# Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor May 2016 Vol. 19 No. 2 Vol. 19 No. 2

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GLENN A. TURNER, PE 2016-2017 LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY PRESIDENT



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- 3) Published quarterly, February, May, August and November.

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# **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

John W. "Billy" Moore, PE

"The true leader serves. Serves people. Serves the public's best interests". I copy Miles Williams, who used this quote because I think it epitomizes our senior LAPELS Board Member. Mr. Theodore "Ted" Thompson, PE has recently completed his sixth and final year as a Board member culminating in his being the Chairman of the board for the past 12 months. His leadership on the LAPELS Board has been a great inspiration to fellow board members and the LAPELS staff. His service to our State and our professions has had and will continue to have a tremendous positive influence in so many ways to so many people as it is the cornerstone of their professional lives. Mr. Thompson loves his teaching position at McNeese State University and has told us numerous times of his experiences with engineering students. He serves on an NCEES committee which guides how the exams are prepared and has helped write questions for the fundamentals of engineering exam. All of the board have enjoyed Mr. Thompson's military experience shining in his leadership as he has led us for this past year.

As with the past board members I have served, I will immensely miss the experience, way with words (with one time too many words), humor, and wit of Mr. Thompson. Please know I will continue to work hard, to not let you and past board members down.

While I don't want to repeat what others in this position have said, I, too, must convey how truly honored, blessed and humbled I am to serve in the capacity of chairman and as a member of the board. I was honored when the Louisiana Engineering Society included me in their list of nominees to the governor. I was surprised when the Senate Speaker wanted to ask me about serving on this board. Soon afterwards, Governor Jindal appointed me and the Legislature approved his appointment.

Previous chairmen/chairwoman have indicated they were forewarned regarding how much work is involved on serving on a "working board"; but, were a bit surprised when they

#### **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

May 16/17, 2016 July 18/19, 2016 September 19/20, 2016 November 14/15, 2016 found out the true level of involvement of each member. My thanks to Emeritus Board Members Mr. Sonny Launey and Mr. Ted Thompson.

They each provided me with much insight in preparing for the board and the work involved.

To "Protect the Public" is our reason for being. How



John W. "Billy" Moore, PE Chairman

is that done? The first step is to allow only those who have met minimum requirements to become licensed. This has been done for decades by requiring a degree, passing two exams and having years of experience prior to licensure. This progression is the "Model Law" for obtaining a PE or PLS license. The term Model Law comes from NCEES. You may wonder where NCEES came from. Well it started in Louisiana! The first successful movement toward regulation of engineering practice by law is conceded to have originated with the small group of engineers who founded the Louisiana Engineering Society in New Orleans in 1898. These men were striving toward the development of legislation for the regulation of the practice of Civil Engineering and Land Surveying before the turn of the century. Although they suffered rebuffs at several sessions of the Legislature, they were successful in bringing about the passage of Louisiana's first Registration Act in 1908.

It was 1917 before the third state, Florida, came into the fold. However, by 1920 seven of the states had laws requiring registration of engineers. In that year representatives from these seven states, under the table leadership of one of Louisiana's most universally renowned engineers, Colonel Marcel Garsaud, formed the National Council of State Boards of Engineering Examiners (NCSBEE). With a short time after the founding of this organization a committee of its members drafted a "Model Registration Law," and within a few years most of the states had passed laws based on this Model Law. The Louisiana Board has always been a leader in the affairs of the National Council of Engineering Examiners, (NCEE), now known as NCEES (National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying). Louisiana Board members and the Executive Secretary regularly attend meetings of the Council and its Southern Zone and serve on committees.

The guiding principal of NCEES is to provide ease of licensure between states, since each state has different licensing requirements. Each state has different boards of registration

#### **Board Members**

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Kevin E. Crosby, PE, PLS Vice Chairman

David L. Patterson, PLS Treasurer

> Terry J. Huval, PE Secretary

Theodore H. Thompson, PE
Paul N. Hale, PhD., PE
Christopher P. Knotts, PE
Alan D. Krouse, PE
D. Scott Phillips, PE, PLS
Thomas R. Carroll, III, PE, PLS
Wilfred J. Fontenot, PLS

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#### **Board Staff**

Donna D. Sentell Executive Director

Richard Savoie, PE Deputy Executive Director

Tyson Ducote Director of Enforcement

William Hyatt Board Investigator for their engineering and surveying professionals. Some have separate boards and some boards govern more than engineering and surveying. With all the different registration board compositions, it is difficult to have everyone exactly the same. Tie to this that law making can be unpredictable, at best, not many boards want to open their law to change because other unintended changes may occur. So how do we work towards a more universal law for the United States of America? Or a better question could be how do we work towards a universal law for our world? Yes, more registrants not US citizens are requesting to be registered and more engineering graduates worldwide are taking the NCEES prepared exams.

I bring this up because it is relatively easy for a Model Law engineer or surveyor to become licensed in multiple states. NCEES has prepared for each of you a database to allow you to enter your education, test history and experience. This will help you should you want multiple jurisdiction registration. The latest plans from NCEES are to administer the professional

practice exams as a computer based test (CBT). This will occur over the next 5 years. NCEES is creating a database for entering hours of continuing professional development (CPD). To better serve the Engineers and Surveyors of Louisiana, the rules of the board (LAPELS) are being modified to change requiring biannual CPD hours to requiring annual CPD hours. While the transition may not be easy, with the help of many of you we believe the latest changes to the proposed rules will help each of you keep track of your hours and make it easier to be licensed in multiple jurisdictions.

As you can see several small changes are being made to help our professions. You can see the latest information at the national level by going to the NCEES website: http://ncees. org to stay informed. I suggest you go to the LAPELS website http://www.lapels.com and review the laws and rules, which you must be familiar with to be in compliance. You can also find much information about your profession and any changes being proposed.

I close with reminding each of you of your responsibility to the public. Let's work together to always protect it.

# <u>CHRISTOPHER KNOTTS, PE ELECTED TO NCEES</u>

hristopher Knotts, PE, was recently elected to serve a two-year term as the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES) Southern Zone Secretary/Treasurer. Knotts, a LAPELS Board Member, is the first person to be elected to a zone leadership position since Francis Roy was elected to the same position in 1987.



Christopher Knotts, PE

The NCEES Southern Zone is made up of 18 licensing boards: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida Engineering, Florida Surveying, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee Engineering, Tennessee Surveying, Texas Engineering, Texas Surveying, Virginia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

# DISCIPLINARY AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

**Tyson Ducote**, Director of Enforcement

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.



**Thomas E. Pittman, P.E.**, a professional engineer (PE–19516), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for



Tyson Ducote
Director of Enforcement

practicing and/or offering

to practice land surveying in Louisiana without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A) (1). In January 2012, Mr. Pittman prepared, sealed with his Louisiana professional engineer seal, signed and issued

to his client a map of survey which resubdivided lots for property located in Louisiana. Mr. Pittman has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to his Louisiana professional engineer license being placed on probation for a period of two years; to submit to the Board on a quarterly basis during the probation period a complete and detailed list of projects of which he provided engineering services during the preceding quarter; to submit to the Board within five business days of a Board request all documents relating to any project on any of said quarterly lists of projects; to pay-in-full any administrative costs incurred by the Board in connection with reviewing any of said documents submitted by him; to the immediate suspension of his Louisiana professional engineering license if, during the probation period, he fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until he so complies; to pay a fine of \$2,000; to pay administrative costs of \$563.82; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to immediately cease and desist the preparation, sealing (with his Louisiana professional engineer seal), signing and issuance of maps of survey or otherwise the practicing of and/or offering to practice land surveying in Louisiana until such time as he is duly licensed as a professional land surveyor by the Board; to either (i) hire a Louisiana-licensed professional land surveyor to prepare a new map of survey of the resubdivided lots, provide the new map of survey to the Board for review, provide the new map of survey to his client and the current property owner and properly file it into the parish public record after Board review, and provide satisfactory evidence of the accomplishment of these requirements to the Board or (ii) provide to the Board a letter from the current property owner indicating that they do not desire to resubdivide the lots as per Mr. Pittman's map of survey; 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.

Earthcore, LLC, an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective June 17, 2015 (EF-5778), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for practicing and offering to practice engineering and using the word "engineering" to describe its services in Louisiana without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1), (7) and (9), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B). Between May 2014 and June 16, 2015, the firm admittedly provided and offered to provide engineering services on five projects and used the word "engineering" to describe its services in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$1,000; to pay administrative costs of \$353.37; 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.

#### **MULTIPLE LAWS/RULES VIOLATIONS:**

**Deric J. Murphy, P.E.**, a professional engineer (PE-29602) and land surveyor intern (LSI-427), was subject

to disciplinary action by the Board for (a) fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a renewal license with the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1), (b) gross negligence, gross incompetence and gross misconduct in the practice of engineering in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A) (2), (c) approving and sealing design documents which are not safe for public health, property and welfare, which are not complete and accurate, which are not in conformity with accepted engineering standards or practice, and/or which do not conform to applicable laws and ordinances in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2503(C), (d) sealing, signing or issuing engineering documents not prepared by the licensee or under his responsible charge in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2503(C) and (D), 2505(C) and 2701(A) (3), (e) performing services outside his area of competence and when not qualified by education or experience in the specific technical fields of engineering involved in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2505(A) and (B), (f) sealing or signing engineering documents dealing with subject matters in which he lacks competence in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2505(C), (g) failing to comply with the Board's CPD requirements in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§3105(A)(2), (h) aiding or assisting another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(12) and (i) practicing or offering to practice engineering when not qualified in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(18). In 2013, Mr. Murphy sealed, signed and issued a set of engineering design plans for a church in Louisiana which were submitted to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal (LSFM) for review and which included a number of material deficiencies. The plans were prepared by an unlicensed person who was not employed by Mr. Murphy and were submitted to the LSFM by the unlicensed person, who was the only person to communicate with the LSFM about the plans. Mr. Murphy did not exercise responsible charge over the preparation of the plans by the unlicensed person and did not communicate with the LSFM's plan reviewer regarding the deficiencies in the plans. Since at least 2011, Mr. Murphy has been designing buildings and/or building systems in Louisiana. In 2013, Mr. Murphy submitted to the Board his 2013 Louisiana professional engineer license renewal invoice, confirming thereon that (i) he had met the Board's requirements for CPD for active status for the renewal period of 2011 to 2013, (ii) if selected for a CPD audit by the Board he would be required to submit the appropriate documentation to validate completion of all CPD requirements and (iii) failure to comply with such CPD requirements or any false statements made by him could be cause for disciplinary action by the Board. In 2013, the Board audited Mr. Murphy's CPD records. In responding to the CPD audit, Mr. Murphy admitted that he had failed to earn the required minimum of eight PDHs in Life Safety Code, building codes and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines for the biennial licensure renewal period of 2011 to 2013. Mr. Murphy has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$3,500; to pay administrative costs of \$1,240.70; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz; to successfully complete the

Board's online Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to immediately cease and desist committing violations of the above referenced laws and/or rules; 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.

Quality Engineering & Surveying, LLC, a professional engineering firm (EF-4011) and professional land surveying firm (VF-645), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for (a) having an employee/owner/supervising professional who commits gross negligence, gross incompetence and gross misconduct in the practice of engineering in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(C), to wit La. R.S. 37:698(A)(2); (b) having an employee/owner/supervising professional who approves and seals design documents which are not safe for public health, property and welfare, which are not complete and accurate, which are not in conformity with accepted engineering standards or practice, and/or which do not conform to applicable laws and ordinances in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(C), to wit La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6) and LAC Title 46:LXI§2503(C); (c) having an employee/ owner/supervising professional who seals, signs or issues engineering documents not prepared by the licensee or under his responsible charge in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(C), to wit La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6) and LAC Title 46:LXI§2503(C) and (D), 2505(C) and 2701(A)(3); (d) having an employee/owner/supervising professional who performs services outside his area of competence and when not qualified by education or experience in the specific technical fields of engineering involved in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(C), to wit La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6) and LAC Title 46:LXI§2505(A) and (B); (e) having an employee/owner/ supervising professional who seals or signs engineering documents dealing with subject matters in which he lacks competence in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(C), to wit La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6) and LAC Title 46:LXI§2505(C); (f) aiding or assisting another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(12) and (g) having an employee/owner/supervising professional who practices or offers to practice engineering when not qualified in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(C), to wit La. R.S. 37:698(A)(18). In 2013, Deric J. Murphy, P.E. (on behalf of and in the name of the firm) sealed, signed and issued a set of engineering design plans for a church in Louisiana which were submitted to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal (LSFM) for review and which included a number of material deficiencies. The plans were prepared by an unlicensed person who was not employed by the firm or Mr. Murphy and were submitted to the LSFM by the unlicensed person, who was the only person to communicate with the LSFM about the plans. Mr. Murphy did not exercise responsible charge over the preparation of the plans by the unlicensed person and did not communicate with the LSFM's plan reviewer regarding the deficiencies in the plans. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$2,500; to pay administrative costs of \$1,240.71; to have each of its supervising professionals successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz; to have each of its supervising professionals successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to immediately cease and desist committing violations of the

above referenced laws and/or rules; 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.

### AIDING OR ASSISTING ANOTHER PERSON IN VIOLATING LAWS/RULES OF THE BOARD:

Ronny C. Haisty, Jr., P.E., P.L.S., a professional engineer (PE-29307) and professional land surveyor (PLS-4915), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for aiding or assisting another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(12). Between May 2014 and June 16, 2015, Earthcore, LLC (an unlicensed firm) admittedly provided and offered to provide engineering services on five projects and used the word "engineering" to describe its services in Louisiana. The firm subsequently became licensed effective June 17, 2015 (EF-5778). Mr. Haisty was an employee and the manager of the firm. Mr. Haisty is now the supervising professional of the firm. Mr. Haisty has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$1,000; to pay administrative costs of \$353.37; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; 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.

R C H Company, Inc., a professional engineering firm (EF-3036) and professional land surveying firm (VF-530), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for aiding or assisting another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(12). Between May 2014 and June 16, 2015, Earthcore, LLC (an unlicensed firm) admittedly provided and offered to provide engineering services on five projects and used the word "engineering" to describe its services in Louisiana. Earthcore, LLC subsequently became licensed effective June 17, 2015 (EF-5778). Earthcore, LLC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the firm, and the firm admittedly negotiated and entered into the contracts with the clients for those projects on behalf of Earthcore, LLC. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$500; to pay administrative costs of \$353.37; to have each of its supervising professionals successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz; to have each of its supervising professionals successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; 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.

#### **NEW REGISTRANTS**

Congratulations to the following newly licensed and certified for the period of 1/16/16 through 4/15/16

Drews, John Wesley, PE

#### LAND SURVEYOR INTERNS

Crochet, Beau Laughlin, LSI Wheat, Derek Schuyler, LSI

#### PROFESSIONAL SURVEYOR

Baronne, Dillon Anthony, PLS Chiasson, Evan Michael, PLS Driggers, Michael Adam, PLS English, Thomas Anthony, PLS Kirkland, Shane Joseph, PLS LeBlanc, Steve Aury, PLS Ortego, Terry J., PLS Reulet, Jean Louis, PLS Roberts, Steve E., PLS Thurner, Chad Michael, PLS Wilson, Ross Andrew, PLS

#### SURVEYING FIRMS

Hargrove and Associates, Inc., VF Krebs Layout Services Inc., VF Mercer Software Solutions, LLC, VF Percheron Professional Services LLC, VF Quantum Spatial, VF

#### ENGINEER INTERNS

Adams, Kailee Elizabeth, El Amendola, Ariel Salvador, EI Amini, Sina, EI Banks, Christopher Paul, EI Belanger, Sarah Elizabeth, El Bell, Walter B, EI Bertrand, Donovan Craig, EI Blanchard, Clay M., EI Blanchard, Emily Jane, EI Boardman, Alexander James, EI Boothe, John Thomas, EI Breaux, Caitlin Louise, EI Brent, James Edward, EI Broussard, Clark Richard, EI Burford, David Stephen, EI Busch, Gunnar Robert R., EI Campos, Dan, EI Carreras, Nolan Matthew, EI Castedo, Hernan Mario, El Cavalier, Taylor Paul, EI Chimiak, Michael John, EI Clark, Jay Alexander, El Coe, Rayne Michael, El Coleman, Bryan Cooper, El Comeaux, Walter St. Julien, EI Conable, Nicholas Kyle, EI D'Aunoy, Dalton Beau, EI Daigle, Cleve Michael, EI Engler, HaLeigh, EI Erickson, Ryan R., EI Everett, Thomas Oliver, EI Falcon, Nick, EI Fusilier, Jared Matthew, EI Galatas, Joel Martin, El Hamilton, James, EI Harmon, Ivy Alene, EI Hartenstein, Darby Elizabeth, EI Haynes, Hayden Garrison, El Hingle, David Richardson, EI Hoffpauir, Joseph Michael, EI Holman, Mark, EI Husby, Britton Duane, EI James, Derek Manning, EI Joyner, Robert Lee Ried, EI Junker, Jordan David, El Kaltakjian, Talene M, El Keightley, Andrew Bennett, EI Kennedy, Derek Cattar, EI Kinney, Luke Douglas, EI Kissner, Mary Grace, El Kratzer, Christopher Jude, El Lawrence, Hagan Hughes, EI LeCoq, Dane Matthew, El Li, Wenmei, El Linderman, Steven Allen, El Major, William Michael, EI Martinez, Ryan Alexander, EI McGough, James I, EI Menier, Joshua Nathaniel, EI Miano, Alice Elizabeth, EI Montelepre, Stephen John, EI Muntean, Christopher J., EI Murray, Katharine Anne, EI Nguyen, Thanh Tan, EI

Norton, Caleb Michael, EI

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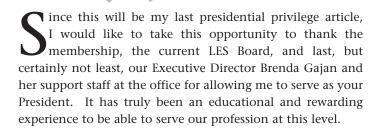
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# PRESIDENTIAL PRIVILEGE

Heather R. Klingman, PE



So, with the passing of another year, comes the start of another state legislative session and all of the good and bad that comes with it. This year, of particular concern to our Profession was Senate Bill 59. If passed, this bill would have forced LAPELS to allow an exception to the existing, longstanding requirement



Heather R. Klingman, PE Louisiana Engineering Society President

that, in order to be licensed as an engineer in Louisiana, you must successfully pass the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam. As you can imagine, there was a lot of concern within LES as to the detrimental effects of this bill had it passed. Concerned LES members, along with our Legislative Committee and our newly retained lobbyist, Haynie & Associates, put a lot of hard work and effort into making sure that our collective voices were heard and that the members of the legislature understood the detrimental effects that this bill would have had not only on the Engineering profession, but more importantly, on the Health, Safety, and Welfare of the public that we serve. Ultimately the bill was voluntarily deferred in committee.

I truly feel that had we not had a stronger voice, led by Haynie & Associates, at the capital this session, this bill would have likely passed. As such, please take a moment to think about the value that our new lobbyists bring to the table and consider supporting these efforts by contribution to the LES Legislative fundraiser.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

#### May 2016

- 2 Committee Budget Requests due to State Office
- 6 Early Registration deadline for LES Annual Meeting
- 7-10 MATHCOUNTS National Competition Washington, DC

#### **June 2016**

- 4 LES Orientation & Planning Meeting Hilton, Pensacola Beach
- 4 LES & LEF Board Meeting Hilton, Pensacola Beach
- 5-7 Statewide Annual Meeting & Multi-State Conference Hilton, Pensacola Beach
- 21-26 NSPE Leader Conference & Annual Meeting Dallas, Texas

# **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

#### **Baton Rouge Chapter**

William A. Beem, EI Associate Member Under 30 Christopher B. Maestri, EI Associate Member Under 30

Chelsea D. Pritchett, EI Associate Member Under 30

Joseph Yarbrough, EI Associate Member Under 30 Allison Morency, Student Member Peter C. Mutty, Individual Sustaining Tyler J. Saltzman, Student Member

Marcus Bonton, PE Member Jolie Maberry, PE Member Gregory Trahan, PE Member Grantel G. Gibbs, Student Member

#### **Lafayette Chapter**

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Grady P. Geoffroy, PE Member Darlin Hoback, PE Member David B. Stelly, PE Member Joy Babafemi, Student Member Emil Fonseca, Student Member Michael S. Meric, Student Member Allison Morency, Student Member Tyler J. Saltzman, Student Member

#### **Lake Charles Chapter**

Jada O. Brockheoft, PE Member

#### **Monroe Chapter**

Gary B. Jones, EI Associate Member

**New Orleans Chapter** John R. Eustis, PE Member Christopher W. Fancher, PE Member James A. Fellows, PE Member Vincent Hamblin, PE Member Daniel Hill, PE Member Maffitt K. Schlafly, PE Member Christopher P. Tissue, PE Member William Weidner, PE Member Joseph L. Pettus, Sudent Member

#### **Shreveport Chapter**

Gordon Rockwell More, PE Member

#### Non-Resident

Kenneth E. Breaux, EI Associate Member Lawrence E. Stephens, PE Member

# **SOCIETY NEWS**

Brenda Gajan, LES Executive Director



# Spread the Word about LES!!!

Sponsor a new LES Member by inviting your colleagues to join you as a member of the only organization representing the interest of all engineering professionals.

- > Invite them to join you at a chapter event
- > Encourage them to visit the LES and NSPE websites
- > Send the State Office a list of colleagues you would like to nominate for membership and we will send them membership information.

We appreciate your participation in membership recruitment!

# CONNECT WITH LES ONLINE!



Follow Us on Twitter! @laengsoc



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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.

## **ALEXANDRIA CHAPTER**

By Heath McGuffee, PE

s we are drawing to the close of another LES year, I would like to take this opportunity express my gratitude to all of those in the Alexandria Chapter that have helped make this year such a success. We've had a lot happen in our chapter this year with the hosting of JESC, Mathcounts, scholarship awards, etc., and I am truly thankful for those of you that made it all possible.

At our last Chapter meeting, we had Mr. Billy Moore present our newest P.E., Jacob Dillehay, with his certificate. I would like to once again thank Mr. Billy and Ms. Brenda for attending and congratulate Jacob on this great accomplishment.

Our annual golf tournament is scheduled for May 6th at Oak Wing Golf Club. This is a fun event for all skill levels. It doesn't matter if you play every day like some of our retired members or once a year at this tournament like me, you will have a good time. This is our primary fundraiser for Mathcounts, so if you would like to participate as either a player or a sponsor, please contact the Golf

Tournament Chairman, Luke Miller at luke.miller@mmlh.com.

Our final meeting of the LES year will be held on May 3rd with Mr. Brad Sticker, P.E. with the DOTD as our presenter. Mr.

Sticker will be discussing some of the ongoing levee projects in our area, and we look forward to hearing from him. I hope to see everyone there.





## <u>Baton Rouge Chapter</u>

By Jacob M. Loeske, PE

pring is upon us...I think?!? I'm trying to determine if we are in Kansas with these winds, Washington with the cloudy-overcast rains for weeks at a time, or South Carolina with the cool sunny weeks? I then come back to reality and realize that it must be another coined weather phenomenon (El Nino's or La Nina's siblings maybe?). Nevertheless, I'm just glad that we engineers are not responsible for sealing weather forecasts!

Our March Past President and License Ceremony Luncheon was a very well attended function with over 115 present. I would like to thank our President-Elect, Shaun Sherrow, for conducting the meeting in my absence. Congratulations to Mr. Ken Perret on receiving the Past President Gavel Plaque from our current Past-President, Chad Bacas. We can't forget the licensees as our LAPELS representatives Chris Knotts and Alan Krouse helped us introduce and congratulate 7 new Engineering Interns, 1 Land Surveyor Intern, 5 Professional Engineers and 3 Professional Land Surveyors. The luncheon was concluded with our guest speaker, Mr. Rudy Simoneaux – Engineer Manager for the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, presenting on "Developing the Path Forward on the Mississippi River Sediment Diversions".

The BR Chapter officers have been busy planning and conducting our 7th Annual Crawfish Boil at Walk-Ons. We were fortunate



to have some beautiful weather, great company, and excellent crawfish. Every year the attendance grows as the local practitioners get to interact with our future engineers from LSU and Southern in a casual setting. The Baton Rouge Chapter



also pulled off the 26th Annual William A. Wintz Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament escaping the scattered showers at Copper Mill Golf Course. Thanks to all the volunteers and corporate sponsors that joined us for the day and donated hole sponsor signs. Special thanks to Trinity Lightweight, Quality Sitework Materials, Dow Chemical, T. Baker Smith, PSI, and Chef/Engineer/LAPELS Deputy Executive Director Richard Savoie for donating lunch, beverages, prizes, and dinner. With everyone's help and contributions, we were able to profit \$5,500.00, which will fund our annual BR Chapter Scholarships for 2 LSU and 2 Southern engineering students.

Our May 26th LES/ASCE Joint Luncheon will be held at Juban's Restaurant with Honorable Mayor/President Kip Holden as our guest speaker. An email will be sent to our membership two weeks prior to the event with registration information. Please register promptly as this event is sure to reach max capacity with 120 in attendance! On behalf of the LES BR Board, we look forward to seeing everyone at this functions!



## **BAYOU CHAPTER**

By Chad Hadaway, PE

The Bayou Chapter is sustaing its membership throughout the trying economic times that most of our state chapters are experiencing. It is quite a site to drive through our region and witness the idle assets lining the local water ways. The Bayou Chapter strongly encourages the engineering community to drive to this year's Multi-State Conference and support the Louisiana Engineering Society. This will also help drive up the demand for local petroleum products, albeit momentary.

The Annual Bayou Chapter Golf Tournament has been rescheduled from April 15th to May 13th at LaTour Golf Club due to 6 inches of rain the day before. We thank our sponsors and teams for understanding and agreeing to continue their support. We are fortunate and we picked up an additional four teams that will make this tournament our largest to date with over twenty teams. We would like to thank the following food and beverages sponsors for making it the largest event to date:

- 1. Quality Sitework Materials Steven Gros
- 2. RSI Global Jonathan Nobile
- 3. Foret Contracting Group Benton Foret
- 4. E3 Electrical Stan Whitney
- 5. Leonard Chauvin, P.E., PLS Trey Chauvin
- 6. Duplantis Design Group Paula Rome

- 7. Buquet Distributing Billy Simmons
- 8. Crescent Crown Jamie Rodrigue
- 9. YKM Consulting Nathan Montgomery.

The current Chapter Officers have agreed to continue for the 2016-2017 term with Edwin Lutring III graciously volunteering to serve as 1st Vice President. The 2016-2017 Chapter Officers are as follows:

- 1. Chad M. Hadaway President
- 2. Edwin Lutring, III 1st Vice President
- 3. Stan Whitney 2nd Vice President
- 4. Michael D'Angelo Secretary Treasurer
- 5. Melanie Caillouet MathCOUNTS Coordinator

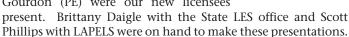
It is extremely important that we encourage our younger chapter members to patriciate in serving on the local and state boards to continue LES's vision for future generations. Recent proposed legislation has shown the importance of our organization as the advocate for all licensed engineers in the State of Louisiana. After participating in the grassroots legislative efforts, we continue the pride in the ability to call ourselves members of the Louisiana Engineering Society.

s our 2015/2016 term comes to a close, I would like to thank the Monroe Chapter officers, members, and volunteers for a wonderful year! It has been a pleasure serving as Chapter President.

At our February luncheon, Rod Scott with Smart Vent Products gave an informative presentation. His presentation was on construction in floodways. This was an appropriate presentation because in the 48 hours prior to our scheduled March meeting, Monroe received over 20" of rainfall. Because most of our members and our guest speaker (Michael Vallan with the Attorney General's Office) would have needed a boat to get to our meeting, we decided to cancel March's meeting.

We returned back to our regularly scheduled meetings on April 14th with David Putnam from JABAR Corporation giving a presentation titled "Solving the Mysteries of Inflow and Sewer Gas". Once again, this was another timely topic. Also at our

April meeting, we were honored to have with us a LES Scholarship recipient and three new licensees. Mary Voisin was our scholarship recipient. Clay Blanchard (FE), Hagan Lawrence (FE), and Jeremy Gourdon (PE) were our new licensees



Our final meeting for the 2015-2016 year is scheduled for May 12th. Michael Vallan will again be attempting to make it to Monroe to give his presentation on the Public Bid Law. This is a topic that affects all of us so it should be a great way to close out our year.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as Chapter President and I look forward to the start of another successful year for LES!







## **ORLEANS CHAPTER**

By Robert Mejia, PE

This spring has been a good time for the New Orleans We've had several good meetings with interesting topics. The Deans of UNO, Tulane and LSU together with a STEM educator from Metairie engaged in a panel discussion led by an Entergy Sr. Vice President to discuss trends in engineering education. A local consulting firm owner and forensic engineer provided an ethics presentation to the chapter meeting attendees at a luncheon at the Southern Yacht Club. The latest meeting was the 2017 Coastal Master Plan Preview given by a representative from the LA Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. Our last meeting of the 2015-2017 Session will be a Friday luncheon where we will award two scholarships to regional engineering students. The presentation topic will be Continuing Advancements in Motorsports Helmets presented by a Snell Foundation



Leading the LES-NO Chapter Board during the 2015-2016 Session has been very rewarding for me. We have had a very cooperative board, we've worked together to host a successful golf tournament, planned and held

monthly meetings with interesting topics, and given several scholarships to worthy engineering students.

According to the Chapter's Bylaws: "The objectives of the Chapter shall be the professional improvement of its members and the advancement of the art and science of engineering...". I hope that you, the general membership of LES, have received some benefit from our efforts and encourage you to join LES activities in the future. I'd like to thank you for your support and wish you a safe and fun-filled summer.





MAY 2016 • LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL

# <u>Shreveport Chapter</u>

By Tyler Comeaux, PE

The Shreveport Chapter of LES has hosted several events in the last couple of months.

First, our annual Math Counts competition was held on February 20th at the Louisiana Tech Shreveport Campus. We hosted ten (10) schools/team and a total of 100 students from our region. Congratulations to this year's individual winners (1st - Sumin Kwak, 2nd - Sameer Tirumala, 3rd - Grace Sun) and our team winners (1st - Caddo Middle Magnet, 2nd - Southfield School, 3rd - Benton Middle School). In addition, several Les Shreveport members volunteered at this year's Region 1 Science and Engineering Fair at the Bossier Civic Center. Congratulations to this year's LES Shreveport 1st place - Highest Engineering Achievement winner, Srikhar Chilukuri, and our 2nd Place - Engineering Achievement winner, Ankur Khanna. Thanks again to all our volunteers and local sponsors of our educational activities; without you, none of these activities would have been possible.

We also held our annual LES Shreveport Chapter Banquet on February 26, 2016 where the City of Shreveport Honorable Mayor Ollie S. Tyler was our keynote speaker. Mayor Tyler discussed her variety of experiences and accomplishments over her first year as Mayor and also discussed what she has envisioned for the remainder of her term.



LES Shreveport joined forces with ASCE Shreveport for the March 9th luncheon where LAPELS's Chris Knotts, P.E. gave a very informative presentation on Engineering Ethics. We also held a chapter luncheon on April 13th where we had Eric England, PPM of the Port of Caddo Bossier give a great presentation on the past lessons learned and the future of the Port's growth to sustain their great economic engine for Northwest Louisiana.

The Shreveport Chapter of LES will be looking for 2016-2017 Officers, please contact me, Tyler Comeaux, at tcomeaux@bkiusa.com if you have anyone interested in joining our LES Shreveport Chapter officer team.

# MEET GLENN A. TURNER, PE



lenn A. Turner, PE, has been a member of LES since 2001, shortly after moving back to Louisiana and going to work for Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixson in its Alexandria office. When he was hired at MML&H, Glenn was told by the late Greg Whittington, PE that MML&H was a longtime supporter of LES and that not only would the firm pay his LES dues, but it expected him to be active in the organization. Since that time, Glenn has served in nearly every office in the LES Alexandria Chapter, has served as a State Director, Secretary/Treasurer, 2nd Vice President, and 1st Vice President of LES, and as the emcee for the Alexandria Mathcounts competition and the state Mathcounts competition when held in Alexandria. Glenn maintains that the best office in all of LES is to be the Hole Watcher at the Alexandria Chapter's annual Mathcounts golf tournament.

Glenn earned a BS in Agricultural Engineering from ULL in 1992 and a MS in Agricultural Engineering from Texas A&M in 1994. He is currently a Senior Project Manager and Vice President at MML&H. Prior to joining MML&H, he worked for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in its Beaumont Regional Office and the City of Beaumont, TX. Glenn's primary areas of expertise are water, wastewater, and natural gas utilities and he is licensed in both Louisiana and

Texas. In addition to LES, Glenn is also a member of the American Water Works Association and the Louisiana Gas Association. He was named the Young Engineer of the Year by the TSPE Sabine Chapter in 2001.



Glenn A. Turner, PE 2016-2017 Louisiana Engineering Society President

Away from work, Glenn is a member of Hopewell United Methodist Church in Elizabeth, LA, where he is a certified United Methodist Lay Servant, Yellow Pine Masonic Lodge No. 282 F&AM in Oakdale, LA, where he is a Past Master and current Secretary, Alexandria York Rite Masonic bodies, and Gideons International. Glenn enjoys gardening, woodworking, hunting, and occasionally brewing beer. His goal is to one day take a long road trip with enough spare time to stop and read all of the historical markers along the way. Glenn is a native of Elizabeth, LA, where he currently resides. His wife Tricia Baronet Turner is originally from Crowley, LA. They have been married for 23 years and they have one son, Jacob, age 17.

# CHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Susan H. Richard, PE, Scholarship Committee Chair

his spring LES provided six \$500 scholarships to engineering students from three Louisiana engineering colleges. The scholarship winners were selected based on their financial need, their academic achievements and their participation in student engineering, civic and community service organizations. Funds for these scholarships came from the dues check off contributions of LES members and individual donations.



Susan H. Richard, PE Scholarship Committee Chair

Charles Byrne Breanna Bell Mary Voisin

Harry Pieterson Paula-Marie Mensah Southern University Keva Powell Southern University

Louisiana State University Louisiana State University

Louisiana Tech Southern University We commend these individuals for their hard work!

We ask that all LES members support engineering scholarship funding through the dues check-off on your dues statement. You contributions help ensure that engineering education continues to thrive in Louisiana.

# **BALLOT TO ELECT LES MEMBERS**

ct 721 passed in the 1975 Legislature amended Chapter 10 to Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 by adding thereto a new Part VII, Selection of Professional Services for Public Contract. Three Boards - Architect, Engineer and Landscape Architect Selection – are authorized under this Act. Each board selects persons or firms to perform certain professional services for public contract.

The Act refers to the Louisiana Engineering Society, specifying the following: The Louisiana Engineers Selection Board shall be composed of six members. Two members shall be named in an election conducted by the Louisiana Engineering Society at which all properly licensed engineers residing in the State of Louisiana may vote for positions to be filled. LES has two positions to fill this year, one term ending June 30, 2017, and one ending December 31, 2017.

The LES Nominating Committee nominates Ali M. Mustapha, P.E. for the July 1st position and Jim Ferguson, P.E. for the January 1st position.

Each Louisiana Registered Professional Engineer working and living in the State is eligible and urged to vote.

Space on the ballot is provided for write-in candidates. A write-in candidate must be a LA registered Professional Engineer and must have agreed to serve if elected. No employee or stockholder shall be eligible to receive agency contracts during the term of his service, and for a period of six months thereafter.

#### LES ENGINEERS SELECTION BOARD BALLOT

- 1. Mark and return to LES, 9643 Brookline Ave., Ste. 116, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, by June 30, 2016. Late ballots will not be accepted.
- 2. Make sure your name and address are on the envelope that forwards the ballot to LES. Ballot signature is not required.

Vote for One Candidate in Each Position

#### **POSITION ONE**

(Term July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017)

- Ali M. Mustapha, PE
  - For Write-in Candidate

#### **POSITION TWO**

(Term January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017)

- ☐ Jim Ferguson, PE
  - For Write-in Candidate

# You're Invited!

to the 13th Annual

#### **MULTI-STATE ENGINEERING SOCIETY CONFERENCE**

Hilton Pensacola Beach • Pensacola, FL • June 5-7, 2016



#### **Earn 12 Professional Development Hours**

Make your reservations now for you and your family to join us at the beautiful Hilton Hotel in Pensacola Beach, Florida. It is expected that the Conference will be attended by hundreds of professional engineers from throughout Alabama, Georgia, Florida and Mississippi. The attendees will include Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, and Safety Engineers. These engineers represent private practice, industry, government, education and construction. Fulfill your continuing education requirements by attending one of two concurrent seminar opportunities. Each track will offer twelve hours of professional development hours for civil, electrical and mechanical engineers. See the LES website for up to date class descriptions. Spend your afternoon enjoying the beach with your family or practicing your swing on the golf course. There is plenty of fun in the sun activities to enjoy!

#### **Consider Sponsoring an Event**

Consider supporting the Multi-State Annual Meeting by becoming a Gold, Silver, or Bronze sponsor at the levels listed below, and in return for your support, you will receive recognition at the Installation Banquet. Also, your company name will be prominently displayed as a sponsor throughout the conference. See the LES website for sponsorship information.

#### **SPONSORSHIP TYPE**

Gold Sponsor @ \$500 Silver Sponsor @ \$250 Bronze Sponsor @ \$150

#### Plan to Attend the Exhibitor Meet & Greet

The Exhibitor Meet & Greet is an excellent opportunity to network with other engineers, and have some one on one time with the representatives of the companies that are exhibiting at the conference. The Exhibitor Meet & Greet is also a family event; while you enjoy the cash bar and hor d'oeuvres, the kids will be entertained with floor games such as Pop a Shot Basketball and Air Hockey and will participate in crafts making Shrink Art, sun visor crafts and water transfer tattoos which will appeal to a wide range of ages.

#### **Everyone's Invited to the Family Beach Party**

Last year's family fun night was a huge hit, so we are bringing back Laser Skeet Shoot, in addition to a Pirate themed Water Balloon Sling Shot and lighted Frisbees and footballs. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served, along with all of the ingredients to make your own s'mores, right at the fire pit. This is a non-ticketed event, so everyone is invited, just be sure to include how many people will attend on your registration form. We hope to see you down by the pool under the pergola!

#### **Installation Banquet**

The newly elected Board members for 2016/17 will be installed at the banquet on Tuesday afternoon by NSPE delegate, Michael Aitken, PE. Buy your tickets in advance as this event is one you surely do not want to miss.

#### **Resort Amenities**

Rather you're relaxing on the white sand beach, or soaking up the sun at one of the two outdoor pools with a children's play area, you are sure to have a breath taking view. The Hilton has several on-site property restaurants including H2O Cajun-Asian Grill, Bonsai Sushi Bar and Latitudes Pool Bar. We offer Kids Club Activities every day of the week; from crafts to cookie decorating to movies, the kids are sure to be entertained. Looking to do a little shopping? We have you covered there too, with local shops within walking distance from the hotel.

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NSPE/State Society Member Registration		<b>Amt.</b> \$250		Total
NSPE/State Society Member Registration  Non-Member Registration:  Fees include one year membership to LES			After 5/06	Total
Non-Member Registration:		\$250	<b>After 5/06</b> \$300	Total
Non-Member Registration:  Fees include one year membership to LES		\$250 \$365	\$300 \$410	Total
Non-Member Registration:  Fees include one year membership to LES  Student Member Registration: Must show I.D. at check-in	Attending	\$250 \$365 \$35	\$300 \$410	Total
Non-Member Registration: Fees include one year membership to LES  Student Member Registration: Must show I.D. at check-in  Monday Family Beach Party: must provide number attending	Attending	\$250 \$365 \$35 N/C	\$300 \$410 \$60	Total
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Make Checks payable to "Louisiana Engineering Society" and mail to 9643 Brookline Avenue, Suite 116, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. Email with credit card information to les@les-state.org or fax to (225) 924-2049.

For further information contact: LES (225) 924-2021 or visit our website at www.les-state.org.

Registration fees must accompany this form. No refunds after May 6, 2016.

Call 850-916-2999 for Reservations. Use Group Code LES



# 13th Annual Multi-State Engineering Conference Hilton Pensacola Beach, Pensacola, FL, June 5-7, 2016

#### **EXHIBITOR BOOTH REGISTRATION FORM**

Firm Name:					
Address:					
Phone Number:					
E-Mail:Web Sit					
Contact Person:					
Exhibit Representative					
Exhibit Representative		Ba	dge Name		
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	Number Attending	Amount	Late fee After 5/6		
Exhibit Space Rental Fee \$650		\$650	\$700 _		
per 8x10 foot space. (Booths consisting of ID Sign, Skirted 6 foot table, 2 chairs, and trash of the space of	can)				
Monday LES General Membership Luncheon		\$20	\$30		
Monday Golf Tournament		\$100			
Monday Family Beach Party: must provide number attending		N/C			
Tuesday LES Installation Luncheon		\$40	\$50		
Florida Fresh Mahi Chicken Napoleon					
		TOTAL FEES		\$	
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# ENGINEERS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE LEGISLATIVE FUND RAISER

Chris Richard, PE

In the last few years our Profession, the licensure process, and the licensure laws and rules have been attacked by special interest groups and by individuals who do not want to comply with the licensure Laws & Rules to practice engineering. Compliance with the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board's (LAPELS) laws and Rules is paramount to safeguard life, health, and property and to promote the public welfare.



Chris Richard, PE

This year is no different as we have had to once again defend our profession from outside interest. Led by the LES Legislative Committee with the assistance of our newly retained lobbyist. Havnie and Associates we have been successful in protecting the engineering profession this varieties.

lobbyist, Haynie and Associates, we have been successful in protecting the engineering profession this year. The battle is far from over, but we have definitely had a stronger voice at the capital this session.

We would like to thank all of those that have donated to our legislative efforts. All engineers benefit from these efforts and we encourage others to donate and help LES continue to protect our profession.

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# CAPITOL VIEW: FROM HAYNIE AND ASSOCIATES

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overnor John Bel Edwards called the legislature into a special session in February to raise revenue and they were successful to some degree in closing much of the general fund budget shortfall for fiscal year (FY) 15-16 but an estimated \$700 Million shortfall remains for the FY 16-17.

The legislature are currently in regular session March 14th and adjourn June 6th. One bill that was of particular concern to the LES membership, SB 59 by Danny Martiny, was voluntarily deferred in committee. This legislation was opposed by LES and NSPE as it would have force LAPELS to allow an experience exception to the current longstanding requirement that to be licensed as an engineer in Louisiana you must pass the FE exam. Another bill of particular interest which we hope to see pass this session is SB 283 by Sharon Hewitt, which closes a loophole in the LAPELS licensing requirements related to military experience. At time of press this bill has passed the Senate and waiting House a committee hearing.

With a \$700 Million shortfall remaining for FY 16-17, the state budget will need to be



passed with major cuts this session, as by the constitution the legislature cannot raise additional revenue until we get out of the regular session June 6th. The Governor has expressed his intention to call the legislature into special session in June, to raise additional revenue including infrastructure funding. The legislature will have to agree to the special session which is receiving push back from House conservative leadership at this time.

Please be in the lookout and be willing to make a phone call or send an email in response to any "call to action" emails you receive from LES.

# ATHCOUNTS<sup>®</sup> COMPETITION

Becky Johnson,

he 2016 Louisiana State MATHCOUNTS Competition was held in Pineville March 18, 2016. There were 32 schools that participated from around the state, totaling 109 students.

Participating schools were:

A.E. Phillips Laboratory School (Monroe Chapter) Alexandria Country Day School (Alexandria Chapter) Ascension Episcopal School (Lafayette Chapter) Bayou Community Academy (Bayou Chapter) Benton Middle School (Shreveport Chapter)
Boyet Junior High School (New Orleans Chapter)
Caddo Middle Magnet (Shreveport Chapter)
Cedar Creek School (Monroe Chapter) David Thibodaux STEM Magnet Academy (Lafayette Chapter) DeRidder Junior High School (Lake Charles Chapter) Episcopal School of Acadiana (Lafayette Chapter) Evergreen Junior High School (Bayou Chapter) F.K. White Middle School (Lake Charles Chapter) Glasgow Middle School (Baton Rouge Chapter)
Grace Christian School (Alexandria Chapter)
Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies (New Orleans Chapter) Houma Junior High School (Bayou Chapter) J.H. Williams Middle School (Lafayette Chapter) Lake Castle North Private School (New Orleans Chapter) Lake Castle Private School (New Orleans Chapter) Larose-Cut Off Middle School (Bayou Chapter) Maplewood Middle School (Lake Charles Chapter)
Natchitoches Magnet School (Alexandria Chapter)
Ouachita Parish Junior High School (Monroe Chapter) Our Lady of Fatima School (Lafayette Chapter) Our Lady of Mercy School (Baton Rouge Chapter) Our Lady Queen of Heaven School (Lake Charles Chapter) Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology Academy (New Orleans Chapter) Southfield School (Shreveport Chapter) S.J. Welsh Middle School (Lake Charles Chapter) St. Thomas More Catholic School (Baton Rouge Chapter) Tioga Junior High School (Alexandria Chapter)

#### The top 12 individuals who competed in the Countdown Round were:

John Kwon - Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies (New Orleans Chapter) Shreya Reshamwala – Our Lady of Mercy School (Baton Rouge Chapter) Jean Ross Normandy – Our Lady of Fatima School (Lafayette Chapter) Amanda Meng – A.É. Phillips Laboratory School (Monroe Chapter) Andrew Bourque - Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology (New Orleans Chapter) Steven Geo – Glasgow Middle School (Baton Rouge Chapter) Prokkawn Majumdar – Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies (New Orleans Chapter) Daniel Barfield – Our Lady of Mercy (Baton Rouge Chapter)
Karen Baker – Episcopal School of Acadiana (Lafayette Chapter) Grace Sun – Caddo Middle Magnet (Shreveport Chapter) Cindy Zhang – Glasgow Middle School (Baton Rouge Chapter) Sameer Tirumala – Caddo Middle Magnet (Shreveport Chapter)

#### The top 6 teams were:

- 6. Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology (New Orleans Chapter)
- 5. Caddo Middle Magnet (Shreveport Chapter)
- 4. Episcopal School of Acadiana (Lafayette Chapter)
- 3. Our Lady of Mercy School (Baton Rouge Chapter)
- 2. Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies (New Orleans Chapter)
- 1. Glasgow Middle School (Baton Rouge Chapter)

#### Top 4 individuals and LA representatives for the National Competition in Boston, MA, on May 8th are:

- 4. Amanda Meng A.E. Phillips Laboratory School (Monroe Chapter)
- 3. Jean Ross Normand Our Lady of Fatima (Lafayette Chapter)
- 2. Shreya Reshamwala Our Lady of Mercy (Baton Rouge Chapter)
- 1. John Kwon Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies (New Orleans Chapter)

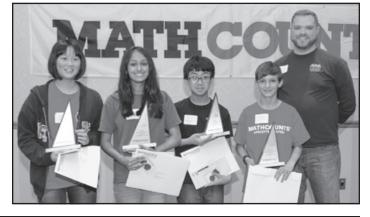
The coach from Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies (New Orleans Chapter), Ms. Karen Impastato, will be the Louisiana team coach.

#### The top 2 countdown round winners were:

- 2. Amanda Meng A.E. Phillips Laboratory School (Monroe Chapter)
- 1. Shreya Reshamwala Our Lady of Mercy (Baton Rouge Chapter)

#### The Mathbee team winner was:

Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies (New Orleans Chapter)



#### CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THESE STUDENTS AND TO ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS

#### MATHCOUNTS could not be put on without the dedicated help of many volunteers and support from the community. A big thank you to the following volunteers and sponsors:

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**Daniel E. Mobley, CAE**, Executive Director American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana

#### Let's put the budget "crisis" in perspective

A lot of people recently have been talking about the budget "crisis" in state government, but nothing puts a crisis into perspective more than a real crisis.

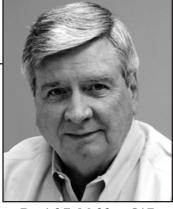
In March, a monster weather system moved into Louisiana, dumping four months' worth of rain in four days. North Louisiana was hit especially hard, as Monroe recorded 27 inches. The rains easily defeated a half-million sandbags, and the floods overwhelmed dozens of communities, especially those along the Interstate 20 corridor from Shreveport to Monroe. Small creeks became raging rivers, and roadways became navigable only by boat.

The Louisiana National Guard and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries rescued more than 5,000 citizens in 25 parishes using high-water vehicles, boats and helicopters. The American Red Cross and parishes wound up sheltering

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an average of 191 people over a five-week period. DOTD Secretary Shawn Wilson reported 455 roads and bridges were closed, and the damage to our



Daniel E. Mobley, CAE

transportation infrastructure will wind up costing the state about \$20 million.

Of course, that's just a fraction of the total cost.

As of mid-April, the National Flood Insurance Program had already paid more than \$67 million on 1,581 claims. However, that only represented about a third of all claims, and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness estimates that more than 12,000 homes received some type of flood damage, some of which will not be covered by the NFIP. Damage estimates to businesses, public facilities and farms still are being compiled, but the price tag will be high. The spring floods could wind up costing more than \$1 billion.

Infrastructure – roads, bridges, levees, drainage systems, power plants, drinking water facilities – represents the foundation of our society. Without it, there is no health care, no TOPS, no business recruitment, no tourism. Infrastructure gives us the ability to build communities.

So, why don't members of the public, in general, and our political leaders, specifically, pay more attention to our infrastructure? Why isn't it a higher priority? Engineers don't like to hear this, but the truth is that infrastructure isn't sexy. No one falls in love with a new house because of the solid slab foundation, but try selling one without it. If government were a football team, infrastructure would be the offensive line. No one buys tickets to see people block, but ask the high-priced quarterback how important the line is.

I'm not advocating that we politicize a natural tragedy, but the truth is we all must learn from the past in order to move forward. If not for Katrina, what are the chances that the massive levee improvements of the last 10 years would have occurred? South Louisiana is a safer place today because we, literally, built on the failures of the past.

This is why it is so important that all of us remind our local and state leaders about the importance of infrastructure, while the memories of flooded streets and helicopter rescues are fresh in everyone's mind. It's our obligation to protect the building blocks of our society.

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