

Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal

May 2022 – Vol. 25 No. 2

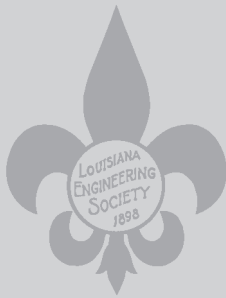
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Keynote Speaker

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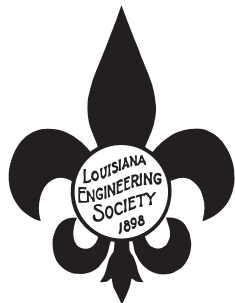
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*2022-2023 Louisiana Engineering Society President
Chad Bacas, PE*



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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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Message from the Chairman

Christopher K. Richard, PE

The downside of moving into the Chairman's position is it also signals the farewell to someone with whom you have spent the last 5 years working side by side. I want to thank Jeff Pike for being a great board member, leader and friend over the last 5 years. The flip side: it's time to welcome a new Board Member to LAPELS, Dr. Vijaya Gopu, a distinguished educator from my alma mater, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. I look forward to working with Vijaya my last year on the board.

For many years, LAPELS staff has had the pleasure of leaning on Joe Harmon, PE as a technical advisor regarding engineering issues that come to the staff. The Board recently engaged a PLS to serve as a technical advisor to the staff regarding surveying matters. I would like to take this time to welcome David Patterson who will be serving this role back to LAPELS. David is an Emeritus Board Member having served as Chairman in 2017-2018.

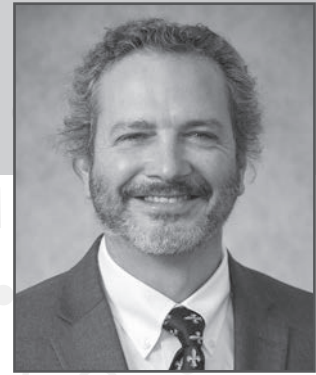
After an arduous couple of years working through the pandemic, we are finally returning to some sense of normalcy. This year, we have returned to full in-person board meetings. While zoom meetings were workable, as I think most people would agree, in-person meetings are much more effective and efficient. This year we will also return to in-person NCEES Zone and Annual meetings. Speaking of NCEES, the last one-day paper PE exam was given in October 2021. Both the FE and PE exams have now been converted to computer-based testing (CBT). NCEES is in the process of converting the multiple-day Structural Exams to CBT testing with an anticipated completion date in 2024.

In what seems like a spring ritual, LAPELS is following several bills that have been filed in the State Legislature that will affect licensure in Louisiana, some negatively. We have been working closely with LES and ACEC/L on these

issues so please keep an eye out for communications from these groups and get involved to let your voices be heard.

In preparing for this message, I looked back a few years and noticed a common thread in a few of them from past chairs. Discussion regarding the definition of "incidental Practice of Engineering by an Architect". It has been going on for several years now and we may be nearing the end! A few years back, a task force was created with members from LAPELS, LES, ACEC/L, AIA Louisiana and LSBAE (Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners). The existing Engineering Rules recognize the overlap between engineering and architecture and allow architects to practice engineering that is incidental to their work. The problem is "incidental engineering" has never been defined. Numerous meetings were held, definitions drafted, etc. and finally, it looks like we may actually have an agreement. Through LES, Representative Foy Gadberry filed HB 305 to define Incidental Practice of Engineering by an Architect. The HB 305 has received support from LES, ACEC/L and AIA Louisiana. Hopefully, the Board can move forward with the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the public, which is the main function of both LAPELS and LSBAE.

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



Christopher K. Richard, PE
Chairman

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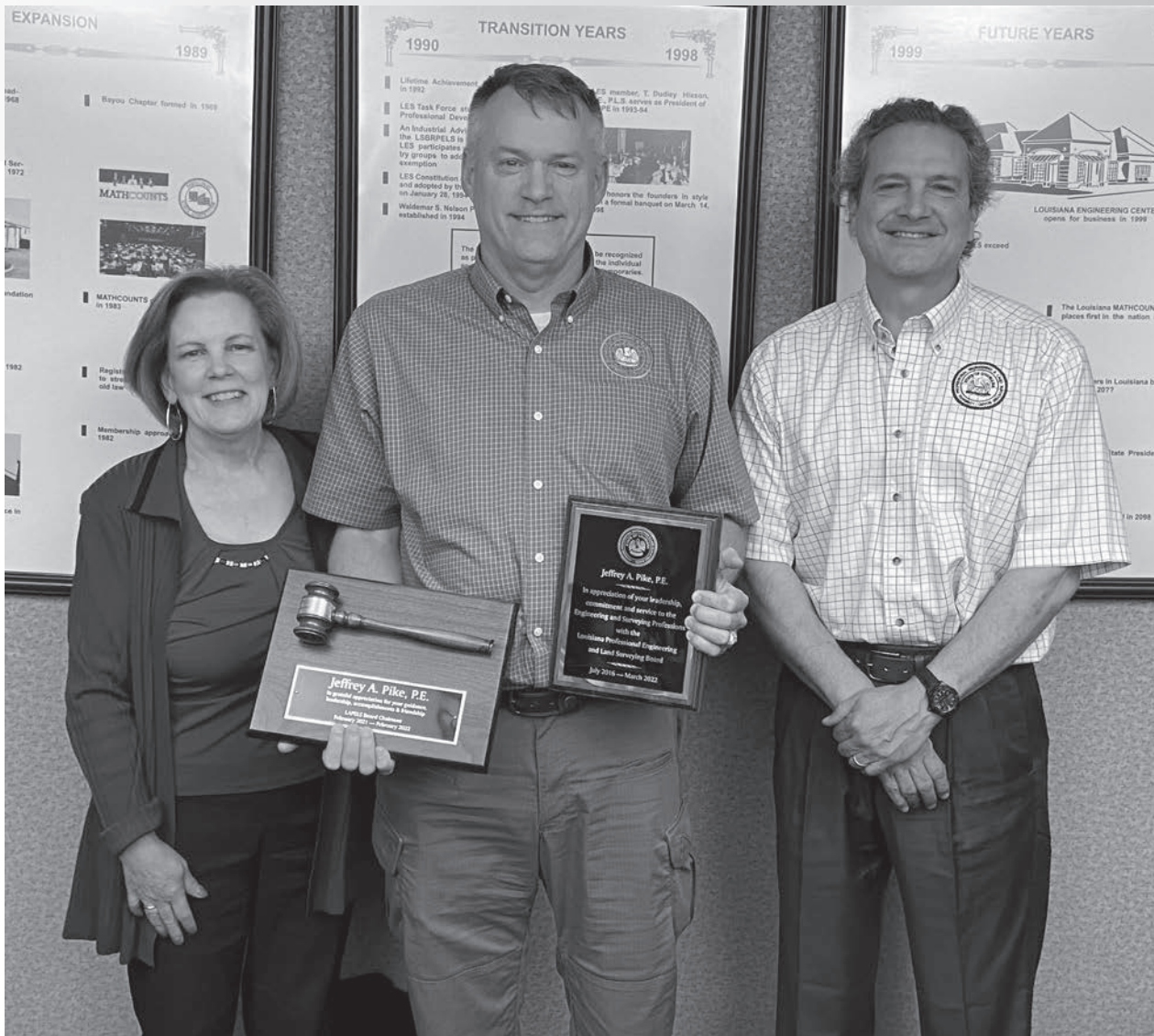


Dr. Vijaya (VJ) Gopu, P.E., is Stuller Settings -Matthew Stuller LEQSF/Regents Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (2015-present) and Associate Director for External Programs at Louisiana Transportation Research Center (LTRC). He also holds the Formosa Plastics Distinguished Professor Emeritus position at LSU (2000-present). He was appointed by Governor Edwards to serve a six-year term (2022-2028) on the Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board as a Professional Engineer representing Education. Dr. Gopu earned his first PE license from Colorado in 1977 and got licensed in Louisiana in 1983.

Dr. Gopu earned his B.S. in Civil Engineering with distinction from Andhra University in 1971. He obtained his M.S. and Ph.D. in Structural Engineering from Colorado State University in 1972 and 1975 respectively. Upon completion of his doctoral work, Dr. Gopu worked as a project structural engineering with a Denver area consulting firm for three years before joining the civil engineering faculty at LSU in 1978. During his 22-year tenure (1978-2000) at LSU, he served as the department's structures program and graduate program coordinator. He took a sabbatical leave in 1985 to serve as a visiting professor

at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden, for an eight-month period. During his final two years at LSU, Dr. Gopu served as the Program Director for Structural Systems and Materials in the Directorate of Engineering at the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C., on an IPA appointment (1998-2000). After leaving LSU, he served as the Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Associate Director of the University Transportation Center of Alabama at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (2000-2003). He left Huntsville in 2003 to accept the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department Chair position at Tulane University. After Katrina's impact on Tulane's engineering programs, Dr. Gopu left Tulane in 2008 to accept a joint appointment as the Edward G. Schleider Endowed Chair in Civil Engineering at the University of New Orleans (2008-2015) and Associate Director of External Programs at LTRC (2006-present). In 2015, he accepted an endowed professor position in the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to contribute to the university's efforts to move to a Carnegie R-1 status which it achieved this year. With his long service to Louisiana universities, Dr. Gopu became the first engineering professor in Louisiana history to serve as a tenured full professor at four Louisiana universities.

Dr. Gopu is a recipient of several awards for teaching, research and professional service. He supervised the research work of 48 master's and doctoral students and served as the principal or co-principal investigator of over 60 research projects with total expenditures exceeding \$20M. He delivered keynote lectures and presentations at numerous domestic and international conferences in 30 countries, and has served on the organizing committee of several domestic/international conferences and forums. Dr. Gopu is active in several national technical committees and has served as a member of several federal interagency working groups. He was the Conference Chair for the World Conference on Timber Engineering held in New Orleans in 1996. While serving as Program Director at the National Science Foundation - an agency under the White House -- he established a \$20 million joint NSF-HUD initiative in support of President Clinton's PATH --Partnership for Advancing Technologies for Housing - program. He is heavily involved in the management of University Transportation Center Sites funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. Dr. Gopu has served on numerous NSF Site Review Teams and Proposal Review Panels. He is the chair of the Industrial Advisory Board for the NSF Center for Integration of Composites in Infrastructure and a founding member of the International Association for Bridge Management and Safety - USA.



Jeffrey A. Pike, PE, is recognized by Christopher Richard, PE, board chairman, for his service, dedication and outstanding leadership to the LAPELS Board (2016 - 2022).

LAPELS BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2022

Monday, May 23

Monday, July 25

Monday, October 10

Southern Zone Update

Linda Bergeron, PE
Southern Zone Secretary/Treasurer



Linda Bergeron, PE
Southern Zone
Secretary/Treasurer

Representatives from LAPELS recently attended a joint zone meeting with the NCEES (National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying) - Southern and Central Zones in Oklahoma City. This was our first gathering with counterparts from around the country since August 2019.

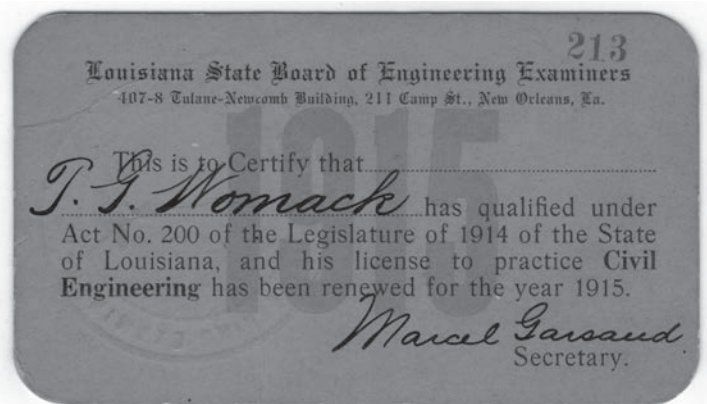
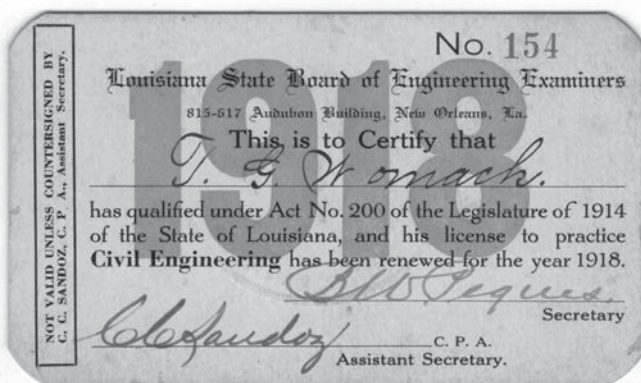
We have been attending Zoom meetings with NCEES during the pandemic, but it was wonderful to be able to meet face-to-face to discuss and learn more about the issues related to NCEES.

In addition, there were two highlights to our trip. For our first highlight, Mr. William Womack, P.E., was in attendance and is a Board member with the Georgia State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. Mr. Womack also happens to have a connection to Louisiana. He was born in Louisiana and his grandfather, T. G. Womack, was a civil engineer and surveyor in Louisiana from 1908 - 1923.

Mr. Womack has made several donations to the LAPELS Board. The list includes his grandfather's field book and two original renewal pocket cards, both signed by charter LAPELS Board members Marcel Garsaud and B. W. Pegues. What treasures we have received!

For our second highlight was current LAPELS Board member, Linda Bergeron, P.E., was elected to a two-year term as the Southern Zone Secretary/Treasurer.

Both of these events added to a very special meeting, and LAPELS members are very proud of both our gift from Mr. Womack, as well as Linda's leadership and willingness to serve.



William Womack, Jimmy Chustz, Jeff Pike, Vijaya Gopu, Chris Richard, Janice Williams, Chad Vosburg, Linda Bergeron, Edgar Benoit, Connie Betts and Donna Sentell

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LAND SURVEYOR INTERNS

Castille, Lance Joel, LSI
Duplantis, Ian Mel, LSI
Hebert, Steven Paul, LSI
Mire, Colby Robert, LSI
Sharp, Kyle Austin, LSI

PROFESSIONAL SURVEYOR

Davis, Lucas Garrett, PLS
Fisher, Clark Evan, PLS
Jones, Mark Louis, PLS
Kessler, Robert Kevin, PLS
Miller, Wesley Daniel, PLS
Newberry, James Walton, PLS
Phillips, Henry Louis, PLS
Reaux, Nathan Frank, PLS
Waldroup, Rachel La Pearl, PLS

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HDR Engineering, Incorporated,
VF
Matrix New World Engineering,
Land Surveying and Landscape
Architecture, P.C., A Professional
Corporation, VF
Max Bodin Inc., VF
UniversalPegasus International
LLC, VF
Vanasse Hangen Brustlin,
Inc., VF
Whiteley Oliver, LLC, VF

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Bernard, Benjamin Corey, EI
Bex, Chester Donald, EI
Bhusal, Nirmal, EI
Blosser, Kelsey, EI
Borcherdt, Miles Edward, EI
Bourgeois, Lorn Joseph, EI
Cambre, Brock, EI
Chinni, Anusha, EI
Chirag, FNU, EI
Collongues, Grant, EI
Cross, Breanna Rose, EI
Darling, Cory, EI
Dickson, Paul J., EI
Domangue, Cullen Michael, EI
Dowdle, Whitney Marie, EI
Fanguy, Benjamin Adam, EI
Finch, Benjamin Neil, EI
Fontenot, Tyler Scott, EI
Francis, Colin James, EI
Furman, John Parker, EI
Goss, Brennan James, EI
Grass, Nicholas Joseph, EI

Green, Connor Michael, EI
Hall, Jaeson Michael, EI
Harding, Clayton Everett, EI
Hartley, Jackson Tipton, EI
Hassan, Hany, EI
Hatch, Zachary Wayne, EI
Homes, Seth Ryan, EI
Howington, Michelle Hamley, EI
Khanal, Ashish Chandra, EI
Kreamer, Charles Martin, EI
Kroll, Anne, EI
Landry, Richard Hughes, EI
Landry, Tucker Knotts, EI
Langlinais, Joshua Gary, EI
LeBlanc, Reece Joseph, EI
Leger, Jake Brandon, EI
Leger, Joshua Allan, EI
LeJeune, Ty Cooper, EI
Lemoine, Christopher Lee, EI
Maghsoodi, Mostafa, EI
Manuel, Lauren, EI
Martinez, Guillermo, EI
McClure, Daniel Ross, EI
McGraw, John, EI
Melancon, Matthew James, EI
Menard, Garrett Andrew, EI
Mitchell, Sarah Elizabeth, EI
Mitchell, Weston Lee, EI
Mondal, Goutam, EI
Mostafa, Fathy Abdelazeem
Khallaf, EI
Ortego, Savannah Diane, EI
Patterson, Justin Tyler, EI
Perry, Scott Marcus, EI
Podany, Juliette Marie, EI
Pope, William Arthur, EI
Robert, Ryne, EI
Roche, Andrew Michael, EI
Smith, Michael Judah
Benjamin, EI
St. Martin, Thomas Edward, EI
Swaim, Ricky N., EI
Tojal Gadelha De Freitas,
Lucas, EI
Torry, Rayne Elizabeth, EI
Trahan, Ethan Cory, EI
Trahan, Nathan Joseph, EI
Tran, Diep Khac, EI
Varnado, Trent J., EI
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Weems, Matthew Scott, EI
Winter, Charles Christopher, EI
Young, Tyler James, EI

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

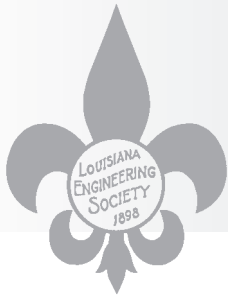
Adams, Joseph Chester, PE
Adams, Wendell David, PE
Al-Amin, Shams, PE

Alexander, Meredith L., PE
Amann, Brian Michael, PE
Anderson, Karl, PE
Anderson, Mallory, PE
Ardoin, Kyleigh Camron, PE
Atkinson, Nathan Christopher, PE
Avasarala, Swamy Kumar, PE
Averill, Benjamin James, PE
Badawi, Talal Kamal, PE
Ballard, Alese Helen, PE
Banda, Jose Javier, PE
Barnes, Patrick Alan, PE
Barrios, Davis, PE
Barry, Robin Paul, PE
Barsch, Gregory W., PE
Basirat, Bahareh, PE
Bates, Jacob Holt, PE
Beamer, Taylor Frederick, PE
Bell, Phillip Anthony, PE
Berg, Joel W., PE
Blackburn, Brent, PE
Blaisdell, Andrew Ryan, PE
Blohowiak, Jared Charles, PE
Bloom, Derek James
Mathew, PE
Bodenschatz, David Wayne, PE
Boehm, Jason, PE
Bonano, Mason Joseph, PE
Bondurant, Jason, PE
Bozzo, Eric Anthony, PE
Bratten, Mike, PE
Breaud, Meredith Ann, PE
Breux, Barry Paul, PE
Brejda, Joseph, PE
Brennan Daniel Fowler, PE
Broussard, Richard Warren, PE
Buchhorn, Wesley Allan, PE
Buck, Craig Raymond, PE
Burgason, Brady, PE
Burns, Landon David, PE
Cagnolatti, John Devin, PE
Camacho, Marc Andrew, PE
Cano, Alberto, PE
Carey, Jennifer Amy, PE
Carriere, Trevor James, PE
Carter, Dustin Ashley, PE
Case, Hayden Charles, PE
Castanza, Eliot Pinner, PE
Cawley, Brian Francis, PE
Chaifetz, Carl, PE
Clark, Logan Drew, PE
Clouser, Kevin David Paul, PE
Coco, Meaghan Andreoli, PE
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Collins, Thomas Matthias, PE
Collins, Wallace Lee, PE
Compton, Maxwell Lyons, PE

Conley, Anthony Michael, PE
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Croff, Brien, PE
Cuellar, Matthew Ryan, PE
Culbert, Daniel Craig, PE
Dalaeli, Mozhdeh, PE
Dang, Victoria Hoang, PE
Davidson, Angela, PE
Davis, Cory Michael, PE
Del Toro Gomez, Rafael
Enrique, PE
Desilva, Patrick Murphy, PE
Dunn, Timothy Grover, PE
Eaton, James Nicholas, PE
Eisenhauer, Taylore, PE
Elkassouf, Mark Georges, PE
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Ericksen, Christopher Allen, PE
Fan, Shuai, PE
Farhat, Ahmad Diab, PE
Fautsch, David Ambrose, PE
Feichtinger, Brett Joseph, PE
Fierro-Stevens, Ricardo, PE
Firman, Robert Joseph, PE
Fitzgerald, Ryan, PE
Fleming, John Paul, PE
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Flores Flores, Felipe Alejandro,
PE
Flowers, Kori, PE
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Foster, Alvin Glenn, PE
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Lewis, Landon Dixon, PE	Russell, Brian, PE	Ward, Jon Paul, PE	Purpose Engineering LLC, EF
Li, Kun, PE	Sadlock, Joshua, PE	Waters, Ross Eugene, PE	Red Stick Power, LLC, EF
Li, Wei, PE	Sanders, Carter Wade, PE	Weber, Cris, PE	Schemmer Associates Inc., EF
Lorah, Mark W., PE	Santiago, Luis Edgardo, PE	Webster, Cory C., PE	Specialized Engineering Solutions, Inc., EF
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Louisiana Engineering Society President

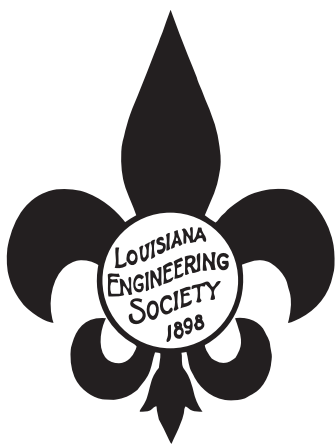
It is with gratitude and appreciation that I let you all know our **Executive Director, Mrs. Brenda Gajan, will be retiring from Louisiana Engineering Society (LES)** and Louisiana Engineering Foundation (LEF) after 28 years of service. Throughout Brenda's career I have heard many delightful stories of her fun filled, happy and service-minded personality. She has constantly shown extreme professionalism to lead our organization throughout the last three (3) decades and I know that she is leaving our society in a much better place from when she started. I have the honor of formally thanking Brenda for her service, but I am confident I speak for all the past presidents, board of directors, and general membership of LES/LEF. We all are so very thankful for everything she has done for our profession and society during her tenure at LES and LEF. Thank you also goes out to her family for supporting her and our society throughout the decades of her service.

During the last 28 years, our membership has grown from as low as 900, to now having over 2200 engineers actively engaged in the society functions. In addition, we now have 30 annual LEF scholarships and an overall endowment fund balance of \$589,000 to support our future engineering generations. Brenda and several LES board members began the LEF Scholarship fund in the early 2000s and through her leadership, the scholarship fund is helping assist in tuition for students and families throughout the state of Louisiana that are in the engineering profession. THANK YOU, Brenda, for all your dedication and hard work throughout the years in support of LES/LEF - you will be sincerely missed, and we are happy to have had you for all the years of service!

I am happy to report that we are beginning to wrap up a busy legislative session where we all have contributed to successfully defend a few bills that had the potential to threaten our profession's licensure. In addition, as I write this, we are well on our way to passing historic legislation to help define "incidental practice". This has been a topic of discussion for the past couple of decades, and we have now worked alongside AIA to collaboratively come to an agreement on the language for this type of work.

We look forward to having you and your colleagues at our annual Louisiana Transportation Partners PDH event and Golf Tournament to be held on May 19-20th at Carter Plantation in Springfield, LA. Please visit the LES website to register for either event.

The successes LES had this year are the direct result of the hard work of our state staff, state board, chapter officers, and membership across the state. It has been a privilege to serve as your President for the 2021-2022 calendar year and I will forever cherish the memories, relationships, and friends I have made throughout my tenure with LES as a board member. I hope everyone has a great summer with family and friends - as always, feel free to contact me with any questions.



PROTECT YOUR LICENSE WITH LES

LES PE Annual Dues \$101

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

SIGN UP HERE:

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





Society News

Brenda Gajan, LES Executive Director



CONNECT WITH LES ONLINE!



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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2022

- 7-10 MATHCOUNTS National Competition — Washington, DC
- 14 Chapter Officers & Committee Appointments Due to State Office
- 14 Committee Budget Requests Due to State Office
- 19 LES & LEF Board Meeting — Carter Plantation, Springfield, LA
- 19 LES May Meeting — Carter Plantation, Springfield, LA
- 20 3rd Annual LA Transportation Partners Golf Tournament —
Carter Plantation, Springfield, LA
- 25 General Membership Meeting — Virtual

June 2022

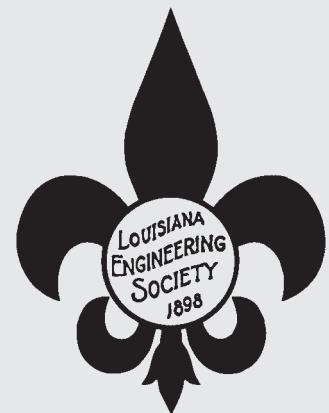
- 6 Legislative Session Adjourns

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.



Footsteps in History

Reprinted from *Louisiana Engineer* magazine, December 1974

At the turn of the century, most of the 1500 inhabitants of Jennings made their living growing rice. There was nothing really distinguishing about the town, except for an unusual geological feature in a nearby field. There, the land rose gradually for over a mile, then formed a marshlike depression. In several places, gas seepages sent bubbles up through the shallow water. "Marsh gas," the local residents told each other. They were wrong. The unusual land rise was actually a salt dome; the marsh seepage really petroleum gas. Below the rice fields lay vast pools of rich, black oil.

After the giant Spindletop oil field was discovered near a similar gas seepage in Beaumont, Texas, several Jennings businessmen, acting on a strong hunch, formed a partnership, leased two large tracts of land around the bubbling pools and headed for Beaumont to hire an experienced oil man who could confirm their guess. They returned with W. Scott Heywood, who had just brought in the record-setting Spindletop No. 2, a gusher spewing 148,000 barrels of oil a day.

Heywood wasn't a typical oil man. As a boy, he formed a musical troupe with his brothers and played to audiences all over the nation. Later, he searched for gold in Alaska. When funds ran out, he played his cornet for donations before crowds of miners. He then drifted to the California oil fields, organized a drilling company and became a successful promoter. Now, at 29, he had just brought in the nation's greatest gusher.

In Jennings, Heywood quickly signed a contract to drill. He had held a match to one of the marsh bubbles and watched it burn the red flame and black smoke of petroleum gas. But, trouble arose when Jules Clement, Sr., the property owner whose land was under lease, had second thoughts about the agreement. Afraid of the damage to his cattle, he padlocked the gates to keep the drillers out.

Heywood reassured Clement that his cattle would be safe, and that any dry hole would be filled so a cow wouldn't step in it and break a leg. "This well will cost about \$10,000," he said, "and believe me, Mr. Clement, we won't be drilling too many \$10,000 holes." Still not satisfied, Clement remarked, "What the hell do you know about oil? You're nuthin' but a kid!" "I might look like a kid," Heywood replied, "but I've found oil before, and I am going to find it on your land and make you rich. When I do, I will make you pay for that remark by ducking you in your own oil."

On September 21, 1901, the first well drilled in Louisiana hit oil at 1,810 feet. True to his word, Heywood and two of his huskiest drillers grabbed Clement, who was watching from a nearby rice levee, and dragged him, fighting and kicking, back to the derrick. They all stood under the gusher, showering and soaking themselves in the thick, black, crude petroleum.

Scott Heywood had kept his promise, and a new industry that changed both the history and economy of Louisiana was born.

Alexandria Chapter By: Ryan Barton, PE

The Alexandria LES Chapter is continuing to host interesting and informative presentations at our monthly chapter meetings. Since the last Newsletter in February, the chapter had Andy Brown with D&W System Sales present "Practical Solutions for Common Inflow and Infiltration Problems Presentation" at the chapter's March monthly chapter meeting. Cyndi Glascock with Gainey's presented "The Truth About Converting to Precast: Faster Schedules, Lower Costs, and Greater Resilience" at the chapter's April monthly chapter meeting.



Ryan Barton, PE

The chapter only has one more monthly chapter meeting for the remainder of the year. The meeting will be held on May 3rd, 2022.

At each of our monthly chapter meetings, a speaker will present an engineering or ethic related topic that will account for One (1) PDH credit. We encourage and invite all engineers in the Alexandria area and surrounding areas to attend our monthly chapter meetings to take advantage of this opportunity and to also become active in the Chapter. If anyone has any questions, you can contact me at (318) 452-8974 to get additional details about upcoming meetings and answers to any membership questions.

Lake Charles Chapter By: Kalyn Partin, PE

As we wrap up another year of LES, and prepare for the next, I am excited to see that our local chapter has grown and seen more monthly participation! We've had some great speakers and presentations that have provided new concepts, more networking, and overall great opportunities for our chapter members. Our next chapter meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 10, at the Governor's Mansion from 11:30am-1:00pm in Lake Charles. Our scheduled speaker will be Dustin Corns, P.E., a design engineer from Vulcraft Texas, and 1 PDH will be given to those in attendance. Reminder that our monthly lunch meetings are \$20/member and \$25/non-members, and held on the second Tuesday of every month. A registration link for next month's meeting will be going out within the next couple of weeks. We hope to see you in May, and please feel free to invite your colleagues!



Kalyn Partin, PE

Additionally, with the new year coming up, we are looking for individuals to serve on various LES committees. Members should receive an email about those vacancies that are available. Please email leslakecharles@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering, or would like additional information.

I am looking forward to serving again as the chapter president for the 2022-2023 year, and appreciate all of the support I have received from our members! I truly enjoy being a part of this organization and I cannot wait to see how much more we grow and improve over the next year.

New Orleans Chapter By: Rachel A. Kenney, PE

The New Orleans Chapter's March meeting featured a presentation by Mr. Ron Spooner, the Sewerage & Water Board of New Orleans Interim General Superintendent and Chief of Engineering. Mr. Spooner described the history of electricity sources at the S&WB and described how the West Power Complex Project that is currently underway will maintain pump reliability while modernizing the electrical system. The West Power Complex project will provide a more cost-effective source of power, creating savings that can be directed toward infrastructure improvements. The meeting was a luncheon at the New Orleans Regional Planning Commission in New Orleans, LA and was well attended.



Rachel A. Kenney, PE

Also in March, the New Orleans Chapter partnered with our local ASCE Chapter to host a joint Spring Social at Mid-City Rock N Bowl in New Orleans. The event was a huge success, with free drinks, food, live music, and bowling. A big thanks to the sponsors: Ardaman & Associates and Basin Engineering.

The April 20, 2022 NOLES meeting will be an ethics presentation entitled, "Ethics - It's Seldom as Clear as We Think", and will be a luncheon at Ralph's on the Park in New Orleans. The topic will be presented by Bill Rushing, P.E., Senior Vice President of Waldemar S. Nelson & Co. in New Orleans.

In May, the New Orleans Chapter will hold our annual evening social event with the New Orleans section of IEEE. The presentation, given by Mr. Phillip May, the President of Entergy Louisiana, will be titled, "Louisiana's Energy Transition". Mr. May will cover Entergy's programs to transition portions of our Power Generation Fleet to PV Solar, Wind, and Hydrogen fuels within the next few decades. The buffet dinner will be at Southport Hall in Jefferson, La., and will be followed by an after party with music.

We would like to thank our current and new members for their continued support and participation and we hope to see you all at the May meeting.

Shreveport Chapter By: Marcus Taylor, PE



Marcus Taylor, PE

- Fall/Winter 2021
 - September 15th
 - Luncheon at the Petroleum Club in Shreveport, LA
 - Ms. Liz Swaine, Executive Director of the Downtown Development Authority. The presentation was on Downtown Shreveport: Life after Covid.
 - October 15th
 - Luncheon at the Petroleum Club in Shreveport, LA
 - Ms. June Schneider, the Assistant Professor and Program Director of Engineering at Bossier Parish Community College. The presentation was on the BPCC engineering Program Status, Articulation to transfer to 4-yr colleges, Students Success Stories, and Shifts made on Engineering education during Pandemic.
 - November 10th
 - Luncheon at Ralph & Kacoo's in Bossier City, LA
 - Mr. Gabe Landry, with Red River Pumps presented on wastewater pumps.
 - December 16th
 - Christmas social 2021 at the Flying Heart Brewery and Pub
- Winter/Spring 2022
 - January 19th
 - Joint luncheon with ASCE and LES at the Petroleum Club in Shreveport, LA
 - Dustin Douglas, P.E. Geopier Foundation Company presented on Geopier Rammed Aggregate Pier Ground Improvement Applications and Systems.
 - February 16th
 - Joint luncheon with ASCE and LES at the Petroleum Club in Shreveport, LA
 - Katy Ruzicka with DOTomation Consulting and Training. The presentation topic was "Top 3 Proposal Problems AEC Firms Face."
 - March 16th
 - Joint luncheon with ASCE and LES at the Petroleum Club in Shreveport, LA
 - Mr. Jeff Pike, PE gave an ethics presentation to the chapters.
 - April 13th
 - Joint luncheon with ASCE and LES at the Petroleum Club in Shreveport, LA
 - Mr. Keith C. Brooks, P.E. and Ms. Whitney Robichaux with Industrial Fabrics, Inc presented on GeoGrid and FabGrid base reinforcements.



Figure 1. Mr. Keith C. Brooks, P.E. Presenting on GeoGrid and FabGrid Base Reinforcements

Meet Chad Bacas



Mr. Chad A. Bacas, P.E., M.B.A., earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and a master's degree in business administration 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 25 years. He is currently serving as their Sr. Vice President - S. LA Engineering, previously served as Denham Springs Operations Leader and during his tenure has served as the Review Engineer for the Livingston Parish Planning Commission.

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 including Chapter President in 2014/15 and following in all capacities on the LES State Board.

He currently serves as the Baton Rouge Chapter President with the American Council of Engineering Companies/Louisiana. Mr. Bacas is a 2013 graduate of the

Baton Rouge Area Chamber Leadership Program and is serving on the Capital Area Transit System (CATS) Qualifications Review Committee. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce and was the Chairman in 2017. Over the past 9 years, Mr. Bacas has enjoyed the role of MathCounts Coordinator for the local Baton Rouge Chapter and is looking forward to a successful transitional year with a new Executive Director.

Chad is a native of Baton Rouge where he and his wife, Christy, have raised their children, Hillary and Beau. They are active members of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church.

Congratulations Brenda for a well-deserved retirement and for what you have made LES today!

Scholarship Committee Report

By: Luke Miller, Committee Vice Chair

This spring, LES provided six \$500 scholarships to engineering students from Louisiana engineering colleges. The scholarship winners were selected based on their financial need, academic achievements, and participation in student engineering, civic, and community service organizations. The funding for LES scholarships come from three sources; dues check off contributions of LES members and individual donations, interest from annuity invested funds, and interest from an endowment with Louisiana Engineering Foundation. We commend these individuals for their hard work and wish them continued success with their engineering studies and carriers.



Luke Miller, PE

We encourage all members to support engineering scholarship funding by attending the **3rd Annual LA Transportation Partners Golf Tournament at Carter Plantation Golf Course in Springfield, LA on Friday, May 20, 2022.** This event, along with the dues check-off on your dues statement, raises money for scholarships! Your contributions help ensure that engineering education continues to thrive in Louisiana.

THE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS WERE:

CHRISTINA CANALE

McNeese
LEF Endowment

ABDEL RAHMAN MANSOUR

LSU
LEF Endowment

APRIL BOURIET

ULL

ANDREW SHARPLESS

UL Lafayette

SARAH JIMENEZ

LSU

HUNTER GUIDRY

McNeese

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Alexandria Chapter

Joshua Bartley, Student
 Luke Morrison Hansen, EI
 Joshua Allan Leger, EI
 Zachary Mayes, Student
 Joseph Pellittieri, Student
 Jacob Smith, Student
 Ricky Normand Swaim, EI

Baton Rouge Chapter

Amanda P. Ames, PE
 Caroline Marie Balhoff, EI
 Kamal Baral, EI
 Caryn E. Benjamin, PE
 Bryan Bergeron, Student
 Landon David Burns, PE
 Michael Alexander Cuellar, PE
 Mozhdeh Dalaeli, PE
 Victoria Hoang Dang, PE
 Mark Georges Elkassouf, PE
 Nathnaiel Girma Eshetu, EI
 John Paul Fleming, Jr., PE
 Tyler Scott Fontenot, EI
 Brennan Daniel Fowler, PE
 Dain Roland Gillen, PE
 Steven David Gilliam, PE
 Ali Golshan, PE
 James Alexander Goodrum, PE
 Jack Denton Graham, IV, PE
 Nicholas Joseph Grass, EI
 Frederick Wade Hamilton, EI
 Jackson Tipton Hartley, EI
 Hany Hassen, EI
 Chang Huang, EI
 Brian Alan Hugman, PE
 Thomas Fisher John, EI
 Vindhya Vasavi Kemiseti, PE
 Laurence L. Lambert, II, PE
 Jake Daniel Lambert, PE
 Kevin Christopher Mai, PE
 Matthew Joseph Manning, PE
 Garrett Richard Marcel, PE
 Daniel Ross McClure, EI
 Fathy Abdelazeem Khallaf Mostafa, EI
 Mai X. Nguyen, PE
 Brandon Thomas Pitre, PE
 Ryan Ernest Poindexter, PE
 Alexander Brian Quebedeaux, EI
 Whitney Robichaux, Individual Sustaining
 Phillip Gary Sander, PE
 Jas Singh, PE
 Casey Tsai, EI
 Matthew Scott Weems, EI
 Zhaoxing Xie, PE

Bayou Chapter

Tucker Knotts Landry, EI
 Brennan G. LeBlanc, EI
 Drake Olivier, EI
 Thomas Edward St. Martin, EI
 Rayne Elizabeth Torry, EI

Lafayette Chapter

Bil Arab AlBusaidi, Student
 Matthew Andrus, Student
 Seth Mathew Benoit, EI
 Brandon Scott Bergeron, EI
 Benjamin Corey Bernard, EI
 Adam Louis Bernard, EI
 Benjamin Bernard, Student
 Logan Gregory Blood, EI
 Brock Cambre, EI
 Trevor James Carriere, PE
 Bradley Cooper Castille, EI

Adam Chung, Student
 Nolan John Edwards, II, PE
 Ross Frilot, Student
 John Parker Furman, EI
 Dale Garber, EI
 Abdelrahman Garbie, Student
 Sarah Yarrow Golz, PE
 Graham Gossen, Student
 Connor Michael Green, EI
 Chris J. Gros, PE
 Christopher Guevara, Student
 Jonathan Patrick Henry, PE
 Ahmed Hossain, Student
 Charles Martin Kreamer, II, EI
 Richard Hughes Landry, EI
 Christopher Lee Lemione, EI
 Lauren Manuel, EI
 Morgan Goudeau & Associates,
 Corporate Sustaining
 Savannah Diane Ortego, EI
 Andrew Michael Roche, EI
 Julia Marie Ross, PE
 Chad Michael Roussel, PE
 Michael Joseph Shute, EI
 Tristan Soileau, Student
 Jake Michael Taylor, EI
 Nathan Joseph Trahan, EI
 Diep Khac Tran, EI
 Luke Bryant Vidrine, EI
 Stacey Evelyn Walker, PE
 Tyler James Young, EI

Lake Charles Chapter

Andre' Ange, Individual Sustaining
 Robin Paul Barry, PE
 Darren B. Cole, PE
 Isabella Egeler Gallegos, EI
 Andrew Jacob Gary, PE
 Blaze Tucker Hayes, EI
 Aaron Blake Hudson, PE
 Sadie Alexis Kingrey, PE
 Laura L. Martin, Student
 Alexis Nguyen, Student
 Alvin John Trahan, II, PE
 Shawn M. Wilson, PE

Monroe Chapter

Donald G. Adams, Individual Sustaining
 Mathew Alvarez, Student
 Dequandrick Mikal Duncan, EI
 Jacob Hampton, Student
 Jacob Malone, Student
 Jesse Munoz, Student
 Kaleb Nolan, Student
 Michael Olinde, Student
 Allan Pineda Flores, Student
 Daniel William Pruett, PE
 Jacob Tyler Shows, EI
 Ryder Walters, Student
 Joel Wells, Student

New Orleans Chapter

Taysir Ayed Alzoubi, EI
 Jason Lawrence Arena, Student
 Jared Barcia, Student
 Whitney Louis Belanger, Jr., PE
 Kelsey Blosser, EI
 Mason Joseph Bonano, PE
 Miles Edward Borchardt, EI
 Lorn Joseph Bourgeois, Jr., EI
 Barry Paul Breaux, PE
 Eliot Pinner Castanza, PE
 Rene Adria Chopin, III, PE
 Grant Collongues, EI

Anthony Michael Conley, PE
 Crescent Engineering & Mapping,
 Corporate Sustaining
 Brien Croff, PE
 Michael Clasi Curry, PE
 Cory Darling, EI
 Hunter Gene DesRoches, EI
 Paul J. Dickson, EI
 Marlane Cheri Drake, Individual Sustaining
 Colin James Francis, EI
 Jason Paul Franicevich, EI
 Roberto Andres Garcia, PE
 Eric Joseph Glynn, EI
 Michael Kiniry Grace, PE
 Brice Alexander Greco, EI
 Brigid Mary Guidry, PE
 Jacob Nicholas Held, EI
 Seth Ryan Homes, EI
 Brandon Michael Jackson, EI
 William Mark Katzenmeyer, PE
 Kerwyn King, PE
 Anne Marie Kroll, EI
 Edward Landry, Student
 Joshua Gary Langlinais, EI
 Jake Brandon Leger, EI
 Karson Tyler Lockfield, PE
 Guillermo Martinez, EI
 Alicia K. Martinez, PE
 Payton James McNeil, EI
 Matthew James Melancon, EI
 Weston Lee Mitchell, EI
 David Osvaldo Navarrete, PE
 Kha H. Nguyen, PE
 Vincent Charles Orlando, PE
 Leonard Peter Orth, EI
 Tatiana Ivanovna Pavlukova, PE
 Marco John Picciola, III, PE
 Gregory Allen Pier, PE
 Juliette Marie Podany, EI
 Alex Edward Ramirez, PE
 Revolution MEP, Corporate Sustaining
 Kyle A. Rome, EI
 Jonathan Robert Sochia, EI
 Elizabeth Holland Songy, PE
 Prasoon Tiwari, PE
 Benjamin Samuel Usner, EI
 Robert Thurman VanDyck, PE
 Charles Christopher Winter, EI
 Jingzhi Yang, Student

Non-Resident Chapter

Teagan Lytice Cronin, EI
 Rene' Ann Culross, PE
 Matthew Garrett Franklin, EI
 Claire Elizabeth Hamilton, EI
 Chase Dylan Harris, PE
 Shiva Joshi, EI
 Margaret Kelly, Student
 Michael Judah Benjamin Smith, EI
 Brady Alexander Souter, EI
 Ethan Cory Trahan, EI

Shreveport Chapter

Jon Hale, Student
 Jaeson Michael Hall, EI
 Roy Clayton Murry, PE
 Justin Tyler Patterson, EI
 Ann Pozniak, Student
 Brandon Rosalis, Student
 Claire Scott, Student
 German Velazquez, PE
 Regie Dewayne Williams, Student

LES May Meeting

Make plans now to join us at the LES May meeting to be held on May 19, 2022 in Conjunction with the **3rd Annual LA Transportation Partners Golf Tournament at Carter Plantation in Springfield, LA.** All Engineers from all disciplines are welcome to attend and will earn up to 6 professional development hours! **Also, join us for an Ice Breaker & Dinner Event Thursday evening featuring keynote speaker, Dr. Shawn Wilson, DOTD Secretary!**



Dr. Shawn Wilson



LES May Meeting
In Conjunction With
3rd Annual LA Transportation Partners Golf Tournament
May 19, 2022



Thursday, May 19

9:00-9:30 AM — LEF Board Meeting

9:30-11:30 AM — LES Board Meeting

Break

11:00—11:50—Utilizing Subsurface Utility Engineering in Engineering Design—TJ Stokes, PE

12:00—12:50 PM— Lunch N Learn—Guide to Inspection of Pipe & Precast, Review of AASHTO R-73 & ASTC-1840—Don Conrad, PE

Break

1:00-1:50 PM—The Louisiana International Terminal—Louisiana’s Next Container Terminal—Chris E. Gilmore, PE

Break

2:00-2:50 PM—Staying Ahead of Coming Changes | Technology and People Care—Dr. Philip Zimmerman, PE

Break

3:00—3:50 PM—Barksdale/I-220 Interchange Project—Gordon Nelson, PE & Thomas Gattle, PE

Break

4:00—4:50 PM—New Mississippi River Bridge—Dr. Eric Kalivoda

Break

5:30-8:00 PM — “Ice Breaker” and Dinner Event with key note speaker Dr. Shawn Wilson

Friday, May 20 LA Transportation Partners Golf Tournament

7:00-8:00 AM—Catered breakfast

9:30-1:00 PM—Guest Event—Exploring Ponchatoula — Shopping in Ponchatoula where you’ll be able to browse antiques, collectibles & handmade items then lunch at Paul’s Café. Lunch will be individually paid for at the café.

8:00-1:00 PM - Golf Tournament

1:00 PM - Awards Luncheon

Afternoon Flight if necessary





3RD ANNUAL LA TRANSPORTATION PARTNERS BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT

Carter Plantation Golf Course
23475 Carter Trace, Springfield, LA 70462
May 20, 2022

Sponsored by the Louisiana Engineering Foundation (LEF)
All proceeds to benefit the LEF Scholarship Fund
Last year's tournament benefited two engineering students with a scholarship!
LEF Tax ID 72-0868899

FORMAT: Eighteen-hole tournament (individual stroke play) with a morning round (8:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.) shot-gun start. Flights will be determined by blind draw from tournament scores. Players limited to first 120 paid entries.

DRESS CODE: Proper dress required, shirt with collar, no tank tops, jeans, or cut-offs please.

ENTRY FEE: One hundred dollars (\$100.00) per player, includes tournament green fee, shared cart, refreshments on course and lunch. Entry fee must be received with entry form or online registration no later than 4:00 PM on Friday, May 6, 2022.

AWARDS LUNCHEON: Awards will be presented and food served after completion of play.

HOW TO ENTER:

ONLINE WEBSITE: <https://birdease.com/lesgolftourn>

MAIL: Make checks payable to LEF. Entry forms and monies should be mailed to:

Louisiana Engineering Foundation
9643 Brookline Ave, Suite 116
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
C/O Brenda Gajan

**NOTE: NO MONIES WILL BE REFUNDED AFTER THE CUT OFF DATE
MAY 6, 2022**

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

EAGLE - \$1,500.00: Eagle level sponsorships will receive complementary entry fee for four players, website and hole sign recognition.

BIRDIE - \$1,000.00: Birdie level sponsorships will receive complementary entry fee for two players, website and hole sign recognition.

PAR - \$500.00: Par level sponsorships will receive complementary entry fee for one player, website and hole sign recognition.

ON-COURSE TENT - \$1,500.00: Tent sponsors are encouraged to provide food and beverages on the course.

Ditty Bag and/or door prize donations w/ company logos are welcome: towels, golf balls, tees, etc.

If you are interested in being a tent sponsor or providing larger sponsorship support, please contact Brenda or Mark for details and availability.

Louisiana Engineering Foundation
Tournament Contact:

Brenda Gajan
Mark Morvant

brenda@les-state.org
markjmorvantpe@gmail.com

225-924-2021
225-324-1109



LES Continuing Professional Development (CPD)



Gavin Gautreau, PE

Previous CPD opportunities

- 26th Joint Engineering Societies Conference (JESC), February 2-3, 2022
 - Registered # Attendees: 268
 - Offered a transportation track with 12 PDH opportunities
 - General Session PDHs: Bid Law, LA Code of Governmental Ethics, Professional Ethics in Engineering, and LAPELS Panel Discussion
- Fall Life Safety Code Seminar on October 27, 2021 in Baton Rouge, LA & Virtual • Registered # Attendees: 64
- Spring Life Safety Code Seminar on March 24, 2022 in Bossier City, LA & Virtual • Registered # Attendees: 59
- Fall ADA Seminar on September 29, 2021 Virtual • Registered # Attendees: 33
- Spring ADA Seminar on April 7, 2022 in Baton Rouge, LA & Virtual • Registered # Attendees: 43
- Fall Project Management Seminar on November 10, 2021 in Baton Rouge, LA & virtual • Registered # Attendees: 18

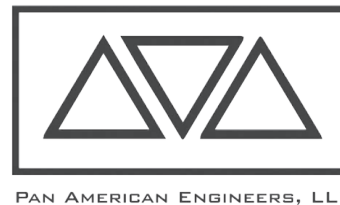
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Thank You to the LES Annual Sponsors!

Platinum Sponsor



Gold Sponsors



LES Seminar Calendar 2022

(continued from previous page)

MAY 2022

19 LES May Meeting in Springfield, LA (6 PDH's)

SEPTEMBER 2022

TBD ADA Seminar by Brett Bayard - In person & virtual attendance (4 or 8 PDH's)

TBD Life Safety Code by Warren Bonisch - In person & virtual attendance (4 or 8 PDH's)

OCTOBER 2022

TBD Project Management Seminar - In person & virtual attendance (4 or 8 PDH's)

These dates don't work for you?

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



On Demand Seminars

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

...and many more!

Ballot to Elect LES Members

Act 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, 2022, and one ending December 31, 2022.

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.

BALLOT TO ELECT LES MEMBERS 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, 2022 – June 30, 2023)

- Ali M. Mustapha, P.E.
-

For Write-in Candidate

POSITION TWO (Term January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023)

- Jim Ferguson, P.E.
-

For Write-in Candidate

Message from the President/CEO



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

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American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana



When you enter parenthood, a lot of things...no... *everything* changes as it relates to the life you once knew. Other than the gigantic shift from living for yourself to living for another, you notice smaller changes in your pastimes, the music you listen to, and the movies you watch.

Speaking of movies, the other night I was watching *Cars* with my boys and a particular scene struck me differently than it had the previous eighty-seven times I had seen it. In the scene, Lightning McQueen (racecar) and Tow Mater (tow truck) are returning from some good ole fashion cow/tractor tipping when Mater gives Lightning a lesson in, dare I say, "reverse" psychology. After an impressive display of backwards driving, Mater says to an awestruck Lightning, "Ain't no need to watch where I'm going. Just need to know where I've been."

My usual takeaway from Mater's quote had always been that the experiences of our past help direct the decisions of our future. But on this particular night, the paradigm shifted. Having always analyzed the quote from Mater's, or better yet, my own perspective, I failed to understand how Lightning perceived this. To a racecar, the concept of driving backwards was inconceivable. Something he never even thought about. I mean, he didn't even have rearview mirrors! To him, backwards meant slow or losing – something a race car couldn't be nor do.

This got me thinking about the engineering industry and how we can attract the best and brightest to join us. While it may seem obtuse to compare a character in a children's movie to the workforce issue facing our industry, I could not help but see a correlation between Lightning's inability to drive backwards and our abilities to attract the next generation of workers to the field of engineering. For many kids who are making their way through primary and secondary schools, engineering is like driving backwards – something they can't be or do. Whether it is the lack of exposure to engineering from an educational, community, or cultural perspective, children are not recognizing the opportunities the business of engineering can provide them. Allow me to elaborate.

STEM educational and awareness initiatives have really taken off over the last several years but there are still gaps to be filled as it relates to mentorship in the classroom and showing kids what's possible. As professionals in the industry, we need to be more intentional about partnering with the schools in our communities to establish mentorship programs or engineering exposure events so we can show the next generation worker the incredible world of engineering. I've always said, it's one thing to have your math teacher say you should pursue a career in engineering, but it's another to have an engineer tell you this. It plants a seed of confidence a child needs early on to thrive later.

Since joining ACECL, I have communicated to our Board and our members that I want to prioritize partnering with educational systems and institutions around the state to share with students of all ages the impressive work our firms do. Most importantly, I want to expose kids to a future career – one they now perceive as something they can't be nor do. This is exactly what Mater does for Lightning in the scene I shared above – he shows him what he can do before he believes it himself.

Later in the movie, Lightning drives backwards to pass a rival racecar during the biggest race of his career. From the pit crew, Mater shouts, "Hey, I taught him that!!" I encourage you and your firms to channel your inner Mater and share your professional experiences with a kid who otherwise may never know or understand that engineering is for them. Help a kid understand where they're going, by sharing with them where you've been.

If you are interested in learning more about the workforce initiatives ACECL is working on or if you know of similar initiatives or programs you think ACECL should be a part of, please email me at bdirmann@acecl.org. Your mentorship may be the most important investment you make in the future of your firm and the industry as a whole.

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SAVE THE DATE

State Mathcounts Competition

By: Becky Johnson, PE



We were back in person this year!

The Chapter Competitions took place on February 1-28. The top students from the Chapter Competitions moved to the State competition.

The State Competition took place on March 11th.

The top individuals from each state will receive an all-expense -paid trip to the Raytheon Technologies MathCounts National Competition from May 7th to May 9th.

There were 16 schools that participated in the state competition, represented by 36 students.

The schools participating in the state competition included:

Alexandria Chapter

- Natchitoches Magnet School
- Rapides Academy
- Grace Christian School

Baton Rouge Chapter

- Glasgow Middle School
- Episcopal School of Baton Rouge
- University View Academy
- LSU Laboratory School
- St. Thomas More
- Catholic High School

Lafayette Chapter

- Ascension Episcopal School
- Broussard Middle School
- Episcopal School of Acadiana
- Iberia Middle School
- Our Lady of Fatima School
- Paul Breaux Middle School
- St. Cecilia School

Lake Charles Chapter

- F. K. White Middle School

Monroe Chapter

- Lusher Charter School
- Cedar Creek School
- A.E. Phillip Laboratory School

New Orleans Chapter

- Lusher Middle School
- Haynes Academy for Advanced Studies
- Lake Castle Slidell
- Patrick F. Taylor Science & Technology Academy

Shreveport Chapter

- Caddo Middle Magnet
- Providence Classical Academy
- Southfield School

The top 4 students that will represent Louisiana in the National Competition are:

- Ishan Kunada, Paul Breaux Middle School
- Anna Wang, Glasgow Middle School
- Cecily Lu, Glasgow Middle School
- Kevin Zhao, Caddo Parish Middle Magnet School

We wish these competitors the best of luck in this competition year.

Congratulations to all of these students and to all of the participants. MATHCOUNTS could not be put on without the dedicated help of many volunteers and support from the community.

(continued on next page)

Mathcounts

(continued from previous page)

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Capitol View: from Haynie and Associates



Ryan Haynie and Randy Haynie

The 2022 session is over halfway completed, having started on March 14th and adjourning no later than June 6th. The 2022 session is a “general” session, and each lawmaker was allowed to file an unlimited number of bills as long as they are not related to taxes. To date, there have been 1867 instruments introduced between the House and the Senate. I have highlighted the most important bills below. All bill texts can be found at: www.legis.la.gov:

HB 1: State Operating Budget – includes increases from Federal dollars – we anticipate additional monies recognized to be spent by the Senate.

HB 2: Capital Outlay Budget – Senate to make changes to the House priorities over the coming weeks.

HB 306 by Foy Gadberry – *LES sponsored bill* – Defines the incidental practice of engineering by architects. Provides clarity and details on the limits to which an architect can practice engineering.

HB 555 by Rep. Chuck Owens – Would have allowed for universal licensing/reciprocity – LES opposed this legislation and successfully negotiated amendments that requires licensing boards to submit data.

HB 597 by Aimee Freeman – LES opposed this legislation in its original form (added burdensome legislative oversight to rulemaking), we successfully opposed and are now satisfied with the amendments adopted to the bill.

HB 639 by Thomas Pressly – LES is neutral on this legislation after amendments, which requires all licensing boards to inform a requesting individual with a criminal record if he is eligible for a license before he seeks education/testing in pursuit of the license.

SB 483 by Stewart Cathey – LES is opposed to SB 483 which in current form allows for problematic reciprocity for states with lower licensing standards. This legislation is scheduled for Senate Commerce, and we are asking LES members to help articulate to Senators that all engineers whom are licensed in Louisiana by LAPELS should have an even playing field of education and testing requirements.

We encourage all LES members to reach out to both their House and Senate members and express support of HB 306/Gadberry and opposition to SB 483/Cathey. You can look up your State House and State senate member email and office phone numbers here: <https://legis.la.gov/legis/FindMyLegislators.aspx>

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

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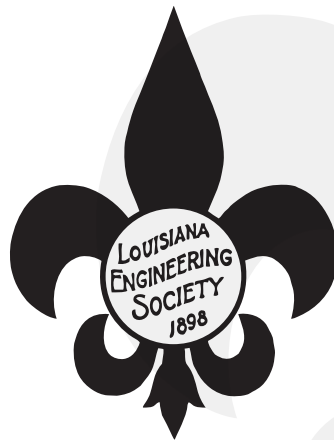
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