

# LOUISIANA CIVIL ENGINEER

Journal of the Louisiana Section

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ACADIANA • BATON ROUGE • NEW ORLEANS • SHREVEPORT

## FEATURE:

Physical Modeling Using  
Wave Basins:  
Evaluating wave attenuation  
for alternative, biologically  
dominated, intertidal  
breakwater systems

## NEWS:

Louisiana Section Installation  
& Awards Luncheon

143rd Annual ASCE  
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**Robert W. Jacobsen, PE**  
2013-2014 ASCE LA Section President

**NOVEMBER 2013  
VOLUME 22 • NO 1**

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*The Louisiana Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers was founded in 1914 and has since been in continuous operation. The Section consists of the entire state of Louisiana and is divided into four branches that directly serve over 2000 members. They are the Acadiana Branch centered in Lafayette, the Baton Rouge Branch, the New Orleans Branch, and the Shreveport Branch.*

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The Louisiana Section is located in ASCE Region 5 that consists of the Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida Sections.



# President's Message

By Robert W. Jacobsen, PE

When I was a young boy (pre-Beatles, yeah yeah yeah) I remember my Mom getting really mad at my Dad one night and walking over to me and saying, "whatever you do, DON'T become an engineer!" All through my adolescence and twenties I managed to heed her advice. But at some point her spell wore off and a peculiar charm that I experienced over a decade of working with engineers began to take hold. So I returned to college and in my late 30's earned a master's degree in environmental engineering, and a couple of years later my PE. Somewhat of a circuitous path—but I've met others with equally unusual ones.

While we may have had different journeys to becoming engineers, it does seem like we have a lot in common. These days it's not the uniform: we don't all use pocket protectors to save our white short-sleeve shirts (with ties) from leaky pens; we don't all carry slide rules (or even TI-55s) in a holster on our hips; and we don't all have buzz cuts and wear dark horned-rim glasses (think Apollo 13). Hey, we're not all guys either (thank goodness)! No, in order to see what engineers share someone would have to dig deeper and examine our basic attitude toward the world. Here are three clues:

- In May of 1961 aerospace engineers were the ones that knew it was possible to get an astronaut to the moon and safely back.
- Over the last 50 years, electrical engineers have been the ones to transform every facet of the economy by continuing to increase computing efficiency exponentially. (Steve Jobs "only" made the transformation in consumer products more enjoyable.)
- Today, civil engineers let our citizens largely take vast, intricate infrastructure systems—for transportation, drinking water, sanitation, waste disposal, flood control, energy, and recreation—for granted.

So what is this common mental outlook? ***We have the ideas that change the world around us! We are, by definition, "ingenious" (look it up). We are problem solvers! Reflect on that a minute. That's pretty special, huh? Feeling pretty good about yourself now aren't you! Maybe a cause for—dare I say it—celebrating?***

Well, guess what—in 2014 we have an extraordinary excuse to celebrate civil engineering in Louisiana: the centennial anniversary of the founding of a crazy group that thinks being a civil engineer is so cool that they actually want to hang out together and figure ways to make it even better. Yes, your ASCE Louisiana Section is 100 spanking years old in 2014.

Going as far back as the eve of World War I means there are a lot of Louisiana civil engineering accomplishments to celebrate: today's impressive projects (the IHNC Surge Barrier); projects that were ingenious in their day (the Sabine Pass Lighthouse); the evolution of

technology (levee construction) and engineering techniques (modeling); and changes in the profession itself (diversity and education).

It is my distinct privilege to serve you as the Louisiana Section President during this special year. And I am extremely honored to

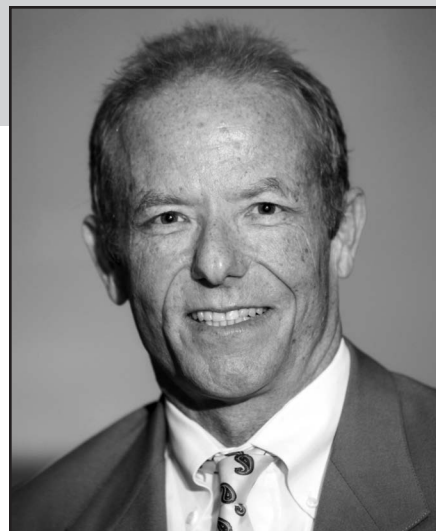
be working with the tremendous folks that comprise our Section, Branch, and Institute leadership. All of us are very excited about the possible ways to celebrate our centennial. In the weeks to come you will hear more about various Centennial Celebration activities—via Branch meetings, newsletters, our February Journal, emails, and the website.

But before plans get too far underway I'd like to take a moment to personally encourage each and every one of you to participate in this year of celebration. Your Board does not want this celebration to be about the ASCE organization, we want it to be about YOU! So our celebration events will mean more and become more by getting all of you to come and be a part of them! You can start by just talking about the Centennial with your colleagues at work and with other civil engineers in your community. Email them. Text them. Call them. Find out what's going on, or not going on. Make it an ongoing topic of conversation. And when you find out about a Centennial Celebration activity, join in the fun!

Better yet, please consider volunteering to help with the celebration activities. You can improve our celebration—after all, you are ingenious! Get with friends and colleagues and instigate a special talk by "Old Timers" at your next Branch luncheon. Organize a celebration event with professors and students at your alma mater. Visit some physics classes at your local high school and share with them what it means to be a civil engineer. If you have a little more time, find out about special plans to recognize major projects around the state and see if there's a way to help out. And when you have one of those great ideas, share it.

I am really looking forward to this year and to engaging with all of you in a big, collective, pat on the back. It will be a lot of fun!

But, word to the wise, don't go home to your spouse expecting to "engineer" your way through your domestic problems. We can't be ingenious at everything!



Robert W. Jacobsen, PE

# ASCE Region 5 Director's Letter

By William Grogan, PhD, PE, M.ASCE

Dear Region 5 Members,

It has been awhile since my last letter and I must apologize. Unfortunately I missed the annual Board of Direction meeting in July due to weather conditions cancelling my flights. I also missed the annual conference and Board of Direction meeting that took place in Charlotte because of the Federal Government shutdown and resulting travel restrictions.

I do want to share with all that the State Public Affairs Grants (SPAG) is back after a one-year hiatus. The SPAG program was originally created in 1997 as a resource to help ASCE Sections undertake public relations (PR) and government relations (GR) outreach projects at the state and local level.

The goal of SPAG is to enhance the image of civil engineers as leaders and experts on America's vital infrastructure systems and to encourage advocacy on ASCE priority issues that are important to civil engineers. By applying for a SPAG grant, your Section can leverage current Section funding for a new initiative, add a new component to your existing work, or fund an innovative idea for outreach.

Proposals were due to ASCE by Friday, November 1st. I'm not sure how many requests were received so if you have an idea or question about the eligibility of a program, contact ASCE Government Relations and Infrastructure Initiatives staff at [spag@asce.org](mailto:spag@asce.org) for

guidance and consideration before submitting your proposal. If you are unable to get something in this year, start thinking about next year. As a member of the finance committee I will push to fund SPAG again next year.

Bill

William P. Grogan, PhD, PE, M. ASCE

Director, Region 5

[William.p.grogan@usace.army.mil](mailto:William.p.grogan@usace.army.mil)

P.S. Remember, your R5BoG is made up of seven folks willing and able to help:

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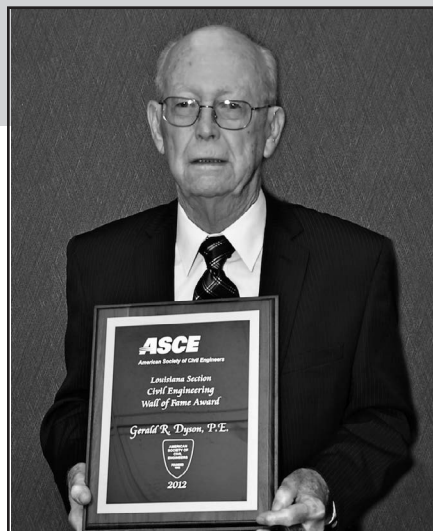
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*William Grogan, PhD, PE, M.ASCE*

## In Memory of Gerald Roland "Gerry" Dyson, PE

Gerald Roland (Gerry) Dyson, 88, passed away Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center after a brief illness. Mr. Dyson was born April 9, 1925 in Chopin, Louisiana, the third of six children. He served in World War II as a navigator in the Army Air Corps. After the War, he enrolled in Louisiana Tech and graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering. He also earned a masters degree in civil engineering from Louisiana State University. His engineering career involved 30 years of service in flood control matters for the Louisiana Department of Public Works, working with the Corps of Engineers and local levee boards. After his retirement from the State, Mr. Dyson served for 20 years as Executive Assistant to the President of the Pontchartrain Levee District. He was one of the founding members of the American Society of Civil Engineers Baton Rouge Branch in 1962 and served as the Branch's fourth president in 1964-1965. He served as the ASCE Louisiana Section President in 1969. In 2012, he was presented with the Louisiana Section's highest award as a member of the ASCE Wall of Fame. Mr. Dyson was a longstanding member and deacon at Goodwood Baptist Church in Baton Rouge. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Bettie Dyson, daughter Sandra Huddleston and husband, Keith of Purcell, Oklahoma, son Randy Dyson and wife, Kathy of Denham Springs, son Bruce Dyson and wife, Pam of Prairieville, eight grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. He was an outstanding husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather and he will be greatly missed by his family and friends.



*Gerald Roland "Gerry" Dyson, PE*

# Physical Modeling Using Wave Basins

By Jon D. Risinger, PhD†, Matt Campbell§, Bret M. Webb\*

## Evaluating wave attenuation for alternative, biologically dominated, intertidal breakwater systems

Bioengineering is used to modify wave characteristics along shorelines in such a way as to promote ecological and biological enhancement, with stabilization of the shoreline often an express goal. Wave attenuation is defined here as a structure composed of formed concrete units or any structure used to manipulate the geometry of a substrate for the purpose of attenuating wave energy. Studies have shown alternative wave attenuation units can be a successful alternative to traditional rubble mound breakwaters in the environmental aspect; however, the true success of these structures has not been quantified in terms of the hydrodynamic loading due to wave energy dissipation.

### Narrative:

Unique bioengineered submerged breakwaters, termed “oysterbreaks”, were analyzed in the past using the Coastal Studies Institute’s wave tank at Louisiana State University. This design provides significant surface areas for oysters and other marine organisms while minimizing material needed. As oysters grow, structural mass increases. Wave tank tests revealed effects of increasing density and growth on quarter scale physical models. Wave transmission, reflection, and dissipation coefficients were calculated and compared to a physical rock breakwater and a predicted value. As growth increased on the structures, wave transmission decreased for waves tested, comparable to a rock

breakwater. Similarly, dissipation coefficients increased with oyster growth. Tests show that the oysterbreak is an effective device that could be constructed and deployed along low energy coastlines in Louisiana or similar environments, as is the case with the current Bioengineered Oyster Reef Demonstration Project (CWPPRA LA-08).



Jon D. Risinger, PhD

By physically modeling of Wave attenuation using the University of South Alabama’s wave basin, much of the engineering design related to wave energy can be determined. Alternative designs can be obtained through their respective proprietor as scale models. The testing typically includes multiple configurations and orientations with respect to the wave energy propagation. Additionally, the properties of the wave form will be altered to address any variations in wave transmission. Results from the testing can be used to compare alternative designs to each other and traditional structures such as rubble mound breakwaters in terms of effectiveness in wave attenuation.



Figure 1. Laboratory testing of wave transmission through concrete wave attenuation devices in the USA CTEREC wave basin

†Jon D. Risinger, PhD is the Lead Coastal Engineer with an International Consulting firm in Baton Rouge, Louisiana having 15 years of experience and leadership in coastal and water resources planning, engineering, and program/project management. Jon received his PhD from Louisiana State University (LSU) in Biological Engineering and Coastal Sciences with research focused on bioengineered oyster barrier reefs. He chairs the recently formed Louisiana Chapter of ASCE’s Coast, Ocean, Ports, and Rivers Institute (L.COPRI), serves on ASCE’s National COPRI Living Shoreline Committee, and is an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Clemson University in Biosystems Engineering.

§Matt Campbell - Coast and Harbor Engineering, Austin TX

\*Bret M. Webb - University of South Alabama, College of Engineering

# ASCE 143rd Annual Civil Engineering Conference - Charlotte, North Carolina

By Nedra Davis, MA

The ASCE 143rd Annual Civil Engineering Conference was held in Charlotte, NC, October 9 through 12, 2013. Each year the annual conference brings together civil engineers from across the globe to discuss big picture topics that affect the field of civil engineering, to welcome the new leaders within the society, and to recognize outstanding lifetime achievements by this year's class of Distinguished Members. The conference was well attended by Louisiana Section representatives, including Norma Jean Mattei, Ray DesOrmeaux, Bob Jacobsen, Steve Johns, and Nedra Davis.

During the conference outgoing ASCE National President Gregory DiLoreto welcomed incoming President Randy Over. President-Elect Bob Stevens, from nearby Fort Worth, TX was also introduced. Our delegation enjoyed talking with all three, as well as Executive Director Pat Natale.

The 2013 program emphasized "Innovations in Project Financing" and explored the changes and challenges in the profession of civil engineering driven by financial forces. Worldwide investments in technology and infrastructure are spurring innovation and accelerating productivity. However, advances in banking, finance, and accounting are playing an increasingly critical role in project success.

Building on the conference theme, former CNN correspondent Ali Velshi gave an Opening Plenary speech on key points from his recent book, "How to Speak Money." He entertained and enlightened attendees with insights on financial skills important to the profession. Key conference sessions went on to address the

impacts of public private partnership, redevelopment districts, tax incentives and other financial innovations on civil engineers and their influence on project development.

In addition to the sessions, the Ice Breaker Reception at the NASCAR Hall of Fame was a "roaring" success. It's rumored that

Steve Johns also enjoyed the NASCAR race held at the Charlotte Motor Speedway on Saturday!

Louisiana was invited to participate in the ASCE Pavilion - Centennial Celebration where each booth informed conference participants about several

Sections' celebrations. The Louisiana Section will be celebrating its 100-year anniversary in 2014. Great celebration ideas were on display from the Texas Section, and the St. Louis and the Seattle Chapter.

The Region 5 Governors held their meeting during the conference, which was attended by Ray, Norma Jean, Bob, and Nedra also sat it on the meeting. An important topic of the meeting was election of new Governors, including from Louisiana, in 2014.

Next year's 144th Annual Civil Engineering Conference will be in Panama City, Panama, taking place October 7 through 11, 2014. A big highlight will be touring of the new canal under construction. For detailed information, please visit the 2014 Conference website at: <http://content.asce.org/conferences/annual2014/index.html> or [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org).



ASCE 2014 President Randy Over at Student Welcome Breakfast



Icebreaker Reception at NASCAR Hall of Fame



# 2013 ASCE Louisiana Section Awards and Officers Installation Luncheon

The 2013 Louisiana Section Awards and Officers Installation Luncheon was held on September 20, 2013, at Drusilla Seafood Restaurant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and was hosted by the Baton Rouge Branch. Baton Rouge Branch President Rudolph Simoneaux, III called the meeting to order, gave the invocation, and welcomed everyone to the luncheon. Section President Kurt Nixon made the opening remarks. President Nixon cited the many accomplishments during the past year and thanked the Section Board for their hard work and support.

Afterwards, Section Awards Committee Chairman Luke Hebert opened the awards ceremony. The ASCE Louisiana Section Awards were instituted to recognize the outstanding contributions of Louisiana civil engineers for service to their profession and ASCE. Luke thanked the branches for nominating an outstanding slate of candidates for consideration for each award. The quality of the nominees for the various awards made the awards committee's task to determine this year's award recipients very difficult. Chairman Hebert also thanked the awards committee, for their efforts in reviewing the numerous nominations and assisting in selecting this year's recipients.

## **This year's Section Award recipients were:**

**Charles L. Eustis, PE** – Lifetime Achievement  
**Patrick J. Landry, PE** – Outstanding Civil Engineer  
**Adam M. Smith, PE** – Outstanding Young Civil Engineer  
**Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE** – Educator of the Year  
**Nedra S. Davis, MA** – Outreach

This year's award recipients reflected a wide range of work experiences varying from consulting to government to academia were honored during the ceremony. Each of these award recipients shares a common bond – they are all dedicated to their civil engineering profession, ASCE, their communities, and their families.

The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the 2013 Wall of Fame inductees. Each branch can select up to one nominee for inclusion to the Wall. It is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a Louisiana Civil Engineer by the Louisiana Section.



*2014 President Bob Jacobsen, Editor Nedra Davis, 2013 President Kurt Nixon, and Journal Chairman Pam Gonzales Granger*

## **This year's inductees include:**

**William Barrett Conway, PE** – New Orleans  
**Jerome M. Kleir, PE** – Baton Rouge  
**James D. Mohr, PE** – Shreveport

After Chairman Hebert presented the Section Awards, Section President Nixon announced the final award of the ceremony, the President's Medal, to **Jeffrey L. Duplantis, PE, F.ASCE**.

Norm Jean Mattei was then called upon to install the incoming Section Officers and Board of Directors for the Louisiana Section and the Baton Rouge Branch (see Branch article on page 19) for the 2013-2014 administrative year.

## **The 2013-2014 Section Officers are:**

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Director – **Jeffrey L. Duplantis, PE, F.ASCE**

The meeting concluded with outgoing President Nixon and incoming President Jacobsen exchanging the President's Plaque and Past-President pin. Incoming President Jacobsen closed the luncheon and thanked everyone for attending.



*Bob Jacobsen accepts the Presidential gavel from Kurt Nixon*

## 2013-2014 ASCE Louisiana Section Officers



Robert W. Jacobsen, PE  
*President*



Pamela A. Gonzales, PE  
*President-Elect*



Christopher G. Humphreys, PE  
*Vice-President*



Matt D. Redmon, PE  
*Secretary-Treasurer*



Kurt M. Nixon, PE, PLS  
*Past President*

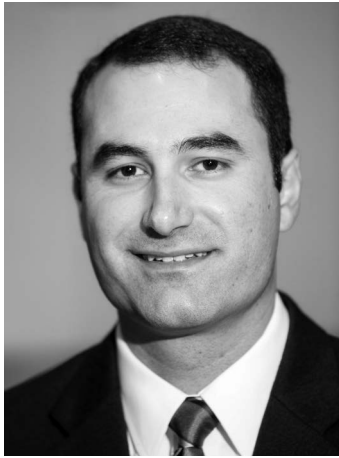
### 2013-2014 ASCE Louisiana Section Leadership



Left to right front row: Malay Ghose Hajara, PhD, PE; Matthew Redmon, PE; Pamela Gonzales Granger, PE; Robert Jacobsen, PE; Joey Coco, PE; Luke Hebert, PE. Back row: Stephen Johns, PE; Patrick Furlong, PE; Kurt Nixon, PE, PLS; Jeffrey Duplantis, PE; and Rudolph Simoneaux, III, PE (Not pictured: Mitch Guy, PE and Christopher Sanchez, PE)



## 2013-2014 ASCE Louisiana Section Board of Directors



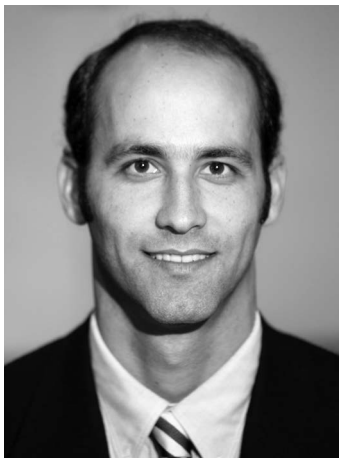
**Rudolph A. Simoneaux, III, PE**  
*Director-at-Large*



**Luke Hebert, PE**  
*Director-at-Large*



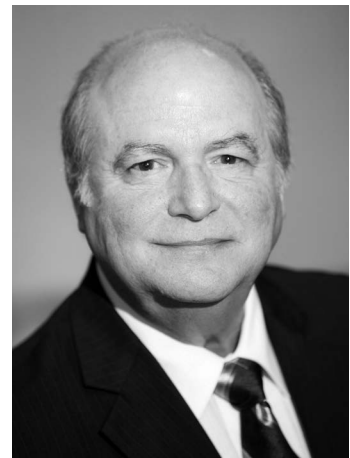
**Christopher L. Sanchez, PE**  
*Director-at-Large*



**Patrick K. Furlong**  
*Director-at-Large*



**R.J. (Joey) Coco, Jr., PE**  
*Branch Director*



**Stephen O. Johns, PE**  
*Branch Director*



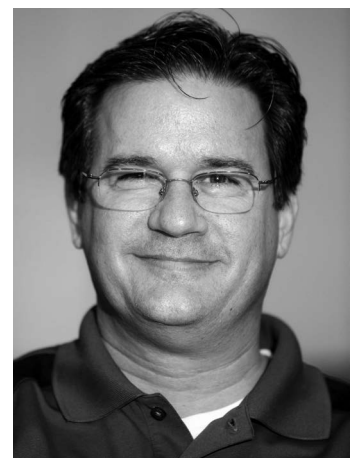
**Tyler Roy, PE**  
*Branch Director*



**Jonathan "Mitch" Guy, PE**  
*Branch Director*

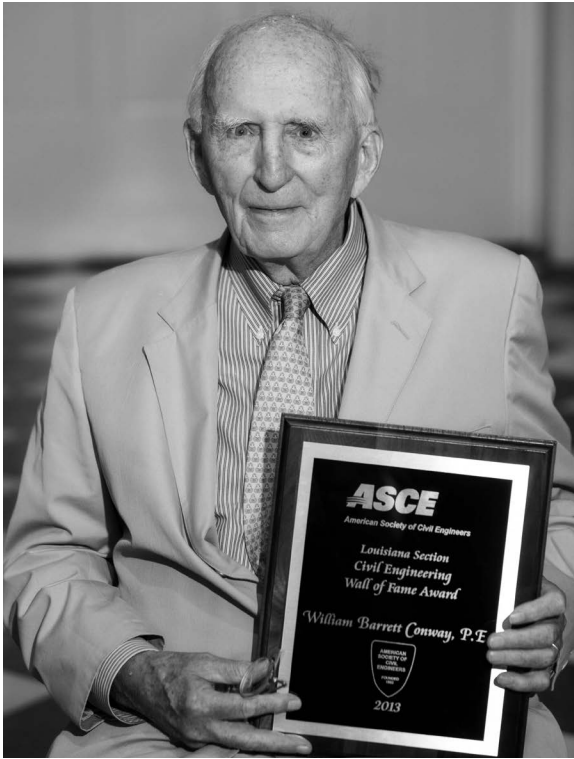


**Malay Ghose Hajra, PhD, PE**  
*Assigned Branch Director*

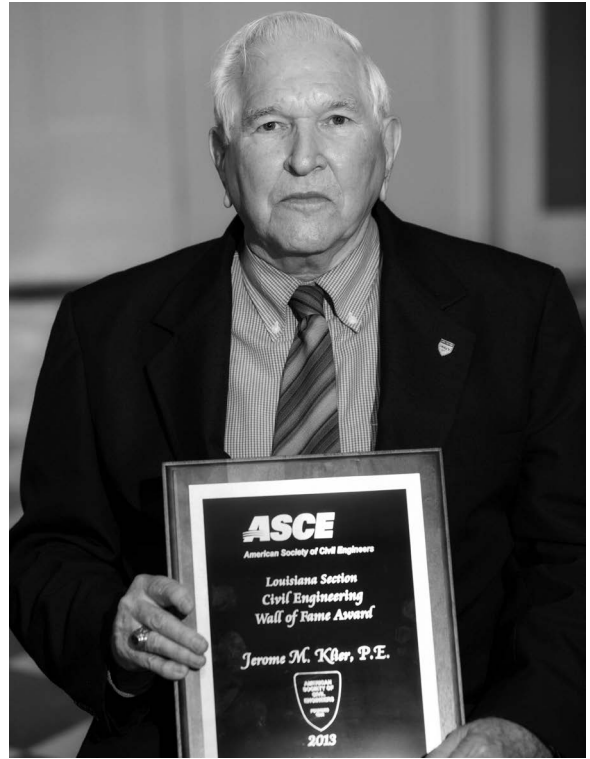


**Jeffrey L. Duplantis, PE**  
*Assigned Branch Director*

## 2013 Louisiana Section Awards



**William Barrett Conway, PE**  
*Wall of Fame*



**Jerome M. Klier, PE**  
*Wall of Fame*



**Charles L. Eustis, PE**  
*Lifetime Achievement*



**Patrick J. Landry, PE**  
*Outstanding Civil Engineer*



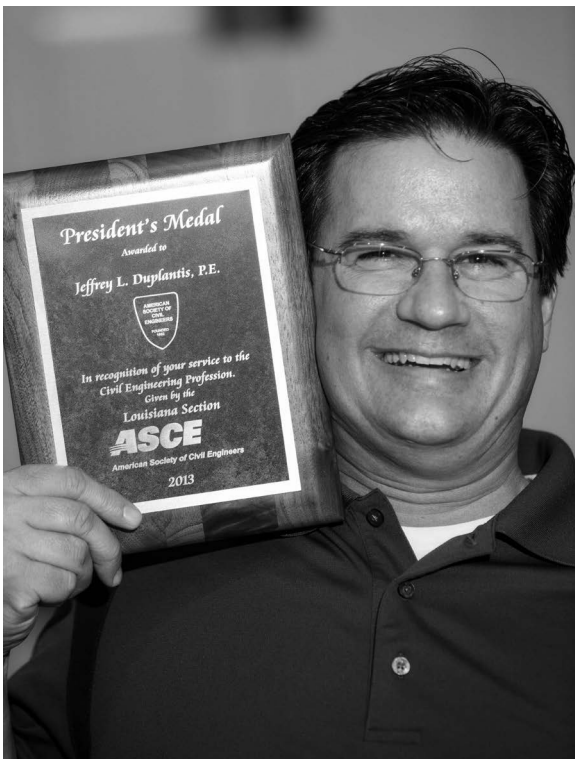
## 2013 Louisiana Section Awards



**Adam M. Smith, PE**  
*Outstanding Young Civil Engineer*



**Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE**  
*Educator of the Year*



**Jeffrey L. Duplantis, PE**  
*President's Medal*

Not pictured:  
**James D. Mohr, PE**  
*Wall of Fame*



**Nedra S. Davis, MA**  
*Outreach*

# New Orleans Branch Hosts Dedication of Causeway Bridge as National Historic Civil Engineering Monument

Organized by Miles Bingham, PE and Tonja Koob, PhD, PE



NO Branch President Steve Johns introducing Spud McConnell in character as "Earl K. Long"



ASCE National Past President and Metairie CE Tom Jackson with Carlton Dufrechou—Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission General Manager



(l to r) Phil Jones, LDOTD; Carlton Dufrechou; Henry Lemieux; Robert Lambert, Spud McConnell; Peter Gitz, Madisonville Mayor and worker on bridge; Tom Jackson; and Steve Johns



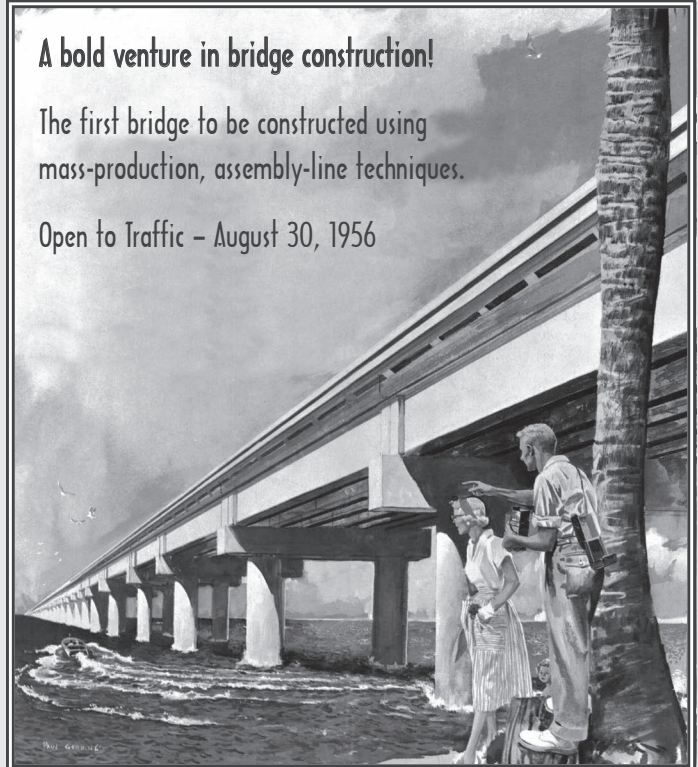
(l to r) Robert Lambert, former GNOEC General Manager; Carlton Dufrechou, current GNOEC General manager; and Henry Lemieux, formerly of Raymond Pile

## Lake Pontchartrain Causeway Bridge

A bold venture in bridge construction!

The first bridge to be constructed using mass-production, assembly-line techniques.

Open to Traffic – August 30, 1956



ASCE NATIONAL HISTORIC CIVIL ENGINEERING LANDMARK



DEDICATION CEREMONY  
NOVEMBER 8, 2013



**The Louisiana  
Section Centennial  
Committee  
is currently  
undertaking the  
planning of the  
100 Year Celebration of the  
ASCE Louisiana Section, 1914 - 2014.**



Please contact the Centennial Committee  
if you would like to help with the planning  
or have a contribution:  
[l.asce100year@gmail.com](mailto:l.asce100year@gmail.com)

We are looking for information for a potential commemorative edition which would feature stories, photographs, including unique and historical images that offer insight into the growth of the Louisiana Section in the last 100 years. The book would spotlight significant achievements in construction and unique engineering projects in Louisiana.



# ASCE-COPRI Louisiana Chapter News

By Dennis G. Lambert, PE, Newsletter Editor



COAST, OCEANS,  
PORTS AND RIVERS  
INSTITUTE

Louisiana Chapter

The Louisiana Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Coasts, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers Institute (L.COPRI) is continuing to promote membership and visibility throughout the State of Louisiana by conducting joint seminars with local Branches and State Sections of ASCE.

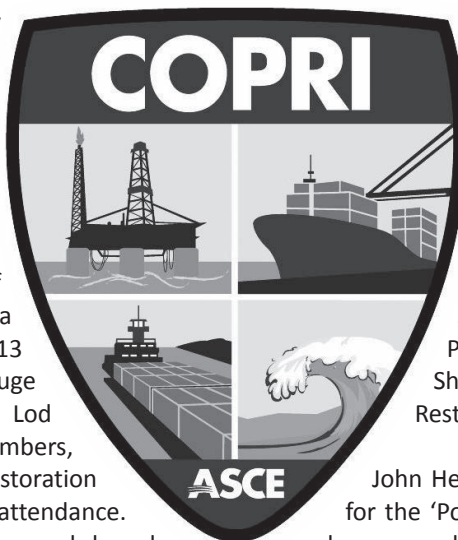
On October 3rd, 2013 the Louisiana Chapter of COPRI held its inaugural event in the form of a half-day conference. The L.COPRI Fall 2013 Technical Seminar was held on the Baton Rouge Campus of Louisiana State University at the Lod Cook Conference Center. Over 120 L.COPRI members, ASCE members, and others interested coastal restoration and port infrastructure development were in attendance. The program for this event included sessions on each broad category of COPRI: Coasts, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers. L.COPRI Chairman Jon Risinger opened the event by explaining the history of COPRI and how the L.COPRI was formed. The guests were then served lunch before Vice-Chairman Rudy Simoneaux, who served as the Master of Ceremonies, kicked off the technical program. WAFB Chief Meteorologist, and former State Climatologist, Jay Grymes was the speaker for the 'Oceans' session. Jay spoke on the science



L.COPRI Vice Chairman,  
Rudy Simoneaux, PE

associated with hurricane development, the steering patterns that determine their paths and ocean conditions that strengthen and weaken the storms. Due to the approach of Tropical Storm Karen, the audience was able to get an up to the minute forecast and prediction on an actual storm.

The 'Coasts' session included a panel discussion on the lessons learned from several recently



designed and constructed barrier island/shoreline restoration projects. The panel was moderated by CPRA Engineer Rudy Simoneaux. The panel included Gordon Thomson (CBI), Greg Grandy (CEC), Josh Carter (CHE), Russ Joffrion (CPRA), Chuck Broussard (Weeks Marine), and Steve Auernhamer (Great Lakes Dredge & Dock). The group discussed several key issues experienced on projects such as Scofield/Shell Island Restoration, West Belle Pass Barrier Headland Restoration, Cameron Shoreline Restoration, and Caminada Headland Restoration.

John Headland from Moffatt & Nichol was the speaker for the 'Ports' session. John gave a presentation on how planners and engineers are addressing sea level rise when designing and maintaining port infrastructure.

The 'Rivers' session also included a panel discussion on the role of the Mississippi River, in restoring and sustaining Coastal Louisiana. Moderator Paul Tschirky (M&N) was joined by Dr. Ehab Meselhe (Water Institute), Maury Chatellier (CPRA), and Dr. Norma Jean Mattei (Miss. River Commission). The session involved presentations and discussions on the various uses of the Mississippi River for restoration, namely sediment diversions and marsh creation via hydraulic dredging. There was also a detailed presentation on the history of the Mississippi River Commission, and policies associated with implementing such projects.

The final presentation was a keynote address by CPRA Deputy Executive Director Kyle Graham. Kyle spoke on the success of some recent CPRA projects, and the agency's plans for implementing larger scale projects that have been outlined in the State's Coastal Master Plan. Kyle was kind enough to remain on stage after his presentation and answer several questions from the audience about the future direction of CPRA. The evening ended with a small reception at Lod Cook.



L.COPRI Opening Technical Seminar



L.COPRI Rivers Panel, Maury Chatellier, PE, Ehab Meselhe, PhD, PE and Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE

***The L.COPRI Board of Directors would like to thank its sponsors for helping with this event. Without good sponsorship, these events would not be possible. The sponsors for the Fall 2013 Technical Seminar were:***

<b>Premier Sponsors:</b>	Weeks Marine Great Lakes Dredge & Dock
<b>Reception Sponsor:</b>	Moffatt & Nichol
<b>Gold Sponsors:</b>	ARCADIS Atkins Ben C. Gerwick   COWI Coast & Harbor Engineering Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc. HDR
<b>Silver Sponsors:</b>	MWH Trigon

Ports 2013, "Ports: Success through Diversification" was held in Seattle, Washington, August 25 - 28, 2013. Ports 2016 will be held in New Orleans. A planning committee meeting will be in April of 2014 where L.COPRI Executive Committee Members will be participating.

On September 24, 2013, a Command ceremony at the Vicksburg Convention Center was held where Major General John W. Peabody

transferred command of the Mississippi Valley Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to Brigadier General Peter A. "Duke" DeLuca. Earlier, in August, Mississippi River Commission Low Water Trip was held.

As a reminder during the months of September, October and November, the 34th International Conference on Coastal Engineering Call, State of the Coast Call for Papers and the National COPRI Awards Nominations were due. The COPRI Awards include John G. Moffatt-Frank E. Nichol Harbor and Coastal Engineering Award due November 1; International Coastal Engineering Award due November 1; The Orville T. Magoon Sustainable Coasts Award due November 1; the New Face of Civil Engineering Nominations are due October 18 and mark your calendars for the PIANC 2014 World Congress in San Francisco, June 1-5, 2014. Please visit the National COPRI website for details at <http://www.asce.org/copri/COPRIHome.aspx>

The activities of L.COPRI will arrange seminars, workshops and other activities to benefit all ASCE and COPRI members. One does not have to be an Engineer to join COPRI. These Institutes are formed for the benefit of ASCE and non-ASCE members to participate and interact with other professionals interested in coastal restoration efforts in the Gulf of Mexico. If you have any questions or to add your name to our mailing list, please contact Tyler Ortetgo, L.COPRI Membership Committee Chair at [tortego@gmail.com](mailto:tortego@gmail.com).

## ASCE Government Relations Committee Report

By Jeffrey Duplantis, PE, FASCE



The ASCE Louisiana Section Government Relations Committee (GRC) has been hard at work throughout 2013 building upon and expanding the efforts established in previous years, especially those following the release of the Louisiana Infrastructure Report Card. Our executive committee has been meeting on a regular basis and has been including representatives from ASCE National in order to pick their brains a bit. We want to try and utilize ideas from other Section GRCs to try and broaden the scope of services and outreach that we are looking to provide.

In the May issue of the Louisiana Civil Engineer there was an article regarding the 2013 Legislative Fly-In. The Louisiana Section's Government Relations Committee has been working diligently on many fronts to expand upon both the local and national press received on both the National, but more importantly the Louisiana Infrastructure Report Card. As such, we are starting to plan a Louisiana State Legislative Drive-In for the spring of 2014. We have been in contact with ASCE National and we are planning a call with representatives from the California Section as they have been very active on a local scale, and we hope to learn a lot from them. In conjunction with this effort we are also looking to have an ASCE National representative speak at the upcoming Spring Conference in Lafayette. Their talk will focus around government relations and how you can get involved.

During recent discussions amongst the GRC executive committee we kicked around the idea of trying to combine the efforts of those ASCE members in Louisiana who are interested in the political side of our profession and how politics impacts our daily lives. As mentioned above we are planning to host a day of meetings at the state legislature in order to get our message out here locally in Louisiana. As part of this we decided to first look at those Louisiana members who are signed up with ASCE National's Key Contact Program. For those of you who may not be aware of this program, ask yourself these questions:

- Are you interested in influencing the policy process?
- Are you interested in helping ASCE make its mark on legislation considered and passed in Congress and state legislatures?

ASCE Key Contacts do just that by developing relationships with elected officials. By meeting and making contacts with your elected officials in several ways, you can achieve true conversations about issues important to the profession with your elected officials and/or staff, and become a trusted advisor when bills are drafted or considered.

The Louisiana Section currently has 143 Key Contact members and we are hoping that over the course of the next several months we



are able to both get these existing members more active, and to also increase the number of Key Contacts in Louisiana. Here are a few ways that ASCE National recommends that we can get more involved locally.

- Join the Key Contact Program. Set aside five minutes every Friday morning to read This Week in Washington and keep up with the latest civil engineering issues in Washington and your state capital.
- Recruit another fellow ASCE member to join the Key Contact Program. Participation is free to all ASCE members.
- Respond to Key Alerts when you receive them. You can write an email to your member of Congress or state lawmaker in a matter of minutes using ASCE's Click & Connect with Congress advocacy website.
- Familiarize yourself with ASCE's Priority Issues Agenda. These issues are determined through an annual member survey and reflect the interests of the members. Knowing what they are is the first step in beginning a dialog with your elected officials.
- Spend 15 minutes on your elected official's website. You can learn a lot in a small amount of time. Look for opportunities to visit with your elected official when he or she is visiting your area, sign up to receive a newsletter, and learn about events in your community.
- Schedule a Back Home Visit with your Representative.
- Bring a fellow ASCE member with you on your Back Home Visit.
- Attend local events with your elected officials. Visit your Representative's website. Many Representatives and Senators list local events they plan to attend and maintain email mailing lists. Engage your elected officials on local civil engineering issues whenever possible. Contact ASCE's ASCE Government Relations office for assistance.
- Write opinion editorials on local civil engineering issues for your local newspaper. Elected officials at all levels pay attention to local papers so this is a great way to raise awareness of an issue.
- Educate other members of your Section or Branch about the ASCE Government Relations Program and how they can get involved in promoting the ASCE Priority Issues Agenda.
- For Section & Branch leaders: Raise awareness of engineering public policy issues among your members by holding a voter registration drive. Use the drive as a stepping stone to greater involvement for your Section or Branch.
- Make plans to attend ASCE's Legislative Fly-In. This two-day event in Washington, D.C. provides intensive training on ASCE's priority issues and how to effectively communicate with your

member of Congress. There is no registration cost to attend the program - attendees are responsible only for their travel expenses - but you must apply.

- Get your Section or Branch to sponsor a member's attendance at the Legislative Fly-In. The attendee doesn't have to be the President or another officer. In fact someone not in the leadership hierarchy might have more time to devote to the program and applying the knowledge at home. (The LA Section already sends 2-3 representatives annually)
- Organize your own legislative day in your state capitol. ASCE Government Relations staff can provide assistance. (This is the Drive-In initiative that the GRC is currently working on)
- Consider running for local elected office. This is the best way to ensure that civil engineers are involved in decisions made at the federal, state and local levels.

Not all of these ideas are for everyone, but if you feel compelled to do any of these things and want support from either ASCE National or the Louisiana Section, please do not hesitate to reach out. There are tons of resources available to you and we would be glad to assist in your endeavor.

If you would like to be involved with the GRC, please contact any of the executive committee members - Joey Coco, Kirk Lowery, Nedra Davis or myself – and we would be glad to fill you in on what we have been working on. Our focus moving forward is going to be towards educating the Section members by providing interfaces with local governmental leaders and updates on policies that may affect the engineering discipline. We are very open to ideas that you might have, so please feel free to send us your thoughts and feedback. We want this committee to be a service to the membership.

## Get the Latest Version of the Report Card App



***Recently, ASCE released a new update to the mobile and tablet Report Card apps!***

If you've already downloaded the Report Card to your phone or tablet, the new version is only a few clicks away. To get the latest and greatest version, just go to your app store of choice (iTunes or Google Play) and click on "Updates." Hit "Update," and you'll have all the new information automatically loaded.

While you're in the iTunes or Google Play store, we'd really appreciate it if you'd take a few minutes to rate our app and tell others why they should download it too.

# ASCE-T&DI Louisiana Chapter News

By Michael Paul, PE, Newsletter Editor



TRANSPORTATION  
& DEVELOPMENT  
INSTITUTE  
LOUISIANA CHAPTER

October 2013 marked the fourth full year of operation for the ASCE-T&DI Louisiana Chapter. The Chapter would like to acknowledge the contribution of our 2012-2013 officers. Our Founder and first Chairman was Om Dixit. Om was succeeded by Karen Holden, then Dan Aucutt, and all three have continued to provide essential support for our committee activities. For the 2013-2014 fiscal year, David Kanger, who has been serving as Vice Chair has assumed the Chair position; Michael Paul, who has served as Newsletter Editor, will serve as Vice Chair; Jim Simmons will serve as Treasurer; and Karen Parsons will serve as Newsletter Editor.

One of the long-term goals of the T&DI Louisiana chapter was to start and sustain a scholarship program. That goal was achieved during 2012 fiscal year with the formation of a scholarship subcommittee. For the second year T&DI plans to award two \$500 scholarships; the funding is provided by using a portion of our seminar proceeds. The first announcement has already been issued to various university department heads across the state. Applications will be reviewed by the Executive Committee and awardees will be announced in the next Newsletter issue.

In August, the T&DI Louisiana Chapter co-hosted the 2nd installment of a 3-part seminar series with the UNO Transportation Institute and Concrete & Aggregates Association of Louisiana. The 2nd seminar, entitled Pavement Engineering Seminar on Concrete Materials, Mixture Design and Analysis was coordinated by T&DI Executive Committee Member, Dr. Louay Mohammad. The purpose of this seminar was to provide basic knowledge of materials, Portland cement concrete mixtures, and specifications utilized in the design and construction of rigid pavements. The seminar focused on materials and methods for durable concrete. Dr. Tyson Rupnow, PE (LTRC & DOTD) and Mr. Darrell Elliot, FCI (Buzzi Unicem USA) were the speakers.

The Chapter also contributed to the ASCE Fall Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show (LCEC&S) in Kenner, Louisiana. This year there were three well-attended presentations which were arranged by the T&DI Louisiana Chapter Members. Om Dixit and Miles Bingham served on the Host Committee. Your T&DI Louisiana Chapter will continue to assist in the LCEC&S Spring and Fall Conferences.

The intent of the institute is to promote transportation and development as a career path, and to provide training and networking opportunities for all professionals involved in transportation projects. Training seminars are two hours in length and are typically presented from 5:30–7:30 pm in the New Orleans or Baton Rouge area. We have also presented one out-reach seminar with the ASCE Acadiana Branch and two seminars with the Shreveport Branch. We are open to hosting seminars in additional cities if requested.

Future seminars are planned for the following topics:

- Pavement Engineering Part 3 – Application of Earthwork and Embankment Materials
- Railroads – History and Future
- I-49 South
- Hurricane Mooring Regulations

If you have a seminar topic or are interested in co-sponsoring a seminar at your branch, the T&DI LA Chapter has prepared a Seminar Coordinator's Check List to assist you in your preparation. Contact David Kanger at [DAKanger@modjeski.com](mailto:DAKanger@modjeski.com) for a copy of the checklist.

## Branch News

### ACADIANA BRANCH

By William Tyler Roy, EI, Branch President

We had a very successful 2012-2013 year and look forward to continuing that success into the new year. As I take over the president duties for the 2013-2014 year I would like to thank Past President Eric McClanahan, PE for his service to the Acadiana Branch over the past four years. The new year started off with inductions of the new officers and the annual branch awards celebration. This year's celebration was hosted September 12, 2013 at Abacus Restaurant in Lafayette, LA. The newly inducted officers for the 2013-2014 year and the annual branch award winners are as follows:

Past President: Eric T. McClanahan, PE  
President: William Tyler Roy, EI  
President Elect: Beau Tate, PE  
Treasurer: Ronke Osibajo, PE  
Secretary: Albert Ayenu-Prah, PhD, PE

Pat Landry, PE – Outstanding Civil Engineer  
Jasmine Galjour, PE – Outstanding Young Civil Engineer  
Sonny Launey, PE – Lifetime Achievement  
Charles T. Mader, PE, LS, M.ASCE – ASCE Life Member  
Phillip Stutes, PE, LS, M.ASCE – ASCE Life Member  
John Allan Richards, PE, M.ASCE – ASCE Life Member

*continued on next page*

The branch would like to congratulate the newly inducted officers and the annual award recipients. The service and contribution these individuals have made to the civil engineering profession is greatly appreciated and we wish you well in your future endeavors.

We are happy to announce the 2014 Louisiana Section Spring Conference has been scheduled for April 23-25, 2014. The event will

take place at the Cajundome Convention Center in Lafayette, LA. This year's event will celebrate the Louisiana Section's Centennial. The Acadiana Branch has already begun planning the conference and looks forward to hosting such a significant celebration for the LA Section. If anyone is interested in assisting with the conference planning feel free to contact me anytime at 337-945-8301 or by email at [troy@wilcomarshbuggies.com](mailto:troy@wilcomarshbuggies.com).



Jasmine Galjore, PE receives Lafayette Branch

Award for Outstanding Young Civil Engineer Sonny Launey, PE (left) receives Lafayette Branch Award for Lifetime Achievement from Regional Governor E. Ray DesOrmeaux, PE

Pat Landry, PE (left) receives Lafayette Branch Award for Outstanding Civil Engineer

## BATON ROUGE BRANCH

By Joey Coco, PE, Branch President

The Baton Rouge Branch is excited about the 2013-2014 year! First, and foremost, I would like to express our sincere thank you for the service of Rudy Simoneaux, PE, the 2012-2013 president of the Baton Rouge Branch. His leadership and guidance of the branch was remarkable. We accomplished many wonderful things and we have him to thank as a leader.

This year, our board is comprised of many amazing professionals. President Elect - Kirk Lowery, Vice President - Danielle Welborne, Secretary/Treasurer - Jennifer Shortess, Programs - Blake Roussel, Membership - Steve Gunter, Education - Kahli Cohran, LSU Practitioner Advisor - Sarah Laasko, Southern Practitioner Advisor - Brandon DeJean, Younger Members - Justin Schexnayder.

The year started out with an excellent off-site field visit to LSU Tiger Stadium. Approximately 90 members attended the meeting, which was held in the LSU Lawton Room. Mr. Emmett David, AIA with the LSU Tiger Athletic Department, presented on the expansion of the LSU Tiger Stadium South End Zone. The presentation was followed by a site visit which offered an impressive view of the construction site.

The board is currently planning for our annual Christmas Party, which will be held Friday, December 6th at Bocage Racquet Club in Baton Rouge. Looking ahead into 2014, several members of the Baton Rouge Branch are working with the Louisiana Section Government Relations Committee to host a "Drive-In" during the legislative session. The Drive-In will be an opportunity to network with our state representatives regarding broad infrastructure issues.



Rudolph Simoneaux, III, PE (right) passes the Baton Rouge Branch Officers gavel to Joey Coco, PE as he takes the new presidency of the Baton Rouge Branch  
 Left to right front row: Brandon Dejean, Jennifer Shortess, Joey Coco, Steve Gunter, and Danielle Welborn. Back row: Blake Roussel, Justin Schexnayder, Sarah Laasko, Kirk Lowery, Kahli Cohran, and Rudy Simoneaux



## NEW ORLEANS BRANCH

By Stephen Johns, PE, Branch President

The New Orleans Branch is looking forward to an interesting and busy upcoming year. We have elected new officers, honored branch award recipients, sponsored student scholarships, hosted the Fall Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show, and again welcomed a new ASCE Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.

### Board of Directors



Branch Board of Directors (l to r): James Martin, PhD, PE, Karishma Desai, PE, Lee Alexander, PE, Tonja Koob, PhD, PE, Steve Nelson, PE, Wesley Eustis, PE, Dean Nicoladis, PE, and Steve Johns, PE

The Branch Board of Directors for the 2013-2014 administrative year was installed during the July Branch membership meeting held at Chateau Golf and Country Club on Wednesday July 17. The new Board members are:

President – Stephen Johns, PE  
President-elect – Lee Alexander, PE  
Vice President – Wesley Eustis, PE  
Treasurer – Tonja Koob, PhD, PE  
Secretary – Steve Nelson, PE  
Director At-large – Dean Nicoladis, PE  
Director At-large – Karishma Desai, PE  
Director & Past President – James Martin, PhD, PE

The Branch's gratitude goes out to our previous officers for the excellent job they did and we will endeavor to continue in their footsteps.

### Awards



Branch Awards (l to r): George C. Kleinpeter, PE, Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE, Jarret E. Bauer, PE, Harley Winer, PhD, PE, Lee M. Alexander, PE, William B. Conway, PE

The Board approved the recipients of the Branch outstanding member awards recognizing the exceptional achievements of these civil engineers in the Branch community. They are

Outreach: Harley Winer: PhD, PE

Outstanding Civil Engineer: Lee M. Alexander, PE

Outstanding Young Civil Engineer: Jarret E. Bauer, PE

Educator of the Year: Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE

Lifetime Achievement: George C. Kleinpeter, PE

Wall of Fame: William B. Conway, PE

### Life Members



Branch Life Members (l to r): Madan Kamboj, PE, Michael Jackson, PE, Rolland Mura, PE, Frank Fromherz, PE, Ladd Ehlinger, PE, Ralph Junius, PE, Bruce Terrell, PE

Also during the July Branch membership meeting, the following Branch members having recently achieved ASCE Life Member status were recognized at the event:

Donald Barbe, PhD, PE	Sam Burguires, PE
Ladd Ehlinger	Frank Fromherz, PE
Michael Jackson, PE	Ralph Junius, PE
Madan Kamboj, PE	Rolland Mura, PE
Russell Ponder, PE	Danny Shaw, PE
Bruce Terrell, PE	

### Student Scholarships

The Board selected the following five well deserving civil engineering students from UNO for scholarships

Claudio Calderon  
Dan Campos  
Vogan Nguyen  
Gerardo Hidalgo  
Ana Melara

Past president, board member, and longtime Branch volunteer Meg Adams has again offered to help with Board activities. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank her for her vital assistance to the Branch over the years. Her support will again be greatly appreciated.

We are now looking back at another very successful ASCE/ACI Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference held September 25-26 at the Pontchartrain Center in Kenner. Keynote speaker for the 23rd Annual Convention was LSU Baseball Head Coach, Paul Mainieri who gave an entertaining and motivational speech "How to Be A 'Winner' In the Game of Life". With over 700 attendees and exhibitors, the event exceeded previous attendance numbers by a significant amount. I would like to thank committee members Meg Adams, Miles Bingham, Steve Bourg, Ben Cody, Om Dixit, Darrell Elliot, Malay Ghose Hajra, Gavin Gillen, Bill Gwyn, Norma Jean



Mattei, Tommy Leffingwell, Rhett Mouton, Yelena Rivera, and Jackie Sempel. Thanks also goes out to steering committee members Meg Adams, Steve Bourg, Ben Cody, Gavin Gillen, conference chair Gavin Gillen, treasurer Ben Cody, food and beverage facility coordinator Meg Adams, technical committee chair Om Dixit, technical program coordinator Yelena Rivera, and door prize coordinator Norma Jean Mattei. These volunteers worked tirelessly to assemble an excellent panel of guest speakers and put together another successful symposium.

Having the distinctive occasion to host the dedication ceremony of the Huey P. Long Bridge as an ASCE Historic Civil Engineering Landmark last year, we found ourselves with the unique honor of hosting the dedication of another ASCE Historic Civil Engineering Landmark for a second year in a row. On November 8th the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway became the 257th such landmark to be dedicated, joining such world renowned landmarks as Machu Picchu, the Suez Canal, Statue of Liberty, and Eiffel Tower.

## SHREVEPORT BRANCH

*By Mitch Guy, PE, Branch President*

This fall has been a very busy one for the Shreveport Branch. As incoming president, I am excited about what we have accomplished so far and even more excited about the things to come.

We kicked off the fall with a professional seminar for our members and local professionals on September 5th. Over 30 attendees had the opportunity to earn 8 PDH credits at no cost. The topics covered were Pre-engineered Storm Water Products, Subsurface Utility Engineering, Ethics, Geogrid Pavement Performance, Roller Compacted Concrete and Concrete Surface Resistivity. Dave Rambaran, PE. was also presented with his Past President's Plaque in appreciation of his service to the branch over the past year. New branch officers were also installed at the seminar; branch officers for the 2013-2014 year are as follows:

President – Mitch Guy, PE  
 President Elect – David Smith, PE  
 Treasurer – Chris Myers, PE  
 Secretary – Jared Boogaerts, EI

On October 9th, we held our annual joint meeting hosted by the Shreveport Chapter of LES. Our speaker was Ricky Simon with Terracon who presented on Environmental Development Constraints. The presentation was a good refresher on the “big

We have already begun lining up interesting and informative guest speakers for our monthly luncheon meetings and are always on the lookout for more. Anyone interesting in submitting a speaker, topic or restaurant can send suggestions to me at [Steve.Johns@WSNelson.com](mailto:Steve.Johns@WSNelson.com).

Additional congratulations should also go out to Branch members Norma Jean Mattei, PhD, PE and William B. Conway, PE who were honored at the Section level with awards for Educator of the Year and Wall of Fame honoree respectively.

The New Orleans Branch is looking forward to an eventful and exciting 2013-2014 year. Please visit our FaceBook page at ASCE New Orleans and our website at [www.asceneworleans.org](http://www.asceneworleans.org) for upcoming events and news and do not hesitate to contact me at [Steve.Johns@WSNelson.com](mailto:Steve.Johns@WSNelson.com) if you have any questions or need additional information.

picture” of environmental regulations and procedures and their impact on project development. It was also good exposure for young engineers with limited experience in these procedures.

Every October, Downtown Shreveport hosts the annual Red River Revel, a festival and celebration for the arts. This year the Architects of Air's luminarium, Exxopolis, was one of the featured exhibits. The Revel, along with the Sci-Port science center, teamed up to incorporate a math and science educational component into Exxopolis for local 7th graders. In addition to financial support, the Shreveport Branch reached out to assemble over 20 volunteers for the math and science exhibits. Branch members, along with members of SAME, ASHRAE and students from Bossier Parish Community College, took time out of their days to staff the events for the 7th graders. The kids had a great time and our branch's involvement in the event proved to be a very rewarding experience.

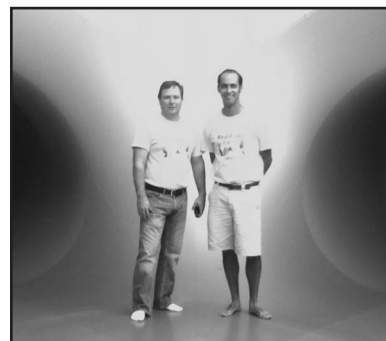
On Thursday, November 7th, the ASCE Shreveport Branch Annual Golf Tournament will be held at Olde Oaks Golf Club. This is something our members look forward to every year and we are excited for a good turnout again this year. The proceeds from the tournament go to fund scholarships awarded to Louisiana Tech students every January. Thank you for your continued support to our organization.



2013-2014 President, Mitch Guy (left) and Past President, Dave Rambaran



Exxopolis Luminarium



Inside the Exxopolis Luminarium: Eric Hudson (left) and Patrick Furlong

# ASCE-SEI New Orleans Chapter News

By Om Dixit, PE, FASCE, Newsletter Editor



Since our report in August 2013 issue of this magazine, ASCE SEI New Orleans Chapter was busy planning for future seminars and hosted one seminar during this period in New Orleans.

The seminar was held on July 18, 2013. SEI New Orleans Chapter invited Keith Kesner, PhD, PE, (Chair ACI 562, Senior Associate, WDP & Associates, Inc., So. Norwalk, CT) to present the seminar **"The ACI 562 Repair Code – How does it Affect Your Concrete Repair Project?"** Keith provided an overview of the ACI 562 code, including a review of key provisions for evaluation of existing structures, maintenance requirements and quality assurance. Keith further explained the interaction of the ACI 562 code with International Existing Building Code (IEBC) and ACI 318. The presentation included specific examples of how the code provisions can be applied to common concrete repair situations. The seminar was attended by about 60 members.

Next seminar will be held on October 24 which will be **"Innovations in Highway Bridge Design and Construction"** to be presented by Edward P. Wasserman, PE (former Director, Structural Division, Tennessee DOT) of Modjeski and Masters. The presentation will address the new techniques being used to minimize the joints in concrete structures.

The other topics for the future seminars are being considered Masonry Design, Non Destructive Testing, Concrete Filled Steel Pile Design, Joplin Missouri Tornado Investigation Study Report and a few more current topics.

SEI New Orleans Chapter presented its Annual Herbert Roussel, Jr. Lecture at Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show on September 25-26 in Kenner Louisiana. This year the Lecture was given by *Chris Carroll, PhD, EI* from University of Louisiana, Lafayette, who talked about **"Structural Design and Construction in the Ancient World"**. The lecture was attended by over 225 attendees.



At the SEI New Orleans Chapter Seminar on July 18, 2013 the speaker Keith Kesner, PhD, PE (Center) with Executive Committee Members Mike Choudhry, PE (left), and Om. P. Dixit, PE (right)



SEI NO Chapter also arranged for 6 other speakers for presenting various structural topics during the conference.

On October 1, SEI NO elected new Chairman of its Executive Committee as Steven M. Fall, PE (Keystone Engineering) for 2013-14. Steven appointed L.T. Cooper, PE (EDG) as the Vice Chairman. *James Danner, P. E.* continues to serve as Treasurer and *Om Dixit, PE* continues to serve as Newsletter Editor. Past Chairman *Anthony Goodgion, PE* did great job guiding the Chapter and completed his one year term on September 30. During the past year the ASCE SEI New Orleans Chapter hosted 5 two hours seminars, and provided speakers and moderators to the annual Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show in September. Among other activities the chapter sponsored awards at the Regional Science Fair, provided volunteer support to the ASCE Sponsored Kid Tent at New Orleans Jazz Fest. The Chapter also sponsored New Orleans Regional Math Count Competition hosted by Louisiana Engineering Society every year.

This year a few Chapter Executive members also met with the subcommittee of Louisiana Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Board for Structural Engineers Registration rules. During the meeting the Chapter members presented the problems and views of structural engineers to the subcommittee members.

The committee is looking for good topics and speakers for future presentations. Members with expertise in the field of structural engineering would be welcome to join the Executive Committee. For any suggestion and information on joining the Executive Committee, contact Chairman Steven M. Fall, PE, at [sfall@keystoneengr.com](mailto:sfall@keystoneengr.com).



Chris Carroll, PhD, EI from University of Louisiana, Lafayette receiving a Plaque from Session Moderator Mark Gonski, PE for presenting the Annual Herbert Roussel, Jr. Lecture at Louisiana Civil Engineering Conference and Show on September 25-26 in Kenner Louisiana

All seminars are held at the University of New Orleans. Seminar dates, pertinent information, and registration can be found on the New Orleans Branch website at [www.asceneworleans.org](http://www.asceneworleans.org). To add your name to our mailing list, e-mail Om P. Dixit, PE at [om@fenstermaker.com](mailto:om@fenstermaker.com).

# Student Chapter News

## LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

By Seth Strong, Student Chapter President

### About Us

We are an organization that strives to provide our members with a better understanding of the field of civil engineering as well as provide an outlet for our members to communicate professionally and socially with one another.

As a student organization we hold meetings at least once a month where guest speakers share their insight and experience with a broad range of the civil engineering discipline. Also chapter business is addressed at these meetings.

### Our Officers 2013-2014

President: Seth Strong  
Vice-President: Kori Madere  
Treasurer: Kimberly Latino  
Secretary: Mallorie Dupont  
Bridge Captain: Patrick Reilly  
Canoe Captain: Sal Pellittieri  
Marshall: Katie Lybrand  
Conference Chair: Matt Webb  
Intramural Sports: Madison Madere

This fall quarter, we have participated in events such as Gumbo Fest, Statics help session, and Burger Burn. At Gumbo Fest, we displayed our annual projects that are Concrete Canoe and Steel Bridge. This allowed students to see the products of hard work and learn more about our organization. A help session was offered to the sophomore class that was preparing to take the tough first



*This is the concrete Canoe form for this year's canoe; we are looking forward to pouring in the next few weeks*

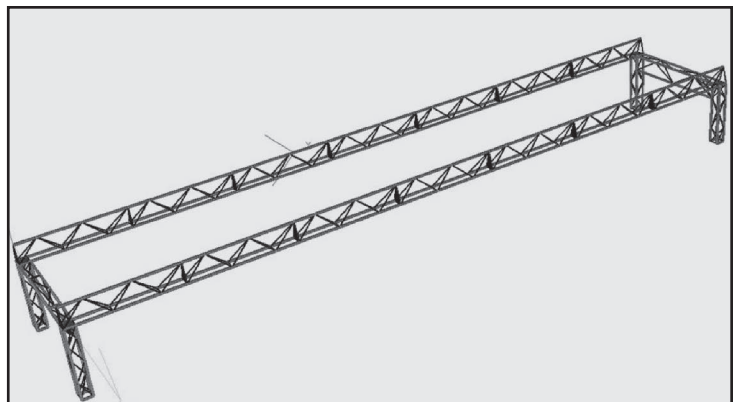
Statics exam. In addition to organizing the help session, ASCE played host for the annual Burger Burn on November 7th. A strong showing was on hand to socialize while enjoying delicious hamburgers. On top of this, on November 5th, we held an industry meeting with Hunt Guillott and Associates. This provided the attendees with some actual knowledge of a company that uses civil engineering skills on a daily basis and an idea of what life is like after college.

Concrete Canoe team aims to reclaim their crown as regional champions. Under the leadership of Sal Pellittieri, concrete canoe members are looking to reach the National Competition this year. This year's time schedule was very aggressive. Our main goal was to

have our Styrofoam form routed by November and have a final mix design by Thanksgiving. So far, we have been able to keep to our schedule and are planning to place the concrete before our Christmas Break so that it can cure for a full 21 days. With any luck we will be able to finish our sanding and our aesthetics by the end of February to allow time to work on a display and possibly get in some practice with our new canoe.



This year's Steel Bridge team has had a large increase in membership. The team is looking to continue its previous success and reach the National Competition later this year. The team has decided to go with a single beam bridge which is a challenge since this year's bridge is 18.5' long and must support a 2500 pound load. Our goal for this year was to have a finished model by Thanksgiving so that steel could be ordered and fabrication could start before Christmas break. As seen below, we have achieved this goal and are planning to finish fabrication by the end of February. We expect the bridge to weigh approximately 220 pounds with a construction time of 15 minutes.



*This is a STAAD model of this year's steel bridge. We are looking forward to competing at the regional conference at Christian Brother's University*



# UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS

By Ryan Gerken, Student Chapter President

On September 21st, the University of New Orleans hosted Girl Scouts Louisiana East for the Girl Scout S.T.E.M Extravaganza. Students, faculty, and staff from various S.T.E.M curriculums gathered on campus to provide over 800 girl scouts ages 8 to 12 with an introduction to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Members from UNO ASCE showed in strength and we were able to provide demonstrations in an array of Civil Engineering topics. It was our goal to engage the girl scouts in a manner that would be informative, comprehensible, and fun for middle-school aged girls.

Concrete Canoe Captain, Andrew Jensen, displayed our concrete canoe and props from the 2013 Annual ASCE Deep South Conference. In conjunction with the concrete canoe demonstration, a station was set up with concrete test cylinders and a tank of water. One of the cylinders was made with our new, preliminary concrete mix that is more buoyant than water. Many of the scouts were amazed to see floating concrete.

Furthermore, ASCE members were in UNO's Materials lab assisting lab technician, Byron Landry, in crushing concrete cylinders with a hydraulic testing machine. ASCE members, Arthur Robinson and Jason Merritt, performed demonstrations using local boring samples to exhibit the soil layers that can be found below the New Orleans area. ASCE members were also present in the Hydraulics lab demonstrating various pieces of lab equipment. Lastly, UNO's

Engineers Without Borders chapter was on hand discussing sustainable, "green" gardens and demonstrating projects from UNO's Sustainability course.

It is our hope that our efforts will have inspired a new generation of Civil Engineers.

If you would like to become a member or contact UNO ASCE to work with us on a future project, please contact us at [asceuno@gmail.com](mailto:asceuno@gmail.com).



Chris Humphreys presented the \$200 check from ASCE-Louisiana section to the ASCE-UNO student chapter. Left to right: Chris Humphreys, Markella P. Bilalis (ASCE-UNO), Myriam Bou-Mekhayel (ASCE-UNO), Meg Adams, Norma Jean Mattei



Arthur Robinson performing a Geotechnical demonstration



Girl Scouts amazed with floating concrete



Jason Merritt demonstrating wave simulations on a model of the Lake Pontchartrain sea wall



Andrew Jensen displaying "Swamp Monster" from the 2013 Concrete Canoe Competition



## UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

*By Michelle Campbell, Student Chapter President*

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette's ASCE Student Chapter has had a successful Fall semester thus far. The chapter has participated in the Louisiana Engineering Society Student Chapter sports tournaments against other engineering disciplines. We finished in third place in both volleyball and football. Participants in these sports ranged from freshmen to seniors and served as a great bonding experience between students of all academic levels.

## LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

*By Sarah Laakso*

The LSU Chapter has had a successful Fall semester so far with well attended meetings, food, and fun! The first meeting, the members were able to participate in a game to help build teamwork throughout our organization. Some of the recent presenters at the meetings include BASF, Arcadis, CDI, Flour, and Chevron. The LSU Chapter started selling padfolios for the students to represent their organization and their potential alma mater.

In October, the student chapter attended the Baton Rouge Branch Luncheon in which the students had the opportunity to meet local professionals and learn about the construction of the new South Endzone of LSU's Tiger stadium through a private tour provided by Emmett David, the architect in charge of the expansion of the South Endzone of Tiger Stadium. Emmett brought the students to the top of the stadium to be able to view to construction on the ground.

Recently, the LSU chapter participated in service projects for the community including a Hazardous Household Materials Cleanup Day, Relay for Life, Haunted Hikes, and Geaux Big Baton Rouge. In addition to these service projects, the LSU chapter will be working in conjunction with the Younger Members of the Baton Rouge

Branch with the Food Bank allowing the students to work with members of the Branch and learning the importance of representing the values of the organization. On a more fun side, the chapter hosted a bowling social in September for students to interact and meet new classmates.

The LSU students are preparing applications for a scholarship opportunity to be provided by the Baton Rouge Branch. The Branch has a scholarship opportunity provided each year for one candidate representing the ideals and values of a dedicated student within the ASCE organization. The recipient is presented the award at the ASCE E-week Banquet and is recognized in the Baton Rouge Branch publications.

The concrete canoe and steel bridge teams are in the process of initial designs for the Deep South Conference in the spring. The teams are sending our sponsor forms now, so if your company would be interested in sponsoring their Tigers, let the LSU Student Chapter know! Contact Ryan Jeansonne (Steel Bridge), [rjeans2@lsu.edu](mailto:rjeans2@lsu.edu), or Sean Moore (Concrete Canoe), [smoor54@tigers.lsu.edu](mailto:smoor54@tigers.lsu.edu), for more information about the progress that they have made thus far.

The concrete canoe and steel bridge teams are in the process of initial designs for the Deep South Conference in the spring. The teams are sending our sponsor forms now, so if your company would be interested in sponsoring their Tigers, let the LSU Student Chapter know! Contact Ryan Jeansonne (Steel Bridge), [rjeans2@lsu.edu](mailto:rjeans2@lsu.edu), or Sean Moore (Concrete Canoe), [smoor54@tigers.lsu.edu](mailto:smoor54@tigers.lsu.edu), for more information about the progress that they have made thus far.



2013 LSU Student Chapter Officers (l to r, top row): Faculty Advisor Dr. Michele Barbato, Robert Davis, Adam Catanzaro, James Parker, Mitch Everhardt, (bottom row): Kay Warner, Alicia Fortier, Brittany Alexander, and Emily Weigand



The LSU officers hosted a bowling social for their fellow students on September 24, 2013

## **SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**

*By Randon Green, President Student Chapter*

So far we have held tutoring for students who were taking the FE exam, up until the Thursday before the exam. We had alumni and other student who passed the test to help out. An upcoming event that we are having this month is a food drive to donate to a food bank for unfortunate families for Thanksgiving. This even will take place the week of the 18th through the 22nd. During the month of December the students will be given a break to prepare for finals. To jump-start the year we will begin preparing for the Deep South Conference. In January we will do a test build of our steel bridge and casting of our concrete canoe.



## **ENGINEER STARS IN ACCLAIMED THRILLER**

**The award-winning**

***The Jackhammer Elegies,***

**by Stefan Jaeger, opens an exciting door on a profession rarely seen in popular fiction, putting an engineer on center stage instead of the usual doctors, lawyers, and detectives. The insider angles woven into this fast-paced and engaging thriller have reviewers citing Clancy, Ludlum, and Grisham to make their comparisons.**

The thriller *The Jackhammer Elegies*, where the main character and hero is a civil engineer and ASCE member, recently won a 2013 SET Award from the Entertainment Industries Council. The EIC honors film, television and other genres that inspire "interest in Science, Engineering, Technology and Math through media and entertainment."

Additional 2013 winners include the TV shows and movies *The Big Bang Theory*, *NCIS*, *Iron Man 3*, and *Star Trek into Darkness*, among others (see EIC's SET Awards press release).

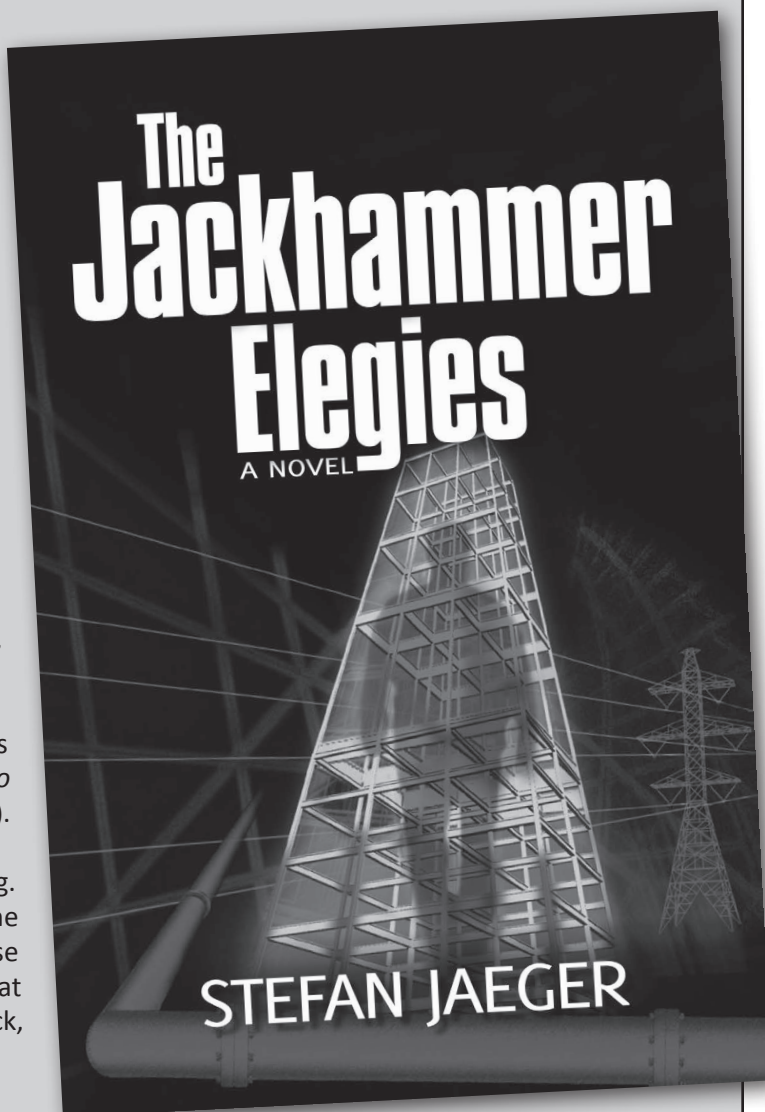
This book presents a compelling picture of civil engineering. Praised for its character development and writing style, *The Jackhammer Elegies* offers readers of all backgrounds a sense of engineering-profession realism and human drama that makes this page turner come alive. Available in paperback, Kindle, & NOOK Book.

For more information:

<http://www.thejackhammerelegies.com/>

<http://www.eiconline.org>

[http://www.eiconline.org/wp-content/uploads/13\\_SET\\_HonoreeAnnouncement\\_updated.pdf](http://www.eiconline.org/wp-content/uploads/13_SET_HonoreeAnnouncement_updated.pdf)





## Save the Date

3rd Biennial State of the Coast Conference

March 18-20, 2014

Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

New Orleans, LA

[www.StateoftheCoast.org](http://www.StateoftheCoast.org)



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# SAVE THE DATE!



**The Louisiana Engineering Society will be hosting the 18th Joint Engineering Society Conference on January 22-23, 2014 at the Lafayette Hilton in Lafayette, LA. We are in the process of soliciting sponsors & exhibitors for this event. For additional information please visit the LES website at [www.les-state.org](http://www.les-state.org)**



# — CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

## DECEMBER 2013

**December 6, 2013**      **Baton Rouge Branch Christmas Party – Bocage Racquet Club, evening**

## FEBRUARY 2014

**February 7-8, 2014**      **2014 Workshops for Section and Branch Leaders (WSBL) – Regions 1, 2, 4 & 5**  
**Marriott Indianapolis Downtown – Indianapolis, IN**

## MARCH 2014

**March 18-20, 2014**      **ASCE's 2014 Legislative Fly-In – Washington, DC**

## APRIL 2014














**April 23-25, 2014**      **2014 Louisiana Section Spring Conference – Cajundome Convention Center – Lafayette, LA**

## OCTOBER 2014

**October, 2014**      **144th Annual Conference 2014 – Panama City, Panama**

Please check for latest updates online: <http://www.lasce.org/calendar.aspx>

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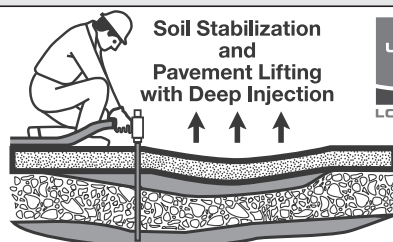


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