WATERLOO TECHNICAL SOCIETY
10 OCTOBER 2001 MEETING MINUTES

The 10 October 2001 meeting of the Waterloo Technical Society was held at the Greenstreets Restaurant with 38 members and 5 guests present. President Jerry Mohling called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM.

Following introductions of guests, the past Presidents and Honorary Members were recognized. Minutes of the 12 September 2001 meeting were read and approved. Gordon Licht presented the Treasurer's report showing a balance of $71.42. We currently have 52 paid members. There were several questions about the $362 cost of printing the membership books. Dave Dyer announced that the books would be included with the November meeting mailing.

Jerry presented the candidates for the Membership Committee:

- Brian Carlson – Chairman
- Steve Caughron
- Dick Michael
- Mark Canby

A motion was made and seconded to accept the members as proposed. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote. Jerry introduced other committee members in attendance.

Brian Carlson, program chairperson for October, introduced the evening speaker, Dick Firgard, and the evening program on Pattern Making. Dick has 37 years of Foundry experience including 30 years at John Deere and the past 2 years at American Pattern.

Skeet Miehe and Ron Klein founded American Pattern in 1995. They currently employ 26 people and operate on 2 shifts. Their specialty is in using Pro-Engineer geometry to create rapid prototype tooling and to produce prototype castings, although they also do production patterns and produce some finished parts. American Pattern uses pro-E geometry to design cores for the casting and to determine parting lines. They then use Delcam Power Mills software to electronically simulate the development of the molding equipment and the machining on their six CNC milling machines. Once the core and pattern tooling is machined, they produce the molds using a no-bake sand process. The molds are then transported to the John Deere or Viking Foundry to produce the rough castings. The castings are then returned to American Pattern for chipping and grinding. If finish machining is required, it is contracted out to local machine shops.

Brian announced the next meeting would be 14 November and the program will be a tour of Rubber Development Company in Waverly. Jerry adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm for a tour of the American Pattern operations. During the tour, we were able to witness all of the steps performed by American Pattern to go from Pro-E geometry to completed castings.

Respectfully Submitted,
Darrell Wright, CO-Secretary