



ASCE BATON ROUGE BRANCH

FY 2015-2016 Summer Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Danielle Welborn, P.E.

First thing is first, I would like to give a HUGE thank you to my outstanding Board! In just a few short months, I will be rolling off as President and the wonderfully motivated **Kahli Cohran** will be stepping in. I have nothing but high expectations for everything he will accomplish. He is extremely generous with his time and talents, and already has wonderful plans for his tenure as President. **Kahli, Blake, Sarah, Jarret, Ben, Molly, Thomas, Tyler, and Kirk** made my role as President so simple because they were always one step ahead of me. There was so much synergy and team-

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ENGINEERING FACT

Nothing makes an Engineer more productive than the "Last Minute"

-unknown

AROUND THE BRANCH

Multi-Regional Leadership Conference

by Jarret Bauer, P.E. & Sarah Ollenburger, P.E



The 2016 Multi-Regional Leadership Conference was held February 11 -13, 2016 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The conference included members from the East Coast (Regions 1, 2, 4, and 5) including Section and Branch Leaders, Younger Member Leaders, and Student Chapter

Leaders. The Baton Rouge Branch sent two members, Jarret Bauer (Director of Programs) and Sarah Laakso (Secretary/Treasurer); and the LSU Chapter sent their chapter president Gabrielle Dubroc and another member. Together, as the Louisiana contingent, we were very excited to have our own local representative, President-Elect Norma Jean Mattei.

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Legislative Fly-In



Our very own Kahli Cohran, 2015-2016 President-Elect attended the Legislative Fly-in and SGR Committee in person meeting in Washington DC in March!

Baton Rouge Branch: NEW WEBSITE

Nationals offers free Drupal websites to Sections and Branches. These Drupal websites use a web-based content management system (CMS), so special software is not needed to make updates. The CMS uses a very simple editor, similar to what you find in Microsoft word. A few branches who have recently taken advantage of this wonderful opportunity are Nashville, Akron-Canton, and Tennessee. Be on the lookout for ours!



2016 SPAG Funded Billboard for to help raise awareness about the lack of permanent, revolving infrastructure funding



President's Message... from page 1

work that it made no task too big or too small for anyone to handle! Thank you for your hard work and enormous efforts in all of the Branch activities this past year.

The summer is coming to an end but the Baton Rouge Branch activities, like the weather, were hot! May and June were particularly special luncheons and August will be as well.

In May, we linked with LES for our annual joint luncheon where the honorable **Mayor-President Kip Holden** was the M.C. Thank you to LES for hosting a wonderful luncheon at Juban's. That evening, the party continued as the Younger Member groups from both organizations got together for a joint YM social at the Bulldog (see YM article, this page), which the Mayor attended as well! He is truly young at heart!

The June luncheon was special in two ways. The National ASCE President-Elect, **Dr. Norma Jean Mattei**, Ph.D., PE, gave a motivational talk about the future of ASCE and how it impacts us at the Section and Branch levels. She was upbeat and energetic about all that ASCE has to offer

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Student Chapters'

Career Fair

The LSU student chapter has been busy planning a career fair for both Southern and LSU students. The Career Fair will be held Thursday, September 29, 2016, from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM at the Engineering Commons, Patrick F. Taylor Hall – 3304. It will be hosted by the ASCE Baton Rouge Branch, ASCE LSU Student Chapter, and ASCE SU Student Chapter. For additional information, please contact Gabrielle Dubroc, ASCELSU President(gdubro4@lsu.edu).

**"There are two ways
of spreading light:
to be the candle or
the mirror that
reflects it."**

-Edith Wharton

Younger Members

by Thomas Montz

The Baton Rouge younger member group has been active this spring and summer!



Two of our young members Kristen Gahagan and Rebecca Laporte took up the job of creating, coordinating, and coaching a kickball team to play in the local Red Stick Area Kickball (RSAK) league. The RSAK league as a whole has been going on since 2005. Kristen and Rebecca figured it was time that a team of young engineers was formed! The response from our members to form a team was so high that there were enough people to play in two teams of about 20 people. Since we're not especially creative, the team names chosen were: We Don't Have a Team Name Yet and We Don't Have a Team Name Yet Either. GSA Engineers and Manchac Consulting provided sponsorship for the teams which paid for shirts for all team members. The

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2016 Younger Member Kickball Team

Kickball full album with the pictures: <https://goo.gl/photos/3PHdnCyWRSISGcx17>

L.COPRI

Save the Date for L.COPRI's summer seminar! The seminar will focus on CPRA's Mid-Basin Sediment Diversion Program and will include presentations on background information on the diversion projects, the required regulatory processes, and the collaborative delivery models that are being studied. It will be held Wednesday, August 10, 2016. The time is yet to be determined, but the event will be approximately 2 hours. It will be held in the Engineering Auditorium at the UNO Building 12 on campus map (<http://www.uno.edu/about/documents/lakefront-campus-2014.pdf>)



IN THE NEWS

Transportation Task Force

Gov. John Bel Edwards' newly minted task force on transportation began its months-long work today, with the governor directing the group of legislators, appointed officials and experts to help the state "prioritize" infrastructure. Edwards appointed the Task Force on Transportation Infrastructure Investment through an executive order in early June with hopes of overhauling the state's roads, bridges and highways—a key campaign promise he made last fall.

The Advocate 7/12/2016

Want to be a Sponsor?

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Sponsorships available!!!**

Contact us at presidentelect.ascebr@gmail.com

President's Message ... from page 2

its members. We also recognized our Branch's **Past-Presidents**. We had an impressive turnout of approximately 15 Past Presidents, including Mr. Joe Richard, Jr., the 1966-1967 Branch President!

June also wrapped up the 5th and final *Dig It – Engineer It* Workshop at Louisiana Art and Science Museum. Thank you to **Mike Juneau** for his involvement in developing the curriculum and allowing his engineers to assist at the Saturday workshops. We are in the process of developing a fourth module for LASM so please be on the lookout for more information. If you're interested in getting involved, please contact myself or Joey Coco!

In **August**, we will host the **Joint LES-ASCE Luncheon at Drusilla Seafood**.

Johnny Bradberry, head of CPRA, is our guest speaker. We look forward to having him and all of the LES members join us. At the September luncheon, we will have the officer installation, as well as Branch Awards. Also in September, the LSU and Southern student chapters of ASCE are hosting a Career Fair at LSU. The event will take place on Thursday, September 29 at Patrick F. Taylor Engineering Commons 3304 from 5:30 – 8:30 pm. Please contact me if you are interested in obtaining a booth.

Remember, the Board is here to serve our members. We are always open to suggestions for topics, speakers, and activities. Thank you and hope you are having a great summer!

Notes from the Board

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

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!

Name Badges – Noticed all of the good looking name badges on members at the meetings? Want one? Send an email to secretary.ascebr@gmail.com and we will contact you for further information.

Younger Member Notes – Information will come both through constant contact emails and on our Facebook page. IF you haven't already, go ahead and 'like' the Baton Rouge Younger Member Group on Facebook to see the latest information posted in your newsfeed. For More information on the benefits of being a Younger Member see ASCE-National Younger Member's Page.



Left to Right: Bob Jacobsen (2007-08), Tom Willis (1991-92), James Aronstein (1979-80), Brant Richard (2006-07), Joe Richard, Jr. (1966-67), Brin Kern (1993-94), Jerome Klier (1997-98), Pat Broderick (1992-93), Chris Knotts (1999-2000), Norma Jean Mattei (New Orleans Branch Past President)



Multi-Regional Leadership Conference ... from page 1

The conference was filled with valuable tools to take full advantage of what ASCE National has to offer, including some great tips to attract new membership, re-invent monthly luncheons, and inspire new leaders. As an added plus, Pittsburgh was kind enough to even throw in a day of decent snowfall for its Louisiana newcomers! On Friday, February 12th, the conference concentrated on being better leaders. Sessions included Emotional Intelligence, Society Leaders, and Professional Ethics. In addition to the regular session, Networking Breakout Sessions were held to discuss methods and ideas with other branches on how they operate and how to improve their chapters. On Saturday, February 13th, sessions included Professional Manners in a Digital World, ASCE Resources, What Makes a Leader, and the ASCE Grand Challenge. Breakout sessions were held to discuss different topics including: Raising the Bar, Engaging Younger Members, Running a Section Survey, and Following up on the State Report Card. Despite the cold weather, all of the Sessions and Breakout Sessions were extremely helpful to our ideas of how to improve our local branch. This annual conference definitely helps remind us of the bigger picture of ASCE and the future impacts we have on society!

All in all, the opportunity to network with local branches and collaborate on ideas is one that will serve our Branch membership faithfully. Thanks again to ASCE for sponsoring our attendance!

**REPORT CARD ON LOUISIANA'S
INFRASTRUCTURE IS UNDERWAY!**

WANT TO HELP???

**Contact us at
president.ascebr@gmail.com**



*Sarah & Jarrett enjoying the weather in Pittsburg at the 2016
Multi-Regional Leadership Conference*

Younger Members ... from page 2

two teams started out in the "Lite" (not so competitive) version of kickball for the spring, playing each Monday night at Perkins Road Park with other teams in the RSAK Lite division. The group is currently taking part in summer kickball and plays each Tuesday. We are hoping to continue this kickball group for a while. There are plans to form the same teams again for the fall version of kickball. If you are interested in joining us, you can email brasce.ym@gmail.com.

The young member group held one social event in late May in conjunction with LES and APWA. This event was held the same day as the joint luncheon for LES and ASCE. The speaker for the luncheon was East Baton Rouge mayor-president Kip Holden. The topic was an update on all the major infrastructure projects currently planned, under construction, or completed in EBR Parish. These included the upgrades to the sewer system and sewage treatment plants. An update on the Green Light Program and updates on the future of TramLinkBR. The social was held later that evening at the Bulldog. The event was a great success with a HUGE turn-out.



*Left to Right: Michael Somme (LES YM Chair),
Jacob Loeske (LES President), Mayor-President
Kip Holden, Sarah Ollenburger (ASCE Secretary
-Treasurer), Thomas Montz (ASCE YM Chair)*

The original bar tab limit of \$600 was reached within 1 hour of opening the tab!

Members from all groups made it out to have a beer and network: even Mayor Kip Holden! Another joint event is going to be planned for the fall.

As we reach the half-way point of 2016 the young member group will continue to find ways to keep our members (and especially the younger members) engaged with sports, volunteer and social events. Stay tuned for emails from the branch or "like" us on Facebook to stay up to date on the details about our events.

Next Younger Member Social: TBD. Where do YOU want to go?! Feel free to email with suggestions... brasce.ym@gmail.com



2015-2016 Baton Rouge Branch Board



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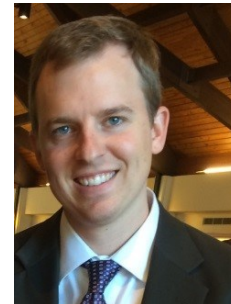
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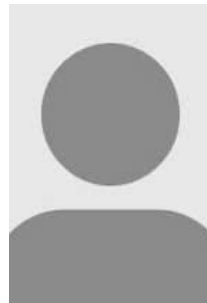
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