



# Acadiana Branch

American Society of Civil Engineers

October 2009

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## Presidents Message

Dear Acadiana Branch Members:

Good afternoon all! I wanted to take this time to address you with a couple current important items. **Firstly**, it was nice to see the few who were able to attend our luncheon on September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 and hear our LCG Traffic Engineer Mr. Tramel speak about Roundabout design and the proposed RPI in Lafayette . I must say that I was disappointed with the turnout of members to the luncheon, and I couldn't help but feel a little embarrassed for Mr. Tramel and our membership. I don't feel that there is good justification of why our branch of plentiful long time members and supporters should not be able to make our proposed luncheons on a monthly basis. Such a small turnout coupled with how many we guarantee the restaurants presents a severe financial strain on our operating budget and makes it nearly impossible to continue to provide these nice luncheons and great topics & speakers.

Within the next couple months, I plan on taking some time to "branch out" and personally meet with the principals of firms in the Acadiana area to discuss ASCE business. In doing so, I hope to receive some feedback of what you would like your branch to provide for you as well as current functions you would like to see improved. I will also inquire of why we shouldn't be able to expect better representation/participation in our future meetings from your organizations. On that note, in the meantime, I would like you to feel free to take some time and *respond to Joshua.Stutes@la.gov* with some feedback on what **you** would like to see for future branch meetings:

- \* **What time of day and duration would work best for your needs?** i.e. Morning, Noon, Evening, etc...
- \* **What type of topic(s) would you like to see?** i.e. Hydraulics, Transportation, Ethics, etc...
- \* **Are there any specific speakers you would like us to try and obtain for your desired topic(s)?**
- \* **Are there any other feasible services you would like to see your Acadiana Branch/ Board provide for you?**

Our board (and a great one at that!) is in place to serve you and give back to our members and still look forward to a very exciting productive year. We simply cannot do this without your help. Presently, I am afraid that if our future luncheons/seminars/socials continue to produce poor turnouts, that we have to start requiring RSVP's to attend (as other branches require) or begin reducing the numbers of functions we can provide during the fiscal year. We as a board want to give as much back to the branch and community as feasibly possible within our time and budget constraints. Our current proposed schedule of luncheons and seminar for the 2009-10 fiscal year can be found here:

[http://www.asceacadiana.net/PDFS/ASCE\\_Acadiana\\_Branch\\_Luncheon\\_Schedule.pdf](http://www.asceacadiana.net/PDFS/ASCE_Acadiana_Branch_Luncheon_Schedule.pdf)

## Acadiana Branch ASCE Fall Seminar

DATE: October 22, 2009  
 LOCATION: Hilton Garden Inn, Lafayette LA 70503  
 TIME: 7:30 a.m. Registration

**STAY TUNED FOR THE NOVEMBER BLUE DOG MEETING/SOCIAL!!!!**

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Let's all make it a point and make an effort help us get back on track and attend our next board luncheon/dinner in November where we look forward to having Mr. Bill Gwyn of Eustis Engineering coming speak to our membership and give a technical Geotechnical presentation on the IHNC Floodwall Project. This one will be valid for PDH's and will be a little different format than we've done in the past. We are aiming to have this one in the early evening with a social beginning at 5:30 P.M. and presentation beginning at 6:00 P.M. at the Blue Dog Café. This will be a first evening function for the branch for a very long time and at an exquisite establishment we have yet to try; so, please try and make arrangements ahead of time to attend. Final details, date & time, are TBA although currently, we are aiming for November 17<sup>th</sup>. Also, please don't forget to sign up for our upcoming Fall Seminar worth 8 PDH's on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. It's still early enough to sign up and register. All registration forms can be found on our website as well here:

<http://www.asceacadiana.net/continuingEducation.aspx>

The **second** item I wanted to discuss was concerning membership renewals and branch allotments. I am sure that many of you have already received your notifications from ASCE National regarding your membership renewal for 2010. The Louisiana Section has asked that we contact you to inform you of an issue that occurred last year related to the online renewal process to be sure that you are aware of this so that you can renew appropriately.

Last year during the online renewal process there were periods in which the ability to select your "Section" was not available and many members of the Louisiana Section inadvertently only joined and paid their National dues. This was a glitch in the ASCE National online form and was corrected after it was noticed. However, many Louisiana members did not pay their Section dues and may not have received all of the local services that they were accustomed to, such as receiving the LA Journal.

In an attempt to avoid this from reoccurring, we are asking that you be sure to check off the "Section" membership and include the \$20 in your payment to National. A portion of the Section allotment is passed down to the Branch which helps us to continue to provide you with many of the services you see throughout the year.

On behalf of the Acadiana Branch Board, we want to thank you for your continued support of ASCE and the Acadiana Branch. I hope to see each and every one of you at all this year's events.

Sincerely,  
*Joshua P. Stutes, M.S., P.E.*  
 President, Acadiana Branch

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##### ASCE Student Chapter Contact:

Dr. Janardanan Uppot PhD

337-475-5868

## Local News

LAFAYETTE — A major redesign planned for the intersection of Johnston Street and Camellia Boulevard might look strange, but a similar intersection in Baton Rouge appears to have improved traffic flow and reduced crashes. Construction on the \$4 million project in Lafayette is scheduled to begin early next year.

The most unusual aspect involves having drivers on Camellia and Guilbeau Road turning left across oncoming traffic a few hundred feet before reaching Johnston Street. After crossing over, Camellia drivers would use a special left turn lane on the left side of the road way, allowing drivers to turn left from Camellia to Johnston while oncoming traffic continues to flow through the Johnston Street intersection. Drivers on Guilbeau would cross oncoming traffic to Frier Lane, which will be converted to one-way dedicated to left turns on to Johnston.

The new intersection would be only the second of its kind in the state, the first is in Baton Rouge, and one of only a handful in the country.

Lafayette Traffic and Transportation Director Tony Tramel said the intersection design is one of the rare new “innovative ideas in the traffic business.”

Research suggests it seems to be working to reduce congestion in Baton Rouge, where a “continuous flow intersection” opened in 2006 at the intersection of Airline Highway and Siegen Lane.

Tramel said the concept might seem odd, but he expects drivers to quickly adapt. “There is a perception that something is so unusual that people will never be able to do it,” Tramel said.

Similar concerns were raised in Baton Rouge, but a study comparing traffic crashes three years before the new intersection with crashes three years after the intersection opened found a 25 percent reduction, said Mike Bruce, of ABMB Engineers, which designed the Airline/Siegen intersection. Bruce said serious crashes fell by 34 percent. There was a brief spike in accidents in the first few days, he said, but the numbers quickly dropped.

## Acadiana Branch ASCE Fall Seminars

### AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

### ACADIANA BRANCH

### 2009 FALL TECHNICAL SEMINAR

### OCTOBER 22ND, 2009 – HILTON GARDEN INN - LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA

As a part of our organization’s commitment to bring continuing education to our local Civil Engineering community, the ASCE Acadiana Branch would like to invite you to this year’s fall technical seminar to be held on October 22nd, 2009 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Lafayette, Louisiana. The seminar will be a comprehensive one-day event worth eight (8) Professional Development Hours (PDH) that will focus on several areas of civil engineering including: Pre-stressed Concrete Design and Analysis, Coastal Restoration, Deep/Shallow Foundation Design, Post Tension Slab on-Grade design, and Site Investigation Techniques. The branch has secured three experts in the aforementioned civil engineering areas who are well-recognized nation-wide in their professional, academic, and scholarly activities.

To follow you will find a detailed seminar agenda, a registration form, and an address to the Hilton Garden Inn for your use. The Acadiana Branch will also provide a PDH Certificate to each registrant (three weeks after the seminar). The Board of Directors has worked really hard to bring such a seminar to Lafayette, so we encourage membership participation. Please note that the deadline for early registration is Thursday, October 15th, 2009. If you should have any questions please call or email Randel Badaeux at 337-237-0404 / [rbadaeux@erdesormeaux.com](mailto:rbadaeux@erdesormeaux.com) or any board member.

**AGENDA:**

**LOCATION:** ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE HILTON GARDEN INN ON CONGRESS ST., ACROSS FROM THE CAJUN DOME.

**SCHEDULE:** 7:30A – 8:00A REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST  
8:00A – 9:55A SESSION 1- SITE INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES / SHALLOW FOUNDATION DESIGN & ANALYSIS  
PRESENTED BY: **DR. JOHN BRYANT, PH.D., P.E.**  
10:00A – 11:55A SESSION 2-POST TENSION SLAB ON GRADE DESIGN & ANALYSIS  
DEEP FOUNDATION DESIGN & ANALYSIS  
PRESENTED BY: **DR. JOHN BRYANT, PH.D., P.E.**  
12:00P – 12:55P LUNCH  
1:00P – 2:55P SESSION 3- ENGINEERING APPROACH FOR COASTAL RESTORATION  
PRESENTED BY: **DR. DONALD F. HAYES, PH.D., P.E.**  
3:00P – 4:55P SESSION 4- PRE-STRESSED CONCRETE DESIGN & ANALYSIS  
PRESENTED BY: **DR. CHRIS CARROLL, PH. D., P.E.**

**MENU:**

7:45A BREAKFAST PASTRIES AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE SEMINAR ROOM  
12:00P LUNCH WILL CONSIST OF A DINNER SALAD AND YOUR CHOICE OF

- SHRIMP ALFREDO
- RED BEANS & SAUSAGE
- GRILLED CHICKEN
- CHICKEN & SAUSAGE JAMBALAYA
- CRAWFISH ETOUFFEE

3:00P DESSERTS AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE SEMINAR ROOM

**2009 TECHNICAL SEMINAR LOCATION:**

HILTON GARDEN INN  
www.hiltongardeninn.com  
2350 West Congress Street  
Lafayette, LA 70506  
(337) 291-1977

***\*Do Not Forget Deadline for Early Registration is Thursday, October 15th, 2009\****

## National News



This year's ASCE 139<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineering Conference will be held on October 29-31, 2009 in Kansas City, MO. In a time when infrastructure revitalization is crucial to confront worldwide population growth, meet basic human needs, and promote economic growth, a new kind of civil engineer must lead the way. ASCE took the first steps toward identifying tomorrow's engineer when it created "Vision 2025." Now, it's time to make the next leap. ASCE's 139<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil Engineering Conference will change the identity of civil engineers to global communicators, leaders, managers, and technology experts as the master builders of the past become the master integrators of the future.

For more information please log on to <http://content.asce.org/conferences/annual2009/index.html>

## General






- **Professional Development Tools**

Stay on the cutting edge of your technical discipline with the most up-to-date codes and standards, professional practice publications, conferences, e-updates, and continuing education courses all designed to provide the resources you need to advance your career. To get more information visit the ASCE website at <http://www.asce.org/membership/benefits.cfm>

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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE BRANCH

**October 2009**

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**November 2009**

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***Schedule of Events***

- October 12th– Columbus Day
- October 13th– Acadiana Branch Officers Meeting
- October 16th–National Boss Day
- October 22nd– 2009 ASCE Acadiana Branch Fall Technical Seminar
- October 25th – Mother– In–Law Day
- October 31st – Halloween
- November 11th– Veteran’s Day
- November 16th– Acadiana Branch Officers Meeting
- November 17th– Acadiana Branch Meeting/Social
- November 26th– Thanksgiving