

AFS

Chapter

Success

Template



AFS has an important mission based on member success and sustainability, industry stewardship, policy advocacy, promotion of castings, workforce development, and fostering technical innovation. As a Chapter, you play a key role in advancing the AFS mission.

10 Steps to an Active Chapter that Advances the AFS Mission at the Regional Level

1. **Make it Fun.** AFS Chapters are having great success with fun events such as Golf Tournaments, Skeet Shooting, Comedy Nights, Old-Timers Nights, and Tours of Local Attractions.
2. **Make it Meaningful.** Scholarship Nights for Students are usually a strong draw. So are Foundry-in-a-Box, chapter programs focusing on Business & Political Priorities, or sessions with Elected Officials and Candidates. (Just be sure to emphasize that AFS and its Chapters don't endorse candidates.) Meaningful topics make for successful programs and don't forget to sponsor an attendee to the Government Affairs Fly-In.
3. **Experiment with Starting Times.** Some Chapters are starting their meetings in late afternoon, or even during the lunch hour, to see what works. For evening events, shortening the cocktail hour can often help attendees get home at a more reasonable time. Post your event listings to your website, LinkedIn, or Facebook page.
4. **Leverage AFS Speakers.** Often, a member of the AFS Board of Directors may reside in your region and can provide an AFS update. AFS staff speakers – Doug Kurkul, Ben Yates, Kim Farrugia, Brian Began, Travis Frush, and George Curry – speak on a variety of topics. The "Steph and Jeff Show" with Stephanie Salmon and Jeff Hannapel can address public policy issues. Also check the Speakers Bureau on the AFS website for more ideas!
5. **Plant Tours are a Winner.** AFS members love touring other factories, whether foundries or other industrial facilities. Consider adding a plant tour to your yearly event plans.
6. **Honor Our Veterans.** Are you holding an event in November near Veterans Day? Consider asking the Veterans to stand for recognition in honor of their service.
7. **Hire a Management Company.** A couple of AFS Chapters are having great success by hiring a management company to handle event planning, email communications and more. Chapter officers are volunteers with busy schedules. Sometimes a Management Company is just what is needed to handle some of the ministerial aspects of Chapter management and planning, and to offer year-to-year continuity.
8. **Verify AFS Membership.** Each month, you receive notice of any AFS member in your territory whose membership lapses. Help AFS and your Chapter by encouraging these friends to reinstate their membership.
9. **File Paperwork with AFS National.** Update AFS with your Board lists. To receive Chapter rebates, send AFS National your year-end financial statements and a copy of your IRS 990 filing (for U.S. chapters).
10. **Read Chapter Bulletin.** This quarterly email publication is designed for you – timely items to help you lead a vibrant chapter. Be sure to share the messages in Chapter Bulletin with your Chapter!

Thank you for all you do as Chapter Leaders to advance the AFS mission at the regional level!

Questions? Contact **Ben Yates** at byates@afsinc.org or call **847-803-5278**.