

JULY 2009 NEWSLETTER

Happy 4th of July and welcome to the 2009-2010 LES Calendar Year. Typically, June and July serve as transitional and planning months for the LES Board and therefore no newsletter is produced. However, I've decided to put together this brief July newsletter in effort to inform the LES membership of the many events that have transpired since the previous newsletter.

Membership

On behalf of the LES-BR Executive Board, I'd like to welcome our five (5) newest members. If you see these individuals, please welcome them to the Society.

- Mark Gremillion, P.E. – Total Petrochemicals**
- Natalie Guillot, E.I.**
- Brad Ponder, P.E. – CSRS**
- Flozelle Roberts, E.I.**
- Danny Fawley, P.E. – Shaw E&I**

Legislative

As you may or may not be aware, LES sponsors legislation. Although LES did not sponsor any legislation this session, there were a number of bills that LES kept tabs on. Below are a few of those bills and their current status:

Instrument	Summary	Action Taken
SB244	TRANSPORTATION/DEV DEPT: Removes engineering qualifications and duties related to the assistant secretary of the office of public works, hurricane flood protection and intermodal transportation in the Department of Transportation and Development.	Signed by the Governor
SB258	TRANSPORTATION/DEV DEPT: Provides for authority of DOTD to execute design-build contracts.	Became SB351 and sent to the Governor for signature
SB308	TRANSPORTATION/DEV DEPT: Provides for the selection of certain consultants by DOTD.	Sent to the Governor for signature
HB139	CIVIL/PLEADINGS: Requires attachment of third-party affidavit to a petition for damages alleging negligence by an architect, land surveyor, or engineer	Assigned to House Civil Law & Procedure; Considered on May 11 th ; Meeting adjourned without action
HB276	BUILDING CODES: Provides for changes to the state uniform construction code	Sent to the Governor for signature
HB801	PUBLIC CONTRACT/BIDS: Provides with respect to restriction on bids or proposals for public contracts by certain contractors participating in the development of the bid specifications or request for proposals	Sent to the Governor for signature
HB833	COASTAL COMMISSION: Creates the Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration in the Office of the Governor	Sent to the Governor for signature

If you are interested in learning more about these and other bills, the following website can be of help:
www.legis.state.la.us/home.htm.

Past-President's Luncheon

It has become tradition that every May luncheon, LES honors its past Presidents by picking up the tab for their lunch. This past May, however, the luncheon was shared with ASCE and the tradition was overlooked until too late. The Past President's Luncheon will be rescheduled. An exact time has not been determined as of yet, but due notice will be given. My apologies to our Past Presidents.

19th Annual LES William A. Wintz, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament

Wow...what a tournament it was. This year's LES Golf Tournament was, as advertised, the best tournament yet. The new venue of Santa Maria Golf Course drew a record crowd of 26 teams, which is not bad considering we had to compete with the LSU Baseball Regional Tournament. Many thanks to the competitors, sponsors, donors, and especially to the LES Golf Committee (Alan Krouse, Craig Corie, Dan Rosenquist, Robbie Lear, Bert Wintz, Brenda Gajan). This is the second year that LES has hired Beth Bares to manage this tournament and she has helped us improve the event each year. And let us not forget the purpose for this tournament...to raise money for the William A. Wintz, Jr. Scholarship. This year's tournament netted almost \$3,000 for the upcoming year's scholarships. Thank you all and look out for the 20th Annual Tournament...it will certainly be the best yet.

Until then, the following people can brag on their tournament victories:

1st Place Team – Alan Krouse, Ben Malbrough, Jay LeBlanc, Danny Fawley

2nd Place Team – Ronnie Rabelais, Paul LeBlanc, Pat Bell, Bill Roux

3rd Place Team – Jeff Cook, Brandon Acosta, Bo Booty, Robby Overall

Last Place Team – Michael Somme, Nathan Cobb, Brandon Hebron, Lena Peltier

Closest to the Pin – Danny Fawley & Gavin Gautreau

Longest Drive – Debbie Guest

Betting Hole – Eric Marx

2009 Dual-State Engineering Societies Meeting

The usual Tri-State Engineering Conference this year was paired down to two (2) state societies after Alabama withdrew from the annual conference. Though lessened by one state, this year's conference was surely enjoyed by any Louisiana or Mississippi member who attended the festivities in the beautiful Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort. The meeting boasted four days of one-hour continuing education seminars running in three concurrent sessions. That is a total of 36 available seminars to attend plus another 24 booths manned by exhibitors. These meetings offer a great opportunity to obtain continuing education hours, learn about new companies & products, and hang out with colleagues and/or family in a beautiful setting. If you were unable to make the meeting, I strongly encourage you to consider next year's meeting at The Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama on June 6th through 9th.

Final Thoughts

As good as the 2008-2009 LES Year has been, I'd like to see the 2009-2010 Year eclipse it. It has been an honor to serve on the LES Executive Board these past years and it will be an honor to serve as your President this year. If there is any aspect that you feel LES needs to improve upon or any venture you believe that we need to embark upon, please speak up. The success of LES is dependent on the voice and action of its members.

Geoff Wilson, P.E.

LES-BR President and Newsletter Editor

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