



ASCE BATON ROUGE BRANCH NEWSLETTER

1st Quarter 2015

LATEST NEWS

By: Kirk Lowery, PE
ASCE Baton Rouge Branch President



The Baton Rouge Branch annual Christmas Party was held Friday December 5th at Bocage Racquet Club with approximately 100 members and guests attending. Entertainment was provided by our very talented ASCE member Russ Joffrion, and this well-planned event by President-Elect Danielle Welborn was enjoyed by all that attended.

The Branch held its first meeting of the year with Dr. Clint Willson presenting on the New and Improved Mississippi River Model Lab. Dr. Willson described the new building that will be constructed near downtown Baton Rouge and the new Mississippi River model that is being constructed. The model is a replica of the river from Donaldsonville to the Gulf of Mexico and will be used for instruction and hydraulic research at LSU. We are planning an ethics presentation for our March 2015 meeting, and a few months soon thereafter we will be joining LES in a joint society luncheon. We have many wonderful speakers lined up for this year and look forward to a continued strong meeting attendance by our membership.

The 2015 ASCE Annual Spring Conference will be hosted in Baton Rouge on April 16th and 17th at the Historic Downtown Hilton Capitol Center. The Spring Conference will feature many technical civil engineering topics along with a combined Networking Event on Thursday evening with views overlooking the Mississippi River. The Networking Event will feature a crawfish boil, an LSU and Southern University Career Fair, and a Trade Show. Don't miss this chance to earn PDH hours, network, and represent your company or governmental agency.

We are encouraging members to like our Baton Rouge Branch Facebook page. We have over 100 members on the Facebook page. Friends of The Baton Rouge Branch of ASCE enjoy the benefits of meeting notifications, photos, branch events, and any other posts that friends make. Please take a moment to go to our page and "like it."

AROUND THE BRANCH


2015 Louisiana ASCE Section - 2015 Spring Conference Baton Rouge, LA Featuring Crawfish Boil/Career Fair/Trade Show

Sponsorship opportunities are available with details provided on the linked registration form. Interested speakers should review the proposed conference topic slots and contact the conference organizers with a brief abstract.

[Conference Registration Flyer](#)


[Register Now!](#)

Day 1 Draft Agenda:

 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS 2015 ASCE Louisiana Section Spring Conference April 16-17, 2015 Hilton Capitol Center - 201 Lafayette St, Baton Rouge, LA 70801			
Time	Atrium	Track I	Track II
Day 1 April 16, 2015			
7:00 – 8:00	Registration / Information / Exhibits Open	Registration and Continental Breakfast	
8:00 – 9:50		Opening Session	
9:50 – 10:10		Transportation - Bridge Topic Speaker	Environmental Topic Speaker
10:10 – 12:00		20 Minute Break	
12:00 – 1:30		Transportation - Surveying Topic Speaker	Coastal Engineering Topic 1 Speaker
1:30 – 2:20		Transportation - Road Topic Speaker	Coastal Engineering Topic 2 Speaker
2:30 – 3:20		Lunch Speaker Association	
3:20 – 3:40		Ethics Seminar	
3:40 – 5:30		Transportation - Traffic Topic Speaker	Ports Topic Speaker
5:45 – Till		20 Minute Break	
		Transportation - Utilities and ROW Speaker	Water Resources Topic 1 Speaker
		Transportation - Aviation Speaker	Water Resources Topic 2 Speaker
		LSU/Southern University Career Fair/ Trade Show/ Crawfish Boil	

2015 Louisiana ASCE Section - 2015 Spring Conference (*continued*)

Day 2 Draft Agenda:

<div style="text-align: center;">  AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS 2015 ASCE Louisiana Section Spring Conference April 16-17, 2015 Hilton Capitol Center - 201 Lafayette St, Baton Rouge, LA 70801 </div>			
Time	Atrium	Track I	Track II
Day 2 April 17, 2015			
7:00 - 8:00	Registration / Information / Exhibits Open	Registration and Continental Breakfast	
8:00 - 9:50		Industrial Infrastructure Topic 1 Speaker Industrial Infrastructure Topic 2 Speaker	Geotechnical Topic 1 Speaker Geotechnical Topic 2 Speaker
9:50 - 10:10		20 Minute Break	
10:10 - 12:00		Forensic Engineering Topic Speaker Infrastructure Funding Topic Speaker	Building Structure Topic Speaker LSU / SU Engineering Topic Speaker
12:00 - 1:30		Lunch Awards Presentation and General Membership Meeting	
1:30 - 3:00	Exhibits Closed	LA Section Board Meeting	

Technical Seminar: Bridge Structural Modeling & Design Using AASHTO LRFD

MIDAS would like to invite you to our "Modern Modeling Methods for Bridge Design" event in Baton Rouge on **March 17, 2015 at 4:00pm (Exact Location To Be Determined)**. This will be an opportunity for engineers to learn and expand their knowledge in modern engineering tools and practices that have recently been implemented by the Louisiana DOT. This event will also provide the opportunity to network with other local engineers and DOT officials. **A certificate for 1 Professional Development Hour will be provided to all participants.**

As high-end bridge analysis software is increasingly becoming a compulsory tool for private and public sectors such as Louisiana DOT, SDR Engineering Consultants, Michael Baker, AECOM, etc; we aim to introduce all engineers in the area to midas Civil, our bridge modeling software.

During this event we will provide an in-depth demonstration on how its advanced features can be utilized to achieve new and higher standards of analysis and design for local bridge applications. Hatem Seliem of SDR Engineering Consultants will discuss how utilizing advanced modeling tools greatly supported his research on the impact of pre-tensioning on curved girders.

To find more information and to register for the event, you may use the following link:

http://northamerica.midasuser.com/elearning_upcoming_session.aspx?session_id=233

Technical Seminar: Bridge Structural Modeling & Design Using AASHTO LRFD (continued)

Event Schedule:

Time (PM)	Subject	Speaker
4:00 – 4:30	Registration and receive material	Registration Desk
4:30 – 5:00	midas Civil: Advanced Solutions for All Bridge Types	Jay Kwon, MIDASoft
5:00 – 5:30	Modeling and Design of a Precast, Pretensioned Curved U-Beam Bridge	Hatem Seliem, SDR Engineering
5:30 – 6:00	Local Applications for midas Civil: An In-Depth Demonstration	Darryl Seraspe, MIDASoft
6:00 – 6:15	Promotion Information	Jay Kwon, MIDASoft
6:15 – 7:00	Help Desk Meetings/Post-Event Networking	

Younger Members *by Thomas Montz*

The ASCE younger members are steadily growing their presence in Baton Rouge. Since the social in October, a student volunteer event was held as well as the annual branch Christmas party.

LSU engineering students joined forces in November with Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge volunteers to host Project Re-Build day. This was a service event co-hosted by eight engineering student organizations at LSU, with the goal to encourage students within the college to volunteer for a day and give back to the Baton Rouge community. The students were assigned houses and tasks to assist homeowners across Baton Rouge. Participants did a number of tasks, including: painting, general carpentry repairs, installation of wheelchair ramps, insulation improvement, and various other minor home improvement activities.

The annual Baton Rouge Branch Christmas party was held in December at the Bocage Racquet Club. This event is always well-received and provides a great atmosphere for networking or just catching up with old and new friends throughout the branch. While the main Christmas party ends at 10 pm, the younger members do their part to keep the party going by holding an “after-party” at a nearby bar. This year the younger members went to The Cove following the Christmas party.

The younger members plan to have two big events before the summer. The annual ASCE Louisiana Section conference will be held April 16-17 in downtown Baton Rouge at the Hilton Capital Center. The younger members plan on hosting a new session at the conference that will be engaging for the younger members. This will include an overview of the national ASCE structure, discussion on generational

Younger Members (*continued*)

differences in the workplace, and a panel discussion with senior leaders on what they look for in new hires and how to rise up in the civil engineering field. This session will lead directly into the social event being planned for the conference: a combination career fair and crawfish boil. The event will be part social and part networking as both younger and seasoned professionals come together to have a good time.

In addition to the annual conference, a baseball tailgate is in the works for our younger members. More details on this event will be coming soon as we work with our students to find the best baseball series weekend at the Box to hold the tailgate.

Just a reminder: we welcome ALL members of the Baton Rouge Branch to attend the younger member events. Actually, anyone who is involved in engineering is welcome to hang out with us! Stay tuned for emails announcing the younger member events. Also, like our facebook page get reminders on your social feeds.

Next Younger Member Social: Baseball Tailgate TBD

Where do YOU want to go?! Feel free to email me with suggestions...

brasce.ym@gmail.com

For More information on the benefits of being a Younger Member see [ASCE-National Younger Member's Page](#)

2014 ASCE Christmas Party



Younger Members (*continued*)

Younger Members - Project Re-Build



2014 Thanksgiving Food Drive Recap

Thanks to all of our members for contributing to our 2014 Thanksgiving Food Bank Drive. You provided 39 pounds of food which equates to approximately 32 meals for people in need! Let's shoot for 50 meals in 2015!

2015 LASM Engineer It!

The spring semester of the ASCE sponsored "Engineer It!" program is currently under development. It will again be held at the Louisiana Arts and Sciences Museum. The course is designed for children 6-12 years of age, and this semester's topic will be on water treatment. Be on the lookout for more information.

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Facebook Page - Facebook is becoming an integral tool for disseminating information to our membership. Helpful information will be posted to the ASCE Baton Rouge Facebook page throughout the year including luncheon information, pictures, important issues concerning the engineering community, and lots more! So we highly recommend that you... **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

[ASCE BR Facebook Page](#)

ASCE – Baton Rouge - Also check out our re-tooled website. The new website has lots of cool functionality. You can see a list of our Past Presidents, view our Facebook timeline, check out the upcoming events calendar, and even RSVP for events straight from the website calendar.

<http://www.ascebr.org/>

Namebadges – Have you noticed all of the good looking name badges that our members have been wearing at the meetings? If you would like to order one, please fill out the excel order form [Download the Excel Order Form Here](#) and email it to presidentelect.ascebr@gmail.com. We will then contact you with payment information.

RSVP - Please remember to RSVP to our monthly luncheons! An accurate headcount goes a long way to planning our events. Thanks!!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Luncheon

Thursday, February 19, 2015

Speaker: Contech Engineered Solutions

Time: 11:30am

Location: Drusilla Seafood

Cost: \$25 Members, \$30 Guests, \$10 Students

Sponsors:



ENGINEER'S HUMOR

A wife asks her husband, a civil engineer...

"Could you please go shopping for me and buy one carton of milk, and if they have eggs, get 6!" A short time later the husband comes back with 6 cartons of milk. The wife asks him, "Well why did you buy 6 cartons of milk?" He replied, "They had eggs!"

2014-2015 Baton Rouge Branch Board



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Danielle Welborn, P.E.



Vice President
Jennifer Shortess, P.E.



Secretary-Treasurer
Kahli Cohran, E.I.



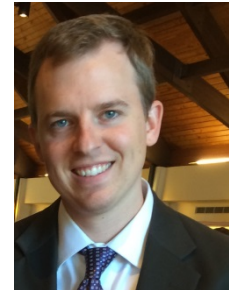
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Ben McArdle, P.E.



Younger Members
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Thomas Montz, P.E.



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