation compliance resources** that have been developed by member-experts.

Another new service is **Members-Only Webinars**, which were introduced in September on a variety of technical, marketing, management, and EHS topics.

In light of the importance of AFS chapters at the regional level, we are stepping up our **chapter support**. Members of the Board of Directors are contacting each

chapter to determine what support they might need, and sending that information back to AFS headquarters where it can be acted upon. A new Chapter Bulletin provides monthly updates especially for chapter leaders.

Speaking of communications, AFS is launching a concise new **AFS e-newsletter** aimed at helping our members get the most out of their membership. Look for it in your email-inbox soon.

In the area of **workforce development**, the AFS Institute is prepared to offer any of the courses in our catalog as a chapter-sponsored course or in-plant training at your company. Details are available from our Institute staff. Moreover, AFS is adding 20 more e-learning modules, to bring the total to 85. And we're translating 20 popular modules to Spanish language. This popular e-learning service can be purchased as a subscription (corporate members only) or module-by-module basis.

This issue of Member Connections includes updates on many other aspects of the work of AFS. Our commitment is to deliver a strong ROI and a quality experience to you, our members. Please stay in touch and let us know how we are doing. We look forward to speaking with you.

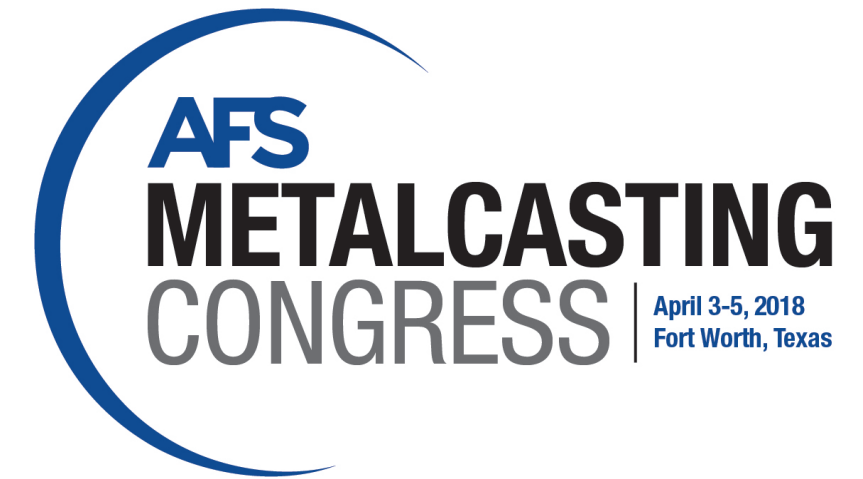


2018 Metalcasting Congress: New Logo and Key Dates

The American Foundry Society unveiled a new logo for the 122nd Metalcasting Congress, scheduled for April 3-5, 2018, in Fort Worth, Texas. The latest look is an expression of AFS going boldly into the future of Metalcasting Congress for metalcasters, metalcasting buyers, and designers.

"We are always seeking ways to refresh our look to emphasize the excellent value AFS and its staff offer our members. This new logo expresses the energetic approach AFS is taking to prepare for the 2018 Metalcasting Congress and into the future," said Rich Jefferson, AFS VP of Marketing and Communications.

The new logo will be featured prominently in all social media and printed materials for the 2018 Congress at the Fort



Worth Convention Center.

Dates to Remember for 2018

Metalcasting Congress:

- Hotel reservations officially open: **Oct. 1, 2017**
- Registration for 122nd

Metalcasting congress opens: Dec. 1, 2017.

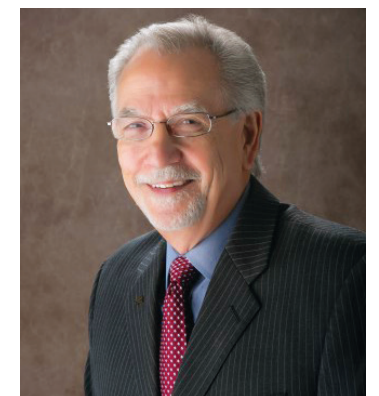
- PowerPoint presentation deadline: **Feb. 15, 2018.**
- Hotel Reservation deadline: **March 12, 2018.**

Headington Joins AFS Staff in Interim Technical Director Role

AFS is pleased to announce that Frank Headington has joined the staff effective October 3 as Interim Technical Director. Headington serves as the staff liaison to the Cast Iron Division and the Melting Methods Division, and provides other assistance to the society and its members.

Headington joined Neenah Foundry in 1989 and served in various capacities, including Corporate Vice President for Technology at AFS. He has a Master

of Science degree in Industrial Management from Georgia Institute of Technology and a Master of Science in Ceramics Engineering from the University of Illinois – Champagne-Urbana. Respected for his expertise in Metalcasting, Headington was the 2016 recipient of the AFS Peter L. Simpson Gold Medal. He has served AFS in many capacities over the years, and we appreciate his willingness to serve AFS in yet another role.



Frank Headington

2017-18 AFS Officers

- President**
Patricio Gil, Blackhawk de Mexico
- Vice President**
Jean Bye, Dotson Iron Castings
- 2nd Vice President**
Peter C. Reich, Director
Laempe Reich
- Immediate Past President**
Jeff Cook, Eagle Alloy, Inc.

AFS Senior Staff Leaders

- CEO**
Doug Kurkul, dkurkul@afsinc.org
- Vice President IT & Operations**
Mike Lakas, mlakas@afsinc.org
- Vice President Marketing & Communications**
Richard Jefferson,
rjefferson@afsinc.org
- Vice President of Business & Development**
Ben Yates, byates@afsinc.org

- Director of Finance & Accounting**
Kris Drager, kdrager@afsinc.org
- Director of Education**
Shelly Dutler, sdutler@afsinc.org
- Director of Human Resources & Administrative Services**
Cathy Potts, cpotts@afsinc.org

Have Fun While Learning With In-Plant Training

In-plant training is a lot of fun. I said it. Fun. Maybe I should lead with how it saves your company time and money in travel or that our expert facilitators walk through your facility giving you specific cost reduction and efficiency improvement consulting. But honestly, the first thing I think when we schedule an in-plant course is how much fun I'm going to have building long-term relationships, sharing the hands-on activities, and watching your growth as metalcasters.

We have several companies that are repeat learners through our in-plant training program. I see the impressive individual and company growth over time. These companies have chosen to invest in the development of their employees and the payoff is in better casting quality and improved production efficiencies.

Often, we are bringing together multiple departments in an organization for training, such as people working in molding, melting, coremaking, quality, design, and management. During a recent in-plant course with all those departments involved, I was reminded how we can do our jobs day in and day out with little interaction and how powerful it can be to learn what other departments are doing. These students gained an empathy for their coworkers job concerns and started looking for ways to improve and communicate (communicate!) what they were doing for the betterment of the departments downstream.

One of the best moments has been a student sharing with me, upon re-



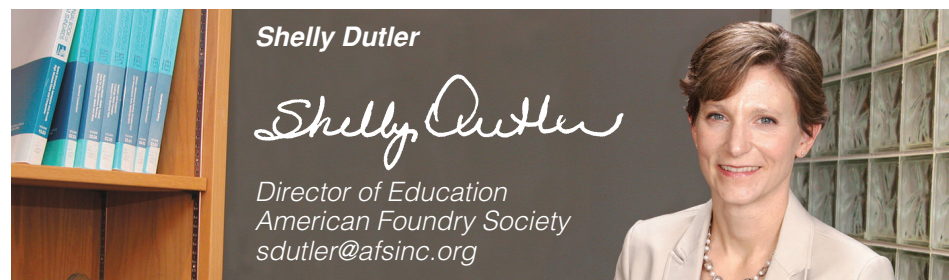
turning for a third in-plant course, his recent cross-training activities. Tony had spent time on the melt deck and couldn't say enough positive things about the experience. During the two previous courses, he had shown interest by asking great questions and was afforded this opportunity by the foundry manager. Tony is just starting his career in metalcasting and was excited to be able to learn, have new opportunities, and provide for his family.

We have an expansive selection of metalcasting skills to choose from, making in-plant courses the core of companywide training events. We highly encourage you to invite employees from multiple locations of your organization to attend. The group activities provide an excellent opportunity for team building across roles and departments at your organization and the chance to immediately test out these new skills in the work environment with the guidance of

the instructor.

Student skill development can be facilitated by certified instructors that we provide or can be selected from experts at your organization. The Institute works with expert facilitators who are also active consultants in their areas of expertise. This is an added value to your organization providing you with potential technical solutions. We can also connect your on-site experts with our professionally developed curriculum to save your organization time and money while providing your students with a perspective on the content for your business' needs. The Institute offers a "Train the Trainer" program to certify your subject matter experts to provide facilitated skills development.

In a nutshell, our in-plant training courses provide you with high value, immediate impact, best-in-class, unbiased, professional training at your facility at an affordable price. It is the best way of delivering new skills training to a large group of your employees. In-plant training provides you with the ultimate in convenience: no traveling expenses, limited lost work time, and a familiar environment—all the while maximizing training efficiency and value. And they are a lot of fun too. afsinc.org/inplant



Shelly Dutler

Shelly Dutler

Director of Education
American Foundry Society
sdutler@afsinc.org

Denison Industries Hosts Rep. John Ratcliffe

Denison Industries, an AFS Corporate Member in Denison, Texas, hosted Representative John Ratcliffe (R-Texas) for a plant tour and town hall meeting on Friday, August 18.

Rep. Ratcliffe is serving his second term in Congress and is a member of the House Homeland Security and Judiciary Committees, including the Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law Subcommittee.

Ratcliffe's visit to Denison was part of a business tour with 15 stops. He was introduced to how Denison pours molten metal into sand molds to make machine parts such as transmission housings. Denison Industries' main foundry makes aluminum castings for commercial, industrial, aerospace and defense purposes.

The tour also featured automation and robotics used within the facility. Denison



(Left to right) Bill Magers, County Judge; Chris Norch, Denison Industries; and Rep. Ratcliffe (R-Texas) were on hand at the plant tour Aug. 18.

Industries CEO Chris Norch said this has allowed metalcasters like Denison Industries to perform tasks with one machine that normally would be completed by a small team. This frees up personnel to work in other areas of the plant to improve efficiency.

Following the Friday tour, Ratcliffe

held a short town hall meeting with staff and representatives from Denison Industries. In response to a question on what he could do to help encourage people to consider manufacturing as a career path, Ratcliffe said his focus would be in creating opportunities for manufacturing to thrive.

Rep. Cheri Bustos Tours Galesburg Castings

Galesburg Castings Inc., an AFS Corporate Member (Galesburg, Illinois), hosted Rep. Cheri Bustos (D-Illinois) for a plant tour and presentation on Aug. 22. Bustos serves on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, as well as the Agriculture Committee.

Nick Fox, second generation owner of Galesburg Castings, discussed a host of issues impacting his foundry including: federal tax reform, workforce shortages, and the significant challenges of meeting OSHA's new silica rule, highlighting the cost to his plant and the entire metalcasting industry.

Galesburg Castings produces gray and ductile iron castings for the agricultural sector. It is the only Global Tier 1 supplier in its area of Western Illinois, supplying both John Deere

and Kinze Manufacturing overseas.

After the tour, Fox presented the congresswoman with bookends customized with her name.

AFS reminds its members that plant tours provide an excellent opportunity to invite federal and state lawmakers to visit facilities, meet

your employees, and gain a better understanding of the metalcasting industry. AFS members who are interested in setting-up a plant tour with their member of Congress can contact Stephanie Salmon, AFS Washington Office, at 202-452-7135 or ssalmon@afsinc.org.



Galesburg President Nick Fox (left) talks about his foundry operations with Rep. Cheri Bustos during a plant tour.

FOUNDRY EXECUTIVE & LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Metalcasting's Premier Leadership Event

Continued from cover

automotive sector has seen seven historic years (2010-2016) of growth in auto sales. He cautioned the audience not to expect full self-driving cars for several years as the technology develops.

Commander Kirk Lippold, U.S. Navy (retired), told his story about the day suicide jihadis in a raft blew a deadly hole in the bulkhead of his ship, the USS Cole. He was the commanding officer and had to make several sudden life-or-death decisions in the minutes following the blast. He described how he quickly observed the wounded and killed seamen and the incredible damage to the USS Cole. Lippold's patriotism, passion for knowing every inch of his ship, and leadership to his crew earned him a standing ovation at the close of his presentation.

Stephanie Salmon, the AFS representative in Washington, D.C., gave an update on the nation's capital and the silica rule. Salmon explained that AFS continues fighting for metalcasters in the courts, and an opinion was expected in the lawsuit against OSHA late in 2017 or early in 2018. There was hope for tax reform and an infrastructure bill, as well as for defense authorization.

Noted Futurist Jack Uldrich echoed Folk on the need to look forward creatively, telling the metalcasters the

technological future is arriving ... now. Uldrich explored exponential technological growth, how it will influence the metalcasting business, and how leaders need to watch for the "Aha!" moments.

Celina Peerman, Ph.D., CEO of the Peerman Group, shared high-level insights in her presentation, "Developing Your Senior Team of Optimal Results." Peerman encouraged the audience to find the right ways to develop shared narratives to help leadership tell the company's story to the right audience.



Attendees enjoy the Vermont scenery at the 2017 at the conference.

es, internal and external. Storytelling as Peerman explained, is the most effective means for building trust and explaining necessary change in your business, and getting buy-in from employees.

James Rosen, Chief Washington Correspondent for the FOX News Channel, shared that the digital age brought us the age of chaos in Washington. Since everyone with a phone is a journalist,

constituency pressure can be brought to bear on elected officials in new, potent ways. The two-party structure used to be maintained through the old budget mechanism of earmarks, but earmarks are gone and internet virality is in, making party discipline all but impossible.

Denny Dotson, the AFS representative to the World Foundry Organization (WFO) and Chairman of Dotson Iron Castings, gave the global view of metalcasting regarding WFO-member countries. Metalcasting worldwide ranges from strong production numbers to recession in the industry. China, the leading producer of metal castings, is booming, with 26,000 foundries and a claimed 2 million employees. In the past three years, automotive parts production has seen the most growth. By contrast, metalcasting in neighboring Russia is in a serious slump, with production

down 46% from the mid-2000s.

Peter Reich, AFS 2nd Vice President and director of Laempe Reich, advocated a customer-first approach in business by engaging with customers in their preferred channels. Reich, who is the chair of the 2018 Foundry Leadership Conference, invited every attendee to next year's conference being held Sept. 16-18 at the Omni Hotel in Amelia Island, Florida.



(Left to right) Jeffrey Nelb, Vice President and General Manager, Vermont Castings, Jeff Cook, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, Eagle Alloy and AFS Immediate Past President, Mark Ulman, and Greg Loving, Vice President and General Manager, Rochester Metal Products.



(Left to right) Rachel Leonard, Mike Selz, Sales Manager Charlotte Pipe, Jim Gartland, President Atlas Foundry, and Joey Leonard, Vice President Human Resources, Waupaca Foundry.



Mike Lenehan, (left) vice president-sales, Fairmount Santrol, talks with Steve Ryan, Foundry Team Leader, Badger Mining Corporation, and his wife Linda Ryan.



Conference Speaker James Rosen (far right), Chief Washington Correspondent for the FOX News Channel, discusses the current political climate with attendees.

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- Member Connections
- International Journal of Metalcasting

\$800
\$250 each
Priceless
\$700
\$40
\$199

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Value

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- Metalcasting Classroom Course Discounts
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50% Discount
\$200/Student
\$ Hundreds/Month

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- Event Sponsorships – Corporate Members Only
- Referrals & Use of AFS Logo

Priceless
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Leads & Credibility

Sustainability for Your Company

Value

- Advocacy – Business Climate
 - o OSHA Silica Rule Legal Challenge
 - o Other Environmental, Safety & Health Issues
 - o AFS Advocacy on Tax, Trade, Infrastructure, Buy-America Policies
- Developing Leaders and Employees
 - o Student Chapters, Metalcasting Demonstrations for Students
 - o Melting Point Web Site & Magazine for Young People
 - o Future Leaders in Metalcasting
- Research – 8% of Corporate Dues – Corp. Members Get First Access

\$ 1 Million +
Priceless
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Priceless
Priceless

**For more information, contact Ben Yates at
800-537-4237 or byates@afsinc.org**



Aero Metals Inc.



CP Industries



Marcellus Metalcasters



Continental Aluminum



EMSL ANALYTICAL, INC.

EMSL Analytical, Inc.



**Fritz Winter
North America LP**



McConway & Torley



Vermont Castings

New Management Council To Play Key Role

The AFS Board of Directors recently adopted a resolution that establishes the Management Council. The new Council will be composed of appointed officers, plus the chairs of three committees (Government Affairs, Human Resources, and Marketing) and two shared interest groups (Future Leaders in Metalcasting and Women in Metalcasting).

The board also voted to change the

name of the Division Council to the Technical Council. Both councils will operate in parallel, reporting to the AFS Board of Directors, and will meet at least twice per year. The June meeting will be, in part, a joint meeting to promote cross-communication.

All foundries face challenges in the areas of employee recruitment and retention, leadership and succession development, compliance with policies and advocacy, and

marketing and selling of castings. The council will help AFS members and staff better coordinate effective and cohesive responses to these challenges.

The council will also help identify Metalcasting Congress programming and provide growth opportunities for AFS members. Please refer any questions to Cathy Potts at AFS headquarters, cpotts@afsinc.org or 847-803-2905.

New AFS Official Brings Experience and Expertise in Strategy, Sales and Membership

Ben Yates has hit the ground running at AFS. As the new vice president of business development and sales, he is already contributing to AFS' new chapter initiative to give chapters more tools to succeed. Yates comes to AFS from the Associated Equipment Distributors (AED) in Schaumburg, Illinois. He started his new position with AFS on Aug. 7.

"For the last 14 years, Ben has been with Associated Equipment Distributors, a trade association that serves and represents distributors of heavy construction, forestry, and mining equipment," said Doug Kurkul, the CEO of AFS. "His responsibilities over the years have included membership development and retention, onboarding new regional managers, coordinating chapters, organizing their EHS and leadership conferences, hosting 20-plus members of the U.S. House and Sen-

ate at member companies each year, and contributing to their magazines, and other sources of non-dues revenue. He has traveled extensively to develop personal relationships with AED members." Yates has a master's degree from Florida State University.

"Because AFS offers a wide variety of products and services, membership means different things to different people," Yates said. "Some value continuing education and best practices, while others seek innovative new products, effective advertising, or a strong advocate for their business. I'm looking forward to helping members find their value in AFS membership."

At AFS, Yates will be the key executive responsible for developing and implementing strategies for optimizing revenue in the areas of membership dues, magazine advertisements, content



marketing and webinars, AFS/Institute services, and sponsorships and related opportunities. He will also be assisting in the generation of trade show exhibit income. Reporting to him will be the director of membership, business development specialist, and two advertising sales & marketing representatives.

You can reach Ben Yates at byates@afsinc.org or 847-803-5278.

AFS Senior Director of EHS Brings Expertise in OSHA and EPA Regulations

AFS has hired Juliette Garesché as senior director of environmental health and safety. Garesché comes to AFS from Kemper Valve & Fittings, Island Lake, Illinois, which was purchased by Caterpillar. Garesché started her new position with AFS on Aug. 14.

"In interviewing her, (we) were impressed that she has broad and deep experience in working with OSHA, EPA, regulations, settlement negotiations, and interpretive letters," said Doug Kurkul, the CEO of AFS. "She has experience both as a regulator and as part of a regulated entity, and she deeply understands the hurdles for metalcasters that are posed by complex regulations. She has coordinated industrial hygiene studies,

specifically for airborne contaminants, and has a customer-service orientation that should serve her well in advancing the EHS goals of AFS."

Garesché has a master's of science degree in environmental science and a bachelor of science degree in ecology. Her work experience includes nearly five years with Kemper Valve & Fittings, six years with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, four years with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and seven years with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District in Chicago.

At AFS, Garesché will convey technical information and AFS policy positions on EHS issues to the industry, congress and



regulators. She will serve as a technical resource to AFS members and the metalcasting industry on EHS-related issues.

AFS members can contact Juliette Garesché at jgaresche@afsinc.org or 847-824-0181 ext. 224.

Arguments Presented in AFS Lawsuit Against OSHA

On September 26 an attorney representing AFS presented oral arguments before a three-judge panel concerning OSHA's ill-advised crystalline silica regulation. Arguing on behalf of foundries, the construction industry and industry in general, the attorney challenged the economic and technical feasibility of OSHA's rule, which are inextricably linked due to the way the rule was structured. A decision from the three-judge panel is expected over

the winter or early spring.

In addition to pursuing legal action, AFS is also waging an aggressive effort to convince the Trump Administration to reopen the record and will be working with OSHA staff to make improvements in key areas of the rule. Enforcement is slated to begin on June 23, 2018. In addition, AFS will continue to work with the membership to highlight steps that foundries can begin to undertake to try to meet this burdensome

one-size-fits-all rule, including sessions at two upcoming conferences in October, the AFS Sand Conference, Oct. 16-18, Indianapolis, and the AFS EHS Conference, Oct. 31-Nov. 2, Birmingham, Alabama.

AFS has asked all Corporate Members to write to OSHA and other policymakers in opposition to the rule in its current form. Please send a copy of your correspondence to Stephanie Salmon at ssalmon@afsinc.org.

Volunteer Leaders Gather at AFS Volunteer Leadership Conference



The two-day Volunteer Leadership Conference leadership workshop featured volunteers from AFS chapters, shared interest groups, and committees. The conference provided insight into managing volunteer groups associated with AFS. Keynote Debra Zabloudil (right), President & CEO of The Learning Studio, discusses volunteer engagement and bridging the generation gap during her keynote address. For more information about getting involved in AFS, contact Ben Yates at byates@afsinc.org or 800/537-4237





United States

Alabama

Birmingham District

jon.pollard@tylerunion.com
J. Pollard

California

Southern California

jason@smccast.com
J. Gutierrez
Check out www.afssocal.org, for more information about our chapter and for a listing of upcoming chapter events.

Northern California

albert@genfoundry.com
A. Gonzalez

Connecticut

New England

emarczyszak@burndy.com
E. Marczyszak
On Sept. 13 the chapter toured Zildjian Cymbals, largest manufacturer of cymbals in the world.

Georgia

Piedmont

jmclimans@hicwilco.com
J. McLimans

Illinois

Stateline

dick.haun@gunite.com
D. Haun

Chicago

nmerens@nmmarketingbiz.com
N. Merens
Several AFS staff members attend the chapter's October meeting.

AFS Chapter Directory and Updates

AFS provides the means for you to network with local metalcasters. Reach out to a chapter leader and get involved today.

Central Illinois

dusheke_ryan_a@cat.com
P. Umesh

Indiana

Central Indiana

al_torok@yamaha-motor.com
A. Torot

Northern Indiana

lagness@fordmeterbox.com
L. Agness

Iowa

Hawkeye

bosskristopher@johndeere.com
K. Boss

Kansas

Plains States

ssprueill@midvaleind.com
S. Sprueill

Michigan

Central Michigan

d.trahan@carpenterborthersin.com
D. Trahan

Western Michigan

rchase@eaglealloy.com
R. Chase
Richard Jefferson, AFS Vice President of Marketing and Communications, spoke at the chapter's September meeting.

Detroit Windsor

david.d.goettsch@gm.com
D. Goettsch

Saginaw Valley

john.lancaster@gm.com
J. Lancaster
Hosted two foundry in a box events at the Mid-Michigan Children's Museum and at the Sci-Fest STEM event at Delta College in University Center Michigan.

Minnesota

Twin Cities

j.kranz@carpenterbrothersinc.com
J. Kranz
In September, the chapter toured New Flyer Industries, Inc. and American Axle & Manufacturing, Inc.

Missouri

St. Louis

imrie@southernncast.com
D. Imrie
The STL chapter is held a joint meeting with the Missouri S&T AFS Student Chapter.

Mo Kan

vbrock@canfieldjoseph.com
V. Brock

New York

Central New York

john.lisi@itt.com
J. Lisi

Ohio

Central Ohio

eric@keenersand.com
E. Weiffenbach

Toledo

alexander.croll@gm.com
A. Croll

Cleveland-Akron Canton

paulheberg@hotmail.com
P. Berg
Stephanie Salmon from the AFS Washington, D.C. office spoke at the chapter's October Meeting.

Southwestern Ohio

dwelsh@hillandgriffith.com
D. Welsh

Oklahoma

Tri-State

datkinson@spfoundry.com
D. Atkinson

Oregon

Oregon

charleyw@columbiasteel.com
C. Wachsmuth
The Oregon Chapter Recently hosted a Foundry-in-a-Box booth at one of the local Boy Scout Camporees.

Pennsylvania

Northwestern Pennsylvania

blucas@usbfmi.com
B. Lucas

Pittsburgh

techmmgr@duraloy.com
R. Pankiw

Keystone

paul@boosealum.com
P. Snyder

Chesapeake

scook@tbwoods.com
S. Cook

Tennessee

Tennessee

jason.bush@waupacafoundry.com
J. Bush

Texas

Texas

shodges@canfieldjoseph.com
S. Hodges
The annual Texas regional was held Sept. 21-23, see full coverage in the next issue of Member Connections.

Utah

Utah

reed@lfscorporation.com
R. Larsen

Washington

Washington

stevem@moreindustries.com
S. Morel

Wisconsin

Wisconsin

rickyrigoyen@gmail.com
R. Yrigoyen

Northeastern Wisconsin

chad@dpfoundry.com
C. Moder

Chapter Directory

Mexico

North Mexico

jose.lobo@sinto.mx
J. Lobo

Canada

Eastern Canada

rejean.mailhot@csduroy.qc.ca
R. Mailhot

Manitoba

jbrooks@karrich.com
J. Brooks

Ontario

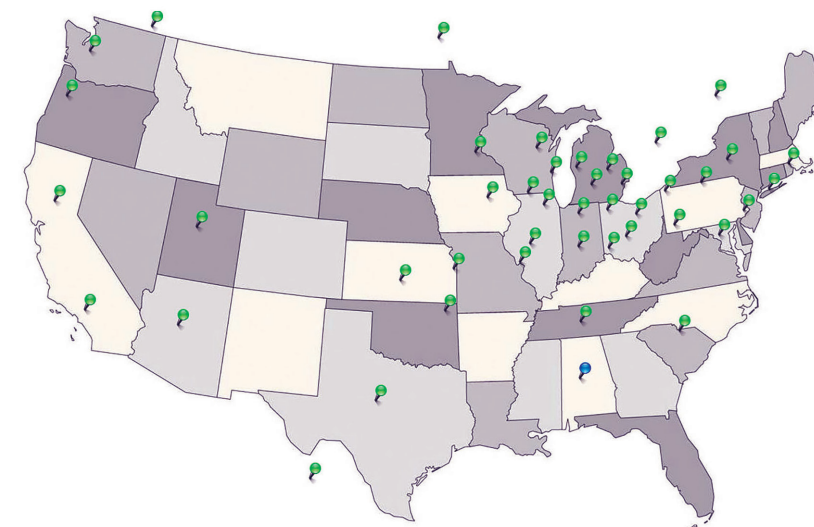
neals.mccain@gmail.com
N. McCain

British Columbia

cchamberlain@oclim.com
C. Chamberlain

Getting involved in AFS Chapters makes all the difference.

Chapters are your opportunity to engage locally with the next generation of metalcasters. You will also have the opportunity to develop your own expertise and advance your career. Participating in AFS Chapters is your chance to do all this, and more.



Birmingham Chapter Helps Careers Flourish

The Birmingham chapter of AFS knows the importance of preparing for the future of the metalcasting industry. But they don't just talk about what's ahead and hope they'll be ready, they take action.

"Personal contact and interaction are key," said chapter chairman Jon Pollard. "You need to make it a point to visit and communicate with members and potential members to find out what they need and let them know how AFS can help."

In August, the chapter held a 3-D technology technical session, in conjunction with the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Materials Processing and Applications Development Center (MPAD). Experts Kerry Bisset, Tom Renk and UAB professor Charlie Monroe educated the 45 in attendance from the industry. Bisset had a presentation on solidification software, Renk's was on 3-D patterns and tooling, while Monroe discussed how UAB has implemented technology. Meanwhile, Monroe and 12 of his students put together a well-organized and logical demonstration of their foundry, with students taking turns pouring the metal into the molds.

"This exposure reflected well on the students, who had the opportunity to network with the local industry. Further, it helps local companies acquire interns they know have enough experience to start the internship or co-op running," said Emily Shedlarski, who is on the chapter's education committee. "Honestly, that is one of the most beautiful things about the Birmingham District Chapter: its desire to reach out to students leads to students becoming more involved and ready for their careers upon graduation. I highly recommend students and chapters make it a point to reach out to each other."

Shedlarski is living proof of how important that is.

During her time at UAB, Shedlarski saw firsthand the value of involvement with AFS, which helped her land her first internship and current job.

And that motivates her to this day.

"I wanted to continue that legacy and help other students enter the industry," Shedlarski said. "Knowing the abilities of UAB's foundry as well as the ambitious attitude professor Monroe and his students share, we decided to request UAB's support. We were not disappointed."

UAB has been active for years in many AFS events such as dinners, casting competitions and other gatherings.

"The professors and students are involved through projects (like splash testing) and local industry internships/co-ops. Our chapter was aware of the opportunities at UAB's foundry as well as the excitement both professor Monroe and his students share when it comes to involvement," Shedlarski said. "So, when UAB was presented with the task, Monroe and his students quickly organized, strategized, and presented us with



At the seminar, UAB provided a demonstration of 3-D printing tooling and application with both green sand and nobake molds.

their support for the technical session. Their willingness to be active members and their contributions have helped maintain a healthy relationship with AFS."

Pollard echoes that.

"Our motivation for outreach was to find a way to get members, specifically foundry personnel, back to the meetings and involved in the chapter," Pollard said.

"Local chapters are the heartbeat of AFS," added AFS 2nd Vice President Peter C. Reich, Director Laempe Reich. Reich has been important to the Birmingham chapter's success and he underscored the importance AFS chapters play in the success of the industry and AFS. Share your Chapter Success story, email Ben Yates, byates@afsinc.org.



Kerry Bissett, MAGMA Foundry Technologies employee and a University of Alabama Birmingham (UAB) engineering graduate, demonstrated solidification software at the Birmingham Chapter's recent technical seminar held in conjunction with UAB.



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1695 N. Penny Lane
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- November 16-17 • FEF College Industry Conference • Chicago
- February 6-9 • 2018 AFS Metalcasting Industry Human Resources Conference
• Clearwater, Florida
- March 7-9 • AFS Southeast Regional • Point Clear Alabama
- April 3-5 • AFS 122nd Metalcasting Congress • Fort Worth, Texas

Upcoming Institute Courses

- November 8-9 • Green Sand Molding 201 • AFS/Schaumburg, Illinois
- November 14-15 • Gating and Riser Design 101 • AFS/Schaumburg, Illinois
- January 16-17 • Casting Design • AFS/Schaumburg, Illinois
- February 6-7 • Introduction to Metalcasting • AFS/Schaumburg, Illinois
- February 20-21 • Gating and Riser Design 201 • AFS/Schaumburg, Illinois

Member Connections Staff

Marketing and Communications Specialist

Joe Costin,
jcostin@afsinc.org

Editor/Writer

Brian Sandalow,
bsandalow@afsinc.org

Senior Graphic Designer

Tyler Buchenot,
tbuchenot@afsinc.org

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Member Connections is a newsletter for all
current AFS members. Send all inquiries to Joe
Costin at jcostin@afsinc.org or 847-824-0181
ext. 276.

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