



News & Notes

New UAB Metals Facility to Pour Castings for Army

The Univ. of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) metals research facility has been contracted by the U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL) to produce test castings for a new vehicle armor program.

According to a UAB press release, ARL has released \$1 million for an initial round of research to be conducted at the UAB School of Engineering Metals Processing Laboratory, a state-of-the-art facility with metalcasting capabilities set to come online this August.

The federal funds will allow the 9,000-square-foot lab to test new alloys for improved, safer vehicle armor. The equipment at the lab is capable of pouring 500-lb. test castings, larger than traditional samples made at similar U.S. facilities.

"The metals lab will allow us to do what very few facilities can do—produce large-scale components and testing in real world conditions," said Barry Andrews, chair of the UAB Department of Materials Science and Engineering.

The ARL metals lab funding is an extension of a multi-year research relationship with UAB that began with grants to its composites lab in 2004 to develop new materials for use in military missile systems and new compounds to create lighter-weight, more reliable body armor for military personnel.

"The metals lab will provide a low-risk test bed for scaling up processes and allows for rapid transition to industry," said Alan Druschitz, a UAB research professor.

May 2010 Chapter News

**AFS
Birmingham**

[The Wynfrey Hotel-
Birmingham, AL](#)

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

Cost of Dinner is \$30.00

**You may make your
reservation requests at...**

***(205) 661-0206 ext. 23
or via the Internet at
www.afsbirmingham.org***

**Make your reservations
before 12:00 noon on
May 7th.**

***Be sure to leave your name
when making your reservation.***

**Please visit our chapter website or the
AFS National website frequently to get
the latest chapter and national info...**

www.afsbirmingham.org

or

www.afsinc.org

***May 10th
Meeting Topic:***

**AFS Awards & Past
Chairman's Night**

David Drake, ACIPCO Asst. Works Supervisor, will present to the Birmingham Chapter: The state of AFS National.

Presenting the 2011 Board:
Chapter Chair. - Mark Cotton
1st Vice Chair. - Dave Hughes
2nd Vice Chair. - Ed Boyd
Secretary - Donnie Hoffman
Treasurer - Dianne Kirkley

Directors 2010 - 2013

Tom Walton
Rodger McLellan
Fred Hunsucker



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Directors (Term Expires 2010)

Mr. Ed Boyd, Sr.
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From the CHAPTER CHAIRMAN...

I would like to "begin the end" by thanking the students of UAB and Mississippi State for their efforts in the Student Casting Competition this year. The three entries that made it to the meeting were outstanding. It appeared that the students invested a lot of time, effort, and thought in their casting projects. I believe everyone in attendance was very impressed by their entries. And I know the students appreciated the prize money that went toward their AFS student chapter. I would hope that we can continue to expand the student casting competition and engage the students to push the limits of their abilities.

As we draw to a close on the 2009-2010 chapter year, I would like to thank everyone that made an effort to make it out to a meeting and everyone who served in any capacity to help make this a great year for the AFS Birmingham Chapter. We couldn't have done it without the support of everyone that strives to make this the best chapter in the country. Although it has been a tough economic year, we appreciate everyone that has continued to make the AFS Birmingham Chapter a priority amongst everything else that our busy lives throw at us. And let's not forget the sponsors of our chapter who support us financially so we can serve the casting industry.

I would like to thank Mark Cotton, David Hughes, Donnie Hoffman, Diane Kirkley, all the Directors, committee chairs, and committee members for keeping me on track this year. There's no way one person can do it all but it makes things easier when you have a great group of dedicated people helping out. I wish the incoming officers, directors, and committee members all the best in the coming year. I've enjoyed my stint as the chairman but I can say it will be nice to return to "the table" for a while.

Please make your reservation early for the May 10th meeting so Tommy can get a good count. You can make your reservations by phone or by going online to www.afsbirmingham.org. I hope to see all the past chairmen from years gone by...and join them as a past chairman...at the awards meeting. David Drake will also be giving an update on what AFS National has been up to. And don't forget we will be giving away ALL the money!!!! So make sure you buy plenty of raffle tickets and I hope to see you there.

John Kersh
Chairman



AFS Birmingham Financial Contributors

(in order of receipt of funds)

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

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



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



2010 AFS Birmingham Meeting Schedule

Monday, May 10, 2010

Awards Night

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



May 2010

Mark Cotton
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To: