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ROBERT "BOB" SCHMIDT, PE
ACEC/L 2016-2017 PRESIDENT
Louisiana Engineering Society
9643 Brookline Avenue, Suite 116, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488
Telephone: (225) 924-2021, Fax: (225) 924-2049
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
Telephone: (225) 927-7704, Fax: (225) 927-7779
E-mail: acecl@acecl.org

Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board
9643 Brookline Avenue, Suite 121, Baton Rouge, LA 70809-1488
Telephone: (225) 925-6291, Fax: (225) 925-6292
Website: www.lapels.com

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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 contact 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.

Brenda Gajan, Managing Editor
Dan Mobley, Associate 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.
I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, got to spend time with your family and celebrate the reason for the Season. I also hope you had time to sit back, relax a little and then bring in the New Year. With 2017, the Board will be changing. John W. “Billy” Moore and I will be rotating off of the Board at the end of March and fresh new faces will be beginning their 6-year term. Our term has truly passed in the blink of an eye. I couldn’t have picked a better person than Billy Moore to share the “Chairman of the Board” duties and responsibilities over the past year.

When I began my term on the Board, there were several things I did not know but would soon realize. I had no idea the amount of time and effort it would take to be a productive Board Member. Enforcement cases are time consuming on the front end of the process to determine if a violation has been committed. Handling enforcement cases and preferring charges are not tasks Board Members look forward to or take lightly. We as a Board go out of our way to make sure we get it right. I want to thank Scott Phillips for the time spent on updating the Enforcement Guidelines.

The Enforcement staff has changed over my term. There has been one consistent factor and that is Tyson Ducote. I have seen Tyson grow professionally from an Investigator to his current position of Director of Enforcement. The Investigative Reports are a complete package when submitted to the Board Members. Tyson has a talent when dealing with complainants, licensees, attorneys and even Board members. Keep up the good work.

Another Committee that gets task after task is the Law & Liaison Review Committee chaired by Chris Knotts. Chris has accepted this responsibility for the past 2 years. I can’t begin to describe the work ethic of Chris in this short column. He carries far more than his fair share of the work load on anything he is asked to do. Chris also holds a regional position with NCEES and is currently running for a position to lead to a national office. I feel fortunate to have worked with him. Until you have served and see the entire Board change over your term, you can’t realize the job Donna Sentell performs as our Executive Director. She balances the personalities of 11 Board Members, manages staff, deals with applicants, licensees, board members, etc. and has always been impressed with how they conduct themselves and get the job done. I was able to see Richard Savoie leave as a Board Member and return several years later as Deputy Executive Director. Richard truly has a passion to serve the profession and I feel fortunate to have worked with him. Until you have served and see the entire Board change over your term, you can’t realize the job Donna Sentell performs as our Executive Director. She balances the personalities of 11 Board Members, manages staff, deals with applicants, interacts with licensees, works with professional societies, and still squeezes out time to serve/chair committees with NCEES. Thank all of you for your tireless effort for our profession.

I could continue down the list with each Board Member but time and space prevents this. I have never served on a Board in my career with Board Members from top to bottom that were willing to put the time and effort as these members do. I look back at some of the Board members when I first started my term that took the time to bring me up to speed.....Ali Mustapha, Tim Allen, Ernie Gammon, Miles Williams, Richard Savoie, Ted Thompson, Norma Jean Mattei and several others. Thank you to each past and current Board Member that has helped me along the way.

One group of individuals that have made my experience on the Board remarkable is the Staff Members. All of the staff is responsive to the Board Members in a professional and helpful manner. I have watched many in action dealing with applicants, licensees, board members, etc. and have always been impressed with how they conduct themselves and get the job done. I was able to see Richard Savoie leave as a Board Member and return several years later as Deputy Executive Director. Richard truly has a passion to serve the profession and I feel fortunate to have worked with him. Until you have served and see the entire Board change over your term, you can’t realize the job Donna Sentell performs as our Executive Director. She balances the personalities of 11 Board Members, manages staff, deals with applicants, interacts with licensees, works with professional societies, and still squeezes out time to serve/committee with NCEES. Thank all of you for your tireless effort for our profession.
Our Board Attorney, Scott Landry, is a one-of-a-kind individual and LAPELS is fortunate to have him advising the Board. Scott is always there to answer questions, provide legal opinion, provide history of past board actions, review all documents produced by the Board and review the various contracts. Scott is a stand up individual and someone that always provides a calming hand. Scott has a unique personality that allows him to provide his guidance then step back to allow the Board to make their own decisions.

Joe Harmon serves as a consultant to the Board and works on a broad list of items. One week he may be making a presentation on Ethics. The next week he is meeting with a group regarding the Investigative guidelines. Another week he may be reviewing a complex enforcement case. We have shared many laughs over the past 6 years. Mr. Harmon provides many years of experience to the Board as well as the staff.

As I wrap up my term, I want each of you to consider what you will do with the most priceless gift you have….Time. Consider carving out some Time and giving back to Your Profession. Mentor a young Engineer or Surveyor. Volunteer in a Professional Society. Serve as an Officer in a Professional Society. Speak to a High School Senior class. Provide a College Scholarship. Find something that speaks to you and get plugged in.

Time is a limited resource. Only you have control over your Time and how you choose to use it. I appreciate my family for allowing me the Time away from them for the past 6 years to serve the Public on the LAPELS Board.

NICHOLLS STATE GEOMATICS PROGRAM RECOGNIZED

The Geomatics program at Nicholls State University is the only ABET accredited surveying program in Louisiana. Geomatics faculty members include Dr. Balaji Ramachandran, Dr. James Elithorp, and Mr. Stephen Flynn, PLS. For more information on this program:  https://www.nicholls.edu/doas/

The Geomatics program was one of ten award recipients, from Surveying/Geomatics programs around the country, of the inaugural NCEES Surveying Education Award. The $10,000 award, established in 2016, recognizes programs that promote licensure for surveyors and supports the mission ‘to safeguard life, health and property, and to promote the public welfare.’ Programs were judged on student outcomes, student involvement, outreach and recruitment.

To learn more about this nationally recognized award:  http://ncees.org/education/ncees-surveying-education-award/
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.

MULTIPLE LAWS/RULES VIOLATIONS:

Darrell R. Fussell, PE, a professional engineer (PE-23834), 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 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); and (e) 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). In January and March 2013, Mr. Fussell sealed, signed and issued two sets of engineering design plans for metal buildings in Louisiana. The plans, which were submitted to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal for review, included a number of material deficiencies. The plans were prepared by unlicensed persons who were not employed by Mr. Fussell, and Mr. Fussell did not exercise responsible charge over the preparation of the plans by the unlicensed persons. Since at least 2010, Mr. Fussell has been designing buildings and/or building systems in Louisiana. In 2012, Mr. Fussell submitted to the Board his 2012 Louisiana professional engineer license renewal invoice, confirming therein that (i) he had met the Board’s requirements for CPD for active status for the biennial licensure renewal period of 2010 to 2012, (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. Fussell’s CPD records. In responding to the CPD audit, Mr. Fussell failed to produce the appropriate documentation to prove that, for the biennial licensure renewal period of 2010 to 2012, he had earned the required minimum of eight PDHs in Life Safety Code, building codes and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines. Mr. Fussell 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 three years; to submit to the Board on a quarterly basis during the probation period a complete and detailed list of current projects of which he is providing engineering services and projects on 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 current or 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 he fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until he so complies; to earn an additional eight PDHs each year for the next four calendar years in Life Safety Code, building codes and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines; to promptly submit to the Board each year the appropriate documentation to substantiate the earning of these additional eight PDHs per year; to pay a fine of $5,000; to pay administrative costs of $2,366.50; 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.

Arrow Engineering & Consulting, Inc., a professional engineering firm (EF-3594), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for (a) having an owner/officer/employee/supervising professional who was disciplined by the Board for gross negligence 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 owner/officer/employee/supervising professional who was disciplined by the Board for 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(C), to wit La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6) and LAC Title 46:LXI§2503(C); and (c) having an owner/officer/employee/supervising professional who was disciplined by the Board for gross negligence 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 owner/officer/employee/supervising professional who was disciplined by the Board for 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(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). Darrell R. Fussell, PE was an owner, officer, employee and supervising professional of the firm. In 2013, Mr. Fussell (in the name of and on behalf of the firm) sealed, signed and issued two sets of engineering design plans for metal buildings in Louisiana. The plans, which were submitted to the Louisiana State Fire Marshal for review, included a number of material deficiencies. The plans were prepared by unlicensed persons who were not employed by the firm or Mr. Fussell, and Mr. Fussell did not exercise responsible charge
over the preparation of the plans by the unlicensed persons. 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 its Louisiana professional engineering firm license being placed on probation for a period of three years; to submit to the Board on a quarterly basis during the probation period a complete and detailed list of current projects of which it is providing engineering services and projects on which it 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 current or 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 the firm; to the immediate suspension of its Louisiana professional engineering firm license if it fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until it so complies; to pay a fine of $5,000; to pay administrative costs of $1,682.30; 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.

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

Lamb Services Inc., an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective August 12, 2015 (EF-5797), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice engineering and using the words “engineer”, “engineering” or any modification or derivative thereof in a person’s name or form of business or activity without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1), (7) and (9), to wit LAC Title 46:XI§2301(B). Since April 2011 the firm has admitted wrongdoing and offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana. Between January 2012 and July 2015, the firm admittedly offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services on 14 projects in Louisiana. Additionally, since at least 2011 the firm has maintained an office in Louisiana and has represented on its website that (a) it offers “complete turnkey design engineering”, (b) it provides “custom engineered features” and (c) its team is “comprised of engineers”. 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 $1,500; to pay administrative costs of $708.68; 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.

Lajo J. Landry, Jr., an unlicensed individual, was subject to enforcement action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice land surveying without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1). In or about May 2014, Mr. Landry prepared, signed, dated and recorded in the parish public record a re-subdivision plat for property located in Louisiana. The re-subdivision plat included distances, a commencing point improperly labeled as a “beginning point”, and corners labeled as alphabetical points. Mr. Landry 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 $649.80; to immediately cease and desist the preparation, signing, issuance or recordation of re-subdivision plats or otherwise the practicing of and/or offering to practice land surveying in Louisiana until such time as he is duly licensed by the Board; to hire a Louisiana-licensed professional land surveyor to prepare a proper re-subdivision plat of the subject property, properly file a corrected conveyance deed with the new plat into the parish public record, furnish a certified copy of the filed correction deed and new plat to both his clients and another professional land surveyor, and provide satisfactory evidence of the accomplishment of these requirements to the Board; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board’s website, the printing of a summary of this matter by name in this publication, and the reporting of this matter by name to NCEES.

James N. Garrett, III, PE, a professional engineer (PE-27655), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice land surveying without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1). In or about January 2012, Mr. Garrett prepared, signed, dated and issued to his client a property boundary survey plat for property located in Louisiana. The property boundary survey plat included Mr. Garrett’s name, address and Louisiana professional engineer license number. Mr. Garrett 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 $1,500; to pay administrative costs of $536.47; to successfully complete the Board’s online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz; to immediately cease and desist the preparation, signing or issuance of property boundary survey plats or otherwise the practicing of and/or offering to practice land surveying in Louisiana until such time as he is duly licensed by the Board; to either (a) hire a Louisiana-licensed professional land surveyor to prepare a proper final subdivision plat of the subject property, properly file the new plat into the parish public record, and provide satisfactory evidence of the accomplishment of these requirements to the Board, or (b) provide to the Board a certified copy of a proper final subdivision plat of the subject property which has already been filed into the parish public record; 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:

John A. Bibaeff, Jr., PE, a professional engineer (PE-27972), 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). Since April 2011 Lamb Services, Inc. (an unlicensed firm) has admitted wrongdoing and offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana. Between January 2012 and July 2015, the firm admittedly offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services on 14 projects in Louisiana. Additionally, since at least 2011 the firm has maintained an office in Louisiana and has represented on its website that (a) it offers “complete turnkey design engineering”, (b) it provides “custom engineered features” and (c) its team is “comprised of engineers”. The firm subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective August 12, 2015 (EF-5797). Mr. Bibaeff was an employee, the engineering manager and a principal/owner of the firm, and he is now the supervising professional of the firm. Mr. Bibaeff 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 $500; to pay administrative costs of $700.22; to successfully complete the Board’s online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz; to immediately cease and desist the preparation, signing or issuance of property boundary survey plats or otherwise the practicing of and/or offering to practice land surveying in Louisiana; to immediately stop offering engineering services in Louisiana; to pay-in-full any administrative costs incurred by the Board in connection with reviewing any of said documents submitted by the firm; to the immediate suspension of its Louisiana professional engineering firm license if it fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until it so complies; to provide a fine of $1,500; to pay administrative costs of $536.47; to successfully complete the Board’s online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz; to immediately cease and desist the preparation, signing or issuance of property boundary survey plats or otherwise the practicing of and/or offering to practice land surveying in Louisiana; to immediately cease and desist the preparation, signing or issuance of property boundary survey plats or otherwise the practicing of and/or offering to practice land surveying in Louisiana; to pay administrative costs of $1,682.30; 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.

Leo J. Landry, Jr., an unlicensed individual, was subject to enforcement action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice land surveying without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1). In or about May 2014, Mr. Landry prepared, signed, dated and recorded in the parish public record a re-subdivision plat for property located in Louisiana. The re-subdivision plat included distances, a commencing point improperly labeled as a “beginning point”, and corners labeled as alphabetical points. Mr. Landry 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 $649.80; to immediately cease and desist the preparation, signing, issuance or recordation of re-subdivision plats or otherwise the practicing of and/or offering to practice land surveying in Louisiana until such time as he is duly licensed by the Board; to hire a Louisiana-licensed professional land surveyor to prepare a proper re-subdivision plat of the subject property, properly file a corrected conveyance deed with the new plat into the parish public record, furnish a certified copy of the filed correction deed and new plat to both his clients and another professional land surveyor, and provide satisfactory evidence of the accomplishment of these requirements to the Board; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board’s website, the printing of a summary of this matter by name in this publication, and the reporting of this matter by name to NCEES.
LAPELS and LSPS members participated in the first ever district-wide Ascension Parish Schools Career Fair on January 18. It was a tremendous opportunity for students to learn about career options, and a great time for us to promote the professions of surveying and engineering.
B
ty the time this article goes to print, the JESC will have happened and LES will have conducted its annual awards ceremony. We had some very worthy recipients this year, and the awards committee had to make some difficult choices among the nominees to choose the ultimate recipients. I hope most of you came to the JESC and watched the awards ceremony. If you weren’t able to make it to the ceremony, please look up the award recipients and read their citations. I certainly want to congratulate the recipients, but I also want to congratulate the other nominees. Someone thought enough of you and your work to nominate you for an award.

This is a good time to consider why LES gives awards. The most obvious answer to this question is to recognize exemplary activities. Many professional societies give awards to their outstanding members, but LES gives awards for a variety of things such as service to the profession, technological accomplishments, management, public relations, civic activities, and outstanding young engineer. Even if you remove the distinctions of the different engineering disciplines, there would be no way to give a single award for outstanding engineer of the year. Our work and our types of contributions to society are so diverse that recognition must be split up into several awards for different types of contributions. These awards may be the only recognition that some of our outstanding peers receive. By giving out awards every year for exemplary engineers, perhaps we can get the public to better recognize and understand what we do.

We, as a profession, are continually making progress to get the public to appreciate our roles, but there is still much to do. I work in the environmental engineering field, where much of what I design is buried underground or hidden out of view. Few people will thank us when their toilets flush or when they do not catch a waterborne disease from their drinking water. Much of the public only thinks of our work when things do not work properly.

There is a new Netflix movie called Spectral in which the engineer is the actual hero of the movie and saves the day. It is a science fiction movie and some of the topics have that MacGyver far-fetchedness, but it is great to see the engineer be the hero. It’s great to see a movie in which the engineer is the hero instead of being a nerdy supporting character. Closer to home, it was a proud moment for me some months ago, when my wife and I traveled to a town and she noticed the coating system and the logo on that town’s elevated tank. Whenever I drive through a town, I naturally notice the water tanks and lift stations. She, being a lay person, doesn’t normally notice those things. She didn’t care that the tank was a double ellipsoidal style or that the topcoat was likely an aliphatic acrylic polyurethane with UV blockers; she just thought that the tank was pretty. That’s a start! I am not complaining; most of us knew when we entered this profession that much of what we do goes on behind the scenes. If everything goes all right, the general public never knows what goes on under the ground. Everything just works. We don’t do it for the recognition. Most of us do it because we enjoy taking things apart to see how they work. We enjoy solving problems. We enjoy building things and fixing things. Being professional engineers allows us to make a living doing something we wanted to do anyway. Spreading a little recognition among peers for those who exemplify the highest ideals of our profession is nice, though.

Another reason LES gives awards is to hold the recipients up as good examples to follow. Indeed, most of the award descriptions describe the award as not only recognizing the particular individual’s achievements, but also to inspire others to do the same. Hopefully, most of you have read about what one of your peers has done to receive an award and thought, “I could do that”, or “I could start with that idea and make it even better”. That’s the desired effect.

We will start the awards nomination process again in just a few short months, with nominations being due in November. Some chapters don’t submit many awards nominations, and some chapters commonly don’t submit any. I know that there are more engineers in Louisiana who are deserving of the awards. The awards committee task is already difficult, but it needs to be even more difficult. I’m sure each of you knows someone who is deserving of one of the LES awards. Think of someone whose work you respect or someone who inspires you to be a better engineer. Don’t wait until this fall to start thinking about your nomination; start thinking about it now! The way our chosen profession works, your nomination may be the only recognition they get.

LES also conferred an honorary membership to state Senator Sharon Hewitt of Slidell. Honorary membership is the highest honor that LES can bestow upon a non-member and is intended to recognize exemplary services to the profession. We don’t confer honorary memberships very often and it is truly a high honor. Senator Hewitt has an engineering degree and retired from the petroleum industry before she decided to enter politics. While many engineers enter other professions such as business or politics and eventually lose their innate desire to take things apart and fix them, Senator Hewitt still thinks like an engineer. I wish I lived in her district so I could vote for her.
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!

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.

CONNECT WITH LES ONLINE!

Follow Us on Twitter!
@laengsoc

Like Us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/LouisianaEngineeringSociety

SAVE THE DATE

14th Annual Dual State Engineering Society Conference
June 18-20, 2017 – Destin, Florida

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 2017
8 Project Management Seminar – Baton Rouge, LA
1-28 MATHCOUNTS Window for Chapter Competition
19-25 National Engineers Week

March 2017
6 8 Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Monroe, LA
8 8 Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Alexandria, LA
10 8 Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Baton Rouge, LA
15 New Orleans Chapter Licensing Ceremony
20 8 Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Bossier City, LA
22 8 Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Lake Charles, LA
23 Baton Rouge Chapter Licensing Ceremony
24 8 Hour Life Safety Code Seminar – Covington, LA
31 MATHCOUNTS State Competition – Pineville, LA

April 2017
4 Alexandria Chapter Licensing Ceremony
7 LES Board Meeting – Alexandria, LA
12 Lake Charles Chapter Licensing Ceremony
12 Shreveport Chapter Licensing Ceremony
13 Monroe Chapter Licensing Ceremony
18 Lafayette Chapter Licensing Ceremony
We would like to recognize your achievement and invite you to a Certificate Presentation Ceremony to a location near you.

This is a chance to be recognized for your achievement in front of your peers and network with others in the Engineering Profession. We encourage you to invite family and friends to celebrate this monumental event.

Please RSVP via email to les@les-state.org and be sure to include your name, license number and how many guests that will attend with you. Contact Brenda Gajan, LES Executive Direction at Brenda@les-state.org if you have any questions.

We hope to see you there!

Alexandria Chapter - Tuesday, April 4, 2017 @ 11:45 AM - Westside Library, 5416 Provine Place
Baton Rouge Chapter - Thursday, March 23, 2017 @ 11:30 AM - Juban’s, 3739 Perkins Road
Bayou Chapter - To be determined**
Lafayette Chapter - Tuesday, April 18, 2017 @ 6:30 PM - Petroleum Club, 111 Heymann Blvd.
Lake Charles Chapter - Wednesday, April 12, 2017 @ 11:30 AM - Pat’s of Henderson, 1500 Siebarth Drive
Monroe Chapter - Thursday, April 13, 2017 @ 12:00 PM - Catfish Cabin, 1400 Louisville Ave
New Orleans Chapter - Wednesday, March 15, 2017 @ 11:30 AM - UNO University Center – Innsbruck Room, 2000 Lakeshore Dr.
Shreveport Chapter - Wednesday, April 12, 2017 @ 11:45 AM - Petroleum Club, 416 Travis Street

CONGRATULATIONS ON ACHIEVING A MAJOR MILESTONE IN YOUR ENGINEERING CAREER!

Standing: Joey Krefft, PE; Roy Phelps, PE; Glenn Orgeron, PE; Michael Swanbom, PE; Billy Moore, PE; Shaun Sherrow, PE; Stan Whitney, PE; Chad Hadaway, PE; Craig Dooley, PE; Kyle Randall, PE; Mike Bares, PE; and Luke Miller, PE. Seated: Brenda Gajan, Heather Klingman, PE; Glenn Turner, PE; Byron Racca, PE; Josh Hayes, PE; and Chris Knotts, PE

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Alexandria Chapter
Maurice Paulk, PE
Joshua Gaspard, PE
Jeff LeBlanc, PE
Kerry Anthony Mire, PE
Steven Dale Moore, PE
Chris D. Morgan, PE
Brant M. Broussard, EI Associate Under 30

Baton Rouge Chapter
John P. Binion, PE
William B. Daniel, PE
Betty Ellzey, PE
Michael Redd, PE
Robert Routon, PE
Ian B. Trahan, PE
Jennifer Anne Wang, PE
Jacob L. Watts, EI Associate Under 30

Bayou Chapter
Samuel S. Beane, PE
Blake Michael Talbot, Student

Lafayette Chapter
Robert Ray Brignac, PE

Lake Charles Chapter
Benjamin M. Clark, PE
Jonathan D. Fussell, PE
Shannon S. Spell, PE

Monroe Chapter
Clinton C. Patrick, PE

New Orleans Chapter
Kimberly Andrus, PE
Charles T. Knight, PE
Jason M. Maloney, PE

Kenneth Brandon Poteete, PE
Dustin T. Richards, PE
John J. Schnabel, PE
James A. Shinn, PE
Robert A. Simmons, PE
Clifford John Williamson, PE
James H. Henry, EI Associate
Louis K. King, EI Associate
John Wisinger, EI Associate
Patrick J. Webre, EI Associate Under 30

Shreveport Chapter
Sandra Davis, PE
Jeffrey McNeely, PE
David C. Wilkinson, PE
Jon C. Watson, EI Associate Under 30

Non-Resident
Philip Edward Hadaway, PE
Download: Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest Flyer from the NSPE website with all attachments.

All current NSPE individual members through their NSPE state societies and NSPE chapters (including student chapters) are invited to participate in the 2017 NSPE Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest. Match your wits and knowledge of engineering ethics with experienced professional engineers and engineering students throughout the country.

New this year, the winning entry will receive a certificate, recognition in PE magazine, and an award of $1,000 to the author!

**How to Participate**

NSPE’s Board of Ethical Review is furnishing you with four different fact situations to choose from regarding the ethics of engineers. Contestants can choose any one out of the four situations and develop an essay, video, photo essay, poster, or PowerPoint presentation which could include embedded videos/sound, etc. to demonstrate their understanding of the facts and the NSPE Code of Ethics.

Contestants are asked to read the facts of the case, then develop a discussion and conclusion to respond to the included question(s). Contestants should also provide references, citing specific sections of the NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers. Contestants may also want to check the NSPE Board of Ethical Review’s Web site for additional cases decided by the BER.

All entries must be received by Friday, April 28, 2017. E-mail or mail entries to:

2017 NSPE Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest
NSPE Legal Department
1420 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-2794
E-mail: legal@nspe.org

The contest is named for NSPE’s former general counsel, who played a key role in the founding of the NSPE Board of Ethical Review.

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**ALEXANDRIA CHAPTER**

By Kyle Randall, PE

At the midpoint of the LES year, the Alexandria Chapter is shifting gears to prepare for our spring events. We mixed things up a bit last fall, having our four meetings at four different locations; Alexandria’s new power plant, Tioga Branch Library, CLECO headquarters in Pineville, and the West Side Branch Library in Alexandria.

This spring, we will have our meetings at our normal spot- the West Side Library in Alexandria. Meetings are scheduled for 11:45 on January 31, March 7, April 4, and May 2.

Our special events this spring include:
- Local MATHCOUNTS Competition: Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017
- Golf Tournament: Friday, May 19, 2017

The Chapter would also like to extend our congratulations to one of our own- Luke Miller-for being selected as the statewide recipient of the 2017 F. Hugh Coughlin Young Engineer Award. The award will be presented to Luke at the Joint Engineering Societies Conference on January 25, 2017. Luke is a Past President of the Alexandria Chapter and currently serves on the State LES Board.

We look forward to bringing relevant, interesting speakers and topics to our Chapter this year, and we encourage our members to attend meetings. Any feedback on how we can better serve our members is appreciated.
By A. L. Roy Phelps, Jr, PE

The board and I want to wish everyone a prosperous and Happy New Year! I am sure that December was busy for everyone and playing catch up during the past weeks in January has been even harder. This is also that time of year where many of us set, or considering setting, new personal and career goals for ourselves. If one of your goals pertains to getting more involved in the engineering profession, then please check out our local LES chapter newsletter and website to find some opportunities to volunteer and be more active.

We had a great December luncheon at Juban’s. DOTD Secretary Shawn Wilson was our guest speaker. He provided a summary of the recommendations by the task force regarding finding community-driven solutions for Louisiana’s transportation infrastructure investment needs. Dr. Wilson’s presentation was insightful in summarizing the history of the gas sales tax and limitations the legislature has when finding funding solutions to fund transportation.

I am proud to announce that two of our Baton Rouge Chapter award winners were awarded the same prestigious award at the state level at the Joint Society Engineering Conference in January. These achievements from our members come from a lot of time, energy and leadership, and we are grateful that they are part of our engineering society.

By Shaun Sherrow, PE

We are in the third week of 2017 as I finalize the February New Orleans Chapter's message.

The New Orleans Chapter starts 2017 hosting a panel discussion on “The 2017 New Orleans Region Business Outlook”. The panel Moderator will be Mr. Michael Hecht, GNO, Inc. The Panelists will be: Professor Eric Smith, Tulane University School of Business, Mr. Don Vinci, Entergy Executive Vice President, and Chief Administrative Officer, and Mr. Ken Nelson, President of Waldemar S Nelson & Company. The meeting will be held on Wednesday January 18, 11:30am at Andrea’s Restaurant in Metairie.

We ended 2016 on November 16th by hosting Attorney Michael O’Brien with Kean Miller who gave a presentation on Accident Reports, Expert Reports & Discovery in Civil Litigation. An extended question and answer session followed the presentation. We do not often host members of the legal profession and appreciate and thank Mr. O’Brien for sharing his expertise and time.

On January 25 & 26, the 21st Annual Joint Engineering Society Conference will be at the Hilton in Lafayette, LA. Engineers of all disciplines from across the State, will discuss current topics, connect with colleagues, and enjoy the Lafayette area hospitality and pleasures. Registration is available on the state LES website or through a link on the New Orleans Chapter website.

Mr. Chad Bacas, PE – Andrew M. Lockett Award for Civic Activities.

Mr. William “Bill” Monroe, PE – Leo M. Odom Award for Services to the Profession

The LES Baton Rouge Chapter is looking for volunteers to help out at both the local level and state level MathCounts competition. The local competition will be Friday February 3rd at LTRC/TTEC on Gourrier Ave. and the State competition will be March 31st in Pineville, La. Please email Chad Bacas at bacasc@forteandtablada.com if you have questions and/or would like to volunteer.

Our board will be working hard to prepare for this year’s upcoming Engineers Week - February 19-25 with our associated E-Week banquet on February 23rd. Partnering with ASCE, we will be announcing scholarship winners through our local chapters. This is an important time to celebrate and promote our great profession.

Please follow us at our Facebook page or check out the chapter website for details about upcoming events. I hope to see you at many of these events.
What? How? Why? For those with kids or young nieces and nephews, these questions sound all too familiar. Kids learn by asking and observing. Adults pass on knowledge by answering and showing. The interaction between trusted adult and child is critical for growth and development. Engineers could learn a lot from this relationship. Young engineers can gain critical knowledge and understanding by asking questions. Experienced engineers can pass on a lifetime of knowledge and wisdom by sitting down and working through these questions. The goal for all engineers should be to establish this type of relationship with their coworkers and peers in order to ensure the seamless continuation of the engineering profession. Here are my thoughts and I openly encourage you to share your thoughts on ways to continue the professional transition between experienced and young engineers.

First, engineers need to be engaged with one another. Louisiana Engineering Society (LES) monthly chapter meetings and conferences are a great way to get connected with local and statewide engineers. In addition, we need to understand that traditional lunch meetings may not work to get everyone initially engaged. Recently, the Shreveport Chapter of LES hosted an after-hours event at a local microbrewery. More than 20 engineers met, ate, drank, and talked with one another. I had the privilege of attending and it was great to connect with engineers from the Shreveport / Bossier area. While this non-traditional means of meeting may not work for all areas, something will. I encourage you to find alternative ways of getting together and see what develops.

Second, engineers need to communicate with one another. Business communication has changed drastically over the last 100 years. Today, most business communication is done electronically. The LES website is used to update engineers on everything from upcoming events to legislative concerns. In addition, LES uses Linkedin and Facebook to communicate with engineers. Are you connected?

Third, engineers need to be adaptable. In the past five years, I have had the privilege of learning from engineers with a lifetime of professional experience. I have adapted some of the ways I think in order to grow professionally. I can confidently say that I am a better engineer because of their teaching. However, the learning was not just one-sided. As they were molding my engineering practices, they were also asking questions about how to use some of the new programs and latest file transfer systems. All of us are better professionally because we utilize each other’s strengths to grow.

In the end, it is back to “What?”, “How?”, and “Why?”. What will you do to get connected, learn, and grow in order to ensure the healthy growth of the engineering profession? How will you adjust your professional life to accomplish these goals? Why not begin now sharing the knowledge you’ve gained through your hard work and yes, by the mistakes you’ve made, to benefit those just starting out. And remember, don’t discount what the young engineers bring to the table. Chances are, you will learn something too!
2017 is shaping up to be another long and difficult year around the State Capitol. A special session is likely to be requested by the Governor beginning around February 13th and ending before Mardi Gras, which falls on February 28th this year. The purpose of the special session is to close the current mid-year budget shortfall of $300 million. Cuts and a possible use of rainy day funds will be needed to reduce the budget between now and July 1st, which will not be a pleasant or easy task. The 2017 regular session is a fiscal session which begins April 10th and runs through June 8th. That session will also be very trying, as the legislature will need to address structural budget problems through either tax reform, extensions of current taxes, or budget cuts. A combination of all three may end up being a likely solution. On top of that, infrastructure funding is a high priority for many. However, it will be fighting for attention against the budget problems in higher education and healthcare, as well as other tax change proposals.

The Governor’s Task Force on Transportation Infrastructure Investment has concluded its work and made formal recommendations to the legislature. These recommendations include a 23 cents per gallon increase and indexing of fuel, which would raise an estimated $700 million per year. While alternative ideas are also being proposed here are the recommendations from the Governor’s Task Force: http://wwwsp.dotd.la.gov/Inside-LaDOTD/Divisions/Administration/GTFTII/Pages/default.aspx. The current mid-year shortfall and the shortfall anticipated for the coming fiscal year beginning in July coupled with plans for budget restructuring and tax reform appear to be sucking much of the air out of the legislative chambers, leaving many to worry that legislators will be too fatigued to also address infrastructure funding. If you have not already done so, now is the time to reach out to your local officials to express your desire to see our state’s $13 billion backlog of road and bridge needs addressed. In addition, reach out about the need to find a path forward to fund much needed mega-projects that are long overdue.

On the defensive front, be aware that some of the tax reform discussions and recommendations include expansion of sales taxes to new services, and we will need the engineering industry to be ready to speak out in opposition if proposals are made to expand sales taxes to engineering services. Also, we are hearing early rumors of potential renewed efforts to water down engineering testing and licensing standards, which we will stand up against to ensure public safety and to retain our high standards and national best practices here in Louisiana.

SENATOR SHARON HEWITT

District 1 Senator Sharon Hewitt came to the Louisiana State Senate as a recognized civic and community leader with decades of volunteer service to area children and families. The Lake Charles native and long-time resident of Slidell is a graduate of Barbe High School and holds a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from LSU. As an engineering executive, Senator Hewitt managed major deepwater assets in the Gulf of Mexico for Shell and earned a reputation as a passionate, committed problem solver.

As a state senator, Hewitt serves as vice-chair of the Senate Transportation, Highways & Public Works Committee, and is a member of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, and the Senate Finance Committee, which oversees the state budgeting process. In addition, the Senator represents the state of Louisiana on two important national energy panels - the Southern Legislative Conference (SLC) Energy and Environment Committee and the Energy Council.

In the Legislature, Hewitt is focusing her efforts on stabilizing the state budget, improving education, creating jobs, investing in infrastructure, and restoring Louisiana’s coast. Senate District 1 includes the eastern side of St. Tammany Parish as well as portions of Orleans, St. Bernard and Plaquemines parishes.

During the 2016 legislative sessions, Senator Hewitt proved to be a strong voice for businesses and families, having received the Business Champion Award from the SWLA Economic Development Alliance, the Guardian of Small Business Award from the National Federation of Independent Business and the Family Advocate Award from the Louisiana Family Forum. Senator Hewitt married her husband, Stan, over 30 years ago and they have proudly raised two sons, Chris and Brad. They are longtime members of Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Slidell.
F. HUGH COUGHLIN YOUNG ENGINEER AWARD

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

LUKE MILLER, PE

Luke Miller is currently a Project Engineer with Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix & Hixson, LLC (MML&H) in Alexandria, LA and has been a licensed professional engineer in the state of Louisiana since May 2011. Luke received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Louisiana Tech University in 2006 and went to work for Garver Engineers in Little Rock, AR before returning to Louisiana in 2009. In the past 5 years that Luke has been with MML&H, he has had the opportunity to work on a variety of civil and structural engineering projects across central and north central Louisiana.

Luke has served on the state level as a State Director and is currently the state Young Engineer Representative. In addition to Luke’s service as a board member on the local and state levels, he has successfully managed the Alexandria LES Annual Golf Tournament for the last five years and has managed the chapter scholarship committee for the last three years.

In addition to his service to LES, Luke also serves on the board for the Kiwanis Club of Alexandria and on the steering committee for Louisiana United Methodist Church’s Happening retreat. Luke has served on various committees at First United Methodist Church of Alexandria and serves as a high school soccer referee in Alexandria.

Luke is a native of Alexandria, LA and currently lives there with his family. Luke, wife Kadie, and son Gabe are members of First United Methodist Church in Alexandria, LA.

ANDREW M. LOCKETT AWARD FOR CIVIC ACTIVITIES

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

CHAD A. BACAS, PE

Chad A. Bacas, PE, M.B.A., earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1995 and a Masters Degree in Business Administration in 2001 from Louisiana State University. Since graduation he has been in the consulting engineering industry with a one-year tour in New Orleans with Burk-Kleinpeter, Inc., and has been with Forte and Tablada, Inc. for the past 20 years. He is currently serving as their Director of South Louisiana Operations, and during his tenure, has served as the Review Engineer for the Livingston Parish Planning Commission since 2000.

Mr. Bacas is a 2013 graduate of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber (BRAC) Leadership Program, and is serving on the Capital Area Transit System (CATS) Qualifications Review Committee. He also served on the Transportation Issues Council looking at regional transportation issues under BRAC. Since 2014, he has served on the Board of Directors for the Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce and was recently installed as the Chairman of the Board. Mr. Bacas serves on the chambers Executive Committee, Governmental Affairs Committee and as Co-Chair of the Golf Outing Committee. Mr. Bacas served for the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge on the Laurel Street Palooza Committee and Fest for All from 2009 to 2014.

Mr. Bacas has been a member of the Louisiana Engineering Society (LES) since 1997, and has served on the local Baton Rouge Chapter holding numerous board positions. He ended his tenure on the board by serving as the Chapter President in 2015. He has been a State Director for LES since 2015.

Mr. Bacas has been an active member and has engaged in several non-profit organizations, such as American Society of Civil Engineers, which he joined while studying at LSU. He also serves on two committees with the American Council of Engineering Companies/Louisiana (ACEC/L) and is a member of the Society of American Military Engineers, National Society of Professional Engineers, and Chi Epsilon Honor Society. Over the past three years, Mr. Bacas has enjoyed the role of MathCounts Coordinator for the local Baton Rouge Chapter, and has volunteered many years promoting math and science in middle school mathletes.
JAMES M. TODD

TECHNOLOGICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD

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

LEO M. ODUM SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION AWARD

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

ARTHUR J. SMITH, III, PE

Arthur J. Smith, III, PE, started working for Waldemar S. Nelson and Company, Inc. (NELSON) in 1975 while attending college. He transitioned to full-time employment after receiving his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degree from Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, in May of 1978. Currently Mr. Smith is a Senior Vice President and Manager of the Electrical Engineering Department at NELSON.

Mr. Smith is a member of the Louisiana Engineering Society (LES), National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), IEEE Senior member, IEEE Petroleum and Chemical Industry Committee (PCIC) member, IEEE Industry Applications Society (IAS) member, IEEE Electrical Safety Committee (EsafeC) member, IEEE Standards Association member, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) member and 40-year Life Member of the American Radio Relay League. He is currently the IEEE Electrical Safety Committee (EsafeC) Standards Chairman, IEEE-Esafec Executive Committee Member, IEEE-PCIC Standards Vice-Chair, represents the IEEE as Principle Member of the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70) Code Making Panel 11, IEEE Standards Coordinating Committee (SCC-18) Elections Officer and IEEE SCC-18 Executive Committee Member.

Mr. Smith has authored or coauthored a number of technical papers, short courses, tutorials and IEEE Standards with many published in engineering journals, trade publications and conference proceedings. He has given presentations at national and international conferences and was awarded IEEE-IAS Honorable Mention for “Staged Tests Increase Awareness of Arc-Flash Hazards in Electrical Equipment” and IEEE-PCIC Best Paper for “Medium Voltage Autotransformer Failures – Explaining the Unexplained – Continuation of the Story”.

Mr. Smith has also received the:
• University of New Orleans College of Engineering, 2006 John Noll Crisp Award for Technical Excellence. This award is named after retired UNO Dean of Engineering John N. Crisp and recognizes significant engineering and technical accomplishments.
• Louisiana Technology Council (LTC) 2004 ‘Award’ Best Application of Technology. This award is a celebration of innovation and achievement for those in the State who have had a positive impact in technology.
• Greater New Orleans Business Round Table 2004 Certificate of Appreciation. This certificate was given for efforts, time and experience provided to advance the aims and purpose of the Association.
• Greater New Orleans Project Management Institute (GNO-PMI) 2004 Project of the Year Award. This award was given for efforts to successfully complete the Entergy Mississippi River Underwater 230kV Transmission Line Crossing.

Mr. Smith is a registered Professional Engineer in the States of Louisiana, California, Texas, Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas and Alaska.

WILLIAM C. “BILL” MONROE, PE

William C. “Bill” Monroe graduated from LSU in 1968 with a BS Degree in Mechanical Engineering and started working for ETHYL CORPORATION in the Mechanical Development Department specializing in pumps, compressors and rotating equipment.

In 1971, he attended LSU full time to obtain a BS Degree in Civil Engineering and upon graduation, went to work for ALBERT SWITZER & ASSOCIATES, Consulting Engineers in Baton Rouge, LA.

In 1976, he started his own one man firm, Consulting Engineering practice named W C MONROE & ASSOCIATES, INC. and offered professional services to small communities within a two hour drive of Baton Rouge and assisted them apply for LCDBG and EPA grants.

By 1979, he had been asked to work with six area Police Jury organizations which allowed him to work with the newly established statewide LADOTD Off-System Bridge Replacement (OSBR) program. Monroe & Corie, Inc. is very proud for their performance rating in the OSBR and to date have been selected and awarded engineering service contracts for 246 projects all around the State.

In 1988, he had the opportunity to develop a computerized hydraulic program to analyze and compute the resulting System Curves for a manifold wastewater force main system. This custom software was used to assist all the Consulting Engineering firms working on the first Parishwide Wastewater System Improvements to replace 247 package wastewater treatment plants with a manifolded Suburban Network System for East Baton Parish.

In 1997, Craig Corie joined the firm and the name of the company was changed to MONROE & CORIE, INC. which allowed the firm to provide a greater range of engineering services to Residential developers, Commercial Organization as well as Municipal clients all around the state. Bill has been married to Ann Switzer Monroe 48 years. They have two adult children, Todd Monroe, PhD, P.E., is a professor of Biological and Agricultural Engineering at LSU. Kristen M Balhoff is a computer engineer (LSU and NC State) formally employed at IBM and is currently a stay-at-home mom in Cary, North Carolina. Ann and Bill live in Baton Rouge and enjoy five grandchildren. They are active in the community and St. Aloysius Catholic Church.

Bill’s hobbies include daylily gardening, radio control airplanes and photography. However, Bill remains passionate about his engineering profession and has no plans of retiring.
JERRY G. LAZENBY, PE, PLS

Jerry G. Lazenby was born in Union Parish, Louisiana and graduated from Bernice High School with 14 fellow students. He attended Louisiana Polytechnical Institute (now known as LA Tech University) in Ruston, Louisiana and obtained a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree in August, 1965. He is a licensed Professional Civil Engineer and Environmental Engineer in the State of Louisiana. He is also a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in the State of Louisiana.

Upon graduation from college, Jerry was employed by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration as a highway engineer from August, 1965 through September 1974. While with the FHWA he graduated from the Bureau of Public Roads Highway Engineer Training Program. He served as an assistant area engineer in Oklahoma from 1968 through 1970 and as an area engineer in Louisiana from 1970 through 1974. In 1974 Jerry joined the consulting engineering firm of Jenkins and Madden in West Monroe, Louisiana. This firm evolved into the firm of Lazenby & Associates, Inc. in which Jerry served as Secretary/Treasurer for over ten years and as President for the past 25 years. Responsibilities as the Secretary/Treasurer and as President included administration and management, business development and supervision of engineering and land surveying activities in all aspects of highway, bridge and utility projects for the State and local municipalities as well as human resources for the firm with a staff of 25 to 35 employees.

Jerry served as the President of the Monroe Chapter of LES in 1982 – 1983 and as the LES PEPP Chairman in 1988 – 1989. In 2007 he was inducted into “Fellow” membership status in NSPE.

Jerry was appointed to the Louisiana State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors in 1997 and served as the President of LAPELS from March through August, 2001. While serving on the LAPELS Board Jerry was active in NCEES, serving on the Committee for Professionalism and Ethics in 1996 – 1997 and on the Committee for Uniform Procedures and Legislation Guidelines from 1997 – 2000. Jerry served as President of ACEC/L in 1996 – 1997 and as the ACEC/L National Director in 1997 – 1998. He served on the ACEC/L Transportation Committee from 1998 through 2008. In 2003 Jerry was inducted into the ACEC “College of Fellows”.

Jerry currently serves as a Director on the Board of Ouachita Independent Bank which was formed in 1997 with $4.2 million in capital and grown to over $660 million in 19 years. He also served as Director of the Glenwood Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees from 2008 through 2013, serving as Chairman of the Board in 2013. Jerry has been married to Christine Wilson Lazenby for 52 years. They have 3 children, 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Jerry is a “Life Time” Deacon at First Baptist Church in West Monroe, Louisiana.

WALDEMAR S. NELSON PRESIDENT’S AWARD

The Waldemar S. Nelson President’s Award will be given as conditions warrant, but not more than annually, for distinguished service to the Louisiana Engineering Society by an engineer member of the Society, who has provided outstanding service to the Society, in an unselfish manner and in keeping with the highest professional standards. The desire of the Society is not only to recognize the recipient, but to encourage and inspire others to take a greater part in the advancement of the Society and its service to mankind. This award is named in honor of Waldemar S. Nelson, PE, a distinguished member of the Society since 1936, until his death in 2005.

SUSAN H. RICHARD, PE

Susan Richard, PE received her Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (formerly University of Southwestern Louisiana) in 1987. Since 1992, Susan has worked as a Project Engineer and Manager for the firm of Domingue, Szabo & Associates, Inc. in Lafayette. Susan is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Louisiana in both Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Susan has been active in LES for most of her professional career. She has held all of the offices at the chapter level including being President of the Lafayette Chapter in 1994-1995. Susan has served the Society in various capacities including becoming the first female state president in the 112 year history of LES. She is currently serving as the LES representative to the NSPE House of Delegates, an office she has held since 2013. Susan has also been active in various LES committees over the years including Chair of the Scholarship Committee since 2005, Constitution and Bylaws Committee, the Long Range Planning Committee and Chair of the 2008 Tri-State Annual Meeting. Susan is also currently serving as Vice President of the Louisiana Engineering Foundation.

Ms. Richard received the 1998 Outstanding Young Civil Engineer Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers Louisiana Section, and the Louisiana Engineering Society’s 1996 F. Hugh Coughlin Award of Merit for Young Engineers, the LES Presidents Award in 2010, and the Dudley Hixon – Bobby Price National Professional Achievement Award in 2016. Susan was also named an NSPE Fellow in 2015.

Susan is married to Chris Richard, PE, also a professional civil engineer with the firm of Domingue, Szabo & Associates. They have three children - Andrea who is a studying psychology at UL, Brooke is Resident in Emergency Medicine at Our Lady of the Lake in Baton Rouge and Sarah who is a Project Engineer with Domingue, Szabo & Associates, Inc.
The objectives of the Engineering Faculty Professionalism Award are to bring to the attention of all faculties those members who are licensed professional engineers at their university; to present registration in a positive light which should encourage faculty to work toward licensure and professionalism; and to benefit the students and the profession with the promotion of professionalism in the universities. LEF has two deserving recipients. The recipients of this year's awards are Dr. Xiaoduan Sun, University of Louisiana Lafayette, and Norman D. Pumphrey, Louisiana Tech University.

NORMAN D. PUMPHREY
Louisiana Tech University

Norm Pumphrey is Associate Professor of Construction Engineering Technology (CET) and Civil Engineering at Louisiana Tech University and is the Program Chair of the CET Program.

He was graduated from Louisiana Tech University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1976. Upon graduation, he joined the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as a Highway Engineer and worked in Division Offices in Arkansas, Florida, and Virginia. In the fall of 1980, Norm left FHWA to pursue graduate studies at the University of Missouri – Rolla (now Missouri University of Science and Technology), where he received a Master of Science in Geotechnical Engineering, and he continued on to Purdue University, where he earned a Ph.D. with a specialty in transportation and pavement engineering. He taught for three years at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa before joining the faculty at Louisiana Tech, where he has been employed for the last 27 years.

Norm was named the inaugural Director of the Bulldog Achievement Resource Center (BARC), Tech’s center for student success, in 2004, and also directed Tech’s Division of Basic and Career Studies, where he guided numerous undeclared undergraduate students struggling to find that elusive major.

Norm served President of Tech’s University Senate in 2002-03, as the Program Chair of the Civil Engineering Program from 2002-04, and on numerous university and college committees and task forces over the years, most of which he enjoyed. He received Tech’s Undergraduate Advisor Award in 2002. Dr. Pumphrey has been a Registered Professional Civil Engineer in Louisiana since 1991.

In the Ruston community, Norm was actively involved the Ruston High School band and soccer booster clubs, where he served as President for each club on two different occasions. He also refereed high school and junior high boys’ and girls’ soccer. For several years in the early 2000s, he wrote Christian Sunday School and discipleship instructional literature for children ages 4 and 5. He is an active member of Temple Baptist Church in Ruston. Norm and his wife Anita recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. He has two boys, Clint and Scott, of whom he is very proud.

DR. XIAODUAN SUN
University of Louisiana Lafayette

Dr. Xiaoduan Sun is a Registered Engineer and has many accomplishments in terms of scientific publications. She also has many research projects as well as numerous honors and awards.

2017 VINCENT FORTE GRADUATE SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP

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

JACOB KING

Jacob King was honorably discharged as a Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps (USMC) in 2007 where he served his country as an avionics technician, instructor, and maintenance supervisor. He then received his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) in the fall of 2013. During his undergraduate studies, he assisted Associate Professor Lovonia J. Theriot by evaluating student performance and progress for the undergraduate course Mechanical Engineering Machine Design.

While currently completing his fifth semester in graduate school at ULL with a 4.0 cumulative GPA, Jacob is employed as a graduate research assistant performing biomedical research and managing the Cajun Artificial Heart Laboratory (CAHL), a biomedical research program formed in 2014 by Dr. Charles Taylor, Biomedical Engineer and Assistant Professor. As the first Systems Engineering Ph.D. candidate with a focus in biomedical engineering, he accepted the unique opportunity to perform essential research and experimentation at his alma mater, while assisting in the development of a university program that has since become a competitor in cutting-edge biomedical research. Additionally, this opportunity allowed him to explore his passions by mentoring undergraduates while also earning classroom instructor experience.

In the course of earning his Ph.D., Jacob has been assisting in the design, construction, and management of a systemic mock circulatory system (MCS), which simulates the human circulatory system by accurately representing cardiovascular conditions in a bench-top hydraulic circuit. The research directions being pursued, following the completion of the MCS, include a reevaluation of the traditional FDA standards regarding ventricular assist devices (heart pumps) and artificial heart valves. The purpose of these studies is to improve the safety, reliability, and performance standards of these medical devices. To date, Jacob has authored/co-authored four publications and eight presentations. In his drive to satisfy the large scope of this work, he has become a mentor to undergraduate research assistants who have helped in completing this research while providing him with the opportunity to develop his leadership skills. Jacob believes this degree path will provide him with an excellent experience that will prepare him for his desired career path to become a tenure track professor, fulfilling educational and research objectives within an academic setting.
2017 JESC HIGHLIGHTS
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I have so many things to do...” Yes we have this challenge in our personal lives and our businesses, and we have this at ACEC Louisiana, too! As we try to accomplish more, there is a risk that we spread ourselves too thin and end up accomplishing less. I laid out a plan in July to take advantage of “the power of three” during my one-year term as ACEC Louisiana president. A mentor once said that, if we focus on just three priorities, we can achieve them and often find that the smaller priorities are contained within our larger ones. Here are my three focus areas for ACEC/L this year, with the prospect for benefits extending across our engineering industry:

ACEC Louisiana Strategic Business Plan
Each of us has a strategic plan to guide our business: What do we aspire to be as an organization, and how do we get there? Once we arrive, how do we sustain and continue to thrive?

Louisiana is 25th in population amongst the 50 states, while ACEC/L ranks 8th in its membership and one of the most effective state chapters in representing the business of engineering. This is quite an accomplishment! While ACEC/L is stronger than ever because of its member firms and the dedication of our board and past presidents, now is not the time to rest but to leverage our strengths. At our January board meeting ACEC/L adopted a draft strategic business plan that builds on what we have accomplished with the expectation of achieving even more. Our new plan will regularly measure the successes and failures in attaining our goals and will account for changing times and market conditions. While the plan is to guide ACEC/L, I believe the results will benefit beyond just our boundaries.

Remembering that ACEC’s overarching mission is to represent the business interests of engineers, below are the five top level strategic initiatives adopted in our plan. I look forward to helping initiate these over the remainder of my term and in supporting my successors over time:

- Membership – the lifeblood of any organization
- Business Services – providing top level assistance to small and large firms
- Influence – advocate for the industry with vision, passion, and effectiveness
- Finances – remain financially strong so as to be able to invest as appropriate in accomplishing goals on behalf of member firms and the engineering industry
- Organization – to review bylaws and structure of association to ensure we are able to effectively accomplish our mission

Consultant Procurement Initiative
The cornerstone of consultant engineering companies is procurement, winning new public or private contracts to sustain the business. One of the core missions of ACEC/L is to advocate on behalf of the industry for qualifications based selection (QBS) in procurement at all levels - federal, state, and local. Just as the public expects to receive medical care from highly qualified and trained doctors, the public also should expect services from highly qualified and trained engineers. These expectations are driven by the safety and welfare of the public.

Spurred by statistics indicating that “non-engineering factors” (firm size, firm location, backlog of work) had become more prevalent than “engineering factors” (firm experience, personnel experience, past performance history) in the outcomes of engineering consultant procurement, ACEC/L initiated an effort in 2013 in partnership with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to identify potential adjustments to the DOTD’s consultant procurement process. Our joint goal was for these changes to lead to more reliance on the qualifications/engineering factors in making procurement decisions. This change would benefit the agency by having better access to its most qualified providers, it would raise industry standards for quality of consultant performance, and it would benefit the public.

I am pleased that after three years of partnering with DOTD, ACEC/L recently adopted the proposed changes in the DOTD’s procurement process. With this backing, DOTD is now poised to formally adopt the new procedures and implement the changes in the coming months. Once initiated, the new process will be measured over its first year to determine if the desired outcomes are being attained, and potentially adjusted beyond that timeframe if warranted.

New Transportation Funding for Louisiana

As my third focus area ACEC/L and I are fully committed to helping state leaders pass new transportation funding in the 2017 session of the legislature, as well as advocate in Washington for more federal attention. Our role is leadership, advocacy, messaging, funding support and anything else needed to get the job done. Once new funding is achieved, we must work with Louisiana’s engineering community to ensure we have a capable pool to provide quality engineering services for the expanded needs.

State Funding Initiative
Perhaps the most telling statistic regarding the inadequacy of Louisiana’s transportation funding is that 44 states have increased their dedicated transportation funding streams since 1989, the last time Louisiana made a long-term transportation investment. Some more statistics: Texas, with a population 6 times more than Louisiana, spends 20 times more than Louisiana per year on its transportation construction program. Mississippi, with a population of just 63% of Louisiana, spends the same amount as Louisiana on its transportation construction program.

With this backdrop, Louisiana’s industry leaders have clamored for years about the need to increase Louisiana’s transportation funding stream. At times, we have had a supportive legislature but a resistant governor. Sometimes it has been the opposite. Now, with Governor Edwards leading the way, the opportunity for increased dedicated state funding for transportation may be attainable. In February 2017 the Governor’s Task Force on Transportation Infrastructure Investment identified the need for $700 million in annual new state funding. The Governor will take this under consideration and is expected to propose a long-term transportation funding plan in April.

While some of the political leadership roadblocks from past years are cleared, Louisiana still has hurdles that we all must work to clear – other parts of the state budget have funding shortfalls and motivated constituencies, as well.

Federal Infrastructure Program
Another potential bright spot is the proposed $1 trillion infrastructure program of President Trump, with the new spending addressing many forms of infrastructure. Spread 10 years as proposed over 50 states, this means the potential for an additional $2 billion per year for the average state (such as Louisiana) if such legislation is adopted. The plan as announced would be designed to encourage and incentivize private investment and alternative delivery so as to leverage traditional public funding. States that embrace toll road and public-private partnership programs may be well-positioned to maximize participation in the plan. One thing for certain is that the new infrastructure program will not emerge precisely as outlined above, but this analysis gives us an idea of what may be coming, and indicates the need to be prepared.

Program Delivery
The outlook above and the optimism in me say our transportation and other public infrastructure funding will increase significantly in the next 6 to 24 months. The combination of new state and federal funding could double or triple the size of Louisiana’s current transportation program. In this column last year, there was concern that Louisiana’s pool of available qualified and capable engineering talent may not be adequate to even meet the demands of yesterday’s program size. As an engineering industry in Louisiana, the challenge now becomes: how do we meet the increased needs of a larger program while still providing quality work and great service to our clients? I encourage everyone to keep an eye on the next few months and consider what we can and will do meet the needs. I don’t have a ready answer for this but believe we will find one working together.

I want to thank my board and the staff at ACEC/L for the privilege to serve as this year’s President.
Morning Session - Passive Fire Protection - 8:00 am - 12:00 Noon

This session will discuss IBC Chapter 7, NFPA 101 Chapter 8, and NFPA 221, where fire-resistive construction is used to satisfy requirements for Type of construction, Compartmentation, Separation of buildings and building areas.

Included will be proper use of assemblies such as: fire barriers, fire partitions, smoke barriers, horizontal assemblies, and fire walls with focus on buildings in industrial occupancies and related occupancies.

Afternoon Session - Fire Protection Systems - 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm

The discussion will focus particularly on Fire Alarm and Automatic Sprinkler Systems which are required by the Codes and are used in conjunction with the installation standards of NFPA 72 and NFPA 13. 13R.

An overview of these systems is included and will also discuss application of these provisions, and specific requirements from other sections of the Codes that requires their use.
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