

# Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal

August 2022 – Vol. 25 No. 3



(l-r): Linda Bergeron, PE; Wil Fontenot, PLS; Jimmy Chustz, PLS; Janice Williams, PE; Reggie Jeter, PE; Chris Richard, PE; Chad Vosburg, PE; Connie Betts, PE; Edgar Benoit, PE; VJ Gopu, PhD, PE; Byron Racca, PE

## LAPELS Board ~ 2022

### Inside This Issue:

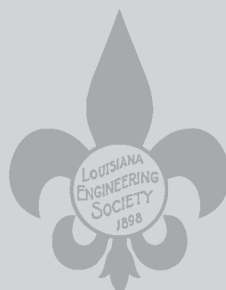
#### LAPELS



Message from  
the Chairman

Page 3

#### LES



Presidential  
Privilege

Page 9

#### ACEC/L



Congratulations to the  
2022-2023 ACEC/L  
Board of Governors

Page 19



## Louisiana Engineering Society

9643 Brookline Avenue, Suite 116, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488

Phone: (225) 924-2021 Fax: (844) 274-6794

E-mail: les@les-state.org

Website: <http://www.les-state.org>



## American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana

9643 Brookline Avenue, Suite 112, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488

Phone: (225) 927-7704 Fax: (225) 927-7779

E-mail: [acecl@acecl.org](mailto:acecl@acecl.org)



## Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board

9643 Brookline Avenue, Suite 121, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488

Phone: (225) 925-6291 Fax: (225) 925-6292

Website: [www.lapels.com](http://www.lapels.com)



### LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL

AUGUST 2022 Vol. 25 No. 3

#### The Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal

(ISSN: 15275965, USPS 588-360)

9643 Brookline, Suite 116

Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488

This is the official publication of the Louisiana Engineering Society, the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board, and the American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana.

This magazine is published quarterly. "PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID at Baton Rouge, LA."

POSTMASTER-Please send address changes to:  
The Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal  
9643 Brookline Ave., Suite 116, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488  
Telephone: (225) 924-2021, Fax: (844) 274-6794

### LES ADVERTISING RATES

SIZE	COST PER ISSUE	COST PER YEAR
Full Page Inside	\$1,200	\$3,840
Full Page Back Cover	\$1,500	\$4,800
1/2 Page	\$700	\$2,240
1/4 Page	\$420	\$1,344

1) Prices quoted apply to camera-ready copy. A one-time charge will be added for composition of an ad, art work, or if changes are made during the contract period.

2) All ads must be prepaid. Advertisements with payment should be sent to LES by the 15th of the month preceding month of issue.

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

### PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Mary Claire Ruckert, *Managing Editor*

The Louisiana Engineering Society, the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board, and the American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana do not guarantee the accuracy of statements made or necessarily concur with opinions expressed in the publication.



# Message from the Chairman

Christopher K. Richard, PE

Summer is here and that hopefully means time off, vacations and spending time with your families. Summer also means we have just wrapped up another Legislative Session. I want to thank Miles Williams and Brenda Gajan with LES and Barker Dirmann with ACEC/L and everyone else who got involved in the process for their tireless work this session on behalf of the Engineers in Louisiana. Without their efforts, the outcome would have most certainly been different. Overall, many of the most onerous bills were either amended or did not make it through the session, but as always, we will need to be vigilant again next year as they will most likely be reintroduced in some form.

One huge victory for the Citizens of Louisiana was the overwhelming passage of HB 305, now ACT 145, which statutorily defined the incidental practice of engineering by an architect. Although the vast majority of Architects in Louisiana regularly engage licensed engineers to perform the engineering work on buildings, there are a few that push the boundaries. After over 10 years of work, we now have a definition of incidental engineering in the law. Through LES, Representative Foy Gadberry, PE, PLS, filed HB 305 to define Incidental Practice of Engineering by an Architect. Thanks to Representative Gadberry for his leadership in not only sponsoring HB 305, but successfully leading the bill through the legislature. I also, want to thank Craig Campbell with ACEC/L and Alan Krouse with LES for their years of work on this important issue. I would be remiss if I didn't thank both AIA and LSBAE for their hard work on the Incidental Practice Task Force. The new law takes effect on August 1, 2022. The LAPELS Board is in the process of revising the Rules to mirror the language in the new law.



Christopher K. Richard, PE  
Chairman

Now that the language has been codified, LAPELS will be sending letters to the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the various building code officials around the state to inform them of the changes in the law. Any plans submitted above the new thresholds that contain engineering work without an engineer's stamp should be disapproved. For those interested, copies of the letter can be obtained from the LAPELS website. A copy of HB 305/ACT 145 is included on page 4 in this issue of the Journal.

The NCEES Annual meeting is returning to an in-person event for the first time since 2019. The LAPELS Board is well represented on NCEES once again this year. At the zone meeting in April, Linda Bergeron, PE (representing Industry) was overwhelmingly elected to serve as the Southern Zone's Secretary-Treasurer. In addition to serving on the Southern Zone Board, Linda has also been selected to serve again this year on the Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers (EPE). Jimmy Chustz, PLS (representing Surveyors) was selected to serve on the Committee on Examinations for Professional Surveyors (EPS) and our own Executive Director, Donna Sentell, was selected to serve on the Member Board Administrator's Committee (MBA). Congratulations to all three of you, we know you will represent Louisiana well.

As always, if you ever have any questions or comments, please reach out to LAPELS staff and Board members for assistance.

## Board Members

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*Chairman*

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*Vice Chairman*

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## Board Staff

Donna D. Sentell  
*Executive Director*

Cheron Seaman  
*Deputy Executive Director*

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 305

BY REPRESENTATIVE GADBERRY

**ACT No. 145**

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 37:701(I), relative to the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land  
3 Surveying Board; to provide for the incidental practice of engineering by architects;  
4 to provide for the scope of practice for architects engaging in incidental engineering  
5 work; to provide for certain conditions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 37:701(I) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §701. Public and private work; application of provisions

9 \* \* \*

10 I. An architect as defined in R.S. 37:141(B)(1) has a right to engage in  
11 certain activities that fall within the definition of the practice of engineering as  
12 defined in R.S. 37:682, but only to the extent such activities are necessarily  
13 incidental to the architect's practice of architecture as defined in R.S. 37:141(B)(3).  
14 Such incidental engineering work is limited to minor mechanical, electrical, or civil-  
15 structural engineering work necessarily incidental to the architect's practice of  
16 architecture. The incidental engineering work shall be of a secondary nature and  
17 shall be substantially less in scope and magnitude when compared to the architectural  
18 portion of the work. Incidental engineering work includes additions, renovations, or  
19 alterations that do not require significant adjustments to the engineering calculations  
20 for the changes to the engineering systems or components. The incidental  
21 engineering work shall be safely and competently performed by the architect without  
22 jeopardizing the life, health, property, or welfare of the public. The incidental

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1 engineering work shall also satisfy all of the following conditions for new  
2 construction or additions:  
3 (1) For new construction, the total proposed occupant load for the new  
4 construction shall not exceed two hundred ninety-nine individuals for assembly  
5 occupancy and forty-nine individuals for all other occupancies. The occupant load  
6 shall be defined and determined by the method set forth in the currently enforced  
7 building code.  
8 (2) For additions, the total proposed occupant load for the addition shall not  
9 exceed two hundred ninety-nine individuals for assembly occupancy and forty-nine  
10 individuals for all other occupancies. The occupant load shall be defined and  
11 determined by the method set forth in the currently enforced building code.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Page 2 of 2

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# LAPELS Update

Donna Sentell, Executive Director

This year, we have had more face to face opportunities to meet with our applicants and licensees, whether meeting with students at the campuses around the state, or speaking at professional/technical society meetings. If your organization would like to have a presentation from the LAPELS staff at a conference, monthly meeting or even a lunch-and-learn event, we can provide presentations on the Importance or Licensure, the Laws and Rules of the Board, Professional Ethics, or even a LAPELS Update. We enjoy these outings and providing this service to our licensees; contact me at donna@lapels.com for more information.

All licensees are encouraged to visit our website and review the pending and recent revisions to the Board rules. Some of the recent revisions include requiring individuals to take the LAPELS Laws/Rules and Professional Ethics online exams to reactivate an expired license or become a supervising professional for a firm. The Board has also updated rule 1107 concerning curriculum requirements for surveying applicants.

LAPELS continues to administer the Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying exams to approved PLS initial license and comity applicants.

NCEES now administers all FE and PE exams, except for the Structural exam modules, as computer based tests. Many of these exams are offered five days a week which allows applicants much more flexibility and provides scores within a week to ten days after taking an exam.

For licensees in ACTIVE status, earning CPD hours is no longer tied to your biennial renewal cycle, but to the two calendar years prior to your renewal year. A licensee renewing in 2022 must have obtained

the requisite CPD hours during calendar years 2020 and 2021. An easy way to remember the requirements is for a PE to earn the requisite 15 CPD hours each calendar year, a PLS to earn the requisite 8 CPD hours each calendar year and a dual licensee to earn the requisite 15 CPD hours each calendar year. Remember too, you can only earn 8 CPD hours in a 24 hour period, and you can only carry forward 7 CPD hours to the next calendar year. You can find the LAPELS CPD Log and more information on CPD requirements on our website. Contact cande@lapels.com with any questions.

LAPELS offers licensees who qualify the option to change their license status to a Retired status or a Retired Waiver Granted Status. Changing your license to either of these statuses indicates to the Board and to the public that you are no longer offering or providing engineering/surveying services and you are no longer required to obtain the requisite CPD hours. If at some point while in either of these statuses you wish to reactivate your license to the ACTIVE status, there are provisions which allow you to do so. Contact the Applications manager, Janet Lindsey, at janet@lapels.com for more information.

Beginning August 8, licenses with an expiration date of September 30, 2022 can be renewed. Licensees may do so by signing into their account at <https://lola.lapels.com/>. Licensees in the fall cycle will have until September 30, 2022 to renew their license, and beginning October 1, late fees will be applied. To ensure our licensees have a safe and accessible online portal to store their CPD records, LOLA provides a "CPD Locker" for you to upload your Annual CPD log(s) and complementary certificates.

# Enforcement Report

Chris Aaron, LaTasha Andrews and William Hyatt, Board Investigators

## OFFER AND/OR PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING OR LAND SURVEYING WITH AN EXPIRED PRACTICE:

**A&A Engineering, Civil and Structural Engineers, Ltd. LLC**, a professional engineering firm (EF-3719), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice engineering with an expired license in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(9) and (16). The firm's license was in an expired status from October 1, 2019 through October 14, 2021 (by mistake due to an administrative error) and during this time period the firm admittedly offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services on 19 projects in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it agreed to pay a fine of \$1,500; to pay administrative costs of \$342.46; to pay past unpaid renewal fees of \$120; to have each of its supervising professionals successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to the immediate suspension of its license if it fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until it so complies; 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 THE LAWS/RULES OF THE BOARD:

**Omar A. Abu-Yasein, PE.** a professional engineer (PE-31370), 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 October 1, 2019 and October 14, 2021 (a) A&A Engineering, Civil and Structural Engineers, Ltd. LLC (a professional engineering firm whose license was in an expired status by mistake due to an administrative error) admittedly offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services on 19 projects in Louisiana and (b) Mr. Abu-Yasein provided engineering services for and on behalf of the firm in Louisiana in connection with said projects. Mr. Abu-Yasein was an employee, representative, the Manager and the supervising professional of the firm. Mr. Abu-Yasein has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he agreed to pay a fine of \$500; to pay administrative costs of \$342.46; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to the immediate suspension of his license if he fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until he so complies; 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:

**Infrastructure Consulting & Engineering, PLLC**, an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective April 25, 2018 (EF-6428), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for (a) practicing and/or offering to practice engineering and using the words "engineer", "engineering" or any modifications or derivatives thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity without proper licensure in

violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and La. R.S. 37:700(A)(1), (7) and (9), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B), and (b) fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:700(A)(3). Due to its mistaken understanding as to the requirements for licensure in Louisiana, between April 3, 2018 and April 24, 2018 the firm offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana on one project in Louisiana. Also due to its mistaken understanding as to the requirements for licensure in Louisiana, in April 2018 the firm incorrectly stated on its Louisiana application for firm licensure that it had never practiced or offered to practice engineering in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted that (despite its mistaken understanding of Louisiana's licensure requirements) its conduct constituted violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$4,250; to pay administrative costs of \$2,441.26; 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.

**Wayne F. Lorenz, PE.** a professional engineer (PE-45820), 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 license with the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1) and (b) 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). In June 2020 Wright Water Engineers, Inc. (an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm) was subject to disciplinary action by the engineering licensing authority in another jurisdiction. In October 2021 Mr. Lorenz incorrectly stated on the firm's application for firm licensure that the firm had never been the subject of a disciplinary action by the engineering licensing authority in another jurisdiction. Mr. Lorenz was an employee and representative of the firm and has been the supervising professional of the firm since it became licensed. Mr. Lorenz has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he admitted that his alleged conduct may constitute violations of the above laws/rules, while at the same time specifically denying that he (a) committed fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or gave any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board in the name of the firm or (b) aided or assisted another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board. Mr. Lorenz admitted to making an administrative error by misunderstanding the breadth of the question at issue, but stated that he did not intend to mislead the Board with his answer in regard to an enforcement action in another state. In the Consent Order, Mr. Lorenz agreed to pay a fine of \$1,750; to pay administrative costs of \$1,501.88; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to the immediate suspension of his license if he fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until he so complies; 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.

## LAND SURVEYOR INTERNS

Billiot, Nicholas Rapheal,  
Koch, Philip, LSI  
Stuckey, Joseph Michael, LSI  
Unkel, Kenneth Wayne, LSI

## SURVEYING FIRMS

AEC GEOSPATIAL LLC, VF  
Keystone Consultants, LLC, VF  
TRANSGLOBAL SERVICES, LLC, VF

## ENGINEER INTERNS

Albar, Hashim Omar H., EI  
Alrashed, Zaineb S.,  
Ange, Andre Joseph, EI  
Arnold, Jared Christopher, EI  
Aycock, Jeffery Scott, EI  
Bailey, Peyton Christian, EI  
Barquin, Arturo David, EI  
Becker, Luke Anthony, EI  
Begue, Jacqueline Victoria, EI  
Bergeron, Bailey Girard, EI  
Bernard, Michael Thomas, EI  
Bourg, Travis W., EI  
Boyd, Elizabeth Anne, EI  
Callender, Peyton Layne, EI  
Cantrelle, Sean Paul, EI  
Cappotto, Kyle Anthony, EI  
Coatney, Katherine, EI  
Cole, Grace Kathleen, EI  
Cook, Joshua, EI  
Cottrell, Timothy Ross, EI  
Cowles, Alexandre, EI  
Crotwell, Kristian Blake, EI  
Donaldson, Doyle Patrick II, EI  
Dorsa, Abigail Ruth, EI  
Dowling, William Michael, EI  
Drouant, Mason John, EI  
Ellender, Noah Paul, EI  
Enlund, Aaron David, EI  
Fouchi, Vincent Neal, EI  
Fuentes, Quinn Joseph, EI  
Futrell, Austin Charles, EI  
Garcia, Jose Sebastian, EI  
Gilbert, Anna, EI  
Guitreau, Joshua Aaron, EI  
Gurung, Kiran, EI  
Haley, Adam Paul, EI  
Hopkinson, Andrew Allen, EI  
Hunt, Dalton Thomas, EI  
Jenkins, Hannah Nicole, EI  
Jones, Ethan James, EI  
Jones, Thayer Ellison, EI  
Kasaju, Aashka, EI  
Kelly, Brendan, EI  
Khatri, Deepika, EI  
Kinler, Stephanie Elise, EI  
Landry, Colin Victor, EI  
LeBlanc, Lane Thomas, EI  
LeCoq, Joshua Noel, EI  
Lewis, Zachary James, EI

Lipari, Austin M., EI  
Lofaso, Jacob Philip, EI  
Long, Madison Jeffrie, EI  
Macpherson, Catherine A., EI  
McCleary, James Patrick III, EI  
Micek, Sean Robert, EI  
Moreau, Luke Gabriel, EI  
Murrell, Eric Thomas, EI  
Nguyen, Alexis Tu-Quynh, EI  
Nolan, Kaleb MaGwire, EI  
Palumbo, Vincent Stephan III, EI  
Pastor, Alicia, EI  
Pitre, Christopher Nicholas, EI  
Rabbani, Golam Arif, EI  
Rice, Gabriel Ethan, EI  
Rosalis, Brandon James, EI  
Roy, Jacob Edward, EI  
Rubiano, Hannah, EI  
Saad, Haitham, EI  
Salmon, Benjamin Wesley, EI  
Seeger, Shane Matthew, EI  
Smiles, Jamal My'kel, EI  
Stutes, Erick John, EI  
Tausin, Benjamin Scott, EI  
Theriot, Austen, EI  
Tynes, Lyle G., EI  
Watkins, Logan, EI  
Willis, Rebecca Marie, EI  
Wilson, Andrew Paul, EI  
Wise, Adam Joseph, EI  
Yates, Keagan Vaughn, EI  
Zamjahn, Blake Ryan, EI  
Zhu, Hongjie, EI

## PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Abbate, Jeffrey, PE  
Abodia, Mohand Refat, PE  
Afek, Brian Thomas, PE  
Alam, Md Ashraf, PE  
Albersson, Jon, PE  
Alfaro, Elias, Jr., PE  
Alirezaei, Mehdi, PE  
Allen, Benjamin Wesley, PE  
Allen, Jennifer M. Johnson, PE  
Anderson, Ryan Allen, PE  
Andresen, Shane Trampis, PE  
Antonios, Walid Adnan, PE  
Apple, Charles Brian, PE  
Artemiou, Vasilios, PE  
Aseltyne, Craig Allen, PE  
Austin, Matthew James, PE  
Awad, Ahmed Alaa Saleem, PE  
Azzi, Ziad, PE  
Bache, Steve, PE  
Baker, Jonathan Michael, PE  
Baldwin, Terry E., PE  
Barbalich, Jon Andrew, PE  
Barbee, Craig Anthony, PE  
Barnett, John Randal, PE  
Barry, Christina Marie, PE  
Barry, Shawn Wayne, PE

Baswell, John Edd, PE  
Beach, Michael Allan, PE  
Beadle, Eber John, V, PE  
Beresheim, Scott Douglas, PE  
Berger, Michael Allen, PE  
Bertinot, Neil Anthony, PE  
Beste, Joshua William, PE  
Biernat, Christopher Erin, PE  
Blakley, Kyle Robert, PE  
Blalock, Brandon Keith, PE  
Boliek, Jonathan Christopher, PE  
Bosco, Edward Thomas, PE  
Bouchon, Owen Robert, PE  
Boudreaux, Dennis James, PE  
Bourdon, Allison Paige, PE  
Bourgeois, Drake Saul, PE  
Bowers, James Michael, PE  
Braden, Christopher Paul, PE  
Braulick, Michael James, PE  
Brevelle, Michael Paul, PE  
Brown, Scott Allen, PE  
Buckner, Andrew Zachery, PE  
Buechele, Craig Michael, PE  
Bullard, Joseph, PE  
Caldwell, Preston Michael, PE  
Campbell, Cody G., PE  
Cardenas Rodriguez, Luis  
Antonio, PE  
Carlyle, John Randolph, PE  
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Carr, Michael William II, PE  
Case, Matthew, PE  
Case, Meagan Rodrigue, PE  
Chaiboonruang, Phubet, PE  
Chambers, Anthony Duane, PE  
Clark, Justin Lewison, PE  
Clements, Clayton F., PE  
Comer, Matthew Price, PE  
Compton, Brandon Thomas, PE  
Cyr, Ryan Patrick, PE  
Davis, Joel Bradley, PE  
Dean, Daniel R., PE  
Dedhia, Jigar, PE  
Delmas, Jimmy, PE  
Depelteau, Scott Philip, PE  
Dhakal, Sanjay Kumar, PE  
Diaz, Marco Antonio, PE  
Dillelt, Gregory Michael II, PE  
Donhaiser, Teresa Marie, PE  
Donovan, John Joseph Jr., PE  
Dore, Jennifer Gail, PE  
Dressel, Jeffrey David, PE  
Drozdick, Stephen Keller, PE  
Dundee, Anthony Charles, PE  
Dyer, Silvia Carolina, PE  
Eardley, Randall Scott, PE  
Ellman, Martin F., PE  
Elsawah, Sarah, PE  
Elwood, Darby Elizabeth, PE  
Etzkorn, Aaron Girard, PE  
Evans, Andrew Clyde, PE

Falgout, Nicholas John, PE  
Farmer, Jamie Owens, PE  
Faulk, Michael Andrew, PE  
Fernandez, Tony Gomez, PE  
Fournet, Marc Andrew, PE  
Foxy, Keith, PE  
Fritz, Bethany Cathleen, PE  
Gamble, Jason Glen, PE  
Gandy, Michael Douglas, PE  
Garegnani, Terry Joseph, PE  
Garziona, Joshua Anthony, PE  
Gascon, Daniel Scott, PE  
Gemperline, Mark C., Ph.D., PE  
Geranios, Linda Veronica, PE  
Gettys, Tyler Joseph, PE  
Giglio, Andrew Dominick, PE  
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Glennon, Connor Joseph, PE  
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Hall, Michael, PE  
Hanley, William Joseph, IV, PE  
Hanna, Atef A., PE  
Hardy, Justin R., PE  
Harrigal, Angela Grace, PE  
Harris, Kona Katy Elizabeth, PE  
Hart, Brett Tyler, PE  
Hartdegen, Donald Richard, PE  
Hartley, Michael Ray, PE  
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Hensley, Jeffrey Nelson, PE  
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Herrington, Kelsey Elizabeth, PE  
Hidalgo-Reyes, Eduardo, PE  
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Hill, Michael Raymond, Ph.D., PE  
Hoban, Joanne Kay, PE  
Hohm, Erich Michael, II, PE  
Holste, Joseph Robert, PE  
Honeycutt, Kevin, PE  
Hoylman, David E., PE  
Huddleston, Charles David, PE  
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Hyde, Sean Alexander, PE  
Inman, Erin, PE  
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Jain, Abhishek, PE  
Jaye, Victoria Malley, PE  
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Johnson, Mark Eric, PE  
Johnson, Michael Emil, PE



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 Kirk, Nicholas Joel, PE  
 Kowalski, Matthew Reed, PE  
 Krall, Calvin Craig, PE  
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 Krupnik, Ross, PE  
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 Larsen, Coleman Drew, PE  
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 Long, Xiao, PE  
 Lundin, Reid Vincent, PE  
 Lupo, Robert P., PE  
 Luu, Perry Xuan, PE  
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 Macklin, Sam Dillon, PE  
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 Mahn, Jason William, PE  
 Mainiero-Cessna, Danielle, PE  
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 Malphurs, Matthew Carlton, PE  
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 Martello, Charles Anthony, PE  
 Martin, Andrew Arthur, PE  
 Martinez, Selinda, PE  
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 Morrison, Stuart Scott, PE  
 Mostafa, Fathy Abdelazeem  
 Khallaf, PE  
 Mueller, Adam Robert, PE  
 Muhammad, Habeeba Mustafaa, PE  
 Mukati, Gaurav Singh, PE  
 Mullenix, Terry Alan, Jr., PE  
 Munoz, Carlos Alberto, PE  
 Murray, Austin David, PE  
 Navis, Channing Alexander, PE

Nica, Marius, PE  
 O'Brien, Samuel Dickson, PE  
 O'Donnell, Chad Ryan, PE  
 Olofin, Mayowa Olaolu, PE  
 Parker, Steven Neil, PE  
 Patty, Brandon Scott, PE  
 Perkins, Brooke Amber, PE  
 Pesta, Kirk Gerard, PE  
 Peters, Barton Thomas, PE  
 Pettry, Madeline Costelli, PE  
 Phelps, Tyler York, PE  
 Phipps, Michael, PE  
 Pilla, Dominick Richard, PE  
 Plump, Richard, PE  
 Pressnell, Bryan Stephen, PE  
 Prosser, Steven Michael, PE  
 Qualls, Dustin Wayne, PE  
 Quillen, Justin Kincaid, PE  
 Rafferty, Brian, PE  
 Ramirez, Allen, PE  
 Rauch, Alan Francis, Ph.D., PE  
 Rayner, Benjamin Albert, PE  
 Rea, Kenneth Leroy, PE  
 Renz, Samantha, PE  
 Rhoads, Patrick, PE  
 Rice, Jarret L., PE  
 Riggs, Kenneth Cooper, PE  
 Rosado, Gilberto, PE  
 Ruffini, Anthony Patrick, PE  
 Saba, Richard Allan, PE  
 Samborsky, Mark Joseph, PE  
 Sandoval, Juan Manual, PE  
 Sangha, Manroj Singh, PE  
 Santos, Mark Richard, PE  
 Saxena, Kshitij, PE  
 Schloss, Edmund Robert, PE  
 Schmitz, Andrew Donald, PE  
 Schroeder, Tyler Steven, PE  
 Shah, Pinal Kalpesh, PE  
 Shaik, Abdul Saleem, PE  
 Sherman, Gregory Andrew, PE  
 Shortess, Alexander Vince, PE  
 Sigwald, Tyler Franklin, PE  
 Sikkenga, Chad Douglas, PE  
 Smith, Zachary Quitman, PE  
 Snyder, Luke Raymond, PE  
 Soliman, Alfred, PE  
 Song, Young Gyu, PE  
 Sorenson, James Patrick, III, PE  
 Soule, Benjamin Thomas, PE  
 Spritzer, John M., III, PE  
 Stallings, Sarah Amanda, PE  
 Staudt, Daniel Robert, PE  
 Stevanovic, Zeljko, PE  
 Stewart, Rachel Ellie, PE  
 Stone, Matthew David, PE  
 Storr, Zachary Taylor, PE  
 Sunhachawi, Jessada, PE  
 Testerman, Troy, PE  
 Thomas, John Malayattu, PE  
 Thomison, Misty, PE

Torrado, Lionel Sebastian, PE  
 Torres, Guillermo Enrique, PE  
 Trahan, Jonathan Michael, PE  
 Triandafilou, Nicholas Ross, PE  
 Tyler, Stephen Eric, PE  
 Vagha, Indrajeet A., PE  
 Van Hauen, Daniel Shaun, PE  
 Van Sickel, Greg David, PE  
 Vander Werff, Kristy Lynn, PE  
 VanDyne, Julie Elizabeth, PE  
 Vermillion, Robert Ryan, PE  
 Voisinnet, Sean Christopher, PE  
 Walters, Kevin Lee, PE  
 Wang, Kelvin Kun, PE  
 Ward, Seth M., PE  
 Weimann, Cynthia Dawn, PE  
 Weledji, Conrad, PE  
 Wernz, Michael Logan, PE  
 Werther, Katherine Virginia, PE  
 White, Jason Arthur, PE  
 Whitney, Donald Clinton, PE  
 Wideman, Leeda Lynne, PE  
 Williamson, Allyson, PE  
 Winzler, Allen Arthur, PE  
 Woycheese, John Patrick, PE  
 Zandieh, Arash, PE  
 Zemlo, Brandon Richard, PE  
 Zimmer, Joel Connor, PE  
 Zuffi, Robert William, PE

## ENGINEERING FIRMS

Adicot, Inc., EF  
 American Refrigeration, LLC, EF  
 Andrew Electric Co., Inc., EF  
 Architectural Testing, Inc., EF  
 Arora Engineers, Inc., EF  
 B Square Engineering, LLC, EF  
 Bartlett Engineering LLC, EF  
 Basis Consulting Engineers, LLC, EF  
 Beicker & Comer Engineering, LLC, EF  
 Betco, Inc., EF  
 Bloom Companies, LLC, EF  
 Brown Engineers, LLC, EF  
 Browning Chapman, LLC, EF  
 Bryant Consultants Operating, LLC, EF  
 Cari Consulting Engineers, PLLC, EF  
 CDG Engineers & Associates, Inc., EF  
 Celtic Engineering, Inc., EF  
 Choice Engineering, LLC, EF  
 Chustz Surveying, L.L.C., EF  
 CODEX Engineering, LLC, EF  
 CTRE, P.C. Inc., EF  
 Del Engineering, PLLC, EF  
 Dominick R. Pilla, Architecture-  
 Engineering P.C., EF  
 Dynasty Engineering Group, EF  
 e.Construct.USA LLC, EF  
 EAD Engineering, Inc., EF  
 Eckert Wordell, L.L.C., EF  
 Entertainment and Rigging  
 Engineering, LLC, EF  
 EPPSTEIN UHEN ARCHITECTS, INC.,  
 EF  
 Erdman, Anthony Associates, Inc., EF  
 Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr &  
 Huber, Inc., EF  
 Foley Products Company, EF  
 FOXXSTEM DC LLC, EF  
 Fulcrum Forensics LLC, EF  
 GEOServices, LLC, EF  
 Giles Flythe Engineers, Inc., EF  
 GWA, Inc. Electrical, EF  
 H2M Architects & Engineers, Inc., EF  
 Hebron Engineering Services, LLC, EF  
 Icon Engineering, Inc., EF  
 INSITE ENGINEERING, LLC, EF  
 J-M Matkin & Associates, LTD., EF  
 Johnson, Laschober & Associates,  
 P.C., Professional Corporation, EF  
 Keystone Consultants, LLC, EF  
 Koontz Bryant Johnson Williams,  
 Inc., EF  
 Lacy & Ebeling Engineering, Inc., EF  
 Lucerna Company LLC of  
 Oklahoma, EF  
 Lumin8 Technologies Services,  
 LLC, EF  
 Mackenzie Engineering Inc., EF  
 MBN Engineering, Inc., EF  
 McGrath RentCorp., Inc., EF  
 MS Consultants, Inc. of Ohio, EF  
 National Catastrophe  
 Engineering, LLC, EF  
 Prater Engineering Associates, Inc., EF  
 Primera Engineers, Ltd., EF  
 PVE Consulting Engineers, LLC, EF  
 Raba Kistner, Inc., EF  
 RES America Construction Inc., EF  
 S. E. Consultants, Inc., EF  
 SHIP ARCHITECTS, INC., EF  
 Shipp Engineering Services, LLC, EF  
 Simpkins & Costelli, Inc., EF  
 SM ADVANCED ENGINEERING, LLC, EF  
 Smith Engineering and  
 Associates LLC, EF  
 Strata GC, LLC, EF  
 Strike Operating Company LLC, EF  
 Structuneering, Inc., EF  
 Structural Engineering and  
 Inspections, Inc., EF  
 The Integration Group of  
 Americas, Inc., EF  
 Thompson Engineering Inc., EF  
 TMBP-Click, Inc., EF  
 Total Arc Flash Safety LLC, EF  
 Toth and Associates, Inc., EF  
 Tritech Fall Protection Systems,  
 Inc., EF  
 Troy Construction, LLC Texas, EF  
 Woods Engineering, P.A.,  
 Corporation, EF  
 Wright-Pierce, Inc., EF

# THE LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY

## Who we are:

Since 1898 LES has been the flag bearer for the licensure and professional practice of engineering in Louisiana. The Society represents the individual Engineer in all technical disciplines and all occupational areas of practice, including construction, education, government, industry, and private practice. Our organization is dedicated to the continuous advancement of the professional engineer by:

- Encouraging engineers to elevate their skills, competencies, and ethics
- Upholding that the health, safety, and welfare of the public are best served when engineering work is performed by or under the supervision of a professional engineer
- Supporting and promoting high standards for engineering education
- Recognizing engineering achievements and academic scholarships
- Contributing services to the public and the profession
- Advocating professional registration of all engineers



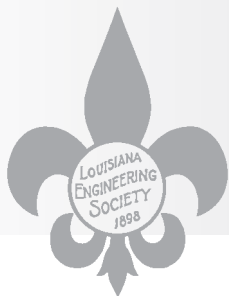
## What We Do:

Through our eight chapters in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Bayou, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe, New Orleans, and Shreveport, LES exemplifies its long-term legacy and commitment to our state by providing:

- Recommends appointments for 9 of the 11 LAPELS Board members
- Best legislative lobbyist in Louisiana tracking legislative bills for the Society
- Two Annual Conferences for members to acquire multiple PDHs and further education
- Host multiple 8-hour seminars to help members gain Life Safety Code & ADA compliance
- Appointment of two LES members to the State's Facility Planning and Control Engineering Selection Board
- Recognize members' accomplishments by awarding up to 8 annual awards
- Offer On Demand Recorded Webinars for members to help meet PDH requirements
- Provides excellent networking opportunities
- Publishes *The Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal* quarterly
- LES Members get a discounted rate for all LES conferences and seminars both live and virtual
- Provide Leadership Opportunities by serving on State Board, Chapters' Boards, and State Committees
- Provide Scholarships for college students studying engineering
- Sponsors state level & participates in national level MATHCOUNTS Competitions

The Louisiana Engineering Society  
9643 Brookline Ave, Ste 116  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
(225) 924-2021  
[les@les-state.org](mailto:les@les-state.org)





# Presidential Privilege

Chad A. Bacas, P.E.

I am excited and honored to be your next President of an incredible and historical society that represents all engineering disciplines for the State of Louisiana. As our vision statement explains, *The Louisiana Engineering Society (LES) is the recognized advocate of all licensed engineers in the State of Louisiana.* I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to represent each one of you in this capacity and give back to our profession that has offered so much to me. To continue where Tyler Comeaux, now a proud Past President, left off - THANK YOU to Brenda Gajan for her nearly three decades of commitment to making this society into what it is today. While under her direction, the Louisiana Engineering Society continued to be a trusted source for community and professional involvement, have a political representation in the state legislature, and provide continuing professional development.

I tried to convince Brenda to stick around another year, but I completely understand the desire to retire and spend quality time with your children and grandchildren. It's hard to replace anyone that has performed so well over the years, but LES is lucky to bring on board a well-qualified and energetic Mary Claire Ruckert. She comes with over nine years of professional non-profit experience and is dependable, highly organized, and self-motivated. While Brenda was gracious enough to allow for a transition period, Mary Claire has already hit the ground running and has taken on the role with great initiative while bringing on new ideas and opportunities.

I'm looking forward to working closely with the 2022/2023 board and want to congratulate all the board and committee members. I will certainly appreciate all their time and effort this upcoming year. Help me welcome the executive committee:

1st Vice President - James "Jim" Ellingburg, P.E.

2nd Vice President - Melanie Caillouet, P.E.

Secretary-Treasurer - Gavin Gautreau, P.E.

Past President - Tyler Comeaux, P.E.

Our calendar is loaded with many Professional Development Hours throughout the year, and we will be hosting two conferences and our 4th Annual LA Transportation Partner's Golf Tournament. If you are not available to attend our seminars and conferences in person, please check out our PDH OnDemand Library on our website at <https://www.les-state.org/pdh-ondemand-library/>.

With funds from the spring legislative session (nearly \$1 billion) and the dollars infused through the IJA (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) (nearly \$1.2 trillion), the engineering community finds itself in an unprecedented and unique situation. We are entering an environment that will allow us to improve the infrastructure for many communities throughout the state. It may not happen overnight, but the economy always improves from infrastructure improvements, and we need to take advantage of this historic opportunity.

While the legislative session was an unprecedented time for new funding, it was also a time when LES, once again, played a significant role in protecting our licensure. There were many bills we were watching, but one, in my opinion, that deserves notice was HB305 by Representative Gadberry which defined the incidental practice of engineering. Thanks to all that served on the task force, including a strong partnership with our other fellow societies, to help get it passed into law. This year more than ever, we leaned on our lobbying firm, Haynie and Associates, while keeping an eye on over 100 bills that impact LES, infrastructure, and business. Please catch their more detailed update in this journal.

Thanks again to our membership and everyone who steps away from their work to volunteer for LES and our profession. Please feel free to reach out to me should you have any comments or suggestions for this upcoming year. We appreciate all you do!



Chad Bacas, P.E.  
Louisiana Engineering Society President

## 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 website and Facebook
- > Send the State Office a list of colleagues you would like to nominate for membership and we will send them a membership packet, with your name as their sponsor.

**We appreciate your participation to membership recruitment!**



# Society News

Mary Claire Ruckert, LES Executive Director

## CONNECT WITH LES ONLINE!



Like Us on Facebook!

[www.facebook.com/LouisianaEngineeringSociety](http://www.facebook.com/LouisianaEngineeringSociety)



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### August 2022

- 1 Honors & Awards nominations begin
- 8 27th JESC Planning Begins

### September 2022

- 1 LEF Vincent Forte Fellowship & Faculty Awards Begin
- 15 ADA Seminar—Baton Rouge, LA & Virtual via GoToWebinar
- 23 LES Board Meeting—Alexandria, LA
- 28 Life Safety Code Seminar—Baton Rouge, LA & GoToWebinar

### October 2022

- 3 LEF Endowed Scholarship Applications Begin
- 14 Deadline for copy, Louisiana Journal, November issue
- 14 JESC Agenda & Registration form published in magazine
- 25 Professionalism and Ethics in Engineering - GoToWebinar
- 31 Deadline for Vincent Forte Fellowship
- TBD Project Management Seminar - GoToWebinar

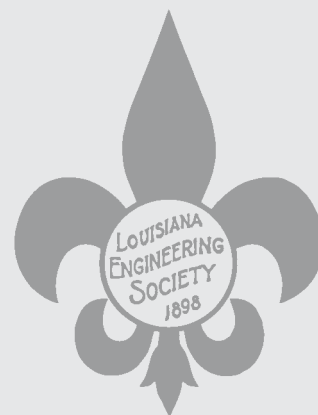
#### **LES Vision Statement:**

*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.*



# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## Alexandria Chapter

Kyle Anthony Cappotto, EI\*  
Anusha Chinni, EI\*  
Jarmarquis O'Darrell Torrence, PE

## Baton Rouge Chapter

Meredith Rachel Alexander, PE  
Dawn Brown, Individual Sustaining Member  
Karley Buys, Student Member  
John Devin Cagnolatti, PE  
Russell Joey Coco, PE  
Patrick Murphy Desilva, PE  
Cullen Michael Domangue, EI\*  
Nicholas Duncan, Student Member  
Donald Joseph Elliott, Jr., PE  
Benjamin Adam Fanguy, EI\*  
Anna Gilbert, EI  
Jonathan Hird, PE  
Dana Kirby, PE  
Reece Joseph LeBlanc, EI  
Mostafa Maghsoodi, EI  
James Patrick McClearly, EI  
Sarah Elizabeth Mitchell, EI  
Golam Arif Rabbani, EI  
Jacob Schopp, Individual Sustaining Member  
Samuel William Stuart, PE  
Lyle Garrett Tynes, EI\*  
Alfred Wiley, Student

## Bayou Chapter

Cameron Clement, Student Member

## Lafayette Chapter

Drake Saul Bourgeois, PE  
Elizabeth Anne Boyd, EI\*  
Logan Brown, Student Member  
Brennan James Goss, EI\*  
Garrett Andrew Menard, EI\*  
Haitham Saad, EI  
Cheyenne M. Stelly, PE  
Logan Layzell Watkins, EI\*  
Keagan Vaughn Yates, EI\*

## Lake Charles Chapter

Connor Broussard, Student Member  
Whitney Marie Dowdle, EI\*  
Hunter Guidry, Student Member  
Cherie Faith Knickerbocker, PE  
Ty Cooper LeJeune, EI\*  
Autra Early Tipton, Jr., PE

## Monroe Chapter

Benjamin Neil Finch, EI\*  
Michelle Hamley Howington, EI\*  
Ashish Chandra Khanal, EI\*  
Kody Rich, Student Member

## New Orleans Chapter

Christopher Erin Biernat, PE  
Madelyn Chappel, Student Member  
Fnu Chirag, EI\*  
Alexandra Garabed Hosely Cowles, EI\*  
Jon Edmond Frosch, PE  
Clayton Everett Harding, EI\*  
Dalton Thomas Hunt, EI\*

Richard C. Lambert, PE  
Colin Victor Landry, EI\*  
Zachary James Lewis, EI\*  
John Andrew McGraw, EI  
Goutam Mondal, EI  
Jerry Outlaw, Individual Sustaining Member  
Ryne Anthony Robert, EI  
Robert Joseph Soignier, PE  
Lionel Sebastian Torrado, PE  
Trent James Varnado, EI\*  
Blake Ryan Zamjahn, EI\*

## Non-Resident Chapter

Aashka Kasaju, EI\*  
Sean Robert Micek, EI\*  
Scott Marcus Perry, EI\*

## Shreveport Chapter

Nirmal Bhusal, EI\*  
Lori Hawkins, Student Member  
Jessica Landry, Governmental Employee Member  
Raley & Associates, Inc. Corporate Sustaining Member  
Lucas Tojal Gadelha De Freitas, EI\*

\*Denotes members who are registered as EI Under 30.



## PROTECT YOUR LICENSE WITH LES

### LES PE Annual Dues \$101

Since 1898 the *Louisiana Engineering Society* has been the flag bearer for the licensure and professional practice of engineering in Louisiana. LES represents the individual engineer in all technical disciplines and all occupational areas of practice, including construction, education, government, industry and private practice.

SIGN UP HERE:

<https://www.les-state.org/membership-applications/>



# Alexandria Chapter

By: Jeremy Hebron, PE, PLS

I want to thank the members of the Alexandria Chapter for allowing me the opportunity to serve as President for the 2022-2023 cycle. I also want to recognize the other officers serving our chapter this year: James Kory Moss, Vice-President; and Charles Wayne Vollman, Secretary/Treasurer. I look forward to working with our officers and members to make this year a success for our community, chapter, and profession.



Jeremy Hebron, PE, PLS

We will have eight (8) scheduled lunch-n-learn meetings this year and those dates are as follows:

- Tuesday, September 6, 2022
- Tuesday, October 4, 2022
- Tuesday, November 1, 2022
- Tuesday, December 6, 2022
- Tuesday, January 3, 2023
- Tuesday, March 7, 2023
- Tuesday, April 4, 2023
- Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Before each Lunch-N-Learn, our Secretary/Treasurer will be sending out a calendar invitation and newsletter with details about the meeting location and time, presenter, topic, and upcoming events. Members and vendors reading this article, please don't hesitate to contact me at the below address about suggestions for lunch-learn topics or potential presenters. At the time of writing this article, we have four planned presentations with December, April, and May being reserved. The other presenter will likely reserve either September or October.

Other events outside of our lunch-n-learns consist of hosting a local Mathcounts competition in February, a State Mathcounts competition in March, a golf tournament fundraiser at Oak Wing in June, and the presentation of two scholarships generally at our last lunch-n-learn meeting for the year. Information will be forthcoming in either the newsletter or email notice as we near each event.

I encourage each of you to attend or participate where possible to improve the success of our Alexandria Chapter and LES.

Please contact me (Jeremy.Hebron@mmlh.com) if you would like to reserve a Lunch-N-Learn date, become an event sponsor, and/or have any questions, comments, or suggestions.

# Baton Rouge Chapter

By: Kimberly McDaniel, PE

The Baton Rouge Chapter recently held its annual officer elections. The 2022-23 Baton Rouge Chapter Officers and Board of Directors include:

- President – Kimberly McDaniel, P.E., PTOE, PTP (Intelligent Transportation Systems LLC)
- President-Elect – TJ Stokes, P.E. (T. Baker Smith)
- Vice President – Heather Layrisson, P.E. (Jacobs)
- Secretary – Kodi Guillory, P.E. (Sustainable Design Solutions)
- Treasurer – Bliss Bernard, P.E. (GEC, Inc.)
- Director 1 – Laurence Lambert, P.E., PTOE, PTP (Vectura)
- Director 2 – Jason Fennell, P.E. (Forte & Tablada, Inc.)
- Younger Member Chairperson – William Fishburn, E.I. (Jacobs)



Kimberly McDaniel, PE, PTOE, PTP

The new board met recently to plan out the upcoming year with events such as the Luncheon Speakers series, annual sponsorship program, clay shoot, Wintz Memorial Golf Tournament, E-Week Events, Crawfish & Ethics, and more. Information and specific dates will be sent to members as details are finalized.

The Chapter's next event will be a joint luncheon at Drusilla Seafood with the Baton Rouge Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers on Thursday, August 18, 2022. Representative Troy Carter will be the guest speaker. Registration details will be sent out to members in early August.

# Bayou Chapter

By: Laura L. Barnes, PE

The Bayou Chapter had a great closeout to the 2021-2022 year. Thank you to all who participated in the Membership Drive initiative to grow our chapter! I'm grateful for another year to serve as your Bayou Chapter President. I look forward to our continued growth as we resume meeting in person and begin adding back outreach opportunities, scholarship funding raising, and networking events that were prevalent before COVID.

This year we welcomed Kevin DeZarn, PE as your new Vice President, and we are currently looking to fill the vacancy of Secretary/Treasurer.

At our June meeting, we previewed our Bayou Chapter website with those in attendance and received valuable feedback on the content that you want to see. By the time this article runs, I hope to have our website live. Also, be on the lookout as we introduce our Chapter newsletter. Our hope is that not only will this give members another avenue to stay current on our activities, but also an opportunity to spotlight our colleagues and projects.

As always, I encourage you to be actively involved in the Chapter. If you have colleagues who are not members of LES, please consider inviting them to join you at a meeting or event. If there are topics or speakers that you'd like to hear from, please reach out with your suggestions.

And finally, it was an honor working alongside and learning from Brenda, our Executive Director! Wishing her well in her much-deserved retirement. And welcome, Mary Claire!



Laura L. Barnes, PE

# Lafayette Chapter

By: Glenn McCall, PE

The Lafayette Chapter Hosted a Joint Meeting with the Acadiana Branch of ASCE for June. Our speaker for that meeting was Mr. Jeff Stewart, P.E. with the Lafayette Utilities System (LUS). Mr. Stewart, an Electrical Engineering, provided an overview of the LUS system and the challenges and opportunities associated with managing the water, wastewater, and power needs of the City of Lafayette. During his presentation, Mr. Stewart, discussed in depth, the City's current planning and decision-making process in the selection of energy sources for power production. Current regulations and upcoming regulations will place additional restrictions on the use of coal-fired generation plants. With that, LUS is planning for the use of alternative fuel sources, while balancing costs and reliability for its customers. Additionally, Mr. Stewart shared his thoughts on the current limitations of other energy sources, particularly those which are not petroleum based. And what engineering advancements need to occur to make these alternative energy sources viable for large-scale generation.

The Lafayette Chapter would like to thank Mark Aymond, P.E. and Stephen Dufreche, P.E. for stepping in and helping the Chapter through the past few months and helping the Chapter work through several untimely changes in the Chapter Officers. As the incoming President, I have set a goal to increase the engagement among the local membership, fill all officer positions within the Chapter, and fill the vacancies for the local representatives on the State Committees. The Lafayette Chapter has many opportunities for volunteers as well as the mentorship of young engineers at the University. Anyone interested in participating should feel free to reach out to gmccall@huvalassoc.com for additional information.

By the time you all receive this issue of the Louisiana Engineering & Surveying Journal, the summer will be ending. I hope that all of you have had an enjoyable summer and ask that you continue to attend the Local Chapter Meetings and help continue to support the Louisiana Engineering Society. LES is an organization that provides so many services to the Engineers of all disciplines across the State and will continue to do so under the leadership of our State Officers and Board of Direction. We look forward to seeing you all at our next Chapter Meeting.



Glenn McCall, PE

# Lake Charles Chapter By: Kalyn Partin, PE

As we enter a new year for LES, I am looking forward to serving as chapter president for a second time. Over the last year, our membership has increased, and we've seen our monthly meeting attendance grow. I hope that we continue to see growth in our chapter and have more of our engineering peers benefit from what LES can offer!

Our monthly meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month and a registration email with specific information will be emailed out ahead of each meeting. If anyone would like to suggest meeting topics, provide speaker information, request specific events, etc. please reach out to our chapter by email at [leslakecharles@gmail.com](mailto:leslakecharles@gmail.com). Looking forward to a great year!



*Kalyn Partin, PE*

# Monroe Chapter By: Dakota Hill, PE

The Monroe Chapter is looking forward to a new year with several new faces on the Monroe Board of Directors. I believe the newly elected leadership will continue to grow the camaraderie within our chapter by coordinating the meetings and events this year. We will begin meeting in September and look forward to seeing what we can achieve. Our chapter officers for the 2022-2023 year are as follows:

President: N. Dakota Hill, P.E.

Second Vice President: Cullen C. Clark, E.I.

Vice-President: Hagan H. Lawrence, P.E.

Secretary/Treasurer: Noah J. Sampognaro, E.I.



*Dakota Hill, PE*

Our first meeting will be held at Catfish Cabin in Monroe on Louisville Avenue on Thursday, September 8, 2022, at Noon. We look forward to seeing everyone from the past and hopefully some new faces as well. We plan to meet on the second Thursday of each month starting in September and ending in May.

Being a member of the LES Monroe Chapter has several benefits, including being able to attend nine monthly meetings, two annual conferences, and limitless networking opportunities at these events. Please consider inviting one of your colleagues to attend a future meeting who may not be a member of the Monroe Chapter. If you are reading this and happen to be in Monroe or the surrounding area, then consider this as your open invitation to come and join us. You can contact me at (318) 387-2710 to get further details about membership and upcoming meetings.

We are looking forward to working hard to ensure that our chapter continues to thrive despite all the challenges of the past few years. We plan to have an excellent 2022-2023 year. If anyone is interested in getting involved at the state or local level, please let one of our Chapter officers know.

# New Orleans Chapter By: David Gereighty, PE

I want to introduce myself as your newly elected New Orleans LES Chapter president. I am originally from and currently reside in Metairie, LA. I received my Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Tulane University in 1983 and my Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering from George Washington University in 1996. I have had a career ranging in power, defense, marine, chemicals, and oil and gas industries. I currently work for the Department of the Interior. I am excited to have this opportunity to lead the New Orleans Chapter this year to work toward the LES mission of advancing the engineering profession.



*David Gereighty, PE*

Our elected officers for the 2022-2023 term are:

President: David Gereighty, PE

Director: Richard Van Wooten, PE

Past President & Director / State Director:  
Rachel Kenney, PE

1st Vice President: John Jackson, PE

Director: Adeleigh Smith

Past President - Director: Raoul Chauvin, PE

2nd Vice President: Kevin Hurtt, EI

Director: Jerry Outlaw

Past President - Director:  
Nicholas M. Musmeci, PE

Secretary, Past President &  
State Director: Roy Phelps, PE

Director: Vincent Orlando

Past President - Director: Robert Mejia, PE

Treasurer: Jonathan Giardina

Our tentative schedule of meetings for the 2022-2023 term are:

- Wednesday, September 14, 2022 General Membership Meeting
- Wednesday, October 19, 2022 General Membership Meeting/Joint Meeting with UNO Engineering Society



- Wednesday, November 16, 2022 General Membership Meeting
- Thursday, December 8, 2022 General Membership Meeting
- Wednesday, January 11, 2023 General Membership Meeting
- Thursday, February 23, 2023 General Membership Meeting/Joint Meeting with Society of Tulane Engineers
- Wednesday, March 22, 2023 General Membership Meeting
- Wednesday, April 19, 2023 General Membership Meeting
- Wednesday, May 17, 2023 General Meeting-Joint LES/IEEE Meeting

Please check our website (<https://neworleanschapter.les-state.org>) for updates on meeting dates, times, locations, and speakers/topics.

Our last meeting for this term year was a Joint LES-IEEE dinner meeting held on May 18, 2022, at Southport Hall, which was titled "Louisiana's Energy Transition." The presentation was given by Phillip May, President of Entergy Louisiana, LLC. Mr. May covered the economic impact of renewables plus the increase of renewables in Entergy's generation capacity and how Entergy's programs transition portions of their Power Generation Fleet to Photovoltaic Solar, Wind, and Hydrogen fuels within the next few decades.

This meeting also served as our New Annual Sponsors Night in which some of our top sponsors had tables with giveaways and company literature. Being held at Southport Hall we encouraged social networking before and after the presentation. After the presentation, we held an after-party with music for which Southport Hall is famous. All in all, we had about 100 people in attendance. We intend to repeat this type of meeting format at the end of each term year in May since it was very successful.

Overall, this term year we held eight monthly meetings with topics ranging from drainage and flood control, to NASA programs, to industry and business outlooks, to Renewable Power, along with two ethics presentations. Due to Hurricane Ida, our September 2021 meeting was canceled. We were able to ride through the storm, continued with our October meeting, and held our annual golf tournament. So far, our sponsorship program and golf tournament for the 2022-2023 term is off to a good start (See details below).

We funded the middle school MATHCOUNTS program, FRC FIRST Bayou Robotics Competition, and the Tulane Engineering Forum. Additionally, we funded five chapter-level scholarships which were awarded at our May meeting to the following engineering students: Sarah Jimenez, Biological Engineering, LSU; April Bourlet, Chemical Engineering, ULL; Carlos Alexander, Mechanical Engineering, SU; Rossano Bailey, Civil Engineering, SU and Taylor Ferguson, Mechanical Engineering, LSU.

If your company is interested in the NO-LES Chapter Sponsorship Program for our current 2022-2023 program term year, please visit our Sponsorship Program page for details (<https://neworleanschapter.les-state.org/sponsorship-program>). Additionally, to participate as a player in our 14th Annual LES New Orleans Chapter Golf Tournament on Friday, October 28th, or as a sponsor, please visit our Chapter Events page for details (<https://neworleanschapter.les-state.org/chapter-events>). This year, we will offer cross-benefits between the higher value Chapter and Golf sponsors, such as complimentary players, cross-sponsor logos, etc. These extra benefits are detailed further in both before-mentioned links.

## Shreveport Chapter By: Jordan Pearson, PE

The Shreveport LES Chapter officers are excited to kick off the new year and I am honored to serve as this year's Chapter President. Your Shreveport Chapter officers for the 2022-2023 LES year are:

Jordan Pearson, PE – President	Linsey Olivier, PE – Secretary
Chris Ludwig, PE – 1st Vice President	Ali Mustapha, PE – Treasurer
Jonathan Ratliff, EI – 2nd Vice President	



Jordan Pearson, PE

We are currently scheduled to continue our monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of every month starting in September. We plan to continue to conduct those meetings at the Petroleum Club, located at 416 Travis Street, in Shreveport, Louisiana. A virtual option has been made available for the past couple of years so we will explore the interest and feasibility of keeping that going.

In addition to our monthly meetings, we have traditionally hosted an annual E-week banquet which has not been possible in the past couple of years. We would like to get back on track with some type of event(s) so be on the lookout for that notice.

Please make a conscious effort to remain active in the monthly meetings and other LES events throughout this year. Also, encourage your fellow colleagues to join that may not already be members of LES.

I look forward to working with this group to make this year great! Please feel free to contact me or any of the chapter officers with questions or concerns regarding this coming year. Thank you all for this opportunity.

# Engineering Education Committee

The Engineering Education Committee of the Louisiana Engineering Society (LES) shall endeavor to encourage students to become registered professional engineers and shall promote the teaching and promulgation of professional concepts in the engineering schools of Louisiana. This shall be accomplished by conferring and cooperating with the educational institutions, seeking the continued improvement in the education of Engineers and Engineering Technologists, and encouraging professionalism among students in the engineering education institutions.

The committee consists of a Chair, Vice Chair, LES Board Sponsor, and a representative from each of the eight state chapters appointed by each chapter's president or officers.



Jeffrey Pike, PE

CHAIR, Jeffrey A. Pike, PE

VICE CHAIR, Reginald Jeter, PE

BOARD SPONSOR, Clinton Patrick, PE

ALEXANDRIA, NO REPRESENTATIVE

BATON ROUGE, NO REPRESENTATIVE

BAYOU, Kevin Dezarn, PE

LAFAYETTE, NO REPRESENTATIVE

LAKE CHARLES, Theodore H. Thompson, PE

MONROE, Jeffrey A. Pike, PE

NEW ORLEANS, Christopher Fancher, PE

SHREVEPORT, Clinton Patrick, PE

Assigned Responsibilities from the LES Handbook include:

- Confer and cooperate with engineering education institutions to achieve continuous improvement of engineering curricula, facilities, and methods of teaching.
- Promote education of students in topics dealing with professionalism.
- Promote career guidance and scholarship activities, which lead to an improvement in the quality of students choosing engineering as a profession.
- Encourage the professional interaction of engineering students and those employed in the practice of engineering.
- Provide recognition of students at all levels that have excelled in subjects related to engineering. Recognition of elementary and secondary teachers is also encouraged.
- Encourage engineering seniors to take the EI examination, now called the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam.
- Explain the legal requirements of registration to engineering students and make available literature on the subject.

## Thank You to the LES Annual Sponsors!

### PLATINUM SPONSOR



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# LES Seminar Calendar 2022

## SEPTEMBER 2022

<b>15</b>	ADA Seminar, Brett Bayard, P.E., P.L.S.	Baton Rouge, LA/Virtual attendance	4 or 8 PDHs
<b>28</b>	Life Safety Code, Warren Bonisch, P.E.	Baton Rouge, LA/Virtual attendance	4 or 8 PDHs

## OCTOBER 2022

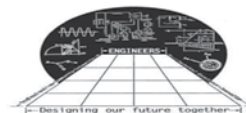
<b>25</b>	Professionalism & Ethics in Engineering, Jeff Pike, P.E.	Virtual attendance	1 PDH
<b>TBD</b>	Project Management Seminar, Howard Birnberg	Virtual attendance	4 or 8 PDHs

**Remember - LES offers On Demand Seminars on our website, available anytime!**

**Current offerings available On Demand:**

- ADA by Brett Bayard, PE, PLS
  - Life Safety Code by Warren Bonisch, PE
  - Professionalism & Ethics in Engineering by Jeffrey Pike, PE
  - Horizontal Directional Drilling with Ductile Iron Pipe by Allen H. Cox, PE
  - Roadway Management Technologies: Crowd Source Tech Provides Real-Time Pavement Performance Analytics by Candler McCollum
  - WTP Rehab & Expansions - Lessons Learned by Richard Ross, PE
  - Public Bid Law by Brett Robinson
  - Know What's Below. Call or Click 811 Before You Dig by Cole Vanderlick
  - Professional Liability: Risk Drivers by Wyatt Sanders
  - Buying Back Capacity of Your Gravity Collection Sewers by Spencer Tuell, PE
  - Proper Grounding for Improved Electrical Reliability by Ben Humphries & Bruce Ayres, PE
  - Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) 101: Basics and Fundamentals by Jeff Aleksic
  - National Bridge Inspection Program: Bridge Scour Monitoring by Lillie Carpenter, PE
  - Subsurface Utility Engineering: Recent Developments & Upcoming Changes (2022) by Wilfred Barry, PE, PLS
  - Google AppSheet, Leveraging Remote Operations in the Wake of COVID-19 - Ryan Fuselier, PE, PLS
  - Contracting Basics - Mary Anne Wolf, PE
  - Introduction to USDA Rural Development and Current Procedures for Funding Water and Environment Projects - Tony Matlock, Community Programs Director & David Suire, PE
  - Enhanced Outdoor Air and Building Pressurization Strategies - Jim Riendeau
  - Equipment Warranties and Operator Maintenance - Ben Humphries
  - Tracer Wire - Using a Complete System for More Accurate Locating - Andy Brown
  - Managing Your Pavement Network with Pavement Preservation - Stan Williams, PE
  - Innovative Repair of Failed MSE Walls Using Geosynthetic Materials in Conjunction with Strength Elements - Will Brantley, PE
- ...and many more!*

# SAVE THE DATE



## 27th Annual Joint Engineering Societies Conference

### February 23-24, 2023

### At the Cajundome in Lafayette, LA



# Legislative Affairs Fundraiser

August 1, 2022

This past year's Legislative Regular Session was eventful, to say the least. Thankfully, Haynie & Associates proved, once again, to be helpful partners and tenacious advocates for us. During the 2022 session, we successfully passed ACT 145 (Gadberry) which clarifies and limits the instances in which an architect may incidentally practice engineering. This change has been a goal of LES for many years, and much of the credit goes to our board and Representative Gadberry, who worked hard to find a compromise. We also saw a very hard push from anti-licensing groups (The Pelican Institute) to try to allow universal reciprocity for engineers among states. We defeated this effort and will continue to fight to uphold our strong engineering licensing standards.



Jason Thornhill

**Your financial support helps LES have continued success in promoting and protecting engineering standards and professionalism.** Dues alone will not cover our legislative expenses, and once again we must rely on donations. The LES Board, members, and staff are dedicated to serving the membership and are fighting to protect our profession. If you have already given, thank you for your support. If you haven't, **we strongly ask that you help in any way you can. Any donation is welcome, but we have set up three levels of support.**

- Gold - \$1,000
- Silver - \$500
- Bronze - \$100

All donors at these levels will be recognized in the Louisiana Engineering and Surveying Journal for their support of the Engineering profession. These donors will also be kept abreast of our efforts during the legislative session with periodic emails.

We thank you for your continued support and would appreciate any additional donations that will support our lobbying efforts to protect a noble profession. Please send your donations to LES at 9643 Brookline Avenue Suite 116, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Claire Ruckert at 225-924-2021 or email at [maryclaire@les-state.org](mailto:maryclaire@les-state.org). Visit us online at [les-state.org](http://les-state.org).

Sincerely,

Jason Thornhill

*Louisiana Engineering Society*

*Chair, Professional Engineers in Private Practice (PEPP)*

## PRESENTERS AND EXHIBITORS NEEDED FOR 2023 JESC

Join us and over 300 engineers from across the state when we meet in Lafayette for the 27th Annual JESC. We are looking for individuals who would like to conduct a seminar on an engineering-related topic of your choice during the JESC, on February 23rd & 24th, 2023. Each 50-minute seminar will provide one Professional Development hour and the conference registration fee for presenters is waived.

We would also like to extend an invitation to display at the JESC. Like any conference, Exhibitors play a vital role in the success of our event as well as informing attendees of new products and services in the industry.

Email Mary Claire at [maryclaire@les-state.org](mailto:maryclaire@les-state.org) for more information about this opportunity.

# Congratulations to the 2022-2023 ACEC/L Board of Governors

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
of Louisiana

ACEC/L is excited to announce its Board of Governors for 2022-2023. Leading the Board this year will be Chair Michael Thomassie, P.E., with Duplantis Design Group, PC of Baton Rouge. As Chair, Michael looks to build upon the recent successes, like the increased investments in infrastructure and strengthening the QBS law, while also taking on new initiatives. These initiatives would include developing solutions for workforce development and talent retention/recruitment, supporting pro-business tax policy and creating efficiencies in government programming and project delivery.

## Chairman

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(Duplantis Design Group, PC)

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(Linfield Hunter & Junius, Inc.)

## Vice-Chairman

Chad M. Poche, P.E.  
(Gulf South Engineering & Testing, Inc.)

## Secretary-Treasurer

Sherri LeBas, P.E.  
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## National Director

Andrée F. Cortez, P.E., PMP  
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Lisa F. Cookmeyer, P.E.  
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Bob Boagni, P.E.  
(Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.)

Don R. Arrington, P.E.  
(S.E. Huey Company)

Brett P. Bayard, P.E., PLS  
(Mader Engineering, Inc.)

Brin Ferlito, P.E., PTOE  
(Vectura Consulting Services, LLC)

## Baton Rouge Chapter President

Bryan Jones  
(HNTB)

## New Orleans Chapter President

Robert Delaune, P.E.  
(Digital Engineering & Imaging, Inc.)

## Lafayette Chapter President

David B. Stelly, P.E.  
(Associated Design Group)

## Shreveport Chapter President

Jordan M. Pearson, P.E.  
(Forte & Tablada)

## Lake Charles Chapter President

Butch Babineaux, P.E.  
(C.H. Fenstermaker & Associates, Inc.)

ACEC/L  
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF  
ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF LA

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SAVE THE DATE

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
of Louisiana

2022

FALL CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 3, 2022

BATON ROUGE MARRIOTT

8:00am – 5:00pm

# Capitol View: from Haynie and Associates

[www.haynieandassociates.com](http://www.haynieandassociates.com)

The Louisiana Legislature adjourned *SINE DIE* on June 26th from the 2022 general session, which was the fourth session of the year (one general, two specials, and a veto session). The legislature passed 776 legislative instruments during the regular session that became law, along with the second year of unprecedented excess budget funding made possible through federal stimulus, which mostly went to infrastructure and state debts. The Governor vetoed over a couple of dozen instruments, but very little in the funding bills, and the legislature is not expected to return to Baton Rouge again until the 2023 session which begins April 10th, 2023.

The 2022 session was a success for engineers and LES. A lot of time was spent successfully fighting back against special interest groups such as the Pelican Institute for Public Policy on their de-licensing legislation. Please advocate to your friends in the legislature to continue to uphold our engineering licensing standards and not to include LAPELS in policy best suited for occupational licenses.

**HB 305 by Foy Gadberry - ACT 145** <http://legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1286080>

**LES-sponsored bill - Defines the incidental practice of**



Ryan Haynie and Randy Haynie

**engineering by architects. Provides clarity and details on the limits to which an architect can practice engineering. Thank you to the LES leadership and committees who worked on this important compromise.**

HB 555/SB 483- LES Opposed - DID NOT PASS- Would have allowed for universal licensing/reciprocity. Successfully advocated exempting LAPELS from the legislation before it was untimely defeated.

Funding legislation - for your review :

HB 1: State Operating Budget -ACT 199 - Zeringue - <https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1286760>

HB 2: Capital Outlay Budget - ACT 117 - Bishop - <https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1286043>

HB 406: Transfer, Deposit and Use - ACT 167 - Zeringue - <https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1286119>

HB 465: Ancillary funds - ACT 169 - Zeringue - <http://legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1286123>

HB 592: Supplemental Appropriations - ACT 170 - Zeringue - <https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1286125>

HB 755: American Rescue Plan - ACT 497 - Schexnayder - <https://www.legis.la.gov/Legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1289567>

The remainder of 2022 will be a chance for elected officials to fundraise and prepare for the statewide election cycle in the fall of 2023. All 144 legislators and all Statewide offices (including Governor) are up for election on October 14th, 2023 (with runoffs on November 18th, 2023). Term limits and ambition will both contribute to relatively high turnover in the legislature.

Many of the current statewide officials considering a run for Governor have created interest in the legislature to run for the opening statewide positions. We also will see wholesale changes in the legislative leadership and committee positions following the 2023 elections, and those leadership races are underway among the members.

We encourage all LES members to be active in your local elections on behalf of their profession and community.

Haynie and Associates appreciate the partnership with LES advocates before the Louisiana Legislature for the advancement of professional engineers.



# Membership Committee

By Ali Mustapha, PE

## Join LES and help in advancing and protecting your profession.

Louisiana Engineering Society has served our engineering community for 125 years as the only professional society in the State of Louisiana that advocates for all engineers regardless of discipline. Supporting and joining your fellow professional engineers as a member of LES is an honor and will help build and advance your engineering career as a professional. Being a member will strengthen, shape, and protect the future of our noble engineering profession in the state, the region, and the nation. It's easy to join! The annual membership dues are very low compared to other professional and technical societies, and the benefits are great. Being a member of LES will help advance your career while protecting and safeguarding the profession you love and chose as a lifelong career. Please visit the LES website to learn more and join, and feel free to call the office if you have any questions or need assistance.

Last year the Membership Committee requested approval from the LES Board of Direction to amend the By-Laws and create an **LES Government Employee Membership Grade**. The request was approved, creating the Government Membership Grade. It is available at a very reasonable annual membership fee of only **\$50.00** (\$4.16 per month). Government employee members are eligible for all benefits as all LES members except voting and holding an office.

The membership committee will be promoting this new membership grade this year to increase the membership of government engineers in LES. We hope that government engineers will be pleased with the membership benefits and will support and strengthen LES in the future.

Many thanks to all the Chapter Presidents who serve as members of the membership committee and play a significant role in promoting, recruiting, and retaining members. They provide an outstanding service, with the help of the chapter officers, to the society members in their region of the state. The Chapter Presidents are vital to having a successful year, and I am thankful for their help each year.

The Membership Committee held a membership drive contest last year, and the chapter with the most membership growth for the year was **Lake Charles Chapter**. This chapter will receive a **recognition plaque and monetary award of \$150.00**. Congratulations to the chapter, its President, the officers, and the entire membership of the Lake Charles Chapter for an outstanding accomplishment.



Ali Mustapha, P.E.  
Membership Chair

## LES 2023 Honors & Awards

LES will honor eight engineers who have achieved high levels of professionalism, technical ability, or civic support. The desire of LES is not only to recognize the distinguished service of these individuals but to also encourage and inspire other engineers to take a greater

interest in their specific field. Please give serious thought to one of the awards listed. Nominations should be made through your local chapter and are due to the State Office by November 4, 2022.

### THE EIGHT CATEGORIES ARE:

1. A.B. Patterson Medal for an Engineer in Management
2. Andrew M. Lockett Medal for Civic Activities
3. James L. Todd Technical Accomplishment Medal
4. Leo M. Odom Award for Service to the Profession
5. Charles M. Kerr Public Relations Award
6. F. Hugh Coughlin Young Engineer Award
7. Waldemar S. Nelson President's Award
8. Dudley Hixson - Bobby Price National Professional Achievement Award

# LES MEMBERSHIP DRIVE & CONTEST 2022-2023

**BEGINS: SEPTEMBER 1, 2022**

**ENDS: MAY 31, 2023**

## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

The Louisiana Engineering Society Membership Drive & Contest for 2022-2023 will kick off on September 1, 2022, and end on May 31, 2023.

The contest will be divided into two (2) groups:

- Large Chapters - Baton Rouge, Lafayette, & New Orleans
- Small Chapters - Alexandria, Bayou, Lake Charles, Monroe, & Shreveport

At the end of the contest period, the winning chapter in each group will receive an award based on **net growth & retention** (excluding student members).

We hope that all chapters and members will continue to support and grow LES. Our growth ensures the prosperity and success of the engineers in Louisiana as well as promotes the noble engineering profession and, more importantly, the welfare and safety of the public.

## MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

P.E. Member - \$101/year  
E.I. Under 30 - \$65/year  
E.I. Over 30 - \$101/year  
Individual Sustaining - \$65/year  
Corporate Sustaining - \$280/year  
Student Member - \$0/year  
**\*NEW\*** Governmental Employee\* - \$50/year

## PRIZES

The winning Large Chapter group will receive a **\$250 reward**, a plaque, and recognition in the Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal.

The winning Small Chapter group will receive a **\$150 reward**, a plaque, and recognition in the Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal.

... and don't forget about bragging rights!

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Lake Charles Chapter  
2021-2022  
Small Chapter Winner



## SPECIAL GRAND PRIZE

Any chapter that achieves a 15+% NET growth of existing membership\*, excluding student members, will receive a **\$500 reward**, a plaque, and recognition in the Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal.

*\*Membership as of September 1, 2022*

\*A Government Employee Member is defined as an individual that is employed by a governmental agency that would like to contribute to the well-being of the Society. A Governmental Employee Member shall have no voting privileges nor be able to hold office, and is eligible for all other Society benefits.

# State Mathcounts Competition

By: Melanie Caillouet

# MATHCOUNTS®



Melanie Caillouet

Hello everyone. Melanie here, your 2022-2023 State Mathcounts Coordinator. As you know, part of LES's mission is to promote engineering throughout the state. One way we do this is by sparking the interest in math in middle schoolers. Without a good math base formed during those years, many of us would not have become engineers.

Mathcounts is a national math competition for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. It includes home schools, eLearning schools, and other school alternatives. The first level of competition is at the chapter level and usually takes place in February. State competition occurs in March, followed by Nationals in April or early May.

Each competition has multiple test formats:

- Sprint Round: thirty questions in forty minutes without a calculator
- Target Round: a series of four tests with two questions (six minutes each) using a calculator
- Team Round: a team of four students has twenty minutes to answer ten questions using a calculator
- Countdown Round: a head-to-head competition where the first student who can provide the correct answer advances to the next round

Due to COVID, the past two years of Mathcounts competitions were hosted virtually. These format changes impacted who advanced to the next stage of the competition. Previously, team scores would dictate advancements, but last year only individual scores were used. I believe this year all stages of the competition in Louisiana will be in person again. Competitors seem to enjoy it more and can meet other students from around the state that share their same interests, as well as get a day off from school.

Now that you have the basic knowledge of what Mathcounts entails, you can assist with making it a bigger and better competition. The hardest task for chapter coordinators is finding a Mathcounts coach at each school to prepare the students for competition. Many teachers are overwhelmed with lesson plans, grading papers, and other school clubs and do not want to take on another responsibility. Although a math teacher traditionally serves the coach, it doesn't have to be the case. The Mathcounts website has tests from past competitions with solutions to help coaches prepare the competitors.

So, I'm giving each of you a homework assignment. If you have a family member or friend in the school system, speak with them about Mathcounts and give them your chapter coordinator's information. You can also volunteer your time to the chapter and/or state competitions. If you or your company would like to donate to the chapter and state competitions, please do so. You can send a check to the state office, donate at the time of your LES membership renewal, or participate in fundraising events at the chapter level. It is through our efforts as a society that we keep the engineering profession growing, and the best way to do that is to spark the interest of young minds.

For more information on this year's format or advancement procedures, please contact your Chapter Mathcounts Coordinator, me, or visit the Mathcounts website at [www.mathcounts.org](http://www.mathcounts.org).



# Louisiana



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