

# Chapter News

## MEETING LOCATION

*This Year's Regular  
Meetings Are Being  
Held At:*

**THE WYNFREY HOTEL**  
**I-459 / US-31**  
*Located At  
The Galleria Mall*

**PARKING:** Parking is available within the hotel's gated parking deck, or in any of the mall's available parking. Parking vouchers will be distributed during meeting registration. With a voucher, there is no cost for hotel parking.

**REMEMBER:** Due to a scheduling conflict at the Winfrey, November's meeting is being held on the 3rd Monday, rather than the normal 2nd Monday.



## Meeting Notice

The Wynfrey Hotel  
I-459 / US-31

Monday, November 17th

**Board Meeting 5:00 p.m.**  
**Social Time 6:00 p.m.**  
**Dinner 6:30 p.m.**

**Leave your reservation  
request at  
205-661-0206 x23  
or via the internet at  
www.afsbirmingham.org**

***Make your reservations  
before 12:00 Noon on  
November 13th  
to be eligible for a  
Special Drawing.***

**Be sure to leave your  
name!**

**Price of Meal—\$25.00**

Tom Prucha's presentation "Casting Technologies for Weight Reduction" will include discussions about MADI (Machinable Austempered Ductile Iron, PCPC (Pressure Counter Pressure Casting), Blue Sand (DISA approach for structural aluminum castings), NRC (New Rheo Casting), Semi-Solid approach for Aluminum, and Elevated Temperature Magnesium.

## November Meeting Topic

***Casting Technologies for  
Weight Reduction***

**Thomas E. Prucha**

**Vice President Technical Services  
INTERMET Corporation**

Tom is Vice President of Technical Services for INTERMET, where he serves on the Operating Committee. The engineering group in Troy, the Technical Center in Lynchburg, Va. and several technical feasibility centers report to him. He joined Intermet as director, process research and development in 1999. He has over 25 years of experience in both iron and aluminum casting. Prior to joining INTERMET, he spent over 20 years with CMI International, where he most recently was vice president of technology at CMI's Tech Center.

Tom is active in many of the metal casting technical societies. He was one of the first chairman of the ACRL steering committee and is currently serving on the ACRC steering committee. He was a past instructor at the WPI/NTNU/SINTEF International Summer School on Shaped Aluminum castings where he spoke on the Component Design Process. He's active with the American Foundry Society where he is past-chairman of the Research Board and as the past chairman of the AFS Aluminum Division. In 1994, he received the AFS Aluminum Division Service Award and the AFS Award of Scientific Merit in 2003. He also presently serves on the NADCA Technical Advisory Group, is past-chairman of the Die Material Committee and received the 2003 Nyselius Award recognizing exceptional technical contributions to the die casting industry.

He earned B.A. and M.S. degrees in metallurgical engineering from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He also holds three patents regarding metal casting technology.



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## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Help keep the Birmingham AFS Chapter one of the strongest in the country. Make it a goal to recruit at least one new member this year. Bring guests to our meetings.

Your thoughts and ideas are welcome anytime.

Thanks to All!  
Todd Lyles

## OTHER NOTES

The Birmingham Chapter currently ranks 2nd in the nation for membership at 525 members.

Thanks to John Keough (Applied Process, Inc.) for speaking at our October 13th meeting. Everyone enjoyed his presentation "Wait a Minute! Cast Iron is a High Tech Material", which was an output of the AFS 5M (Cast Iron Marketing) Committee. If you missed his presentation and would like to get a copy of it on CD, you can contact him at 734-464-2030, or by email [jkeough@appliedprocess.com](mailto:jkeough@appliedprocess.com).

Be sure to get the December 8th Christmas Party on your Calendar. The entertainment will be provided by Mickey Dean.

Thanks to our Attendance Committee (John Kersh/Kerry Styron) and Ticket Sales Committee (Mike Jeffers/Mike Petrus) for the outstanding job in streamlining the registration process.



## AFS National Membership Drive

AFS Member Sponsor a  
Member Campaign

Have you sponsored a new member yet? Don't forget the campaign! For each new member you recruit, your name will be entered in the drawing for a new laptop computer. The more you sponsor, the more your name is entered into the drawing. The dates of the contest are October 1, 2003 until March 31, 2004.

If you need membership applications for co-workers and potential members, contact our membership committee: Carol Brandon (Hill and Griffith) 205-328-4050, or Kathi Strickland (Citation—Bessemer) 205-424-4030. Remember to put your name as the sponsor on the bottom of the application.

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Our Audit Committee (Buck Barnhart/George Miljus) recently conducted their annual audit of the chapter finances, and found them to be in proper order and accurate. We thank and commend Treasurer Diane Kirkley for her diligence and competence in handling the chapter finances. A job well done, Diane.



## AFS Birmingham Financial Contributors

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### *Chapter Contributions and Support*

AFS Birmingham is solely operated by volunteer support & company donations. Your participation, both financially & willingness to serve is greatly appreciated



**Don't See Your  
Company's  
Name??**

**Contact  
Jarek Olszak  
@ (205) 655-2121  
or Diane Kirkley  
@ (205) 663-0732  
For More  
Information!**

Please send your contribution to:  
American Foundry Society  
Birmingham Chapter  
c/o Vulcan Engineering  
Attn: Ms. Diane Kirkley  
Post Office Box 307  
Helena, Alabama 35080



For More News & Information  
Visit Our WebSite :  
[www.afsbirmingham.org](http://www.afsbirmingham.org)

Monday, November 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2003	Regular Meeting - Tom Prucha, V.P. Technical Services, Internet Casting Technologies for Weight Reduction
Monday, December 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2003	Christmas Party - Entertainment, Mickey Dean
Monday, January 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2004	Regular Meeting - Charles Bates Research Professor, Materials and Mechanical Engineering, UAB Update on AFS Research at UAB
Friday, February 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2004	Regular Meeting - Scott Howell, Robinson Iron Update on the Vulcan Restoration
Friday, March 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2004	Tuscaloosa Meeting - Student night & Golf
Monday, April 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2004	Regular Meeting - Doru Stefanescu Research Professor, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, UA Update on AFS Research at UA
Monday, May 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2004	Regular Meeting - Awards Night Bill Sorensen, Executive Director, Foundry Educational Foundation Update on FEF



## Chapter News

Jeff Fowler  
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P.O. Box 670  
Marion, AL 36756

To: