Louisiana Ш

May 2017

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Message from the **Executive Director**

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BYRON RACCA, PE 2017-2018 LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY PRESIDENT



Louisiana Engineering Society

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Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board

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LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL

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- 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.

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S LA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERIN S and land surveying board



I will dispense with formal introductions and share with you that I am one of two surveying appointees to the LAPELS Board. As I enter my sixth and final year; it is my honor to serve as chairman. This position is filled on a rotational basis. In most cases, as the two individuals appointed in any given year enter their sixth year, they split the chairmanship for that year. I will serve March thru August and Terry Huval will finish out the year.

Six years ago, having served in the leadership of LSPS, I was interested in a new and unique way to serve my profession. When approached by LSPS to ask if I would allow my name to be put on the list of five to be selected by the governor, I didn't hesitate to accept. However, as a registered independent, I was convinced that unless an independent was elected governor, I would never be appointed. Well, pigs flew and hell froze over.

Any illusion I had of coasting through my six years was quickly dispelled. What I quickly learned about the LAPELS board, and the individuals that serve on it, is that they are a hard working group of professionals that volunteer more hours to their duties as board members than you might think. These individuals have hearts of service and are motivated by nothing more than a desire to serve their profession and the citizens of this great state.

As you read this article, I think you will agree that the 1st quarter of 2017 was marked by change. Most notable is that a new president took office. Whether you are a proponent or opponent of President Trump, I am certain that we can agree that his style of leadership is a change. A second change of note is that the state elected John Bel Edwards as our new Governor. Finally, in an announcement that I imagine caught your attention, ASCE issued its Infrastructure Report Card for the U.S. The overall infrastructure grade was a D+, with an estimated \$4.6 trillion needed to "Right the Ship". Our own Norma Jean Mattei, LAPELS emeritus board member and National ASCE President, was quoted in a number of national publications issuing a strong challenge to the leaders of our country to "Follow through on those promises with investment and innovative solutions". This could be great news for engineers and surveyors



David L. Patterson, PLS Chairman

for years to come, if (and that is a big "if") we can figure out how to pay for these improvements. With a GDP that barely hit \$18 trillion in 2016 and total federal spending falling just short of \$4 trillion, it will be a monumental task with a multi decade outlook.

LAPELS is fortunate to have a hardworking staff led by Donna Sentell, our Executive Director. The staff members that the board members interact with the most is our enforcement group. Our enforcement is led by our Director of Enforcement, Tyson Ducote. Tyson is assisted by our only fulltime investigator, William Hyatt. Our Deputy Executive Director, Richard Savoie, spends approximately a third of his time on enforcement.

Unlicensed practice continues to be a serious problem in Louisiana and the LAPELS staff and board members spend the majority of our enforcement efforts in aggressively addressing this issue. Here are some statistics that may be of interest to you. In 2015 LAPELS opened 90 cases. Also, in 2015, 43 complaints were received from either the general public or licensees of LAPELS and the vast majority of complaints generated internally were for unlicensed practice. In 2016, 63 cases were opened; 23 complaints were received from the general public or licensees of LAPELS with the majority of internally generated complaints being for unlicensed practice. As you can see, LAPELS has its hands full just dealing with unlicensed practice and fielding the complaints that come

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS May 15/16, 2017 September 18/19, 2017 July 17/18, 2017 November 13/14, 2017 **Board Staf** <u>Board Members</u> Alan D. Krouse, PE D. Scott Phillips, PE, PLS David L. Patterson, PLS Donna D. Sentell Thomas R. Carroll, III, PE, PLS Chairman Executive Director Charles G. Coyle, III, PLS Terry J. Huval, PE Richard Savoie, PE Jeffrey A. Pike, PE Vice Chairman Deputy Executive Director Kevin E. Crosby, PE, PLS Christopher P. Knotts, PE Tyson Ducote John W. 'Billy' Moore, PE Director of Enforcement Treasurer Paul N. Hale, PhD., PE William Hyatt www.lapels.com Secretary Board Investigator

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in from the public and our licensees. Our enforcement staff, while small, works diligently and efficiently.

I can't end this article without thanking the two board members who will have completed their service on this board by the time you read this article. It was a pleasure to serve with Billy Moore and Kevin Crosby. They worked hard and served the board, our licensees, and the State of Louisiana with distinction, and they will be missed. On a related note, Kevin Crosby was presented the "Surveyor Excellence Award" by the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors at their April 2016 convention. This award was well deserved and recognized Mr. Crosby's contributions to the surveying profession through his work on the LAPELS Surveying Committee on which he served for the majority of his six years on the board.

I look forward to visiting the topics of professionalism and ethics in my next Journal article.



Passing the Gavel: Kevin Crosby, PE, PLS, is recognized for his service by LAPELS Board Chairman David Patterson, PLS

DISCIPLINARY AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS Tyson Ducote, Director of Enforcement

As many of you are aware by now, Express Oil Change, L.L.C. (EOC) has opened shops in certain areas of the state using the Tire Engineers trade name. Express Oil Change locations have added Tire Engineers to their name and certain tire shops have been converted to Tire Engineers locations. The Board has approved EOC's request to use the name "Tire Engineers" in its trade name in Louisiana with the following stipulations: EOC obtains and maintains the appropriate authorization from the Louisiana Secretary of State to transact business in Louisiana; EOC either (a) uses the name "Tire Engineers" in its trade name in Louisiana in conjunction with its company name of "Express Oil Change" and only in the context of providing tire and automotive repair and maintenance services or (b) uses the name "Tire Engineers" in its trade name in Louisiana in conjunction with additional text referencing tire or automotive repair/maintenance services and only in the context of providing tire and automotive repair and maintenance services; EOC does not practice or offer to practice engineering in Louisiana; no individual employed by EOC is titled or referred to as an "engineer" in Louisiana and this approval will be voided in the event that EOC fails to comply with any of these stipulations. LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B)(1) states that a firm with the word "engineering" or any derivative thereof in its name must be licensed, unless it has in its title modifying or explanatory words which would, in their ordinary meaning, negate the inference of the professional practice of engineering.

The Board continues to investigate alleged violations of the laws and rules which regulate the practice of engineering and land surveying in Louisiana. Substantiated



Tyson Ducote Director of Enforcement

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.

SEALING VIOLATIONS:

Friedrich W. L. Gurtler, PE, a professional engineer (PE-25374), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for failing to seal engineering documents that have been issued by the licensee to a client or any public or governmental agency as completed work in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6), *to wit* LAC Title 46:LXI§2701(A)(4)(a)(i). On or about January 18, 2015, Mr. Gurtler prepared, signed and issued to his client an engineering report relative to hailstorm damage to the roof of a residence in Louisiana which did not contain his Louisiana professional engineer seal. Additionally, between January 2012 and December 2016 Mr. Gurtler prepared, signed and issued to

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other clients similar types of engineering reports which did not contain his Louisiana professional engineer seal. Mr. Gurtler 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 \$567.85; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to seal all engineering documents which are issued by him to a client or governmental agency as completed work unless specifically exempted by applicable law or rule; 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.

Gurtler Bros. Consultants, Inc., a professional engineering firm (EF-2087), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for having a representative who failed to seal engineering documents that have been issued by the licensee to a client or any public or governmental agency as completed work in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(C), to wit La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6) and LAC Title 46:LXI§2701(A)(4)(a)(i). Friedrich W. L. Gurtler, PE was an employee, officer and the supervising professional of the firm. On or about January 18, 2015, Mr. Gurtler (on behalf of and in the name of the firm) prepared, signed and issued to their client an engineering report relative to hailstorm damage to the roof of a residence in Louisiana which did not contain his Louisiana professional engineer seal. Additionally, between January 2012 and December 2016 Mr. Gurtler (on behalf of and in the name of the firm) prepared, signed and issued to their other clients similar types of engineering reports which did not contain his Louisiana professional engineer seal. 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 \$567.85; to ensure that its employees seal all engineering documents which are issued by the firm to a client or governmental agency as completed work unless specifically exempted by applicable law or rule; 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:

Peter Allain, PE, LLC, an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective March 27, 2015 (EF-5723), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for (a) practicing and offering to practice engineering without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1) and (9), *to wit* LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B), and (b) 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). Between March 2014 and March 26, 2015 the

firm unintentionally offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services in connection with a project in Louisiana. Additionally, on or about March 11, 2015 the firm submitted to the Board an Application for Firm Licensure, confirming thereon 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 to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$2,000; to pay administrative costs of \$323.48; 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:

Richard L Holm, LLC, an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective March 18, 2015 (EF-5720), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for practicing and offering to practice engineering without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1) and (9), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B). The firm admitted that between July 2013 and March 17, 2015 it unintentionally offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services in connection with a project in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$500; to pay administrative costs of \$317.29; 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.

Mark J. Morvant, PE, LLC, an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective March 18, 2015 (EF-5717), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for offering to practice engineering without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1) and (9), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B). The firm admitted that in February 2015 it unintentionally offered to provide engineering services in connection with projects in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$250; to pay administrative costs of \$317.29; 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.

David W. Backstedt, Jr., L.L.C., an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective March 18, 2015 (EF-5714), was subject to

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enforcement action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice engineering without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and 37:700(A)(1) and (9), *to wit* LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B). The firm disclosed that between March 2014 and March 17, 2015 it unintentionally offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services in connection with projects in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$500; to pay administrative costs of \$325.81; 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:

Mark J. Morvant, PE, a professional engineer (PE-21958), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for unintentionally 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). Mark J. Morvant, PE, LLC (an unlicensed firm) admitted that in February 2015 it unintentionally offered to provide engineering services in connection with projects in Louisiana. The firm subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective March 18, 2015 (EF-5717). Mr. Morvant was the owner, manager and only employee of the firm, and he is now the supervising professional of the firm. Mr. Morvant 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 \$250; to pay administrative costs of \$310.32; 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.

Richard L. Holm, PE, a professional engineer (PE-16382), 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). Richard L Holm, LLC (an unlicensed firm) admitted that between July 2013 and March 17, 2015 it unintentionally offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services in connection with a project in Louisiana. The firm subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective March 18, 2015 (EF-5720). Mr. Holm was the owner and an employee of the firm, and he is now the supervising professional of the firm. Mr. Holm 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 \$317.29; 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.

Peter A. Allain, PE, a professional engineer (PE-20966), 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 March 2014 and March 26, 2015 Peter Allain, PE, LLC (an unlicensed firm) unintentionally offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services in connection with a project in Louisiana. Additionally, on or about March 11, 2015 the firm submitted to the Board an Application for Firm Licensure, confirming thereon that it had never practiced or offered to practice engineering in Louisiana. The firm subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective March 27, 2015 (EF-5723). Mr. Allain was the owner, manager and an employee of the firm, and he is now the supervising professional of the firm. Mr. Allain 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 \$750; to pay administrative costs of \$323.48; 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.

David W. Backstedt, Jr., PE, a professional engineer (PE-23627), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for unintentionally 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). David W. Backstedt, Jr., L.L.C. (an unlicensed firm) disclosed that between March 2014 and March 17, 2015 it unintentionally offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services in connection with projects in Louisiana. The firm subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective March 18, 2015 (EF-5714). Mr. Backstedt was the owner, manager and only employee of the firm, and he is now the supervising professional of the firm. Mr. Backstedt 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 \$325.81; 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.

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EXPIRED REGISTRANTS

Certificates and licenses for the following individuals and firms expired on September 30, 2016. If this is not correct, please contact us.

LAND SURVEYOR INTERNS Antill, Brett Joseph, LSI Thurmond, Danny L., LSI

PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS Brant, David R., PLS Hill, Robert Alan, PLS Ivey, Daniel Ray, PLS Mehn, Adam, PLS Presley, Pat Lavon, PLS Williams, Raymond Ronald, PLS

SURVEYING FIRMS

IPS Engineering, LLC, VF Pictometry International Corp., VF

ENGINEER INTERNS

Abraham, Wakeem Lenroy Yann, EI Affi, Affi Ahmed, EI Aguillard, Allen V., EI Alicea, Juan Carlos, El Allison, Serena Erin, EI Amendola, Ariel Salvador, EI Antie, Brad Joseph, EI Assef, Eduardo Álfredo, EI Baker, Joshua Frederick, EI Barrios, Robert Anthony, El Baur, Harold William, El Beard, Garrett Paul, EI Beatty, Allen Alphonsus, EI Becnel, Jordan Michael, EI Bell, Walter B., EI Bergeron, Clint Andrew, EI Bergeron, Nicholas Paul, EI Berry, James H., EI Billeaud, Anthony S., EI Borengasser, Stephen Joseph, EI Bowman, Morgan Dachael, EI Brackett, Joshua Paul, EI Breithaupt, Truman A., EI Brent, James Edward, EI Broadnax, Garrett Anthony, EI Brooks, Kenneth Joseph, El Brown, Caesar August, EI Brown, Caleb Daniel, El Brown, Christopher D., El Brown, Joseph Calvin, EI Bruette, Cody Nelson, EI Bruno, Anna Marie, El Cagle, Timothy Allen, EI Capdepon, Charles Keith, EI Castedo, Hernan Mario, El Castille, Karl A., EI Chen. Cen. EI Chien, Chieh B., EI Choy, Wai-Ho, EI Ciaccio, Joseph Anthony, EI Comeaux, Darrel C., EI Coote, Jonathan Philip, EI Cormier, Ryan Scott, ÊI Crews, Kaylyn Elizabeth, EI De Leo, Allie Corinne, EI Dempsey, James D., EI Dore, Katie Marie, El Duckett, Katie Marie, El Duhe, Jonathan Paul, EI Dupre, Garrett W., EI Enamorado, Darren Ali, EI Ericksen, Ashley Elizabeth, EI Espinoza-Moreira, Carla Roxana, El Faul, Joseph Edward, EI Fine, Corey M., EI Fletcher, Michael Olivier, EI Foster, Jason William, El Garitty, Kevin M., EI Gauthreaux, Claire Marie, El Gauthreaux, Phillip Grant, EI Gobert, Thomas Jeremy, EI Goetzmann, Benjamin Bon, EI Gonzalez, Christopher Francis, EI Guarino, Adam Matthew, EI Guilbeau, Bronson Paul, EI Guillot, Michael James, EI Hamilton, James, EI Harrison, Nathan Duggan, EI Henderson, Teresa Lynn, EL Hirsch, Christopher Thomas, El

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Congratulations to the following newly licensed and certified for the period of 1/14/17 through 4/13/17.

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Hawthorne, Chad A., LSI

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Beckwith, Marshall Clayton, PLS Diamond, Jeffrey Dean, PLS McLaughlin, William Andrew, PLS Spray, Sean William, PLS

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PRESIDENTIAL PRIVILEGE

Glenn A. Turner, Pl

t hasn't started winding down just yet, but I can see the end of my tenure as LES President in the not-too-distant L horizon. It has certainly been an honor to serve this great organization as your President. I prefer to use the metaphor of "driving the bus", because the real work of the organization is done by Brenda Gajan and her staff, the executive committee, chapter presidents, past presidents, other board members, and numerous other volunteers. Thanks to each of you for all that you continue to do to support this organization. Nevertheless, as my time commitment to LES winds down, I have been thinking about the other interests and pursuits which receive my time and energy.

We all need a certain balance in our professional and personal lives. All work and no play makes Glenn a dull boy, but all play and no work makes Glenn pretty useless (and penniless) also. Think of it in terms of lapel pins. On the occasions that I wear a suit jacket, I will usually have one or two pins on the lapel. There's not much real estate on a lapel, which forces me to choose which ones I wear on any given occasion. This in turn makes me think about what is important for that occasion and what associations I want to "advertise". Here are a few of the lapel pins I wear most often. I am not necessarily advocating for any of these organizations or causes, but as you read about mine, I hope you will think about the organizations that you support. These are not listed in any particular order as each organization serves a different purpose to me.



Louisiana Engineering Society. Of course I would list LES. The task of advocating for professional engineers and supporting this profession is important to me. That's also why I chose to serve the organization as an officer.

MML&H. That's the logo of my employer, Meyer, **ՠՠ**֎ֈֈ Meyer, LaCroix & Hixson, whose principals first encouraged me to be active in LES. This brings to mind a story about Mr. Albert Bruno Finke, who was the proprietor of a general mercantile company in the sawmill town of Elizabeth, LA, from circa 1910 until his death in 1956. By all accounts, his business was very successful and enjoyed a good reputation. During the 1930's, some of his staff members recorded the instructions he would give to all of his employees. This list of instructions included the obvious things such as customer service and friendliness, but it also included a section on loyalty which went like this, "Last, but not least, is house loyalty. If you do not actually believe that you are working for a good house, a house that is fair to its customers and to you, whose management you can believe in and will believe in, then you are unfair to yourself and doing the house a grave injustice, and should not stay." Those instructions apply to the engineering business as well. I believe that I am working for a "good house" and I do not hesitate to wear their logo. I trust that you work for a "good house" too.

Masonic Square and Compasses. have been Freemason а since I was in college. I am surprised that more engineers are not also

Freemasons because LES



Glenn A. Turner, PE Louisiana Engineering Society President

and Freemasonry have a lot in common. LES and other professional societies like it grew out of, or were inspired by the Royal Society, which was formed in England in 1660 by a group of Freemasons. Masons put aside their differences and meet upon a common level for charity, self-improvement, and benefit of humanity. In LES, we also put aside our differences of various branches of engineering and different companies and firms for professional improvement and benefit of the profession. Freemasonry grew out of guilds of medieval stonemasons who accepted others into their ranks (hence the term "Free and Accepted Masons") and still use the tools of stonemasons as symbols (such as the square and the compass) to teach various moral lessons. Masonry began before the professions diverged, at a time when the architect, structural engineer, and master builder of a structure could well be the same person. Masons refer to God as the "Great Architect of the Universe". I believe that if it had formed later, they might have used the term "Great Engineer of the Universe"!

Gideons International. This is a lapel pin which I only recently started wearing. I have long supported this ministry with my donations and prayers, but was finally led to give it my most precious gift: my time. That small pin with the lamp is the only outward symbol that Gideons wear. Gideons believe that all glory should be to God and that we shouldn't attract attention to ourselves or to the organization. Whatever we do as Gideons is but a duty done.

United Methodist Logo. Many people wear crosses; the one I wear also has the United Methodist tongues of flame superimposed on it as a symbol of the Holy Spirit. When one ponders the question, "what are we here for?", a lapel pin alluding to Deity (by whatever name you choose to call Him) should perhaps be first. Actually, this one doesn't really belong in the group with other lapel pins. While I wear the other pins as a symbol to you that I support an organization, I wear a cross as a reminder to me. If I'm doing it right, I shouldn't have to tell you that I'm a Christian; you should be able to see it in my life and actions.

American Flag. I believe that we were blessed to live in the greatest country the world has ever known, but I actually don't wear an American Flag pin very often. I think of the 1971 John Prine song about false patriotism. Wearing a flag doesn't make me an American;

LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL • MAY 2017

SOCIETY NEWS

Brenda Gajan, LES Executive Director



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LES Vision Statement:

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

LES Mission Statement:

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

Encouraging ethical and competent practice through licensure and legislative involvement.

Nurturing public awareness of engineers' contributions to society.

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

Recognizing engineering achievements.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2017

- 15 Chapter Officers & Committee appointments due to State Office
- 15 Committee Budget Requests due to State office
- 13-16 MATHCOUNTS National Competition Orlando, FL

June 2017

- 17 LES Orientation & Planning Meeting Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort, Destin, FL
- 17 LES & LEF Board Meeting Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort, Destin, FL
- 18-20 21st Annual Gulf States Engineering Conference Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort, Destin, FL

July 2017

19-23 NSPE Leader Conference & Annual Meeting – Atlanta, GA

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Alexandria Chapter Frank J. Camus, PE

Baton Rouge Chapter

Smith B. Benson. PE Laura J. Campa, PE Samuel Dixon Cole, PE Jonathan J. Knutson, Student Robert James Manes, PE Matthew Adam Mapes, PE William Wayne Marchand, PE Kimberly D. McDaniel, PE Ramon Miraflores, PE Sarah E. Smith, PE Frank R. Stagg, PE Chad C. Vosburg, PE

Lafayette Chapter

Charles E. Dronet, PE Wyatt A. Hardenberg, PE Hunter M. Holland, Student Kyrick H. Pannell, Student Jonathan R. Raush, PE Josh A. Spell, Student Jay W. Tumlin, PE

Monroe Chapter

Stephen L. Olson, PE

New Orleans Chapter

Katlin M. Arceneaux, EI Associate Member Under 30 Trey M. Berner, Student Ricardo A. Contreras, PE Marco V. Lopez, PE David Eric Taylor, PE Alex Williams, PE

Non-Resident Keestan X. Cole, PE

PRESIDENTIAL PRIVILEGE, continued from page 10

being an American makes me American. Similar to the Christian cross, you should know that I am patriotic by my words and actions.

I list these types of lapel pins not to boast about the things I support, but to encourage you to work on your own collection

of lapel pins. Think about what each of them means to you and why you support that organization or cause. Your collection will be different than mine, as it should be. The main thing is to have such a collection of things to support and to have a proper balance that is fitting for you. Just like there is limited space on a suit jacket lapel, there is similarly limited time in a day on Earth, so you will also have to prioritize.

ALEXANDRIA CHAPTER

By Kyle Randall, PE

s we approach the end of the LES year, the Alexandria Chapter is looking forward to our final event, the MathCounts Golf Tournament on Friday, May 19th at Oakwing Golf Course in Alexandria. Our May meeting



LES Alexandria Chapter welcomed LSPS to its meeting to present certificates to one new PLS and one LSI. Shown left to right are Mr. Jarred Book, PLS recipient, and Mr. Robert Davis, LSPS District 8 Chairman. April 4, 2017, Alexandria, LA.

BATON ROUGE CHAPTER

By Shaun Sherrow, PE

The Baton Rouge Chapter is in the home stretch of wrapping up another successful year. Many thanks to the active membership, corporate sponsors, volunteers, and the 2016-2017 chapter board. This year's board is another great example of why it is so much easier to get things done when you have a great group of people that care about what they are doing and willing to work as a team.

There were many events since the last journal that required many people to put in extra time to make sure that they ended up as great as they were. The first big event was the Past Presidents and New Licensing Ceremony that was held in March. This event is great for our profession because it allows the new licensees that are in the very beginning of their career to meet the "not-so-new" successful engineering leaders of our Baton Rouge Chapter. Louisiana Agricultural Commissioner Mike Strain, who was our guest speaker, spoke about the importance of agriculture and trade agreements to the world and US economy.

We did not have a board meeting in April due to us having two other events. We had a great turnout for our Annual Crawfish Boil at the Patio of Walk-On's on Burbank. The word



was a presentation on Geographical Information Systems (GIS) by Micah Richie of Morris P. Hebert, Inc.

At our May meeting, we were also honored to present Seth Mitchell with his recently-earned Engineer Intern certificate.

As we look forward to another year, we welcome our incoming officers for the 2017-18 LES Year:

- President: Bill Elliott, P.E.
- 1st Vice President: Jacob Dillehay, P.E.
- 2nd Vice President: Oliver Neal, P.E.

We are currently accepting nominations for Secretary-Treasurer. If you are interested in serving, please contact one of us. We look forward to bringing relevant, interesting speakers and topics to our Chapter. Any feedback on how we can better serve our members is appreciated.



of free crawfish definitely got out to the students. There were so many hungry students that we may have forced Walk-On's to boil all their entire day's supply of crawfish just for this afternoon event.

The second event was the Annual William A. Wintz Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament at the Copper Mill Golf Course. Weather was perfect. This is one of our chapter's most important event of the year, as the proceeds benefit the chapter's scholarship fund and LEF. Thanks to all the volunteers but especially Bert Wintz, Jacob Loeske, and Alan Krouse for their behind-the-scenes work throughout the year to make it happen.

Our last general membership meeting will be held jointly with the Baton Rouge Chapter of ASCE and ACEC at Juban's Restaurant May 25. We are excited and honored to be able to hear from new Mayor Sharon Weston Broome.

Please follow us at our Facebook page or check out the chapter website for details about upcoming events.



LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL • MAY 2017

NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER

By A. L. Roy Phelps, Jr, PE

elcome to May! – we are in the final weeks of the 2016/17 LES calendar year and in the final weeks of the celebratory Spring music, art and food festivals both here in New Orleans and across our state. It is a lively and enjoyable time of year. Special thank you to our Louisiana musicians and artists who are active all year but more visible in the Spring. Your efforts nurture young and old alike and encourage goodness to grow.

We hosted our February meeting on Wednesday the fifteenth as a joint meeting with the Society of Tulane Engineers (STE). The topic was, "Tulane Engineering Program Direction in 2017 and Beyond." Thank you to our speakers: Dr. Lev Kaplan, Ph.D., Department Chair of Tulane University Physics and Engineering Physics; and Dr. Matt Escarra, Ph.D., assistant professor of Tulane University Physics and Engineering Physics. And thank you to our members and the STE members who turned out in large numbers and made this meeting a success.

On March fifteenth, we hosted our annual Spring Licensing Ceremony at the Innsbruck Room on the University of New Orleans Campus. Mr. Alan Krouse, PE, LAPELS Private Practice Representative, did the honors for the new PE's and EI's. Attorney Mr. Michael Blackwell of Shields | Mott, LLP then followed with a well-received Ethics presentation on 'The Potential Price of Ethics and Professional Liability.' His numerous example cases were insightful, practical, and well presented. All new Louisiana PE/EI's, congratulations on your achievement. We encourage you to participate in our Society to continue to protect and promote the profession of Engineering.

We hosted our April nineteenth meeting on the Tulane University campus at the Makerspace Shop/ Lab Facility. The topic was 'Advanced Manufacturing with 3-D Printing and Maker Spaces' with presenter Mr. Domenic Giunta, CEO of IDIYA. The meeting began with shop/lab equipment demonstrations and a presentation on the details of existing and planned future New Orleans area Makerspace Shop/Lab facilities followed.

Our May twenty-fourth meeting will be a noon time meeting at Cava Restaurant

in Lakeview. Ms. Deborah Keller, PE, CEO of Deborah D Keller and Partners will speak on 'The ASCE 2017 Report on The Condition of Louisiana Ports and Waterways.' At this meeting, we will also present an Award for Faithful Service to Rebecca "Becky" Johnson, PE, in appreciation of her eighteen years as MATHCOUNTS Coordinator for the New Orleans Chapter.

We conducted the election for the Chapter officers for next year at the April meeting. Elected for office for 2017-18 are Nicholas "Nick" Musmeci, PE, President; Raoul Chauvin, PE, 1st Vice President, Kirk Farrelly, PE, 2nd Vice President; Katherine "Kate" Sotolongo, PE, Secretary/Treasurer; Richard Van Wooten, PE, Director; Robert Mejia, PE, Director.

As outgoing president this is my last planned chapter update. I would like to thank all our sponsors, volunteers, speakers, and chapter members. Thank you to my employer and colleagues for supporting and encouraging me to be active in LES. And thank you to all state and chapter past and present presidents and officers for your leadership, guidance, and advice. This has been an inspiring learning experience and as a result feel I have grown both personally and professionally. Thank you for this opportunity. It was my pleasure to serve the chapter.



Mapping the world inside and out

- > Subsurface Utility Engineering
- > Surveying and Mapping
- > Utility Coordination / Relocation Inspection
- > Geophysical Investigation



Cardno



LSU COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING HOLDS ORDER OF THE ENGINEER CEREMONY

By Daniel Candler

n April 19, 54 graduating seniors in the College of Engineering participated in a ceremony for the Order of the Engineer. It was held at 6 p.m. in Patrick F. Taylor Hall's Cambre Atrium.

Chemical Engineering senior, Daniel Candler, led the effort to restart this tradition at LSU. Under the mentorship of Drs. Adam and Liz Melvin, Candler brought back this unique ceremony.

The Order of the Engineer was initiated in the United States to foster a spirit of pride and responsibility in the

engineering profession, to bridge the gap between training and experience, and to present to the public a visible symbol identifying the engineer.

The first ceremony was held on June 4, 1970 at Cleveland State University. Since then, similar ceremonies have been held across the United States at which graduate and registered engineers are invited to accept the Obligation of the Engineer and a stainless steel ring. The ceremonies are conducted by Links (local sections) of the Order.

The Order is not a membership organization; there are never any meetings to attend or dues to pay. Instead, the

MEET BYRON RACCA, PE

yron Racca is currently a Senior Project Engineer with Meyer & Associates, Inc. in Sulphur, LA and has been a licensed professional engineer in the State of Louisiana since January 2008. In 2001, Byron was afforded the opportunity to begin his engineering career with Meyer & Associates, Inc. Currently, Byron oversees design and project management activities for various transportation, drainage, potable water distribution, sanitary sewer collection and site development projects for various independent, municipal, parish and industrial clients. During his tenure at Meyer, Byron has had the opportunity to provide engineering design and project management services for approximately 450 civil engineering projects. Byron received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from McNeese State University in 2002.

Byron has been an active member of LES under the Lake Charles Chapter since 2004. On the Chapter level, Byron has served as 2010/2011 1st Vice President, 2011/2012 President, 2012/2013 President, 2013/2014 1st Vice President and 2014/2015 1st Vice President. While serving on the chapter level, Byron also served on the state level as a State Director from 2012-2014, 2014/2015 Secretary-Treasurer, 2015/2016 2nd Vice President and currently serves as the 2016/2017 1st Vice President. While serving on the state board Byron

has served on numerous committees. In addition to Byron's service as a board member on the local and state levels, he has successfully managed the Lake Charles LES Annual

Byron Racca, PE

Golf Tournament for the last four years which provides scholarship assistance to McNeese State University students. Byron has also assisted with activities associated with the Lake Charles Mathcounts Competition and E-Week events in conjunction with McNeese State University.

Order fosters a unity of purpose and the honoring of one's

Hippocrates (460-377 B.C.) that is generally taken by medical

graduates and which sets forth an ethical code. The Obligation

likewise, contains parts of the Canon of Ethics of major

engineering societies. Initiates, as they accept it voluntarily, pledge to uphold the standards and dignity of the engineering

profession and to serve humanity by making the best use of

The Obligation is a creed similar to the oath attributed to

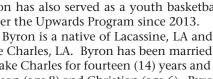
pledge lifelong.

Earth's precious wealth.

THE ORDER

In addition to his service to LES, Byron also serves on the McNeese Industrial Advisory Board which focuses on providing support and assistance to the McNeese Engineering Program. Byron has also served as a youth basketball and soccer coach under the Upwards Program since 2013.

Byron is a native of Lacassine, LA and currently resides in Lake Charles, LA. Byron has been married to Christine LaVoie of Lake Charles for fourteen (14) years and they have two sons; Jackson (age 8) and Christian (age 6). Byron and his family are members of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Lake Charles, LA.



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Susan H. Richard, PE, Scholarship Committee Chair

This spring, LES provided five \$500 scholarships to engineering students from four Louisiana engineering colleges. The scholarship winners were selected based on their financial need, their academic achievements and their participation in student engineering, civic and community service organizations. Funds for these scholarships came from the voluntary contributions of LES members and individual donations; one was funded through the Louisiana Engineering Foundation scholarship that was established by LES. We commend these individuals for their hard work.



Susan H. Richard, PE Scholarship Committee Chair

Fifteen applications were received from the deans at five of Louisiana's seven colleges of engineering.

The scholarship winners were:

Ashton Garner Chance Aucoin Claire Like David LaCour, Jr. Rebecca Smith

LA Tech UNO LSU UL Lafayette UL Lafayette We ask that all LES members support engineering scholarship funding through voluntary contributions on your dues statement. You contributions help ensure that engineering education continues to thrive in Louisiana.

BALLOT TO ELECT LES MEMBERS

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

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

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

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

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

LES ENGINEERS SELECTION BOARD BALLOT

1. Mark and return to LES, 9643 Brookline Ave., Ste. 116, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, by June 30th. Late ballots will not be accepted.

2. Make sure your name and address are on the envelope that forwards the ballot to LES. Ballot signature is not required.

Vote for One Candidate in Each Position

POSITION ONE

(Term July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

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

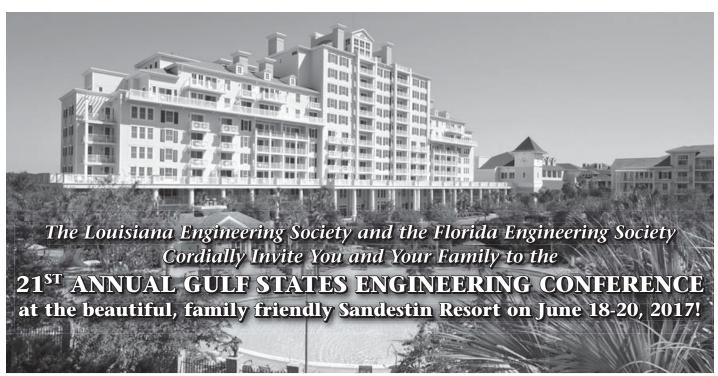
POSITION TWO

(Term January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018)

- □ Jim Ferguson, PE

For Write-in Candidate

MAY 2017 • LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL



Make your reservations NOW - all NSPE and State Society members are welcome to attend at the member rate and will get up to 12 hours of continuing education credits!

The Gulf States Engineering Conference marks our 10th return to beautiful **Sandestin Resort** and it is expected that the Conference will be attended by hundreds of professional engineers from throughout Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia, Florida and Mississippi. The attendees will include Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, and Safety Engineers. These engineers represent private practice, industry, government, education, and construction. Fulfill your CPD requirements by attending one of the two concurrent seminar tracks. See the LES website for up to date class descriptions. Spend your afternoon enjoying the beach with your family or practicing your swing on the golf course. There is plenty of fun in the sun activities to enjoy in Destin!!

Consider Sponsoring an Event

Consider supporting the Gulf States Engineering Conference by becoming a sponsor at one of the levels listed below and in return for your support, you will receive recognition at the Installation Luncheon and your company name will be prominently displayed as a sponsor throughout the conference. See the LES website for sponsorship information.

SPONSORSHIP TYPE

Family Beach Party Sponsor @ \$3000 Gold Sponsor @ \$1000 Silver Sponsor @ \$500 Bronze Sponsor @ \$250

Exhibitor Meet & Greet

Plan to attend the Exhibitor Meet & Greet on Sunday, June 18th at 10:00 a.m. The Exhibitor Meet & Greet is an excellent opportunity to network with other engineers, and have some one-on-one time with the representatives of the companies that are exhibiting at the conference. Each exhibitor will showcase their company and give away a door prize provided by the exhibitor.

Everyone is Invited to the Family Beach Party on Sunday Evening

At the Family Beach Event on Sunday evening we will have Laser Skeet Shoot & a Bonfire on the beautiful Sandestin Beach. We will serve hot dogs and hamburgers and to top off the night, s'mores around the bonfire. Make plans now to join the fun! Admittance to this event is free, but you must include the number of people attending on your registration form in advance. Wrist bands will be issued and worn to this event. We hope to see you at the BEACH PARTY!!

PRESENTERS NEEDED

We are looking for individuals that would like to conduct a seminar on an engineering related topic of your choice. Each 50-minute seminar will provide one Professional Development Hour per attendee. The conference registration fee is complimentary to presenters; however, we ask that you complete a registration form if you wish to purchase meal or event tickets.

EXHIBIT

We would like to extend an invitation to your organization to display at the Gulf States Conference. Like any conference, vendors play a huge role in helping us fund our event as well as informing our attendees of new products and technologies in our industry. This year we have extended our contact hours with our exhibitors and made room for extra booths.

Resort Amenities

Sandestin Resort boasts more than seven miles of sugar-white sandy beach and bay-front properties, four championship golf courses, 15 world class tennis courts, 19 swimming pools, a 98 – slip marina, marina dockage facilities, water sports, children programs, a fitness center and spa, 65,000 square feet of meeting space for weddings, family reunions, corporate meetings, retreats, and a pedestrian village complete with shopping, restaurants, ice skating, zip lining, and vibrant nightlife.

To register, see the LES website at <u>LES-state.org</u> or <u>http://conta.cc/2mBdDpf</u>

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LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY • 15

	21 st Annual Gulf States Engineeri Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort June 18-20, 2017	NGINEERI Resort 0, 2017	States Engineering Conference & Beach Resort in Destin, FL
*******	18484 8484848484848484848484848484848484	Monday, June 19, 2017	
Saturday, June 17, 2017	2017	A 10:00 11 100 00:01	AZALEA I Tommy Trapp – Cured in Place Lateral Rehabilitation
5:00 PM	LES ORIENTATION & PLANNING MEETING		AZALEA II Phillip Zimmerman – Next Generation Leader Development Process
6:00 PM - TILL	LES BOARD MEETING	11:20 AM - 1:00 PM	LES GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCEHON IN AZALEA III
	LEF BOARD MEETING	11:20 AM – 1:00 PM F	FES GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON – TBD
Sunday, June 18, 20	2017		
7:30 AM - NOON	REGISTRATION IN EXHIBIT HALL OPEN	2:00 PM - 6:00 PM G	GOLF TOURNAMENT AT THE LINKS
8-00 AM- 8-50 AM	AZALEA I Monica Autry – Reclaimed Water ASR in Northwest Florida	Tuesday, June 20, 2017	
	AZALEA II Scotty Baudoin – Entrepreneurial Operation System – Getting a Grip on Your Business	7:30 am - 8:30 am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST IN EXHIBIT HALL
	AZALEA I Rudy Hall – The First Offshore Wind Farm in the United States	7:00 AM - 11:30 AM	REGISTRATION & EXHIBIT HALL OPEN
9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	AZALEA II Domenic Giunta - Advanced Manufacturing From Innovation to Production		
10:00 AM - 10:50 AM	EXHIBITOR MEET N' GREET IN EXHIBIT HALL	8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	AZALEA I Jerrod Hogan – DronesThe Sky's the Limit!!
	AZALEA I Brandon Lomasney - Concrete Waterproofing by Crystallization	A	AZALEA II Neal Shearer – Trenchless Rehabilitation of Underground Pipe
ININ DC:TT - ININ DD:TT	AZALEA II John Croom - Exploring Funding Options in a New Era	8:50 AM - 9:15 AM	BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	INSTALLATION BANQUET IN CAMELLIA 1 & 2		AZALEA I Anthony Kendrick – Design Thinking: Focusing on the End User Improve Green
1-00 PM - 1-50 PM	AZALEA I Hal Cain - Ancient and Historical Structures in Italy and France	WA 20:01 - MA 21:9	
	AZALEA II Edgar Benoit – Recent Changes in the NEC	A	AZALEA II Edgar Benoit - 17 ^m and 18 ^m Century Engineering in Acadia/Nova Scotia
2:00 PM - 2:30 PM	BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL	10:05 AM - 10:30 AM B	BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL
	AZALEA I Bruce Magee – Trench and Excavation Safety – OSHA Requirements for Engineered Support	A 10:30 AM - 11:20 AM	AZALEA I Danny Gierhart – Increasing Asphalt Pavement Through Roadway Density Part 1
2.30 FIN - 3.20 FIN	Systems in Underground Construction AZALEA II Leo Holzenthal – Professional Development through Competence Mapping		AZALEA II Michael O'Brien – Contracts, Master Service Agreements, Work Tickets, Indemnity Agreements and You
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM	FAMILY BEACH EVENT	4	AZALEA I Danny Gierhart - Increasing Asnhalt Pavement Through Roadway Density Part 2
Monday, June 19, 2017	2103	LUNCH N' LEARN 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM 7:00 AM - 11:30 AM	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST IN EXHIBIT HALL REGISTRATION & EXHIBIT HALL OPEN		
8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	AZALEA I Scott Hedlund – When the Lawyer Calls: How to Properly Document Your Project Files Part 1		
	AZALEA II Michael Blackwell – The Potential Price of Ethics and Liability		
8:50 AM - 9:15 AM	BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL		Tow surgery contract.
9:15 AM - 10:05 AM	AZALEA I Scott Hedlund - When the Lawyer Calls: How to Properly Document Your Project Files Part 2		rol questions, contact. Louisiana Engineering Society
	AZALEA II Steven Loeb – Recent Developments in Construction Law		Phone: (225) 924-2021
10:05 AM - 10:30 AM	10:05 AM - 10:30 AM BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL		Email: lesœres-state.org

LES LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY



21st Annual Gulf States Engineering Conference

Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort in Destin, FL

June 18-20, 2017



Full Conference Registration

Member		Non-Member PE	1			
Registration Package:\$250)	Registration Package: \$350	How			
	How Many		How Many ——— How Many —— How			
 → Admission to all seminars & exhibitor area → Monday & Tuesday breakfasts → Sunday Exhibitor Meet N Greet → Tuesday Lunch N' Learn → Family Beach Event 		 Member Registration Package Includes: → Admission to all seminars & exhibitor area → Monday & Tuesday breakfasts → Sunday Exhibitor Meet N Greet → Tuesday Lunch N' Learn 	How Many 			
Sunday Installation Banquet: \$40	How Many	\$50 Additional after June 5 th +\$50	How Many			
Monday Golf Tournament: \$100 Handicap Length of Drive	How Many	Total Amount to be charged from all boxes \$				
How many will attend the Family Beach Event? If you are attending with children, please list their names below.						
NAME						
NAME:						
SPOUSE BADGE NAME: Company Name						
ADDRESS: City/State						
ZIP:PhoneEmail						
CARD NO:E	XP.DATE:	BILLING ZIP:CVV Code				
SIGNATURE:						
For overnight accommodations call Sandestin Group Reservations at 800-320-8115. Use group code 23D26T. Visit www.les-state.org for a housing request form that will include group accommodations and rates. Contact LES for if you have questions regarding the housing form. NO REFUNDS AFTER 6/5/2017						
9643 Brookline Avenue, Ste. 116 (225) 924-2021 www.les-state.org						

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MAY 2017 • LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL

CAPITOL VIEW: FROM Haynie and associates

www.haynieandassociates.com

he Louisiana Legislature began a Fiscal Regular Legislative Session on Monday, April 10, 2017 and is set L to adjourn on June 8, 2017. A fiscal session primarily deals with budget legislation, which includes funding bills, taxes, fees, credits, exemptions and the like. Each legislator had the opportunity to file five additional pieces of legislation of general subject matter. Fewer general subject matter bills have been filed this year, as the main concentration is the state's problematic fiscal situation. Louisiana faces a roughly \$440 million deficit for the 2017-2018 fiscal year which will require either cuts or new revenues to put the budget into balance. The 2018-2019 fiscal year is facing an even larger deficit of over \$1.5 billion because of the temporary taxes passed last year. One such tax is the fifth penny of sales tax, which is due to sunset June 30, 2018. The Governor has set the table with his task force for tax reform but thus far the Republican controlled House prefers to look at what cuts can be made in state government. The House quickly defeated the Governor's gross receipts tax called the Commercial Activities Tax (CAT) modeled after the State of Ohio (HB 628). The Governor has now challenged the House Republicans to come up with their own plan to solve the budget problem. Ideas gaining traction with House Republicans includes cuts in the way of a stand still budget as well as the possibility of extending the fifth penny of sales tax.

Transportation Infrastructure funding in the form of a gas tax is also set to be a major topic of the 2017 fiscal session. Multiple bills have been filed on the subject with some raising the gasoline tax as high as 17 cents (HB 632). Business and chamber groups have rallied around support of passing a gasoline tax



but anti-tax groups are also working hard and using paid advertising in opposition. Reaching the needed 70 votes in the House of Representatives for passage is the toughest step. Therefore, our advice to LES members whom want to see the gas tax increase passed is to reach out to your legislators and let them know you support it and ask for their diligence in passing it. An additional infrastructure related proposal that is receiving a large amount of attention is a constitutional amendment to restrict TTF dollars from going to state police and DOTD uses other than infrastructure funding (HB 346 & SB 57).

On the defensive front, SB 205 by Senator Morrell makes problematic changes that would impact LAPELS ability to discipline engineers and would refer disciplinary actions to an administrative law judge. LES will be opposing this legislation along with many of the state's other professions that are regulated and licensed by state boards. On a positive note, the expansion of sales taxes to new services at this time does not contain proposals to include engineering services. We are staying vigilant against any attempts to do so. We are on the lookout on behalf of Louisiana Engineering Society for any problematic legislation and stand ready to oppose any harmful proposals to our strong testing and licensing standards.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THOSE WHO HAVE DONATED TO LES'S LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS THIS YEAR. ALL ENGINEERS BENEFIT FROM THESE EFFORTS AND WE ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DONATE AND HELP LES CONTINUE TO PROTECT OUR PROFESSION.

<u>Gold</u>

Resource Consulting, LLC MSMM Engineering, Inc. Balar Associates, Inc. Huval & Associates, Inc.

Silver

Gulf South Engineering and Testing, Inc. Neel-Schaffer, Inc.ç Smith Engineering Co., Inc. Sigma Consulting Group, Inc. MB Design Consultants, LLC Lazenby & Associates, Inc.

Bronze

John W. Shamblin ASCE Louisiana Section Fox-Nesbit Engineering, LLC Global Synthetics Environmental Lancon Engineers, Inc. Louisiana Land Engineering LLC Nixon Engineering Solutions, LLC Ryan M. Gonsoulin Engineering, LLC Purtle & Associates LLC WynnL. WhiteConsultingEngineers, Inc. Fred Newton and Company, Inc. HLP Engineering, Inc. Pan American Engineers, LLC Duplantis Design Group, P. C. E. E. Consultants, Inc. E3 Electrical, Inc. Infinity Engineering Consultants, LLC M & E Consulting, Inc. Shuler Consulting Company Ampirical Solutions, LLC Aucoin & Associates, Inc. Compliance Enviro Systems, LLC Great South Engineers, Inc. J. L. Arnold, Inc. J. Wayne Plaisance, Inc. Leonard Chauvin, PE, PLS, Inc.

MATHCOUNTS[®] STATE COMPETITION

Matthew Redmon, PE

n Friday, March 31, 2017 approximately 110 mathletes representing 29 schools from across the State of Louisiana descended upon Pineville, LA for the State MATHCOUNTS Competition. The rigorous competition included the target round focusing on problem-solving and reasoning, the sprint round focusing on speed and accuracy and the team round focusing on problem-solving and collaboration. The top 8 individuals based on their scoring in the first three rounds moved on to the head-to-head, bracket style countdown round focusing on speed and accuracy. The countdown round did not determine the overall winner at the state competition, but it will at the national competition in Orlando, FL on May 14, 2017. In addition to the standard MATHCOUNTS Competition Program, a Mathbee round is conducted. In this round, teams compete against each other to see who can buzz in first with the correct answer. I am always amazed by how bright the students are. They are challenged by the competition and always seem to have a great time. Thank you so much to all of our team coaches, sponsors, and volunteers who support this engaging program.

Participating schools were:

<u>Alexandria Branch</u> Alexandria Country Day School Natchitoches Magnet Grace Christian School Tioga Junior High

Baton Rouge Branch Glasgow Middle School LSU Laboratory School Our Lady of Mercy School

Bayou Branch Bayou Community Academy Houma Junior High Evergreen Junior High

Lafayette Branch Episcopal School of Acadiana David Thibodaux STEM Academy Our Lady of Fatima School Ascension Episcopal School Broussard Middle School

The top 8 individuals who competed in the Countdown Round were:

Sameer Tirumala (Caddo Middle Magnet) John Kwon (Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies) Sumin Kwak (Caddo Middle Magnet) Jonathan Ding (Glasgow Middle School) Alex Wu (LSU Laboratory School) Gergegly Szarvas (Caddo Middle Magnet) Diya Desai (Caddo Middle Magnet) Christian Herpin (Episcopal School of Acadiana)

Lake Charles Branch

Our Lady Queen of Heaven F. K. White Middle School DeRidder Junior High School Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School

<u>Monroe Branch</u> Ouachita Junior High Cedar Creek School River Oaks

<u>New Orleans Branch</u> Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies Lake Castle North Private School Lake Castle Private School

Boyet Junior High Shreveport Branch Caddo Middle Magnet Benton Middle School Southfield School

The top 6 teams were: Caddo Middle Magnet

Caddo Middle Magnet Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies Our Lady of Mercy School Glasgow Middle School LSU Laboratory School Lake Castle North Private School

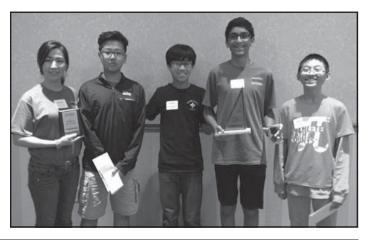
Team Louisiana competing at the National Competition in Orlando, FL on May 14th are:

Sameer Tirumala (Caddo Middle Magnet) John Kwon (Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies) Sumin Kwak (Caddo Middle Magnet) Jonathan Ding (Glasgow Middle School) Coach - Ms. Eunhee Choi (Caddo Middle Magnet)

The top 2 countdown round winners were:

1st Place – Sameer Tirumala (Caddo Middle Magnet) 2nd Place – John Kwon (Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies)

The Mathbee team winner was: Caddo Middle Magnet



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND TO ALL OF OUR WINNERS.

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

<u>Our Major Sponsors:</u>

Cleco Shell Oil Company TBS Spark Foundation Louisiana Engineering Society

Other Sponsors:

Ardaman & Associates, Inc. Badeaux Engineers, Inc. Kenneth Boagni III CEC, Inc. Cothren, Graff, Smoak Engineering, Inc. Domingue, Szabo & Associates, Inc. ETEC Forte and Tablada, Inc. GHD Services, Inc. Huval & Associates, Inc. D. W. Jessen & Associates, LLC Lazenby & Associates, Inc. Neel-Schaffer, Inc. Providence / GSE Associates, LLC

LES Alexandria Chapter LES Baton Rouge Chapter LES Bayou Chapter LES Lafayette Chapter LES Lake Charles Chapter LES Monroe Chapter LES New Orleans Chapter LES Shreveport Chapter

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THE SPEC SHEET Daniel E. Mobley, CAE, Executive Director American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana

The TV report warned that a flood was coming, but the old man wouldn't leave. "God will take care of me," he said to himself. The water rose. A boat rescue team came by, but he refused help. "God will take care of me," the old man said as the boat sailed away. He climbed to his rooftop to escape the rising water, and a helicopter arrived. "God will take care of me," the old man yelled as he shooed the helicopter away.

Of course, the man died in the flood. As he stood at the Pearly Gates, he asked St. Peter, "Why didn't God take care of me?" St. Peter checked his notes and said, "Let's see, God sent you a TV report, a boat and a helicopter. What were you waiting for?"

I fear that many of us in the engineer profession are like that old man, hoping for a transportation funding "miracle" but unwilling to take advantage of the opportunity staring us in the face. Now is the time for the engineering profession to get involved in the political process. The Louisiana Legislature is considering several bills that will dramatically improve the future of transportation infrastructure for decades to come, and it is imperative that our political leaders hear from us.

The most prominent bill is Rep. Steve Carter's HB 632,

Thanks to our ACEC LOUISIANA AFFILIATE MEMBERS

ACEC Business Insurance Trust ACEC Life/Health Insurance Trust Alexander & Sanders BFM Corporation, LLC Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP Brown & Brown of Louisiana **CenterPoint Energy** ConTech Engineered Solutions, LLC CxA Services, LLC Cycle Construction Co., LLC Delta Process Equipment Eagan Insurance Agency, LLC Environmental Technical Sales, Inc. Entergy of Louisiana Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions, Inc. ExactSource Forterra Pipe & Precast Hannis T. Bourgeois, LLP HUB International Gulf South LA Asphalt Pavement Association **Regions Bank** Surveying & Mapping, LLC Whitney Bank Wray & Pierce, LLP

which would raise the state gasoline tax by 17 cents-pergallon, with all money going toward projects. There is formidable opposition to the bill, especially from conservative Republican legislators who wrongly believe that DOTD can simply trim some expenses here and there and magically produce more than \$13 billion extra

to build, repair, replace and maintain our roads and bridges.

I mention the words "conservative Republican



Daniel E. Mobley, CAE

legislators" not as a derisive term but as an accurate description of what is happening at the capitol. The legislators who are blocking progress on the transportation bills are getting an earful from political consultants, most of whom are from Washington, D.C. and have no vested interest in Louisiana's quality of life, its economy or its business community. Their goal is to convince legislators that voting for a gas tax increase is political poison, and unless those legislators hear otherwise, they will listen to the consultants.

Here are the facts:

- Louisiana has the 10th largest highway system in the country.
- Louisiana ranks 44th in state gas tax amount.
- Louisiana ranks 50th in overall state investment in transportation.
- 53 percent of Louisiana citizens support raising the gasoline tax by as much as 20 cents per gallon, if the money is dedicated to transportation projects, according to an LSU statewide survey.

Here's the political reality: if the legislature fails to pass a significant gas tax hike or otherwise invest the approximately \$700 million our system needs, we won't see another serious attempt at a raise until 2021. Fiscal sessions are scheduled only on odd-numbered years, and 2019 will be an election year, and very few legislators, or governors, are willing to raise taxes while they're campaigning for re-election.

What can you do? Pick up the phone and call your state representative and senator. Let them know that you, your professional colleagues, your suppliers, your bankers, your insurance agents and your clients support HB 632.

To find out who your legislators are, go to www.legis.la.gov and click on "Who Are My Legislators?" Do it now.

This is not a time to sit on the sidelines, thinking other firms will handle the politicking. This is a red-alert, all-hands-on-deck effort that will require all of us pulling together to get a gas tax bill passed.

The water is rising, and the helicopter is hovering.



American Council of Engineering Companies Alabama • Arkansas • Louisiana • Mississippi

Deep South Convention 2017

Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort | Destin, Florida | July 27-30, 2017



COME FIND YOUR PLACE I NTHE SUN

Join with owners and key principals from premiere consulting engineering companies from across the Deep Southern States of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi for the ACEC Deep South annual convention and exhibitor's trade show to be held at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort, located on the Emerald Coast of the Gulf of Mexico, in Destin, Florida. Bring your family and join with your peers for profitable return.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY

Book online: http://www.Sandestin.com/23D3NP.aspx | Group Code: 23L2SL

Group Reservations 800.320.8115 | Fax 850.267.8221 Cut-off date for reservations is June 26, 2017, after which rooms will be sold on a space-available basis.

American Council of Engineering Companies ALABAMA (334) 264-1500 | ARKANSAS (501) 978-1157 | LOUISIANA (225) 927-7704 MISSISSIPPI (601) 420-2002

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