



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

J. Keith Shackelford, P.E.

The Baton Rouge Branch Christmas party, held on December 6th, was again a great success. Just over 100 people attended and were provided with wonderful food, drink and more importantly – an opportunity to visit outside of the regular work environment and with people that we don't see every day. To date 28 firms and individuals have made contributions totaling over \$4,300 towards the cost of the party. There are certainly some additional contributions still pending and by the January newsletter we ought to be able to recognize everyone whose contributions made this year's party possible. David Burkholder, President Elect, deserves our many thanks for organizing this year's event. As I stated in a previous newsletter, most of the work gets done by the other members of the Board of Directors and volunteers and we all owe them a debt of gratitude for the hard work and services they perform for and on behalf of the Branch.

Those who attended the November luncheon were treated to a presentation by Dr. Dean McKee on the design of slabs on grade and the use of steel fiber reinforcement in slabs. For a number of us the presentation reminded us of Dr. McKee's classroom lectures years ago and it was good to hear him in that capacity again, even if for only a half hour. Dr. McKee's luncheon presentation was followed by a more detailed presentation on steel fiber reinforcement given by Mr. Ed McLean, Technical Support Manager for SI Concrete Systems. Mr. McLean discussed the varied types of steel fibers available and performance of steel fiber reinforced vs. conventionally reinforced concrete. We were treated to the first hour of a three hour presentation that includes actual design exercises. We hope to have Ed back for a more complete presentation at the Spring Conference.

Speaking of the Spring Conference, plans and preparations continue for the conference that will be held March 19-21 at the Sheraton Downtown here in Baton Rouge. Commitment letters for speakers and exhibitors will be going out shortly and it looks like we will once again have a wide range of topics for presentation.

**THERE IS NO BRANCH LUNCHEON
IN DECEMBER! HAVE A SAFE AND
HAPPY HOLIDAY!**



The Baton Rouge Branch was well represented by Charlie Eustis at the ASCE 150 Anniversary gala held in Washington D.C. on November 4. The Louisiana Section hosted a reception for Thomas L. Jackson, President of ASCE National and past president of the Louisiana Section and member of the New Orleans Branch.

With the approaching holidays and attendant travel required for many to visit family and friends we hope that everyone has a safe and joyous Christmas and New Year.



YOUNGER MEMBERS

By Tommy Roberts

YM ASCE News

Because of annual conflicts with Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, the ASCE Younger Members will not meet again until next year.

The next dinner meeting will be held Wednesday, January 29, at 6:00 PM at On The Border Mexican Restaurant. As always, your coworkers, spouses, and friends are welcome to attend. For additional information, please contact Tommy Roberts at 225-926-8752 or by email at troberts@waskey.com.



UPCOMING BRANCH EVENTS



No Branch Luncheon in December

January 6, 2002 ASCE Board Meeting

January 16, 2002 ASCE Branch Luncheon

NATIONAL NEWS

The American Society of Civil Engineers has created **CE World**. It is "a virtual conference on civil engineering." This site will be used to help civil engineers and related professionals around the world to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the society and "to promote the diffusion of knowledge and technical information in the industry." It is an interactive site that features many presentations on different aspects of civil engineering. Submission of new presentations are encouraged. If you are interested in learning more, please log on to <http://www.ceworld.org>.



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