Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor

February 2014

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Sergio J. Girau, PE ACEC/L 2013-2014 PRESIDENT

Vol. 17 No. 1



Louisiana Engineering Society

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LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

James E. Bowie, Jr., PhD, PE

Then I was appointed to the board as an industry representative in 2008, my two main concerns were enforcement and industrial licensure (commonly called the industrial exemption). Then chairman Jack Stelly, noting that I had just completed a 28 year stint in academia, appointed me to the education committee and I was immediately involved in curriculum review and credential evaluation. Our committee proposed, and the board eventually implemented, curriculum evaluation for all those with international degrees. I was inspired in this endeavor when the education committee was asked to evaluate credentials for a Chinese national written entirely in Chinese. It had been crudely translated and it was impossible to tell if the applicant even had an engineering degree. Hence, we now rely on third party evaluators that give a clear picture of the quality and content of the international degrees.

Relative to my primary concerns of enforcement and industrial licensure, I have been enlightened. My initial concern was that engineering malpractice was rampant. I found this to be untrue. There are approximately 15,000 engineering licensees. LAPELS opened 120 cases in 2013 and closed 58; closed cases includes dismissed cases. Many of the remaining cases were multiple cases against the same engineer. A reasonable estimate would be about

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!

As of December 31, 2013, these individuals have maintained their PE and/or PLS license for 50 years! Governor Jindal has issued certificates to all in special recognition of their years of licensure. LAPELS too, congratulates these longstanding professionals.

Professional Engineers

Jerry Allen Elmo Bergeron Thomas Bernard Ralph Busse Sidney Chaisson Ronald Daigle Eladio de Molina Donald Faulk Frank Garcia Thurmond Gates William Hentschel Carlos Hernandez Wayland Marcombe Hugo Marrero Kenneth Odinet G. Pharr Ralph Sinno Larry Smith Glenn Snyder Louis Weigel Elbridge Wiegmann David Williams

Professional Land Surveyors Thomas Bernard Glenn Snyder

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Mon/Tues, March 17/18, 2014

Board Members

James E. Bowie, Jr., PhD, PE Chairman

Miles B. Williams, PE Vice Chairman

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35 cases (60%) per year resulting in sanctions. The percentage of individuals that are subject to sanction by the board is about ¼ %. This is an admirable record confirming my thought that



James E. Bowie, Jr., PhD, PE Chairman

malfeasance by engineers is limited to a very few licensees. 99.75% of licensees do an excellent job in designing safe and functional projects and have unblemished relations with LAPELS. They are meticulous, thoughtful, and expert at what they do.

There is a problem with malpractice, but it is limited to a small but dangerous few engineers that combine arrogance with incompetence. I have served on in excess of 100 Complaint Review Committees (CRC's). Most were matters of expired licenses or improper plan stamping amounting to administrative problems or forgetfulness and not malpractice. I have had possibly a dozen cases where individuals were fined, sanctioned and their licenses suspended or revoked. I sat on a case with the highest fines ever levied by LAPELS and a case with the most individual violations in a single case. Bringing cases against these few is expensive and time consuming. The fines and costs that are recovered are not adequate to compensate LAPELS for the effort expended. Enforcement is an expensive and cumbersome, but absolutely essential activity. The sterling reputation of our profession is fragile. We must protect ourselves from these few.

I have come to believe that the best defense against the few miscreants is never letting them in the profession to begin with. To use a business phrase, we need to maintain "barriers to entry". These barriers protect the public. They are education, examination, experience, and ethics. Since the percentage of offenders is quite low, it is clear that our present system is effective.

I believe the best filter is our ABET accredited colleges of engineering. Teaching at the University, I found that our engineering graduates were generally ethical, moral, highly intelligent, and infrequent users of intoxicants. They were motivated to service and wanted to be good engineers. The academic rigors of engineering

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Board Staff Donna D. Sentell Executive Director Justin Owens Compliance Investigator Tyson Ducote

Compliance Investigator

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school filter out those that are not dedicated, focused and competent.

The fundamentals exam is the next barrier. There are some ABET accredited schools that do not measure up academically. It is possible to graduate with an engineering degree without receiving a good education. I have seen students take only the easiest professors, drop any class they expect to fail, and do marginal work and graduate with a "C" average after 8 years in undergraduate school. The FE exam blocks those lacking in basic engineering knowledge. The pass rate on the FE is about 65% on the first sitting and of those that fail once, about 65% pass on the second try giving a net pass rate of about 88%.

The next barrier is experience, the great teacher. In the caldron of the real world graduates must perform. Certainly there is a winnowing that is not statistically represented. Early in their careers, many graduates switch to non-engineering careers and are simply diverted from the licensure track. It is still true that the best thing to study to get out of engineering is engineering.

If an individual graduates, passes the FE, and actually pursues a design engineering career track they apply to LAPELS and ask to sit for the Principles and Practice exam. At this stage, we verify character and ethics through background checks and references. A few are blocked at this stage, usually because of recent criminal felony convictions. Bad recommendations are rare and I have found no problems with inaccurate documentation of experience (although the descriptions are sometimes lacking in detail).

Finally, the young engineer intern sits for the Principles and Practice exam. These exams are the result of an arduous process developed by NCEES. The exams have academic and technical integrity. Pass rates are similar to the FE. Having passed the exam he or she joins the 99.95%.

Many ask, are the barriers too high? Are we loosing potential licensees, thereby limiting the number of licensees and constraining economic development? If I were to change one of the barriers, it would be the P & P exam. The increasing specialization and increasing number of specialty exams seems to be ever expanding. If we lose potential licensees, it is because they become specialized and there is no NCEES exam available for them to prove their competency. Further, the P & P exam is redundant since the experience listings and references are sufficient to prove that an individual is a competent engineering practitioner. An alternative I would favor would be a second exam covering professional practice, state licensure laws and ethics, and should be at most two hours. I would also support eliminating the second exam. (Notice this is a personal opinion, not necessarily shared by other LAPELS members.)

After six years on the board, after poring over hundreds of applications, after considering numerous cases of malfeasance, I can conclude that the rules and laws governing engineering in Louisiana are indeed a model. The LAPELS board is both effective and efficient in carrying out the intent of these laws and rules. The public is protected.

DISCIPLINARY AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Justin Owens and Tyson Ducote, Compliance Investigators

The Board continues to investigate alleged violations of the laws and rules which regulate the practice of engineering and land surveying in Louisiana. Substantiated violations result in disciplinary or enforcement action being taken either through a Consent Order or by Board Decision following a formal hearing at which the respondent is adjudged guilty of one or more violations. Below is a summary of the disciplinary/enforcement actions taken by the Board since the previous issue of the Journal.

UNLICENSED OFFER AND/OR PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING OR LAND SURVEYING:

Thermon Heat Tracing Services-II, Inc., an unlicensed firm, was subject to enforcement action by the Board for using the words "engineer", "engineering" or any modification or derivative thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity in Louisiana without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1) and (7). In 2012, the firm prepared and submitted to a client an offer to provide services referred to by the firm as "engineering" services, related to heat tracing for a project located in Louisiana without proper licensure. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$1,000; to pay administrative costs of \$744.78; to immediately cease and desist the use of the words "engineer", "engineering" or any modification or derivative thereof in any offer to provide services related to heat tracing or in otherwise describing its business, services, activities or employees in Louisiana until such time as it is duly licensed by the Board; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter by name in this publication, and the reporting of this matter by name to NCEES.



Justin Owens Compliance Investigator



Tyson Ducote *Compliance Investigator*

I • LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING BOARD

Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ften times, I am asked just what exactly do board and staff members do during and between board meetings? You can be assured, LAPELS board and staff member were busy and very productive in 2013. Everything we do at LAPELS is centered on the charge to 'safeguard life, health and property and to promote the public welfare'. To ensure this charge is accomplished, below is just a sampling of the work from this past year.

Some of the compliance and enforcement work included opening 120 new cases of possible violations of the laws and rules of the board, ratifying 21 consent orders and collecting \$37,000 in fines from individuals and firms.

A highlight for the compliance and enforcement staff was the Peer Review conducted by Bruce Pitts, PLS, Director of Enforcement, with the Oklahoma State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. Mr. Pitts spent two days with board and staff members evaluating and analyzing our investigation and enforcement techniques. We have incorporated many of the ideas and suggestions based on this review.

The Board approved rule changes to several sections of the Board rules. You can view these changes on our website: http://www.lapels.com/RecentChanges.html

The Board conducted two meetings outside of Baton Rouge. In January we met in Lafayette in conjunction with the JESC meeting; and in September we conducted the meeting on the campus of McNeese State University in Lake Charles.

Many of the current and emeritus board and staff members are involved in several of the NCEES committees, item writing for exams, and task forces. Participation in any of these activities is all voluntary. Also, many attended several of the NCEES meetings including, the Southern Zone and Annual Meetings in Biloxi, MS and San Antonio, TX.

It is important for Louisiana to be a part of these meetings, committees and task forces in order to stay up-to-date with the constant changes with other jurisdictions and at NCEES.

Also, many of the board members, past and present, attended the LES Tri State Conference in San Destin, Florida; the 10th anniversary of the Geomatics Program at Nicholls State in Thibodaux; made visits to the various exam sites around the state in April and October; attended many of the certificate presentation ceremonies in conjunction with LES/LSPS chapter meetings; and participated in ABET visits at Tulane University and University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

For outreach throughout the state, the LAPELS staff visited with 22 parish and city permitting offices and made 20

presentations at the various universities to promote licensure.

Board and staff members conducted 15 Enforcement and Ethics presentations around the state at



Donna D. Sentell *Executive Director*

professional and technical societies, as well at individual and private offices. Did you know you can request a presentation for your organization by completing a form on our website? Here is the link: http://www.lapels.com/docs/ CPD/PresentationRequestForm_AR.pdf

To ensure only qualified and competent individuals were approved for licensure, board members reviewed, evaluated and conducted interviews, for 2,600+ applications for certification and licensure; this included approval of more than 1,600 individuals to sit an examination (EI, PE, LSI, PLS). Ultimately, this effort resulted in LAPELS certifying and licensing more than 1,800 individuals.

One of the biggest changes we saw this past year was the last paper and pencil exam administration for the Fundamentals of Engineering and Surveying exams. We spent most of 2013 explaining to students, professors, and our campus contacts; as well as preparing the board and staff for the transition to computer based exams. Beginning January 2, these two exams are now administered at three locations around the state (Baton Rouge, New Orleans and Shreveport), and can be taken 175 days throughout the year.

As you read this article, it's almost spring 2014, and I can assure you LAPELS board and staff members are already busy with several projects.

One very important project is the spring 2014 renewal cycle. If you are in this renewal cycle, you should receive your notification by mid-February with information to renew your license before March 31. Most licensees choose to renew their license with the online option, and I'm pleased to report, the Board does not assess convenience fees to do so. Online renewal is much more efficient and a tremendous timesaver for both the licensee and the staff. Individual licensees, not being audited, are encouraged to take advantage of this option. Firm licenses cannot be renewed online.

Springtime also indicates another transition for LAPELS, as are anticipating two engineering board appointments: a representative from Private Practice and Industry. We will enthusiastically welcome the new members to the Board and will get them involved in the various aspects necessary to fulfill their charge to 'safeguard life, health and property and to promote the public welfare'.

LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL • FEBRUARY 2014

NEW REGISTRANTS

Congratulations to the following newly licensed and certified for the period of 10/12/13 - 1/21/2014

LAND SURVEYOR INTERNS

Boudreaux, Benjamin, LSI Bourgeois, Jeff, LSI Normand, Jared, LSI Riggin, Ronald, LSI Robichaux, Janssen, LSI Rodrigue, Andre, LSI Thibodeaux, Jeanine, LSI Thornton, Brandon, LSI

PROFESSIONAL SURVEYOR

Barker, William, PLS Blaskey, Stephen, PLS Bryant, Anthony, PLS Cain, Dustin, PLS Grunder, John, PLS Johnson, Garry, PLS Ledet, Matthew, PLS Park, Logan, PLS Peters, Harold, PLS Syers, Anthony, PLS Williams, Raymond, PLS

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APS Design and Testing, LLC, VF B.E.I. Surveying, LLC, VF Tice Engineering, Inc., VF Willbros Engineers (U.S.), LLC, VF

ENGINEER INTERNS

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Hood, Benjamin, El Hyder, Scott, El Ip, Kwong, El James, Nicholas, El Johnson, Alex, El Johnson, Benjamin, El Johnson, Benjamin, Johnson, Dan, El Jordan, Paul, El Karlson, Matthew, El Kessler, Joseph, EI King, Marc, EI King, Ryan, EI Koradia, Viren, EI Kottemann, Matthew, EI Lam, Leticia, EI Lancon, Zachary, EI Lanehart, Charles, EI Lanie, Foster, EI Lejeune, Chase, EI Lejeune, Kevin, EI Levy, Samantha, EI Liang, Yunmiao, EI Linsenmeyer, Joseph, EI Mackenzie, Caleb, El Makanjuola, Olatunde, EI Marcel, Adam, El Martel, Anthony, EI McCloskey, Marc, El Merriam, Eric, El Moss, James, EI Neal, Oliver, EI Olds. Roderick. EI Oriol, Samuel, EI Parr, Scott, EI Part, Scott, El Pattridge, Paul, El Perault, Michael, El Rajora, Manik, El Reed, Stephen, El Regmi, Krishna, El Rhodes, Joshua, El Rodriguez, Diego, El Rowe, Jamie, EI Rowland, Jake, EI Salmeron, Wilson, EI Sam, Desmond, EI Sellers, Edward, EI Shrestha, Sangeet, EI Sitar, Adam, EI Smith, Austin, EI Smith, Christopher, EI Songy, Gerald, EI Souder, Grace, EI Spillers, John, EI Spring, Andrea, EI Stagg, Jeremy, EI Stewart, Joseph, EI Tate, Joshua, EI Thibodeaux, David, EI Trischler, John, EI Usry, Ryan, EI Vallejo, Ramon, EI Wall, Julia, EI Ward, Tyler, EI Watts, Callie, EI Whitmore, Kelsi, EI Wise, Jeffrey, El Wolfe, Moshe, El Worsham, David, EI Zarraga, Carlos, ÉI PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS Abate, Casey, PE

Heroman, Jeffrey, EI

Abate, Casey, PE Adams, Dennis, PE Adams, Ryan, PE Alexander, Mark, PE Allaire, Ryan, PE Andreson, Jeffery, PE Andrews, Johann, PE Andrews, Johann, PE Arthur, James, PE Ashworth, Clark, PE

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continued on next page

NEW REGISTRANTS (continued)

Congratulations to the following newly licensed and certified for the period of 10/12/13 - 1/21/2014

Testa, Louis, PE Thibodeaux, Joshua, PE Tkach, Steven, PE Tortorich, Benjamin, PE Tyler, Kurt, PE Ulloa, Luis, PE Ulrich, Cheryl, PE Utku, Murat, PE Van Leuven, Douglas, PE Vanlandingham, Kelly, PE Vinson, Russell, PE Vizina, Ryan, PE Vugteveen, Eric, PE Vutera, Blake, PE Wagner, Scott, PE Walker, Dustin, PE Wang, Jennifer, PE Watkins, Phillip, PE Weatherly, David, PE West, Norman, PE Wiese, Brian, PE

Wieseler, Chad, PE Wiginton, Robert, PE Williams, Marvin, PE Williams, Matthew, PE Willoughby, Julius, PE Wills, Richard, PE Wolfe, Sherry, PE Wood, Bryan, PE Wood, Bryan, PE Ysseldyke, Ryan, PE Zimpel, David, PE Zou, Yunyi, PE

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Beckham, Jacob, EI

Begnaud, Taylor, EI

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EXPIRED REGISTRANTS

Certificates and licenses for the following individuals and firms expired on October 31, 2013. If this is not correct, please contact us.

SURVEYING INTERNS Chauvin, Leonard, LSI Christy, Shane, LSI

PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

Merrick, Max, PLS Allen, Bruce, PLS Bernard, David, PLS Castellvi, Jorge, PLS Derr, Frederick, PLS Kerrigan, John, PLS Levey, Bertram, PLS Miller, William, PLS Schoeffler, Paul, PLS Fournet, Sidney, PLS Garland, Don, PLS Horadam, James, PLS Johrson, Charles, PLS Johnson, Charles, PLS Wurphy, Edward, PLS

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ENGINEER INTERNS

Acharya, Anu, EI Acosta Vega, Julio, EI Adams, Judith, EI Ahuja, Kanwal, EI Akella, Suseela, EI Allen, Kevin, EI Alptunaer, Kava, EI Alvergue, Luis, El Alvergue, Alejandro, El Anderson, Gregory, El Appleton, Eric, EI Arasanagi, Prashant, El Badeaux, Jacob, EI Bajaj, Shoib, EI Bandza, Simonas, EI Barlow, Lucas, EI Barrera, Wesley, EI Basnet, Binay, EI Baudoin, Tracy, EI Bauman, Christopher, EI Beard, Stephanie, EI Beard, Garrett, EI

Belou, Kenneth, EI Berder, Kennerl, El Bergeron, Zachary, El Berggren, Brooks, El Berner, Jeffrey, El Binnings, Daniel, El Blackburn, Stephanie, El Blount, Michelle, EI Bordelon, Kyle, EI Boudreaux, Beau, EI Bourgeois, Julie, EI Bowman, Ryan, EI Bray, David, EI Breaux, Amy, EI Broussard, Justin, EI Brown, Madeleine, EI Bryant, Heath, EI Bullock, Hollie, EI Burke, Éric, EI Burney, Brandi, El Burton, Michael, El Caraher, Jason, EI Carrier, Lane, El Carroll, Barbara, El Carter, Samantha, EI Castagnos, Benjamin, EI Caverlee, George, EI Chavez Reyes, Xavier, El Cherry, Hannah, EI Christensen, Laura, EI Cifreo, Paul, EI Clarke, Mallory, EI Clayton, Charles, EI Cochrane, Sarah, EI Coker, Omotola, EI Collins, John, EI Conley, Carl, EI Constantinou, Constantinos, EI Cook, George, EI Cook, Andrew, EI Coto Castro, Oscar, EI Cox, Fatemeh, El Crader, Cory, El Cuadrado, Joseph, El Custer, Brian, EI Cutright, Ervin, EI Das, Ritabrata, EI Dautenhahn, James, EI David, Layne, EI Davilman, Lacie, EI Delcambre, Myles, EI DeVoe, Stephen, EI

Dixon, James, EI Donahoe, Daniel, El DuBose, Ellen, El Dumas, Christopher, EI Eiermann, Byron, EI El-Assadi, Omar, EI Ellard, Jacob, EI Enclard, Emily, EI Enk, Daniel, EI Eppehimer, Jacob, EI Falterman, Mark, EI Farkas, Jon, EI Fontenot, Jeffrey, EI Foreman, Christopher, EI Foster, J'Nai, EI Frank, Alfred, EI Friedmann, Jonathan, EI Frost, Edwards, EI Garcia, Daniela, EI Garibaldi, Michael, EI Gentile, Marcus, EI Ghale, Kushal, EI Gilbert, Nicholas, EI Gomez, Enrique, El Goodson, Robert, EI Goodwin, Thomas, EI Gradishar, James, EI Graves, Daniel, EI Grimes, Doc, EI Guarino, Adam, EI Guasco, Robert, EI Guifarro, Josue, EI Guillory, Clay, EI Gwin, Travis, EI Hagstette, Matthew, EI Halbrook, Michael, EI Haley, V., EI Hamblin, Vincent, El Hamby, Kaleb, El Hanberry, Jacob, El Hardy, Dylan, El Hart, Jennifer, El Heard, Jeffrey, EI Hearn, Ryan, El Hebert, Ashley, El Hebert, Brenna, EI Heidingsfelder, Eric, EI Herman, Matthew, EI Hildebrandt, Ryan, EI Hill, Timothy, EI Holbrook, Bradley, EI Holley, Taylor, El Hollowell, Tina, EI Honore, Royal, EI Hook, Brittany, EI

Howard, Danielle, EI Hu, Dan, El Hughes, Matthew, El Hulin, Matthew, El Hunsucker, George, El Hutchinson, Joshua, El Irizarry, Naudie, El Istre, John, EI Jackson, Erick, EI Jackson, Anthony, EI Jarrell, Derek, EI Jennings, Stephen, EI Jensen, Danielle, El Jones, Ashley, EI Jones, Russell, EI Jordan, Danielle, EI Joyce, Lauren, El Judd, Robert, EI Juneau, Jon, EI Juneau, Andrew, EI Jurisich, Joel, EI Kanapuram, Goverdhan, El Kareh, Ahmad, El Kc, Anil, El Kc, Sandeep, EI Kerr, Michael, El Kidder, Nicholas, El King, William, El Kunwar, Nimesh, EI Kwiatkowski, Jeffrey, EI Labro, Kristopher, Él Lachney, Michael, EI Lafleur, Paul, EI Lanaux, Chelcie, EI Land, Christopher, EI Landreneau, Toby, EI Langelier, Peter, Él Laperouse, Peter, EI Le, Thien, EI Leblanc, Philip, El LeBoeuf, Charles, El Lee, Jeremy, EI Lester, Ryan, EI Leuterman, Jayne, EI Levert, Laura, EI Lieux, Austin, EI Lightfoot, Jonathan, EI Lipoma, Patrick, EI Locicero, Logan, EI Long, David, EI Lopez-Ona, Eugene, EI Lopez-Ona, Brian, EI Louviere, Michael, EI Lowery, Christopher, EI Lowry, Mark, EI

LumYork, Alana, EI Luna Loya, Maria, El Lunos, Allyson, El Maharjan, Binod, El Malakpet, Chakradhar Goud, El Mamidala, Chaitanya, El Mancuso, Amber, El Marcon, Christopher, El Marcotte, Michael, El Markiewicz, Anthony, EI Martin, Chad, EI Matherne, Patrick, EI Mathews, David, EI McAdams, Anica, EI McBride, James, EI McBride, Sarah, EI McCallum, Jessica, EI McCleskey, Joseph, El McClure, Daniel, El McCoy, Nicholas, EI McDonald, Tyler, EI McDonner, Ryan, EI McGuire, Álycia, EI McKenzie, Alexander, EI McLaughlin, John, El McMurtry, Jack, El McNeely, Thomas, El Medhi, Jishnu, El Melamed, Eugene, EI Melerine, Don, EI Metrejean, Christopher, EI Michaud, Ryan, EI Milla, Jose, EI Miller, Max, EI Miller, Candice, EI Millet, Glenn, EI Milliner, Jena, EI Mnichowski, Derek, EI Mobbs, Jackson, EI Mondello, Matthew, El Moore, Kaswana, El Morisi, Ziba, El Neal-Walthall, Natalia, El Nelson, Richard, El Newman, Michelle, El Nguyen, Donny, EI Nguyen, Kien, El Nguyen, Quan, EI Nguyen, Steven, EI Nguyen, Hieu, EI Ogea, Kari, EI Ohene, Michael, EI Okoro, Ifeanyi, EI Owens, Jessica, EI

continued on next page

Dhakal, Sanjay, EI

LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING BOARD • 7

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LES Vision Statement:

The Louisiana Engineering Society is the recognized advocate of all licensed engineers in the state of Louisiana.

LES Mission Statement:

The Louisiana Engineering Society serves to advance the engineering profession by:

- **Encouraging ethical and competent practice** through licensure and legislative involvement.
- Nurturing public awareness of engineers' contributions to society.

Growing the society through licensure & LES membership and public service.

Recognizing engineering achievements.

18th Annual Joint Engineering Society Conference

As many of you know, the JESC was recently held at the Hilton in Lafayette. This event has proven to be a hit in the engineering community and this year's conference was no exception with more than 300 registrants and 37 exhibitors in attendance. Changing the venue to the Hilton will allow us to continue growing in the future. Special recognition goes to Wayne Westerfield, P.E., Chairman of the JESC Planning Committee and to the New Orleans Chapter of LES for hosting the event. I also want to thank LES Executive Director Brenda Gajan, Brittany Daigle and Cathy Guidry for an outstanding job once again in organizing the conference.

One of the many ways LES serves to advance the engineering profession is through recognition of engineering achievements. At this year's Honors and Awards Banquet, held in conjunction with the JESC, several individuals were recognized for their contributions to the profession with several awards being granted by both LES and LEF. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients and thank you for your dedication to the profession.

As in the recent past, this year's JESC included a two-hour LAPELS Panel Discussion during which five current members of the LAPELS Board provided an update on current events. Of particular interest was the discussion on Industrial Licensure. Based on recent opinions from the Attorney General, LAPELS believes many consultants are incorrectly claiming "industrial exemption" when providing engineering services to industry clients. In the coming months, LAPELS intends to provide an outreach program in an effort to educate the engineering profession on the licensure requirements for those practicing in industry.

Additionally, this year's General Membership Luncheon at the JESC included remarks from Mr. Robert Green, P.E, F. NSPE, 2013-2014 President of NSPE. Mr. Green provided us with an update on current challenges and opportunities at the national level. It was interesting and refreshing to hear that many of the national concerns are mirrored on the state level, i.e. membership, legislatives issues, etc.

Update on Early Taking of the PE Exam

As I indicated in the November Presidential Privilege, LES recently asked LAPELS to consider decoupling the examination and



Jason T. Thornhill, PE Louisiana Engineering Society President

experience requirements for licensure and allow optional early taking of the PE exam. I am pleased to report that, after considerable deliberation and weighing of the pros and cons associated with this change, LAPELS has agreed to start the process of decoupling the experience and examination requirements for licensure. Although still several months off, I believe this change will ultimately result in the licensure of many engineers that otherwise would not have pursued this goal. I commend LAPELS on taking this step and being open to change.

Recent LES Board Activities

One of the many responsibilities of LES is to nominate a slate of engineers for submission to the Governor from which appointees are selected to fill vacancies on the LAPELS Board. This year two vacancies are to be filled, one from Professional Engineers in Private Practice (PEPP) and one from Professional Engineers in Industry (PEI). The LES Board recently nominated five candidates for each of these positions and will be forwarding those candidate lists to the Governor's office in the immediate future.

The LES Legislative Committee has also been busy as of late with the coming legislative session and will continue to stay abreast of legislation that may affect the engineering profession. Please keep in mind that you may be called upon to voice your support or opposition on legislation in the coming months.

Finally, the LES Nominating Committee, which includes three past state presidents and each of the eight chapter presidents, is tasked each year with reviewing potential candidates from around the state in order to fill the various state offices for the coming year. The Nominating Committee met in January and nominated the following individuals for state office:

President - Craig Dooley, P.E. (New Orleans Chapter) 1st Vice President - Heather Klingman, P.E. (Bayou Chapter) 2nd Vice President - Glenn Turner, P.E. (Alexandria Chapter) Secretary/Treasurer - Byron Racca, P.E. (Lake Charles Chapter) State Director - Chris Knotts, P.E. (Baton Rouge Chapter) State Director - Luke Miller, P.E. (Alexandria Chapter) State Director - Stan Whitney, P.E. (Bayou Chapter)

Ballots for this year's election will be mailed to the membership in March. Be on the lookout for it and be sure to cast your vote.

LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL • FEBRUARY 2014



F. HUGH COUGHLIN YOUNG ENGINEER AWARD

The Louisiana Engineering Society F. Hugh Coughlin Young Engineer Award will be awarded as conditions warrant, but not more often than annually, to an engineer not over thirty-five (35) years of age who has demonstrated to a high degree capabilities in his chosen field of engineering, thereby indicating potential for further advancement and leadership as a professional engineer. The desire of the Society is not only to recognize the recipient but to encourage and inspire young engineers with a desire to reach greater heights of professional achievement and service. This award is named in honor of F. Hugh Coughlin, PE, a distinguished member of the Society from 1944 until his death in 1980. His interest and support of young engineers was instrumental in the establishment of this award.

TRAVIS ST. PIERRE, PE

Travis St. Pierre, PE is an Engineering Manager for Audubon Engineering's New Orleans and Covington offices. In his current position, he is responsible for overall Engineering and Design productivity, technical quality, recruiting, hiring, growth, and staffing assignments for both offices. He is a native of Cut Off, Louisiana and a graduate of South Lafourche High School. He received his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Louisiana State University in 2002 and his professional engineering license in 2007.

Travis' professional experience, prior to joining Audubon Engineering in 2009, includes design engineering positions at Northrop Grumman Ship Systems and URS which are both located in the New Orleans area.

Travis has served on the Executive Board for the Louisiana Engineering Society's New Orleans Chapter from 2008 to 2013. His roles have ranged from Chapter Director to Chapter President. He remains an active member in the society and has coordinated the New Orleans Chapter Golf Tournament for the previous six years which has helped the chapter donate engineering scholarships to more than 20 local college students over that time span.

Travis is also an active participant in his children's school and recreational activities as a member of the St. Peter Dad's Club and as coach of various recreational sports teams. Travis and his wife Jessica, also a licensed professional engineer, reside in the Covington area with their three children Sammy (6), Benjamin (5), and Abby (3).

Travis is very thankful for the many opportunities that have presented themselves throughout his life and career. He especially thanks his parents and wife for supporting him through school and the many extra activities and time required to be successful in his career as well *continued on page 13*



ANDREW M. LOCKETT AWARD FOR CIVIC ACTIVITIES

The Louisiana Engineering Society The Andrew M. Lockett Civic Activities Award will be awarded as conditions warrant, but not more often than annually, for Distinguished Civic Service by an Engineer, in the interest of the Public, without compensation for those services. The character and scope of the services rendered are the predominant criteria, rather than strictly engineering or scientific attainments. The desire of the Society is not only to recognize the recipient but to encourage and inspire other engineers to take a greater part in the civic well being of their communities, parishes and the State of Louisiana. The award is named in honor of Andrew M. Lockett, PE, a distinguished member of the Society from 1900 until his death in 1945. Mr. Lockett was a strong advocate for engineers to get involved in civic activities.

MARVIN L. ZOCHERT, PE

Marvin Zochert was born in 1938, grew up in Bloomington, MN, took 2 years of preengineering at Hamline University in St.Paul,MN. He served 3 years in the Army teaching radar operators to fire Nike (Ajax & Hercules) missiles. Marvin finished his BSME at The University of Minnesota (home of the 'Golden Gophers') with a machine design major and was an active member of the student chapter of A.S.M.E. In his senior year he married a pretty nurse named Wanita from northern, North Dakota.

Marvin has enjoyed many years of Mechanical Engineering. He has 4 patents, 3 significant contributions to the nuclear vessel refueling manual, a machine published in "Design News", and was the lead stress analyst of the design team that produced Rockwell's "Polyvalve".

Marvin and Wanita have lived in Pineville for 37 years and have 3 grown children (all in their 40's). They have an almost insatiable desire to help others. When their kids were teen-agers the Zochert's opened their home to help "run-away teens". Most of these kids were reconciled with their parents or guardian after a short stay (all outside the 'court system'). One young man stayed with us 7 months of his senior year, graduated, and then went into the service. Between '82 and '92, Marvin organized and

Between '82 and '92, Marvin organized and led small groups into the Mexican interior (32 times) to deliver supplies and Christian materials to pastors and missionaries.

During 'Desert Storm', Marvin joined a group that ran Bibles and other materials (in various languages) to third country nationals in some middle-east countries via a system of "receivers" who would take the materials to the compounds where various TCN language groups lived. He estimates that the group moved more than 1,000 Bibles alone, during that time.





JAMES M. TODD TECHNOLOGICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD

The Louisiana Engineering Society Award will be awarded as conditions warrant, but not more often than annually, for Distinguished Service by an Engineer for Technological Advancement or Discoveries as contributions to the advancement of Engineering. The purpose of honoring Engineers with this award is to encourage and inspire other engineers to reach even greater heights of professional achievement. The award is named in honor of James M. Todd, P.E., President in 1930 and an active member of the Society until his death in 1971. Mr. Todd suggested the formation of an award for engineering ingenuity in 1950.

TODD MONROE, PE

Todd Monroe, a native of Baton Rouge, is the Arthur K. Barton Professor in Biological & Agricultural Engineering at Louisiana State University. After earning his B.S. in Biological Engineering from LSU in 1996, Todd specialized in Biomedical Engineering at Vanderbilt University, completing Masters, Doctorate and Postdoctoral Fellowships before returning home in 2002 to join the LSU faculty.

Todd leads a research and development program at LSU focusing on biomedical engineering at small scales, utilizing nanotechnology, microinstrumentation, molecular biology, and biophotonics to solve problems relevant to healthcare. As principal investigator, he has been awarded over \$11.2 million in federally competitive research grants, including \$1million in currently active funding from the Engineering Directorate of the National Science Foundation. He has published 38 peer-reviewed journal and technical articles, and holds 4 patents (with another 3 in process.) on discoveries related to biomechanics, gene and stem cell therapy, light-activated drugs, microfluidic sensors, and orthopedic medical device applications.

In addition to research, Todd's career focus is on teaching, training and mentoring students to become proficient in the field of engineering, particularly in next-generation technologies. He has advised the senior design capstone and thesis projects of 38 undergraduates (6 of whom won National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships); 25 Ph.D. and M.S. students and sponsored 3 postdoctoral scholars. In the Biological Engineering curriculum at LSU, he teaches Introduction to Engineering Methods (Engineering Graphics, AutoCAD, 3D Printing,) Biomechanics for Engineers, and Molecular Methods for Biological Engineers (Diagnostic Devices, Biomedical Optics, Molecular Biology for Biosensing). He has been recognized from

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LEO M. ODOM SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION AWARD

The Louisiana Engineering Society Services to the Profession Award will be given as conditions warrant, but not more than annually, for Distinguished Service to the Engineering Profession in Louisiana by a registered Professional Engineer member of the Louisiana Engineering Society, over a period of long duration, in an unselfish manner and in keeping with the highest professional standards of conduct, including active participation and leadership in the technical societies as well as in this and other professional engineering groups. The character, scope and duration of the services rendered are the predominant criteria, rather than strictly engineering or scientific attainments. The desire of the Society is not only to recognize the recipient but to encourage and inspire other engineers to take a greater part in the advancement of the profession in its service to mankind. The award is named in honor of Leo M. Odom, PE, President of the Society in 1968, active member since 1942, and the award's first recipient.

MELVIN R. CORLEY, PE, PHD

Melvin R. Corley, PE, PhD, is a native of Pineville, Louisiana, and a 1970 graduate of Louisiana Tech University in mechanical engineering. He earned his MSME degree and PhD from the University of Texas at Austin. He served on the faculty of the School of Mechanical Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology from 1974 to 1980 before returning to Louisiana Tech as a mechanical engineering faculty member where he served continuously until his retirement as Professor Emeritus in June, 2013. For the as Professor Emeritus in June, 2013. For the last seven years he served administratively as Academic Director of Civil and Mechanical Engineering and Construction Engineering Technology. During his tenure at Louisiana Tech, he received the College of Engineering and Science Outstanding Service Award three times and unjugaritize Undergraduate Techning Award and university's Undergraduate Teaching Award, Senate Chair Award, and University Foundation Outstanding Professor Award. From 1975 to 1995 Mel also worked as Vice President of HRS Systems, Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia, where he was the author and principal developer of the HASS® computer program for hydraulic analysis of fire sprinkler systems.

Mel has been a member of LES since 1985 and he served as the Monroe chapter's Professional Engineers in Education representative for several years. He has also been a member of ASME and the American Society for Engineering Education since 1974. He served as chairman of the Atlanta section of ASME in 1979 and the faculty advisor for the Louisiana Tech Student Section of ASME for a combined total of over twenty years. He served two terms on the ASME National Student Sections Committee. He was named as an ASME Fellow in 2010. He served on the Louisiana

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A. B. PATERSON AWARD FOR AN ENGINEER IN MANAGEMENT

The Louisiana Engineering Society Engineer-in-Management Award. The A. B. Paterson Award will be awarded as conditions warrant, but not more often than annually, for Distinguished Service in Management by an Engineer Achievements in management rather than engineering or scientific attainments shall be the primary criteria for the selection of the recipient. The desire of the Society is not only to recognize the recipient but to encourage and inspire other engineers to greater effort in the field of Business Management. The award is named in honor of A. B. Paterson, PE, and active member of the Society from 1923 until his death in 1952. Mr. Paterson was an engineer, administrator, executive, banker, civic leader and humanitarian.

SHERRI H. LEBAS, PE

Sherri H. LeBas was appointed as Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development in February 2010 by Governor Bobby Jindal. LeBas is responsible for a more than \$1.7 billion budget and more than 4,300 employees across the state. During her tenure, Louisiana has invested in major corridor improvement projects across the state and has successfully obligated more than \$2 billion in state surplus, federal recovery and emergency relief funds.

LeBas is a professional civil engineer with more than 28 years in state service in Louisiana, working at DOTD, as well as the Division of Administration.

In addition to serving as Secretary, LeBas has held several other high-level positions within the Department: Assistant to the Secretary for Policy, Deputy Secretary, and facilitator on the Change Management Team. She has also served as Project Manager on numerous projects at DOTD, including I-49 North in Shreveport, US 190 in Mandeville, the US 90 interchanges in St. Mary Parish, US 165, Ambassador Caffery widening and extension in Lafayette, and the TIMED program.

Under her leadership, the agency has marked the completion of the new \$803 million Interstate 10/ Twin Span Bridge ahead of schedule, secured \$622 million in funding for I-49 North from the Arkansas line to I-220 in Shreveport, expanded the I-10 and I-12 corridors in the Baton Rouge, Slidell and New Orleans areas with an investment of \$429 million, opened the \$409 million John James Audubon Bridge in St. Francisville, and completed the \$1.2 billion expansion of the Huey P. Long Bridge.

LeBas holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Louisiana State University, graduating in 1985, and has held a professional engineer's license in both civil and environmental *continued on page 13*



CHARLES M. KERR PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD

The Charles M. Kerr Award will be awarded as conditions warrant, but not more often than annually, for Distinguished Service by an Engineer in Promotion of the Public Relations Program for the Engineering Profession in Louisiana. The character and scope of the contributions to the Society's overall public relations program internally and/or externally is the predominant criteria, rather than strictly engineering accomplishments. Officers of the Society and members of the LES Public Relations Committee are not eligible for the award. The desire of the Society is not only to recognize the recipient but to encourage and inspire other engineers to take a greater part in the Society's public relations program in their communities, parishes and the State of Louisiana. The award is named in honor of Charles M. Kerr, PE, President in 1954 and a member of the Society from 1912 until his death in 1964. Mr. Kerr was very active in the business world in promoting his chosen profession, engineering.

JOEY KREFFT, PE

Joey Krefft, P.E., is a structural engineer for Hunt, Guillot & Associates, LLC, in its Shreveport office and has previously worked for Northrop Grumman Ship Systems in Avondale, Aillet, Fenner, Jolly & McClelland, Inc., in Shreveport, and Providence Engineering & Environmental Group, LLC, in Shreveport during his 10.5-year professional career. He holds two B.S. degrees from LSU (marketing, December 1998, & civil engineering with structural minor, May 2003), and during his engineering stint at LSU, he worked as an intern for the Traffic Engineering Division for the Baton Rouge/East Baton Rouge Department of Public Works.

Krefft is a licensed professional engineer in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas and has been an LES member since joining as a student in 2002. He's held every Shreveport chapter office and is in his fifth year as Shreveport's MATHCOUNTS coordinator after volunteering the previous four years. As Shreveport president in 2008-09, Krefft initiated annual chapter sponsorship of E-Week activities at Sci-Port: Louisiana's Science Center in Shreveport, and he has volunteered as a coach and judge for several Sci-Port E-Week High School Engineering Olympics. Also in 2008-2009, he began chapter involvement in the Louisiana Region I Science & Engineering Fair by judging and awarding monetary prizes to the top two high school engineering projects as determined by the chapter's judges. To help pay for these educational endeavors, he has raised about \$35K in sponsorships and donations over the last five years.

continued on page 13



WALDEMAR S. NELSON PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The Waldemar S. Nelson President's Award will be given as conditions warrant, but not more than annually, for distinguished service to the Louisiana Engineering Society by an engineer member of the Society, who has provided outstanding service to the Society, in an unselfish manner and in keeping with the highest professional standards.

The desire of the Society is not only to recognize the recipient, but to encourage and inspire others to take a greater part in the advancement of the Society and its service to mankind.

This award is named in honor of Waldemar S. Nelson, P.E., a distinguished member of the Society since 1936, until his death in 2005.

RICHARD L. SAVOIE, JR.

Richard L. Savoie, Jr. is a 1978 graduate of McNeese State University with a BS degree in Civil Engineering. After graduation Richard went to work for T.L James Construction Co. as a construction foreman. After supervising a bridge and approach replacement project over the Sabine River, Richard decided to move to Baton Rouge, La. and began his career with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development in May 1980. The first 26 years were spent in the Head Quarter's Road Design Section where he advanced to Assistant Road Design Engineer and Value Engineering Director. In February 2006 he was promoted to Deputy Chief Engineer and served for 4 years. Richard was promoted to Chief Engineer for the Office of Engineering on February 12, 2010.

Richard has been active in the Louisiana Engineering Society (LES) since 1991, having served as the Baton Rouge Chapter President in 1996-1997 and as President of the Louisiana Society of Professional Engineers in Civil Service (LSPECS) in 1991. He serves both societies as their head jambalaya cook.

On April 1, 2007, Richard was appointed by Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco to serve a six year term on the Louisiana Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Board.

Richard is married to Karen C. Savoie and they have two boys, Andre' age 29, a Construction Manager in LADOTD District 02, and Erik age 24, a future Chemist.





LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

A Lifetime Achievement Award may be made to an engineer having made significant contributions to the advancement of engineering and the objectives of the Society throughout his or her career. The nominee shall have acknowledged eminence in engineering or related sciences. Nominees shall be chosen only from members of the Society and NSPE.

LAMY J. CHOPIN JR., PE

Lamy J. Chopin, Jr. was born in Natchitoches, Louisiana and attended school at St. Mary's. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Northwestern State College (presently Northwestern State University) in 1958 and following graduation entered the U.S. Army as a lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers serving on active duty for twelve years in various assignments including training engineer troops, construction and contract administration. Duty stations included posts in the United States, Germany and the Republic of South Korea. Lamy completed a total of 30 years of active and reserve duty and retired with the rank of Colonel. While on active duty he attended school and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Missouri School of Mines (presently Missouri University of Science & Technology) in 1964. Lamy is a licensed professional civil and environmental engineer in Louisiana, having received his first PE license in the state of Alaska in 1970. During the course of his engineering career he was licensed as a professional engineer in fourteen states.

Upon leaving active duty, he moved to the Baton Rouge area working for a brief period at Barnard and Burk before joining the staff of Pyburn & Odom. At Pyburn & Odom he had the opportunity to work and learn under a noted river engineer and outstanding mentor, Leo M. Odom, PE. Lamy spent over ten years with the firm serving as office engineer, project engineer and vice president. During this time he developed expertise in river engineering having made studies and investigations of the Mississippi River and two dozen other rivers located in the southern, eastern and midwestern states. Such studies included hydrology, hydrographic surveys, velocity measurements, current pattern determinations, and scour and sedimentation evaluations. His professional experience includes design and project management of docks and river structures, dredging projects, revetments, levees and pipeline river crossings. Mr. Chopin has prepared reports, exhibits and has testified as an expert witness in state, federal, and international continued on page 13

JERRY G. LAZENBY, PE

Jerry G. Lazenby, P.E. & P.L.S., is the President of Lazenby & Associates, Inc., Consulting Engineers and Land Surveyors in West Monroe, Louisiana. A 1965 graduate of Louisiana Tech University, Jerry began his engineering career with the Federal Highway Administration and in 1974 moved to West Monroe and joined the consulting engineering firm of Jenkins and Madden Engineering Company which evolved into the firm of Lazenby & Associates, Inc.

He is a past chairman of the PEPP Division of the Louisiana Engineering Society and a past chairman of the Monroe Chapter of LES. Jerry is the 1993 recipient of the Charles M. Kerr Public Relations Award and the 1994 recipient of the Andrew M. Lockett Civic Affairs Award from the Louisiana Engineering Society. In 2007 he received the Leo M. Odom Award for Distinguished Service to the Engineering Profession.

He is a past president of CEC/L and served as the Louisiana National Director during 1997 – 1998. For several years he was Chairman of the CEC/L Transportation Committee.

In 2000 he received the A. E. Wilder, Jr. Award for Outstanding Service to the Consulting Engineering Council of Louisiana, Inc.

Jerry served five years as a member of the Louisiana Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (LAPELS) Board and was active in the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES).

In 2007 Jerry was elected a Life Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and in 2008 was elected to the ASCE Louisiana Section Civil Engineering Wall of Fame.

Jerry is a Fellow in the American Consulting Engineers Council, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, and the National Society of Professional Engineers.

Jerry served on the Louisiana Tech Engineering Foundation, the Civil Engineering Advisory Committee and the Louisiana Tech Engineering & Science Foundation. In 1995 he was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award in Civil Engineering from Louisiana Tech University and

F. HUGH COUGHLIN YOUNG ENGINEER AWARD (continued from page 10)

as Audubon Engineering for providing him with many opportunities to grow as an engineer and as a person. He is thankful for the encouragement and guidance of his Uncle Wayland P. Marcombe, PE in steering him toward Engineering and the Louisiana Engineering Society. Lastly, he

ANDREW M. LOCKETT AWARD FOR CIVIC ACTIVITIES (continued from page 10)

Mr. Zochert is a volunteer for the Salvation Army. He is a member of the Advisory Board and served as President of the Board in 2008. As a Mechanical Engineer he serves on their Properties Committee overseeing the facilities in the Alexandria/Pineville area. He recently provided a design package for enlarging the kitchen and food storage area at the Men's Shelter. The biggest project for the Salvation Army is its annual "Red Kettle" campaign.

will be forever grateful for the values instilled him by the actions of his grandfather, George St. Pierre, and his father, Jordan St. Pierre, which have ingrained work ethic, determination, and dedication in him that he credits to all past and future successes.

For the past 13 years Marvin has organized an Army of volunteer bell ringers to ring at the Salvation Army's seven Red Kettles in Pineville, LA. In the 2012 season he staffed 918 (two hour) shifts and had 15 'no-ring' shifts. 98% isn't bad – the Salvation Army liked it. In 2012, Pineville's volunteer bell ringers collected \$65,000. due to the generosity and participation of her citizens.

JAMES M. TODD TECHNOLOGICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD (continued from page 10)

departmental to national levels for achievements in the classroom related to his efforts in helping to modernize the engineering curriculum at LSU. Todd holds the distinctions of being a National Science Foundation CAREER Award winner for integrated research and teaching, the Tiger Athletic Foundation President's Award, the LSU Rainmaker Award for Top-Producing Research and Creative Faculty, and a LSU Howard Hughes Medical Institute Distinguished Mentor Award.

Todd follows his father, Bill Monroe, and his maternal grandfather, Buddy Switzer, as a third generation College of Engineering graduate from LSU. Todd and his wife, Jessica Woodman Monroe, enjoy living near LSU in Baton Rouge, where they are raising their two children, Emma and William.

LEO M. ODOM SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION AWARD (continued from page 11)

Tech Tau Beta Pi Advisory Board for over thirty years and was named the National Outstanding Faculty Advisor in 2003.

Dr. Corley has long been a strong advocate of professional licensure for engineers and land surveyors. He served as proctor for the Fundamentals of Engineering exam for nearly thirty years and as Chief Proctor for the Ruston site for the past ten years. He served as an ABET Program Evaluator for ASME for fifteen years visiting engineering schools across the country to determine program compliance with ABET accreditation standards. Mel has been married to Deborah Martin Corley for nearly 44 years. They

Mel has been married to Deborah Martin Corley for nearly 44 years. They have two grown daughters, Krista Corley and Keren Corley Stanley, and one grandson, Drew Corley, and they reside in Ruston, Louisiana.

A. B. PATERSON AWARD FOR AN ENGINEER IN MANAGEMENT (continued from page 11)

engineering since 1990. She is a member of the Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Chi Epsilon, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Louisiana Society of Professional Engineers in Civil Service. Additionally, she is an honorary member of the Louisiana Engineering Society and served as Secretary/Treasurer for the Baton Rouge Chapter.

She has twice received the DOTD Secretary's Award of Excellence –DOTD's highest employee award and was inducted into the LSU Department of

Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) Hall of Distinction in 2011.

LeBas is involved in the local community through her multiple volunteer positions. She is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Baton Rouge, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha, a member of the Catholic High Mother's Club, and an active parishioner of St. Aloysius Catholic Church. LeBas has three sons: Andrew, Patrick and Michael.

Epsilon, ASCE, and the American Institute of Steel Construction. Honors

received include the 2010 LES F. Hugh Coughlin Young Engineer Award, the 2010 Shreveport Chapter E. M. Freeman Professional Society Participation

Award, being a 2009 Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce Young

Professional Initiative Northwest Louisiana 40 Under 40 Award recipient,

and being a 2008 Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce Leadership

have been married almost nine years and have three children: Emma, 8;

New Orleans-born and Shreveport-raised, Krefft and his wife Chasity

CHARLES M. KERR PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD (continued from page 11)

In addition to chapter involvement, Krefft has served at the state level in multiple capacities for both LES and LEF, including: three years on the LES Board of Direction (two as a State Director); one year on the LEF board; three years as LES Membership Committee chairman; and sitting on various committees for both.

Being fortunate to have assisted in the structural design of LSU's Alex Box Stadium, Krefft wrote two articles about the project for the Shreveport ASCE section and gave and led two presentations and tours of the project and job site, respectively, for LSU civil engineering students and the Baton Rouge ASCE section.

Other honorary and professional memberships include: Tau Beta Pi, Chi

LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - Lamy J. Chopin Jr., PE (continued from page 12)

Program graduate.

Maggie, 6; and Drew, 4.

courts.

In 1981, Mr. Chopin along with William G. (Pete) Kennedy cofounded C-K Associates, Inc., an engineering and environmental firm, in order to meet the growing demand for environmental services. He was a strong advocate for and worked to encourage the LAPELS Board to consider establishing environmental engineering as a separate discipline for professional registration.

Lamy has been active in the Louisiana Engineering Society, having served in several offices including President of the Baton Rouge Chapter. His other

service to the profession includes conducting Math Counts competition and participating in career day activities encouraging students to consider a career in engineering.

Mr. Chopin has been active in the community and has served on several local boards of directors, including the Greater Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce, the Safety Council of the Louisiana Capital Area and the Society of St. Vincent of dePaul.

Lamy is retired and resides with his wife Janis in Denham Springs, Louisiana.

LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - Jerry G. Lazenby, PE (continued from page 12)

elected as a Life Director of the Louisiana Tech University Engineering and Science Foundation.

He is a member and past president of the West Monroe/West Ouachita Chamber of Commerce and the West Monroe Rotary Club and is a "Paul Harris Fellow". Jerry and Christine, his wife of 49 years, have two sons, a daughter, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. They are active members of First Baptist Church of West Monroe where Jerry serves as a deacon. Jerry's hobbies include deer hunting and fishing.



2013-2014 LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTION



Front Row (L to R) Susan Richard, PE, Alan Krouse, PE, Craig Dooley, PE, Jason Thornhill, PE, Heather Klingman, PE, and Glenn Turner, PE Back Row (L to R) Byron Racca, PE, Stan Whitney, PE, Chris Richard, PE, Walter Carpenter, PE, Christopher Knotts, PE, Michael Pippen, PE, Lee Alexander, PE, Garry Johnson, PE, James Bowie, Ph.D, PE, Micha Duffy, PE, Geoffrey Wilson, PE, William L. Miller, PE, Edgar Benoit, PE, Joshua Hays, PE, Brenda Gajan, and Susan Frizzell, PE

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Alexandria Chapter

Stephanie D. Clark, PE Robert W. Mays, PE

Baton Rouge Chapter

Daniel D. Patz, EI Hans Holmgren, EI (Under 30) Garrett M. Geoffroy, EI (Under 30) Victoria L. Hartley, EI (Under 30) Robert D. Taylor, PE Jason P. Fennell, PE George E. Chike, PE William Clay Kimbrell, PE Eugene Dale Pruitt, PE Justin J. Nugent, PE Rachel S. Vincent, PE Zantavia Q. Hamilton, Student Angela J. Davis, Student

Lafayette Chapter

Paul A. Guillory, PE Thomas R. Russell, Student

New Orleans Chapter Trigon Associates, LLC, Corporation Sustaining

William B. Conway, PE Dennis G. Lambert, PE James M. Pearson, PE Edward K. Carrick, PE Miles J. Becnel, PE Danny J. Hebert, PE Lisa F. Cookmeyer, PE Leah B. Read, PE Mohammad Chaudhry, PE John D. Taylor, PE member Aminata B. Alharazim, PE Clayton M. Marbry, PE Richard F. Mayer, PE Robert I. Mora. PE Christopher P. Tissue, PE Ryan J. Fremin, PE

Shreveport Chapter Roy W. Dowling, PE

Non-Resident

Robert J. Smith, PE Joe M. Wilson, PE Ronald C. Bryan, PE John M. Sturrock, PE Thomas J. Kelly, PE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 2014

- L	60.0					
1	-28	Mathcounts Window for Chapter Competition				
1	6-22					
2	0	Order of the Engineer Ceremony				
		– Noranda Álumina Plant, Gramercy, LA				
2	6	8-Hour Project Management Seminar				
		– LADOTD, Baton Rouge				
N	March 2014					
		8-Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Many, LA				
4		Alexandria Chapter Meeting & Licensing Ceremony				
3 4 5 7		8-Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Lake Charles, LA				
		8-Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Baton Rouge, LA				
1		8-Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Covington, LA				
1		Lake Charles Chapter Meeting & Licensing Ceremony				
1		Shreveport Chapter Meeting & Licensing Ceremony				
1		Monroe Chapter Meeting & Licensing Ceremony				
1		LES Board Meeting – Pineville, La				
1	9	8-Hour Life Safety Code Seminar				
		– Fire Marshal's Office, Baton Rouge				
1		Bayou Chapter Meeting & Licensing Ceremony				
2		New Orleans Chapter Meeting & Licensing Ceremony				
2		8-Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Shreveport, LA				
2		Lafayette Chapter Meeting & Licensing Ceremony				
2	-	Baton Rouge Chapter Meeting & Licensing Ceremony				
2	7-28	MathCounts State Competition – Pineville, LA				
April 2014						
1		Election of Chapter & Practice Division Officers Begins				
1	5	Deadline for Copy, Louisiana Journal, May Issue				



The Annual Joint Society Engineering Conference (JESC) was held at the Hilton in Lafayette on January 22 and 23, 2014. This annual gathering allows members of many of the state's engineering societies to gather, network and earn professional development hours. Please provide any feedback to LES so we can use it to make the 2015 JESC even better.

The conference featured over thirty exhibitors presenting the latest tools, materials and services to make your job as an engineer easier and more successful. The slate of speakers presented talks in four conference rooms ranging in topics covering ethics, wastewater, professional planning and many more. The purpose of the PDH requirement is to keep the engineer up to date on the latest ideas in the engineering field and these talks certainly delivered with new concepts and lively discussions.

Another highlight of the Conference is the annual Awards Ceremony. Congratulations to all the recipients of this year's slate of awards! Your success and dedication to the profession is motivation for us all.

Finally, a conference such as this takes large amounts of planning and effort. Let me extend thanks to all the speakers, exhibitors and others who volunteered their time to make this a rewarding conference worthy of attendance. As chair of JESC Planning committee for the New Orleans Chapter, let me extend a special thanks to Brenda Gajan, Cathy Guidry and Brittany Daigle whose effort and dedication made the event a great success.



LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL • FEBRUARY 2014



BOOM! POP! BANG! Fireworks brought in the LES New Year 2014! It is with great pleasure that I report to the Society the latest news pertaining to future and young engineers in our profession. In October of 2013, the University of Lafavette Student Chapter received 163 new applications. Together with the young member drive, the Baton Rouge Chapter worked diligently with the Lafayette Chapter in obtaining bylaws and educating eager students attending LSU. With several months of coordination, dedication, and persistent, the LSU Student Chapter became official in December 2013 and will begin their membership drive with anticipation of 20-30 new founding members. As a member of LES, these new young members will have an opportunity to interact with practitioners in a casual setting, gain knowledge in reference to interviewing procedures and daily work activities, and become educated on engineering principles pertaining to ethics and legislation. With new software, technical capabilities, and social media, the world of engineering is transforming to benefit those

proactive young engineers with endless information. However, we must instill the principles of engineering to "safeguard life, health and property, and to promote the public welfare."



Jacob M. Loeske, PE, LSI State Young Engineer Representative

In closing, I would like to challenge all Chapters to form a relationship with your local university(s) advisor, promote LES, and assist those eager students willing to become the student chapter founding officers.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Prosperous 2014!



THANKS TO OUR 2014 JESC EXHIBITORS & SPONSORS

ENGINEE

Exhibitors

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HDR Engineering, Inc. Pipe Tech, Inc. Wagner Consulting Group

Event Sponsor Tesco Controls, Inc.

By Stan Whitney, PE

hope everyone had a great holiday season, and a happy new year. I would also like to thank everyone who L participated in our annual golf tournament, it was a great success in raising money for Mathcounts. Congratulations goes out to our tournament winners (from left to right):



Lucian Hill, Brett Landry, Nathan Montgomery, and Brandon Lomasney (not pictured.)

We are looking forward to our chapter's Mathcounts competition this month. I encourage our membership to volunteer

for this great program. There are volunteer opportunities at both at the chapter's local competition, and at the state competition in Alexandria. The Bayou Chapter will be vicehosting the state competition in March this year, and leadhosting the competition in 2015.

Up next on our calendar is the spring licensing ceremony will be held on March 19th at 6:00PM at the Bayou Country Club in Thibodaux. I hope to see everyone there to help welcome the newest registrants into our profession.

Our next regular meeting will be held on May 20th so mark your calendars and be on the lookout for the flyer.



<u>ALEXANDRIA CHAPTER</u>

By Luke Miller, PE

The Alexandria Chapter of LES is moving into the new year just as quickly as we finished up the 2013 calendar of events. The focus now is on the upcoming Regional MATHCOUNTS competition to be held at Tioga Junior High School on February 15, 2014. MATHCOUNTS provides a great opportunity for LES to help shape and inspire the future generation of engineers. I am always impressed by the knowledge the kids in Central Louisiana have and hope you will make time on the 15th to come serve some wonderful, intelligent individuals.

In March, the Alexandria Chapter will have its annual ethics presentation in addition to the Spring licensing ceremony. Mr. Billy Moore will be giving an interesting and informative presentation. I hope you will make every effort to attend.

The Alexandria Chapter will also be hosting Jennifer Moreau with the Fire Marshal's office in the Spring. With the changes and updates at the Fire Marshal's office, this presentation is sure to be beneficial and very informative.

BATON ROUGE CHAPTER

By Christopher P. Knotts, PE

The Baton Rouge Chapter is staying very busy as we held the LSU/SU Student Function at Patrick Taylor Hall on November 5th. The events included an Ethics Presentation by LAPELS Investigative Staff and a student forum with a panel of diverse practicing engineers providing career insights and answering questions. All this was followed by an excellent jambalaya dinner which was enjoyed by approximately 175 engineering students along with 30 LES members and LSU faculty and staff. Thanks to Richard Savoie for cooking again... this was our 20th year and Richard has cooked for about 15 of those years. Also, I would like to thank the LSU Engineering Dean's office, especially Lisa Launey and Ramon Lopez for their assistance in making this event so successful.

On January 14th, LES held a joint meeting with the American Public Works Association. The venue of this meeting is by far the most interesting of all our meetings... LSU Tiger Stadium Club. Approximately 125 people listened to David Guillory, EBR City-Parish Public Works Director discuss current DPW issues. The challenges that EBR-DPW faces are similar to many other municipalities and the leaders must be very good at puzzles to piece together the different funding sources to construct projects.

Our E-Week Banquet will be held on February 20, 2014 at Juban's Restaurant. This banquet is an opportunity to us

NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER

By Lee Alexander, PE, F.NSPE

ew Year begins cold with the weather, but with warm wishes for a great year in our profession and good health to our families.

On January 22 & 23, NO-LES will be sponsoring the Joint Engineering Society Conference at the Hilton in Lafayette, LA. Engineers of all disciplines from across the State, will discuss current topics and have fun at this 18th Annual Event. Please see our link to this meeting in our Newsletter.

We start the New Year's New Orleans meetings with a

Getting back to MATHCOUNTS, one of the ways the Alexandria Chapter raises money is by hosting an Annual Golf Tournament. This year, the tournament will be on May 9th at Oak Wing Golf Club in Alexandria, LA. The price is \$300/



team and includes lunch, all your drinks for the day, and team and individual prizes. The tournament draws in 16 teams from local and regional engineering firms. Advertisements are also available. If you are interested, please contact Luke Miller at luke.miller@mmlh.com or 318-448-0888.

"Engineering is a great profession. There is the satisfaction of watching a figment of the imagination emerge through the aid of science to a plan on paper. Then it moves to realization in stone or metal or energy. Then it brings homes to men or women. Then it elevates the standard of living and adds to the comforts of life. This is the engineer's high privilege."

- Herbert Hoover

to celebrate the engineering profession, recognize our local award winners and award some very deserving students scholarships. ASCE joins LES at this event and also presents their student



scholarships. ASCE joins LES at this event and also presents their student scholarships at the banquet. Last year the local MATHCounts winning team performed a mini lightning round for everyone. Speaking for myself, it was amazing and humbling to watch those young people solve the complex math problems in their

heads...very quickly! The LSU Student Chapter is officially operational. Given the labyrinth of procedures that LSU has to establish an on-campus organization, it was almost a herculean task to accomplish this in less than one semester. All the credit goes to the group of student leaders who wanted the Chapter, the LSU Dean's Office and the LES State Office for making this happen.

I wish everyone a happy and prosperous 2014! It has been a long time since we have had such cold weather in the Baton Rouge area and early January was chilly to say the least. Many plants froze at my house, but fortunately no pipes. On several mornings while duck hunting with my toes past cold I wondered, "Where is global warming when you need it?" All kidding aside, it's nice to have a real winter in south Louisiana.

presentation on New Orleans Drainage Master Plan and how this supports sustainable water management in NOLA. This is tentatively scheduled for February 20 at the UNO Engineering Auditorium.



Hope all of you had a wonderful Holiday Season and look forward to a rewarding and eventful 2014!!



2014 ENGINEERING FACULTY PROFESSIONALISM AWARD

The objectives of the Engineering Faculty Professionalism Award are to bring to the attention of all faculty those members who are licensed professional engineers at their university; to present registration in a positive light which should encourage faculty to work toward licensure and professionalism; and to benefit the students and the profession with the promotion of professionalism in the universities. LEF has four deserving recipients. The recipients of this year's awards are Dr. Cedric Walker, Tulane University, James Eads, Louisiana Tech University, Dr. Emad Habib, University of Louisiana Lafayette and Dr. Richard Hughes, Louisiana State University. Dr. Jim Bowie, PhD, P.E. presented each professor with a plaque at the 18th LA Joint Engineering Societies Honors and Awards banquet on January 22, 2014.

The recipient for Tulane University is **Dr. Cedric Walker**. Professor Walker has been a faculty member in the Department of Biomedical Engineering since 1977. He was a chair of the department from 1991-1997. His accomplishments include the supervision of over 40 graduate students and publication of 92 papers and conference abstracts. Professor Walker is a Commissioner for the Engineering Accreditation Commission since 2005, an Associate Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Information Technology and Biomedicine. He is a fellow of the IEEE –Engineering for Medicine and Biology Society and a Fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.

Mr. James Eads is the recipient for Louisiana Tech University. Mr. Eads is a member of NSPE, National Society of Professional Engineer, since 1973. He is a registered engineer in the state of Louisiana. He promotes licensure for professionals and he is well-respected in industry and in the community. Mr. Eads is a full-time professional faculty member of LA Tech University since 2000. He also serves as the Electrical Engineering Technology Program Chair since 2006.



2014 VINCENT FORTE GRADUATE School Fellowship Award

The Vincent A. Forte Graduate School Fellowship, a \$2,000.00 award, is given annually to a student enrolled in a graduate education program in engineering who expresses a sincere desire to enter the teaching profession at the University level upon completion of his or her graduate education. The award is named to honor Vincent A. Forte, P.E., a founder and first president of the Louisiana Engineering Foundation. The recipient of this year's award is **Katherine N. Elfer** of Tulane University.

Katherine N. Elfer is a second year doctoral student in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. As the daughter of an engineer, she has had more opportunities than many children to understand the amazing human ingenuity made possible by engineers. Her dad coached her robotics team and her father's friends showed her Girl Scout Troup how laser traveling through a plastic tube can warp it.

As a graduate student, she has continued to build new and useful tools – this time microscopy equipment for the medical field. She loves talking with undergraduate students about all the exciting breakthroughs happening in science, and helping them get involved with research early in their career. She wants to be a professor that helps students of all backgrounds and abilities understand that they can succeed and keep engineering new and exciting.

Katherine is very involved with K-12 Outreach for the School of Science and Engineering and in the New Orleans community. She enjoys spending her time showing younger students age appropriate scientific activities and helping them learn more about how science impacts their lives. She also works with other volunteer organizations, such as NO-AIDS and Relay for Life. In her spare time she attended steampunk meetings, the Louisiana Renaissance festival, and participates in local Writers Guilds.

The recipient for the University of Louisiana Lafayette is **Dr. Emad Habib**. He is a professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Louisiana Lafayette. He is a registered engineer in the states of Texas and Louisiana. Dr. Habib has many accomplishments in terms of scientific publications and research projects. He had service to the state of Louisiana in engineering reviews of flood protection projects and studies for 2012 Louisiana Coastal Master Plan.

Dr. Richard Hughes is the recipient from Louisiana State University. Dr. Hughes is the recipient of the 2013 Bill Holden Faculty Excellence Award. In 2009 and 2011 he received the Zaki Bassiouni Excellence in Instruction Award. In 2007, Dr. Hughes was awarded the LSU Tiger Athletic Foundation Undergraduate Teaching Award. The OU College of Engineering Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award was given to Dr. Hughes in 2003 and 2004. He is the co-instructor of the SPE PE and Industry Certification Exam Preparation Course from 2007 to present.

The Louisiana Engineering Foundation is proud to present these four professors with the Engineering Faculty Professionalism Award.



The Fire Marshal Association of Louisiana (FMAL) is a registered AIA/CES provider. The Life Safety Code Seminar is AIA/CES approved.



Approved Florida CPD Course

Louisiana Engineering Society Presents: 8hr Life Safety Code Seminar By: Joe Delaune

Seminar will be held at: State Fire Marshal's Office 8181 Independence Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806

> March 19, 2014 8:00am – 4:30pm Lunch will be served

Life Safety Code Related Issues

Joe Delaune and other plan reviewers from the Baton Rouge Fire Marshal's office will provide a series of mini-seminars (30 to 90 minutes each). Topics will include various NFPA codes including NFPA 101, 72, 2001, 13 and other sprinkler related codes, ADA, Fair Housing and accessible housing. The plan reviewers will also cover other issues and questions that come up during the discussion.

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE CHECK IF YOU WILL NEED AIA CRI	EDIT & PROVIDE YOUR AIA NUMBER 🛛	
Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone Number:	Email:	
REGISTRATION (includes lunch): LES of	r Fire Marshal Association Member \$200 ☐ Visa □ M/C □ Discover	□ Non Member \$250
	(We do not accept American Express)	
CardNo		Exp.Date
Signature:		
You may fax your regi For more inform	neering Society, 9643 Brookline Ave., Ste. 116 Ba stration to: (225) 924-2049 or email to <u>les@les-st</u> nation please visit our website: <u>www.les-state.org</u> estions, please call the LES office at (225) 924-20	ate.org
Sorry, no refun	ds will be given after March 5	, 2014
Seating is limited t	<u>o 75 participants, so reg</u>	<u>gister now!!</u>

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Louisiana Engineering Society presents: Three 8hr Life Safety Code Seminars by Robert Miller

The Building Code Institute, LLC

March 3, 2014 8:00am - 4:30pm **Cypress Bend Resort** Many, LA

March 5, 2014 8:00am - 4:30pm **Springhill Suites** Lake Charles, LA

March 7, 2014 8:00am – 4:30pm The Marriott Hotel **Baton Rouge, LA**

Approved AIA Provider

Approved Florida Provider

This one-day 8 hour credit seminar for the year 2014 will focus on the Significant Changes to Life Safety Issues of the newly adopted 2012 editions of the of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code and the International Building Code.

In addition, applicability of the 2010 edition of NFPA 914 Fire Protection of Historic Structures will be discussed.

The seminar will address the changes related to new construction and existing facilities related to:

- **Occupancy Classification**,
- Components serving Means of Egress related to specific Occupancies
- **Construction and Fire and Smoke Barriers**, •
- **Compartmentation and Firestopping**, •
- Life Safety Systems such as Fire Alarm and Sprinkler systems, and
- Accessibility requirements

A workbook will be provided which can be used for future reference of the issues covered in the seminar.

Below is the **REGISTRATION FORM**. Please check the seminar you would like to attend.

 March 3, 2014 in Many, LA March 5, 2014 in Lake Charles, LA 		□ March	March 7, 2014 in Baton Rouge, LA	
		☐ March 10, 2014 in Covington, LA		
Name:				
Address:				
City:		State:	Zip:	
PhoneNumber:	FaxNumber:			
Email:				
REGISTRATION:	□ Society Member \$200 (Lunch is included in registration cost.)	□ Non Member \$250	□ Visa □ M/C □ Discover (We do not accept American Express)	
Card No			Exp.Date	
Signature:				
Mail checks an	You may fax your registration to For more information plea	5	s-state.org	
So	rry, no refunds will k	oe given after Feb	ruary 17, 2014	
Seating is	s limited to 30 partici	nants at all semin	ars, so register now!!	

Call Cypress Bend Resort (2000 Cypress Bend Parkway, Many, LA 71449) at 318-590-0550 for room reservations Call Spring Hill Suites in Lake Charles (1551 West Prien Lake Road, Lake Charles, LA 70601) at 337-474-1112 for room reservations. Call The Marriott Hotel in Baton Rouge (5500 Hilton Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70808) at 225-924-5000 for room reservations Call the Marriott Hotel in Covington (101 Northpark Blvd, Covington, LA 70433) at 985-871-0244 for room reservations

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sergio J. Girau, PE, 2013-2014 President

American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana

T is my privilege as president of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana (ACEC/L) to extol the benefits of belonging to this great organization. ACEC/L is a voluntary, non-profit organization whose principle mission is to provide business benefits to its engineering firm members. Our membership boasts 142 firms with 4,475 employees statewide.

ACEC/L is a member of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), a national organization with more than 5,000 member firms with 370,000 employees. Together, we provide a forum for sharing experiences and exchanging ideas through state and national conferences, committee activities and seminars. These events often feature expert speakers with valuable information about important business trends and legislation. These events also create vital networking opportunities to discuss business solutions and to make important business connections, setting the stage for joint ventures, engineering subcontracts, and client referrals.

ACEC/L is the voice of member firms in the Louisiana Legislature, lobbying on their behalf and crafting legislation designed to protect their business interests and to enhance their business practices. On the local, state and national levels, ACEC/L and ACEC monitor and take strong positions on legislation that could impact our business interests, including funding bills.

Other benefits that ACEC/L member firms enjoy include:

• Benefit packages – Membership gives you access to nationally backed optional benefit packages such as the ACEC life and health insurance, business insurance and the ACEC Retirement Trust.

• Public Relations – We promote the private engineering industry before the public, media and local, state and federal agencies and governments through outreach efforts, news releases and our quarterly newsletter and articles in the Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal.

• Project Monitoring – ACEC/L keeps members informed of design projects advertised by local and state agencies.

• Advocacy – ACEC/L aggressively represents our members on major issues, including qualifications-based selection, public-private employee designation and design-build projects.

• Legal – We partner with top legal counsel to keep our members informed of the latest statutes, court cases, legal developments and standards of practice in the industry that affect our profession. This legal expertise is available on an "on call" basis should members need a quick opinion.

• Affiliations – We have great partnerships with Louisiana Associated General Contractors (LAGC), Louisiana Association of Architects (LAIA), Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Association (LAPA) and Louisiana Good Roads and Transportation Association. We also work closely with DOTD, FP&C, CPRA, and other governmental agencies continuing to work on ongoing and future business liaison activities.

• Education – we have joined with ACEC chapters in Mississippi and Alabama to produce the Deep South Convention each July. We also provide members with the opportunity to hear from local and state agency officials at our Project Outlook Seminar in the fall. Also,

SAVE THE DATE!!!

ACEC DEEP SOUTH CONVENTION Point Clear Resort & Spa – July 24-26, 2014

ACEC/L Contact: (225)927-7704 or Jtomeny@acecl.org Lodging Reservations: (800) 544-9933 Group Code: ACDACDA our joint meeting, the Critical Issues Summit, with LAGC, LAIA and LAPA is offered each winter. Our members attend local, monthly chapter meetings, which also give members the opportunity to earn professional development hours.

Sergio J. Girau, PE

ACEC/L takes a leadership role on issues that affect our businesses. We continue to oppose the State Ethics Board's recent ruling that privatesector engineers who work on government projects are considered "public employees" with all the constraints associated with the Code of Governmental Ethics but without the benefits afforded to public employees. As you know, engineers are guided by the ethics rules of the Louisiana Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (LAPELS), which is state sanctioned. ACEC/L is leading the effort to clarify the law to clearly define the difference between a private engineer and a public employee.

We also are working with LAGC on legislation to include Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) as an alternative delivery method under the public bid law that state and local government agencies can utilize along with Design-Bid-Build and Design-Build. ECI is similar to Design-Build in that it allows for faster progression from planning to construction, but with the important difference that the engineer works for the owner, not the contractor. As its name implies, this delivery method allows the contractor to get involved early in the design process, working closely with the engineer who is contracted to the owner to develop contract documents. The contractor uses these documents to provide a price for the project to the owner. Most states allow ECI, and we believe ECI will be good for the practice and business of engineering in Louisiana.

Activities thus far this administrative year have included the ACEC/L Annual Meeting at Sandestin, Florida, a "Study Tour" to Venice, Italy and Switzerland, the ACEC Fall Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona and Project Outlook. Looking forward we still have the Critical Issues

Summit, February 20th and 21st in Baton Rouge and the ACEC Legislative Convention in Washington, DC April 27-30.

If you are interested in joining ACEC/L, contact Executive Director Dan Mobley or Membership and Development Manager Janet Tomeny at (225) 927-7704 for information. If you are a member and are interested in getting involved with ACEC/L or want to participate in one of the upcoming events, please contact Dan or Janet.

There are many other issues this Board is working on besides those listed above. We solicit every member's input, as this is their organization. I am very thankful for the opportunity to serve ACEC/L and work with a very dedicated group of engineers.

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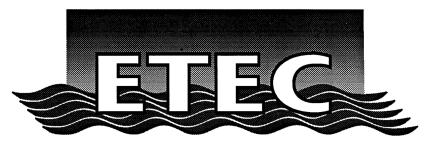
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