



# Acadiana Branch

American Society of Civil Engineers

Volume 19, Issue 6

March 2001

## Upcoming Events

- April 18-20; Slope Stability, Austin, TX.
- April 26-27; Acadiana Branch Spring Seminar, Lafayette, LA.
- April 30–May 3; Offshore Technology Conference, Astrodome, Houston, TX.

Go to the 'Conferences & Continuing Education' pages on the web at [www.asce.org/conted](http://www.asce.org/conted) for more continuing education topics. For details of local events, please contact one of the Board members.

## President's Message

The February meeting was held on Feb 14, 2001 at Chung King Restaurant in Lafayette. Instead of our typical lunch/speaker format, the meeting was held as a social hour with door prizes. Congratulations go out to our door prize winners: John Bosch, Bryan Guidry, and Glenn McCall.

The March membership meeting will be dedicated to the Acadiana Branch Past-Presidents. As a token of our appreciation for their hard work, the former presidents will dine at free of charge.

The ASCE Report Card on America's Infrastructure was introduced on March 8th. The Report Card, which summarizes the conditions of

the nation's infrastructure, is a follow-up to the 1998 Report Card. If you are interested in viewing the report card, please visit ASCE-National's website located at <http://www.asce.org/reportcard>.

The Louisiana Section Spring Meeting and Conference will be held March 29-30, 2001 at the Sheraton, Shreveport, Shreveport Louisiana. Please see *The Louisiana Civil Engineer* for more details. If you have questions or need more information please contact Ali Mustapha at (318) 673-6035.

The Branch would like to congratulate **Mr. Gerald Dubroc** and **Mr. Donald Richard** who have achieved

Life Member Status with ASCE. In order to obtain Life Member Status, a member must pay dues for a number of years that when added to their age equals 95. Mr. Dubroc and Mr. Richard will be presented Life Member Certificates at the Awards Banquet of the Louisiana Section Spring Meeting and Conference in Shreveport.

The **2001 Acadiana Branch Spring Seminar** will be held on **April 26-27, 2001** at Best Western Hotel Acadiana, Lafayette, LA. The topic is "**Deep Foundations: Design, Construction & Quality Control.**" If you have questions or need more information, please contact Larry Cramer.

Jan C. Robichaux, E.I.

## Acadiana Branch Past Presidents

Walter Vodrasa, P.E.	1983
Allen L. Martin, P.E.	1984
Wendell W. Holman, P.E.	1985
Barry Bleichner, P.E.	1986
Paul L. Miers, P.E.	1987
Dr. Kam Movassaghi, P.E.	1988
Gene Williams, P.E.	1989
Mark B. Dubrock, P.E.	1990
Patrick J. Landry, P.E.	1991
Joe Maniscalco, P.E.	1992
Todd Vincent, P.E.	1993
Thomas A. Carroll, P.E.	1994
George S. Glaubrecht, P.E.	1995
Dr. Paul Richards, P.E.	1996
Raymond J. Reaux, P.E.	1997
Philip Herrera, P.E.	1998
Pamela G. Miller, P.E.	1999
David Huval, Jr., P.E.	2000

## March Branch Meeting

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 21, 2001

**LOCATION:** Don's Seafood & Steak House  
301 E. Vermilion Street  
Lafayette, LA.

**TIME:** Noon

**SPEAKER:** Billy Bergeron  
Delmar Systems, Inc  
*The Hunley Project*

**DINNER:** Choice of one entree from the lunch menu, salad, dessert, and iced tea

**PRICE:** \$12 per professional  
\$6 per student

**RSVP:** Please RSVP with Glenn McCall (337-237-2200, [glenn@Fenstermaker.com](mailto:glenn@Fenstermaker.com)) by March 19, 2001



### March Spotlight

Mr. Billy Bergeron of Delmar Systems, Inc. will be our guest speaker at the March Branch meeting. Mr. Bergeron will discuss Delmar Systems' involvement with the Hunley project.

The C.S.S. Hunley was a Confederate Submarine that sank on Feb. 17, 1864 just outside of the Charleston Harbor, four miles off Breach Inlet. Before resting at the bottom of the sea, the Hunley made history by becoming the first submarine to sink a ship in battle. For more than 130 years, the location of the Hunley and

her crew was not known. In 1995, Clive Cussler and a team of underwater divers discovered the location of the Hunley and efforts to raise the ship began. Finally, on August 8, 2000 the Hunley was successfully recovered. Delmar Systems, Inc. provided the suction piles which helped to stabilize the truss assembly during the recovery process. Mr. Bergeron will discuss the recovery efforts, challenges that were overcome during the recovery, and the benefits of using suction piles rather than conventional driven piles for this project.

For Historical information relating to the Hunley, the following Web-Pages have some helpful information:  
<http://www.hunley.org/html/frame.htm>  
<http://hometown.aol.com/litespdcom/>  
<http://www.hunleyarchives.org/listofdocuments.htm>  
<http://www.awod.com/>



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 337-439-4552

### ASCE National News



[Editor's Note: The following article is excerpted from an email by ASCE President Robert W. Bein]

These are exciting times at ASCE.

On March 8 at 10:30 a.m., ASCE released the 2001 Report Card at a news conference at the National Press Club. All ASCE members were invited to view the news conference live via ASCE's dynamic website at [www.asce.org/reportcard](http://www.asce.org/reportcard).

The Report Card assesses the conditions of the nation's roads, bridges, transit, aviation, schools, drinking water, wastewater, dams, solid waste, hazardous waste, navigable waterways, and energy. This report card follows the



highly successful 1998 Report Card that focused the nation's attention on the need to maintain America's vital public works. The report card and background materials, along with the link to the webcast, were posted on the site as of 10:00 a.m., EST, on Thursday, March 8. The webcast will also be archived on the site for six months.

The Report Card webcast and related materials are just one example of how ASCE's new website will enhance the value of your ASCE membership using innovative web technologies. We encourage you to visit the new site often in the coming weeks to check out new features as they are added.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the Report Card, please e-mail [reportcard@asce.org](mailto:reportcard@asce.org).

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# March 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 
18	19	20 	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### Schedule of Events

- **3/17** St. Patrick's Day
- **3/20** 1st Day of Spring
- **3/21** Branch Meeting



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