

LOUISIANA ENGINEER & SURVEYOR JOURNAL

NOVEMBER 2025 - VOL. 28 NO. 4

THE END OF AN ERA



Built in 1998 as a shared home for our profession, the Engineering Center is under contract to be sold. Read the LEF President's article on page 9 for more on this meaningful transition.

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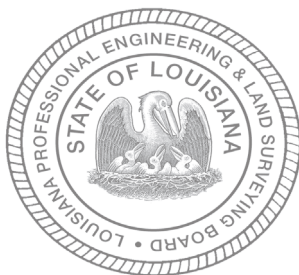
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LOUISIANA ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR JOURNAL

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- 3) Published quarterly, February, May, August and November.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

LINDA H. BERGERON, PE
CHAIRMAN, LAPELS



Linda H. Bergeron, PE
LAPELS Chairman

As the new LAPELS chairman, I want to express my deep appreciation for this opportunity. It is an honor to step into this role and continue the legacy of dedicated leadership within LAPELS, which has for over 100 years worked to “safeguard life, health, and property, and to promote the public welfare” in licensing engineers and land surveyors in the State of Louisiana. I look forward to this time and have truly enjoyed my previous five years on this Board. I would also like to thank Byron D. Racca, P.E., for his service as chairman. With his commitment and leadership, he has made many positive contributions to LAPELS.

The Board continues to conduct business although we have two members to be replaced this year, one Board member representing Education and one Board member representing Government. Additionally, next year we expect one Industry and one Private Practice Board member to be replaced. These transitions present opportunities to welcome new perspectives and maintain the vitality of our Board as we continue to work to license engineers and land surveyors.

I am pleased to note that the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) annual meeting was held in New Orleans in August 2025. This event provided an excellent opportunity for our organization to engage with leaders and peers from across the nation, share best practices, and further strengthen our commitment to advancing professional licensure as we conducted the business of the Council. I would like to extend my appreciation to the LAPELS staff for their hard work and dedication to helping make this event a success, and for the special Louisiana welcome provided at registration.

I encourage each of you to visit the NCEES website and explore the various volunteer opportunities available. Getting involved in NCEES can enhance your professional growth and also bring much satisfaction in giving back to the engineering and surveying professions. I have served on the PE Chemical examination development committee since 2008 and have found this to be very rewarding.

I would also like to take a moment to recognize the recent passing of former Board member Wilfred Fontenot, P.L.S., who represented Surveyors on the Board for the years 2018-2024. His contributions and commitment to LAPELS and the surveying profession were great, and I will fondly remember him and am glad to have had the privilege to serve on the Board alongside him. We extend our deepest condolences to his family and loved ones during this difficult time.

Lastly, I want to communicate the upcoming fee schedule adjustment:

Notice of Fee Schedule Adjustment – Effective July 1, 2026

The Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board (LAPELS) has approved nominal adjustments to application and renewal fees, which will become effective **July 1, 2026**.

It has been more than two decades since the last fee adjustments were implemented—**comity application fees were last increased in 2002**, and **professional engineer (PE) and professional land surveyor (PLS) renewal fees in 2003**.

The updated fees are as follows:

- **Comity Application (PE or PLS):** increasing from **\$180 to \$200**
- **License Renewal (PE or PLS):** increasing from **\$120 to \$140**
- **Initial Licensure Application:** remains **\$50** (no change)

As in prior years, **licensees renewing after the date of expiration** will continue to pay **150% of the renewal fee**, which will now total **\$210**.

The **late renewal fee** for individuals **not in compliance with Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements** will increase to **\$350**, and the **reactivation fee** for those whose license has lapsed while **not in CPD compliance** will increase to **\$420**.

It's very hard to find anything that costs the same today as it did in 2002. Nearly everything has increased due to inflation, materials, and labor costs and the Board is pleased to note that LAPELS has maintained a stable fee structure for nearly twenty-five years.

Applicants applying for licensure by comity after July 1, 2026, and licensees renewing their licenses during the fall 2026 renewal period, will be the first groups subject to the revised fee schedule.

For further reference, the complete existing fee schedule can be found in Chapter 17 of the Rules, 1703. Fees.

ETHICS IN PRACTICE SPOTLIGHT: THE ROLE OF AI IN ENGINEERING

BYRON E. TRUST, PE

"AI is here to stay — but responsible use still begins with human judgment."

Following the recent LAPELS ethics presentation, several attendees asked about the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in engineering practice. One question in particular stood out:

How does AI fit into our professional responsibilities as licensed engineers?

Embracing AI — Carefully

I've fully embraced the use of AI—both personally and professionally in engineering. I often use it to review correspondence and internal communications for context and tone. That said, I'm always careful not to include names or confidential information in anything I upload, and I make sure to disable "learning mode" in every application I use.

AI vs. Traditional Engineering Tools

When it comes to design work, AI and traditional tools like AutoCAD are very different. CAD software operates on fixed parameters, while AI relies on probabilistic modeling based on user input. I've tested several straightforward engineering calculations across multiple AI platforms, and while the math often looked correct, the results were sometimes clearly wrong. Even seemingly simple tasks could be beyond the AI's capability.

In other words, we're still very much in the "testing the waters" stage of this rapidly evolving technology.

Transparency and Professional Judgment

In my opinion, engineers should always verify the accuracy of any software output—AI-driven or otherwise—and be transparent with clients about how those results are obtained. When I worked as a consultant performing petroleum engineering work, I made it a point to explain to clients how I conducted my analyses and what limitations existed, both in the data and in my own engineering ability. That openness has always served me and my clients well.

Final Thoughts

AI will continue to evolve quickly, and the topic of responsible use will remain a moving target. For now, I'd recommend disclosing any use of AI in professional work and triple-checking the results before issuing them under your seal.

And for full disclosure — I had ChatGPT review this article for content, context, and clarity. *I took some of its suggestions, but sometimes the AI output is just not me!*



Byron E. Trust, PE
LAPELS Board

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ENFORCEMENT REPORT

MORGAN GEORGETOWN BOARD INVESTIGATOR



Morgan Georgetown
Board Investigator

UNLICENSED OFFER AND/OR PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING OR LAND SURVEYING:

Structural Design Group, Inc - TN, an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective April 7, 2025 (EF-8040), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and La. R.S. 37:700(A)(1) and (9), to wit LAC 46:LXI§2301(B). Between 2019 and November 2024 the firm admittedly offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services on 8 projects in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$7,500; to pay administrative costs of \$302.92; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter identifying Respondent by name in the Board's official Journal, and the reporting of this matter to NCEES, identifying Respondent by name.

Taylor & Viola Structural Engineers, P.C., Corp, an unlicensed firm which subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm effective March 6, 2025 (EF.8019), was subject to enforcement action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice engineering and using the word or any derivative of the word "engineering" without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. 37:681 and La. R.S. 37:700(A)(1),(7), and (9), to wit LAC Title 46:LXI§2301(B). Between June 2024 and March 6, 2025, the firm admittedly offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services on 1 project in Louisiana. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$3,000; to pay administrative costs of \$472.58; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website and official Journal, and reporting of this matter to NCEES, identifying Respondent by name.

Twin G Consulting, LLC, an unlicensed firm was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for practicing and/or offering to practice land surveying without proper licensure in violation of La. R.S. La. R.S. 37:681 and La. R.S. 37:700(A)(1),(7), and (9), to wit LAC 46:LXI§2301(B). The firm admittedly offered to provide land surveying services in Louisiana without proper licensure. The firm has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein it admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$2,500; to pay administrative costs of \$422.01; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website and official Journal, and reporting of this matter to NCEES, identifying Respondent by name.

MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS:

James S. Tate, P.E., a professional engineer (PE-30056), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for aiding or assisting another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board and for misuse of seals by a licensee in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(6) and (12) and LAC 46:LXI§2701(B) and 2307. Between June 2024 and March 6, 2025, **(a)** Taylor & Viola Structural Engineers, P.C., Corp (an unlicensed firm) admittedly offered to provide engineering services in Louisiana and provided engineering services on approximately 1 project in Louisiana and **(b)** Mr. Tate aided and assisted his firm in the unlicensed practice of and/or offer to practice engineering on 1 project in the state of Louisiana. **(c)** Mr. Tate was an officer and employee of the firm. Mr. Tate has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$2,000; to pay administrative costs of \$472.58; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz with a score of 90% or higher on each; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter identifying Respondent by name in the Board's official Journal, and the reporting of this matter to NCEES, identifying Respondent by name.

Berry L. Veney, Jr., P.E., a professional engineer (PE-32684), was subject to disciplinary action by the Board for **(a)** fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a renewal license with the Board in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1) and **(b)** having been disciplined by the licensing authority of another jurisdiction for matters recognized as grounds for disciplinary action in Louisiana at the time the action was taken in violation of La. R.S. 37:698(A)(7). In December 2024 Mr. Veney was the subject of a disciplinary action by the engineering licensing authority in another jurisdiction for **(a)** aiding and abetting the illegal practice of engineering by a firm, **(b)** affixing his professional engineer seal and signature to engineering work product prepared by another person without having had personal professional knowledge and direct supervisory control and responsibility of the preparation of the work product, **(c)** sealing work outside of his area of competence and offering to provide engineering services through a firm which did not possess a certificate of authority. In January 2025 Mr. Veney submitted to the Board an application to reactivate his expired Louisiana professional engineer license renewal, which falsely stated that he had never been the subject of a disciplinary or enforcement action by the licensing authority in another jurisdiction. Mr. Veney has entered into a Consent Order with the Board, wherein he admitted to the referenced violations of the above laws/rules and agreed to pay a fine of \$5,000; to pay administrative costs of \$1,521.44; to successfully complete the Board's online Louisiana Laws and Rules Quiz and Louisiana Professionalism and Ethics Quiz; to the immediate suspension of his license if he fails to comply with any portion of the Consent Order, with said suspension continuing until he complies; and to the publication of the Consent Order on the Board's website, the printing of a summary of this matter by name in this publication, and the reporting of this matter by name to NCEES.

NEWLY CERTIFIED & LICENSED • JULY 1 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

LAND SURVEYOR INTERNS

Bergeron, Bryan, LSI
Ellingburg, James, LSI
Herpin, Stephen, LSI
LeBoeuf, Drew, LSI
Leonard, Scott, LSI
Macaluso, Mason, LSI
Reyes, Cosme, LSI
Sampognaro, Noah, LSI
Silva, Brandon, LSI
Turner, Nathan, LSI

PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS

Aucoin, Wyatt, PLS
Baggett, David, PLS
Clark, Cody, PLS
Clark, Colton, PLS
Craft, Ryan, PLS
Daniel, Paul, PLS
Davies, Zachary, PLS
Dugger, James, PLS
Hanks, Taren, PLS
Klemm, Victoria, PLS
Lauro, Anthony, PLS
Leonard, Scott, PLS
Michaud, Christopher, PLS
Murphy, Jonathan, PLS
Richardson, Robert, PLS
Rutland, Chris, PLS
Waldner, Matthew, PLS
Yarbrough, Joseph, PLS

SURVEYING FIRMS

Backroads Land Surveying LLC
Ginn Surveying, LLC
SouthCoast Hydrographic &
Land Surveying, LLC

ENGINEER INTERNS

Arnold, Jared, EI
Aucoin, Austin, EI
Awaad, Mohamed, EI
Bajagain, Sandeep, EI
Barden, Michael, EI
Barhorst, Charles, EI
Bartley, Joshua, EI
Benton, Zachary, EI
Bonjorn-Giros, Oxana, EI
Boudreau, Tristan, EI
Boudreaux, Nicholas, EI
Bradford, Evan, EI
Brady, Sophie, EI
Breaux, Kyle, EI
Bueche, Alyssa, EI
Carline, Madison, EI
Chauvin, Joshua, EI
Clark, Dylan, EI
Doiron, Kate, EI
Donner, Elizabeth, EI
Duet, Carter, EI
Evans, Britton, EI
Fain, Matthew, EI
Fitzgerald, Cameron, EI
Franck, Chelsie, EI
Friedman, Emily, EI
Ghobadi, Jalil, EI

Groom, Justice, EI
Harris, Joshua, EI
Harris, Shannon, EI
Hathcock, Madelyn, EI
Hennigan, Matthew, EI
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Iglesias Peña, Jose, EI
Jeha, Jane, EI
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King, Kaeden, EI
Labbe, Noah, EI
Labrie, Benjamin, EI
Landry, Holden, EI
LaPlace, Brooks, EI
Lashley, Dylan, EI
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Ly, Eddie, EI
Mahony, Nathan, EI
Maier, Marysa, EI
Mangum, Vernon, EI
Matthews, Peyton, EI
Metesh, Michaela, EI
Mieczkowski, Joseph, EI
Mogensen, Maria Samantha, EI

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Pontif, John, EI
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Szwak, Samuel, EI
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Trahan, Christopher, EI
Tran, Tyler, EI
Tregaskes, Jackson, EI
Ulloa, Peyton, EI
Vasquez Juarez, Eleana, EI
Vidrine, Jeanne, EI
Vu, Nicholas, EI
Williams, Charles, EI
Woods, John, EI
Zemmer, Zachary, EI

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Aasnes, Cecilia, PE
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Anderson, Robert, PE
Ange, Andre, PE
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Arndt, Turner, PE
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Grim, Tyler, PE
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Jensen, Lars, PE
Jibo, Getnet, PE

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 ADS Engineering, PLLC
 Aggreko, LLC
 Alliance Technical Group, LLC
 Anderson Professional Services, LLC of Kentucky
 Andrew Humphrey Engineering, LLC
 APM Engineering and Design LLC
 Ascend Automation & Controls, LLC
 BOE Consulting Services LLC
 Bollinger Shipyards Lockport, L.L.C.
 BROCO LLC
 Carroll Daniel Engineering, LLC
 CCI Systems, Inc.

CDH Consulting, LLC
 CG Enterprises Holdings, LLC
 CLB Engineering Corporation
 Code Red Consultants LLC
 Collier Consulting, Inc.
 Coria Design Services L.L.C.
 Cupertino Electric, Inc.
 Davey Resource Group, Inc.
 Delta Civil LLC
 DSB Engineering, LLC
 Dudley Engineering LLC
 Duke Industrial Group LLC
 Eckermann Engineering, Inc.
 ENGlobal Automation LLC
 Environmental Air Systems, LLC
 Equilibrium Consulting USA Inc.
 February Engineering LLC
 Greenhouse Engineering LLC
 Gridco, Inc.
 Infrasync Technology Services, LLC
 Jaros, Baum & Bolles Consulting Engineers, LLP
 JCMT Associates, PLLC
 Just Right Engineering, LLC
 Kadre Engineering LLC
 Khachaturian Engineering Associates Inc.
 Krieger, Maines and Vicars Consulting Engineers, LLC
 Laguna Pacific Group, Inc.
 Martenson & Eisele, Inc.
 Matt Childs Engineering, PLLC
 McRae Engineering, Inc.
 On Course Engineers LLC
 Orie2 Engineering Inc.
 Quigg Engineering Inc.
 Roy Engineering LLC
 Schoel Engineering Company, Inc.
 Stratus Team, LLC
 System Engineering and Laboratories Corporation
 Tarantino Engineering Consultants, PC, CORP
 Terradon Corporation
 The Old Mandeville Maison Company LLC
 TK Architects International Inc
 TurnKey Logistics, LLC of Texas
 WT Group AEC, LLC

ENGINEERING VOICES IN THE LEGISLATURE

WHY REPRESENTATION MATTERS



Barker Dirmann
President & CEO
ACEC of Louisiana

As Louisiana approaches the 2027 legislative elections, the American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana (ACECL) is launching an effort to identify and support professional engineers willing to serve in the state legislature. This initiative stems from a simple but powerful truth that laws and regulations affecting the business and practice of engineering are often written and debated by individuals who have never designed a bridge, managed a project, or stamped a set of plans. Out of 144 total state legislators, Representative Foy Gadberry of the Monroe area is the only one who holds a professional engineering license.

Engineers play a critical role in shaping Louisiana's infrastructure, economy, and environmental resilience. Yet, their perspective is underrepresented in the legislative process. Policies governing procurement, indemnification, licensing, and infrastructure funding directly impact how engineers operate, and by extension, how safely, efficiently, and sustainably our communities grow. Without professional engineering voices at the table, well-intentioned legislation can unintentionally create barriers to innovation, efficiency, and fairness in public works delivery.

ACECL recognizes that representation matters not only for the profession but also for the quality of governance. With a large number of legislative seats expected to open due to term limits in 2027, this election cycle presents an unprecedented opportunity to cultivate a new generation of leaders who understand the technical and business realities of engineering. ACECL plans to proactively identify engineers interested in public service, assist in developing strong, community-focused political platforms, and support fundraising efforts necessary to mount credible campaigns.

This effort is not about partisanship; it is about professionalism. Engineers who serve in public office can bring expertise to legislative discussions on infrastructure investment, storm protection, workforce development, and regulatory reform. They can ensure that policy decisions are informed by technical merit and economic pragmatism. Encouraging engineers to run for office is a natural extension of ACECL's mission: to advocate for the business of engineering and protect the integrity of the profession.

Over the next year, ACECL will work closely with members, firms, and industry partners to identify, prepare, and support engineers ready to take on the challenge of public service. When engineers lead, Louisiana builds better, and the future of our state's infrastructure, economy, and communities becomes that much stronger.

ACEC

ACEC OF LOUISIANA AFFILIATE MEMBERS

ACEC Business Insurance Trust	Faulk & Winkler, LLC
ACEC Life/Health Insurance Trust	Foley & Judell, LLP
Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.	Galloway Johnson Tompkins Burr & Smith, LLP
BAR Environmental	Gulf South Technology Solutions
BFM Corporation, LLC	Hannis T. Bourgeois, LLP
Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP	Headlight
Brown & Brown of Louisiana	Insperity
Cadence Insurance	Keogh, Cox & Wilson
CxA Services, LLC	Quality Sitework Materials, Inc.
Deutsch Kerrigan, LLP	Tensar Corporation
ELOS Environmental, LLC	Turner Insurance & Financial Services, LLC
Environmental Technical Sales, Inc.	

REGISTER TODAY!



ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF LOUISIANA

FALL CONFERENCE 2025

NOVEMBER 20, 2025
BATON ROUGE MARRIOTT

LEF UPDATES

Chad A. Bacas, PE
LEF President



Chad A. Bacas, PE
LEF President

LEF Building Sale Progress

Hello everyone, and I hope this message finds you well as we move through the fall months.

I'm pleased to share that we've made significant progress in the sale of the Louisiana Engineering Foundation (LEF) building. After a thorough process of discussions, evaluations, and showings, we received and accepted an offer on the property.

Since it was built in 1998, the Engineering Center has been a cornerstone for Louisiana's professional engineering community. For over 25 years, it has served as a home for the Louisiana Professional Engineer and Land Surveyor (LAPELS) Board, the Louisiana Engineering Society (LES), the Louisiana Engineering Foundation (LEF), the American Council of Engineering Companies – Louisiana (ACECL), the Louisiana Professional Land Surveyors (LSPS), and the Louisiana Board of Professional Geoscientist (LBOPG). We are deeply grateful to all of the supporters, partners, and members who helped build and maintain this facility, and who made it a vibrant hub for our profession.

We've been fortunate to work closely with our real estate partners at Momentum Commercial Real Estate, whose expertise and guidance have been invaluable throughout this process. Their team has helped us navigate each step with professionalism and care, ensuring that the sale aligns with LEF's long-term goals and responsibilities.

As we move toward closing, we remain deeply appreciative of the history and meaning this building holds for our community. Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we take this important next step in LEF's journey.

Additional Updates

We recently formalized a gift agreement between a member of the Louisiana Engineering Society (LES) and the Louisiana Engineering Foundation (LEF) regarding a trust the member has established. Under this agreement, upon the member's passing, funds from the trust will be added to an existing scholarship he has already created with LEF. This arrangement provides a structured and sustainable way to enhance support for engineering students across Louisiana, while serving as a model for future philanthropic collaborations. The scholarship reflects the shared commitment of LES, LEF, and the donor to advancing educational opportunities and building a lasting legacy of impact for aspiring engineers throughout the state. The Louisiana Engineering Foundation continues to expand its scholarship programs and outreach efforts. With over \$500,000 endowed, the foundation is actively supporting future engineers across the state.

Looking Ahead

With the sale now progressing toward closing, our attention turns to ensuring a seamless transition and positioning LEF for continued success beyond this milestone. We'll share additional updates as details are finalized. In the meantime, please feel free to reach out with any questions or to discuss ongoing strategic opportunities.

Thank you for your continued support and collaboration.

SUPPORT ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIPS

Every gift makes a difference in the lives of aspiring engineers. By supporting our scholarship program today, you're helping students access the education, resources, and opportunities they need to succeed. Help shape the future of Louisiana engineering. [Click here to give and make a lasting impact.](#)

LEF

LEF SCHOLARSHIPS

LEF

SCHOLARSHIP NAME	AWARD AMOUNT	SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT
Melissa Young Doucet Memorial Scholarship	\$6,234.00	\$124,680.00
Faschan STEM Scholarship	\$2,500.00	\$50,000.00
James and Margaret Mohr Civil Engineering Scholarship 1	\$1,850.00	\$37,000.00
James and Margaret Mohr Civil Engineering Scholarship 2	\$1,850.00	\$37,000.00
Jack P. MacEachern Memorial Scholarship	\$1,500.00	\$30,000.00
Neil & Sarah Klock Engineering Scholarship	\$1,500.00	\$30,000.00
Linda J. Daly Memorial Scholarship	\$1,325.00	\$26,500.00
Waldemar Nelson Scholarship	\$1,260.00	\$25,200.00
Alexandria Chapter Scholarship	\$1,106.00	\$22,120.00
Albert "Al" J., Jerri H., David Scott Dun Scholarship	\$1,050.00	\$21,000.00
CSRS Scholarship for Minority Student in Civil Engineering	\$1,013.00	\$20,250.00
LES Scholarship	\$1,005.00	\$20,100.00
Albert "Al" Johnson Dunn P.E., PLS Scholarship	\$1,000.00	\$20,000.00
Monroe Chapter 1 Scholarship	\$869.25	\$17,385.00
Monroe Chapter 2 Scholarship	\$869.25	\$17,385.00
Hurricane Katrina Scholarship	\$721.00	\$14,429.50
Hurricane Rita Scholarship	\$721.00	\$14,429.50
Dr. Bobby Price, PE Memorial Professional Engineering Scholarship	\$678.00	\$13,550.00
Bayou Chapter Scholarship	\$625.00	\$12,500.00
Lazenby & Associates, Inc. Scholarship	\$625.00	\$12,500.00
Dr. Thomas S. Leary Engineering Scholarship	\$527.50	\$10,550.00
Baton Rouge Chapter Scholarship	\$520.00	\$10,400.00
New Orleans Chapter Scholarship	\$520.00	\$10,400.00
LEF - Civil Engineering (John A. Hummel) Scholarship	\$518.00	\$10,350.00
Badeaux Engineers Civil Engineering Scholarship-ULL	\$500.00	\$10,000.00
Charles L. Eustis, P.E. Scholarship	\$500.00	\$10,000.00
Domingue, Szabo & Associates, Inc. Civil Engineering Scholarship	\$500.00	\$10,000.00
Ernest P. Breaux Electrical, Inc. Scholarship	\$500.00	\$10,000.00
J. Madison "JM" Drake Scholarship	\$500.00	\$10,000.00
Lafayette Chapter Scholarship	\$500.00	\$10,000.00
Mardia Family Foundation Scholarship	\$500.00	\$10,000.00
The Shaw Group, Inc. Scholarship	\$500.00	\$10,000.00
Vincent Forte Fellowship	\$500.00	\$10,000.00

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

30th Annual JESC

MARCH 4 - 5, 2026

**CAJUNDOME CONVENTION CENTER
444 CAJUNDOME BLVD, LAFAYETTE, LA 70506**

Join us in Lafayette on March 4 & 5 where LES will be hosting the 30th Annual Joint Engineering Societies Conference. This conference is catered to all engineering professionals in Louisiana of any discipline.

Registration Includes:

- Up to 13 PDHs available
- Admission to all seminars & exhibitor area
- Breakfast each day
- Lunch each day
- Legislative Lunch (Wednesday)
- Lunch & Learn (Thursday)
- Exhibitor Meet & Greet (Wednesday) - The Exhibitor Meet & Greet will be a casino night themed event in which attendees have a chance to mingle with exhibitors while enjoying drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Door prizes will be raffled off during the Meet & Greet, in which attendees must be present to win.
- Scavenger Hunt on Day 2 of the conference

Exhibitor, Sponsor & Speaker opportunities are available

For more information, please visit les-state.org



PRESIDENTIAL PRIVILEGE

GAVIN P. GAUTREAU, PE
LES PRESIDENT

LES



Gavin P. Gautreau, PE
LES President 2025-2026

I hope you are well and thriving as we welcome the fall season and some cooler weather.

I would like to share how, on a recent vacation; I was amazed and humbled by the history of ancient civilizations. As engineers, we understand the planning, calculations, and effort required to complete a project. We are also blessed with current technology, information, and advancements in a wide variety of engineering disciplines, often available with just a few taps on a smart device. However, what if we think back to a time before cellphones, computers, calculators, slide rulers, modern

construction equipment, or even the steam engine...?

Early man was lucky to find a meal and a place to sleep. Over time, humans advanced and created communities. Civilizations continued to advance with ever-increasing improvements that led to modern engineering. [Some consider the Egyptian, Imhotep, to be the first engineer with his completion of the Great Pyramids.](#) The Roman Empire furthered Engineering through their expansion across Europe. The Romans advanced transportation with improved roads like the [Appian Way](#), and we continue to advance highway construction with treated base courses, stone layers, concrete pavements, asphalt pavements, and a variety of other innovative products like chemical additives and geosynthetics.

Structural advancements improved with the advent of cement, concrete, and steel to give us skyscrapers, towers, and bridges. Construction of the Tower of Pisa started in the 12th century and finished in the 14th century, but finally, with the help of Geotechnical Engineers, was stabilized, reopened to the public in December 2001, and declared stable for at least another 300 years.[\[29\]](#)

Health and safety improved through advances in water supply, wastewater treatment, and associated equipment (e.g. pipe evolution: cisterns to terracotta pipes, lead pipes, galvanized pipes, cast iron pipes, and now polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and cross-linked polyethylene (PEX) pipes). Advances in farming have allowed humans to spend more time learning, growing, and exploring. Medical advances have extended and improved human lives through pharmaceuticals, techniques, and technology.

Mechanical advances like the steam engine, the combustion engine, and the jet engine have allowed humans to multiply force efforts, traverse the oceans, and fly in the sky. In addition, petrochemical advances have allowed us to master the elements and create plastics for every purpose imaginable...including my 3D printer.

Air Conditioning!!! Thank goodness for air conditioning and refrigeration. We can live more comfortably and preserve food longer. Gladiators once fought in the coliseum, and today's teams compete in the Superdome with air conditioning for enthusiasts. Air conditioning relieved the south from constant heat and humidity.

Computers. I know a few engineers with a sweet leather holsters for their slide rules. That must compare to the Hewlett Packard (HP) 48G calculator, I thought was so great while at LSU. Now, I have a phone app that replicates the same 48G functions. Hooray!!! The invention and advancement of computers and calculators from abacus, log tables, and slide rules has led us to computers with artificial intelligence (AI) and who knows what...in the future.

I note all these advances to point out the need and value of Engineering. As we push the limits of science and Engineering, the Engineers Creed still rings true. The judgement, morality, and ethics of engineers are needed now, more than ever, to protect health, safety, and the public welfare of society.

As Engineers of all disciplines, we use our skills and knowledge as some did in the ancient world. Thankfully today, we have even more tools to counter disease, balance tight schedules and labor issues, increase efficiency, improve safety, optimize the public dollar and resources, and solve current engineering problems. So as we do our part in the story of Engineering, let us find the right balance of pride and humility to promote Professional Engineering, know our limits, and help civilization flourish.

We are blessed to live in the Great United States, specifically Louisiana. Though relatively young compared to Europe and Asia, we have many freedoms and a form of government that allows for Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. So when you go on your next trip, think about the effect that Engineering has on civilization and society, and know that as Engineers, we are part of that legacy. ...and if your friend's titanium knees set off a TSA alarm, know that is thanks to a Biomedical Engineer.

Please consider getting more involved in your local LES Chapter. Attend a meeting, introduce yourself, make a work connection, and help advance Professional Engineering in Louisiana.

[National Society of Professional Engineers \(NSPE\)](#)

NSPE Engineer's Creed (2021)

As a Professional Engineer, I dedicate my professional knowledge to the advancement and betterment of public health, safety, and welfare.

I pledge:

To give the utmost of performance;
To participate in none but honest enterprises;
To live and work according to the highest standards of professional conduct;
To place service before profit, the honor and standing of my profession before personal advantage, and the public welfare above all other considerations.
In humility, I make this pledge.

LES CALENDAR OF EVENTS



[Like us on Facebook!](#)



[Connect with us on LinkedIn!](#)



[Visit our website!](#)

NOVEMBER 2025

3: Honors & Awards nominations deadline
14: Honors & Awards Committee Meeting
14: LES Board Meeting – Baton Rouge, LA
27: LES Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

DECEMBER 2025

24-25: LES Office closed for Christmas holiday
31: LES Office closed for New Year holiday

JANUARY 2026

1: LES Office closed for New Year holiday
15: Deadline for copy, Louisiana Engineer, February issue

LES Vision Statement

The Louisiana Engineering Society is the recognized advocate of all licensed engineers in the state of Louisiana.

LES Mission Statement

The Louisiana Engineering Society serves to advance the engineering profession by:

Encouraging ethical and competent practice through licensure and legislative involvement.

Nurturing public awareness of engineers' contributions to society.

Growing the society through licensure & LES membership and public service.

Recognizing engineering achievements.

LES

Become an LES Sponsor!



Support Louisiana's engineering community while gaining year-round exposure to industry leaders across the state. Your sponsorship helps advance the profession — and puts your brand in front of the engineers shaping Louisiana's future.

[Visit us online to become a sponsor today!](#)



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Metairie, LA
70005
504.322.2783

1056 E. Worthey
Street, Ste. D
Gonzales, LA
70737
225.532.1406

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Alexandria Chapter

Joshua Troy Fontenot, PE Member
Dylan Cole Lashley, El Member *
James Monroe, PE Member
Clay Andrew Ray, III, El Member *
Jodie Marie Roshto, PE Member
Matthew Blake Tassin, PE Member

Baton Rouge Chapter

Mirah N. Assaf, El Member *
Austin B. Aucoin, El Member *
Sandeep Bajagain, El Member *
Juanica D. Banks, PE Member
Michael Clay Barden, El Member *
Charles Stuart Barhorst, El Member *
William Beal, PE Member
Zachary Bridges Benton, El Member *
John B. Craven, PE Member
Chandler Lee Davidson, PE Member
Adam Davis, PE Member
Ryan Christopher deMontluzin, El Member *
Benjamin Ebrahim, PE Member
Joan Ann Elsaleh, PE Member
Emily Nicole Friedman, El Member *
Michael Eugene Gustafson, PE Member
Jacob Scott Hartley, El Member *
Madelyn Yvonne Hathcock, El Member *
Antonio Richard Iennusa, El Member *
Jest Jackson, PE Member
Jane Jeha, El Member *
Miles Isaac Johnson, El Member *
Chien-An Ju, PE Member
Hunter Joseph Kliebert, El Member *
Brooks Evan LaPlace, El Member *
Blake Douglas LeBlanc, PE Member
Andrew Vincent Lemoine, PE Member
Jennifer D. Benoit Mathes, El Member **
Dylan Michael McIntosh, PE Member
Brett McMann, PE Member
Wesley Joseph Melancon, PE Member
Derek Miller, Associate Member
Mark A. Moses, PE Member
Nicholas Robert Mueller, PE Member
Archana Nair, El Member **
Cade Christopher Nelson, PE Member
Joseph Michael Patterson, El Member *
Mohammad Hadizadeh Pirbasti, El Member **
John Michael Pontif, El Member *
Luke A. Posner, PE Member
Chris Erik Pugh, PE Member
Michael David Rader, El Member *
Alaina Marcomb Reed, PE Member
Ethan Joseph Roussel, El Member *
Nicholas Walter Russell, El Member *
Orion Edwin Schupp, V, PE Member
Ruchi Shrestha, El Member **
Haley Marie Stevens, El Member *
Kerryanne Elise Suire, El Member **
Mon Christian Angelo Ballester Tapalla, PE Member
Khalid M. Thalji, Governmental Employee
Bryce Thomas, Associate Member
Connor James Tiersch, PE Member
Levi Vanvalkenburg, PE Member
Matthew Scott Weems, PE Member
Isaac William Wells, PE Member
Bilquis I. Williams, PE Member

Bayou Chapter

Madison Kalise Carline, El Member *
Jeffery Scott Fontenot, PE Member
Luke Michael Hue, El Member *
Emily Claire Kimball, PE Member *
Lane Thomas LeBlanc, PE Member
Kayla Marie Perot, El Member *

Lafayette Chapter

Dr. Mohamed Salah Eldin Esmail Awaad, El Member **
Nicholas Andrew Boudreaux, El Member *
Brennan M. Bourgeois, PE Member
Brennon Eldredge Bourgeois, PE Member
Elizabeth A. Boyd, Associate Member
Kyle James Breaux, El Member *
Jonathan Carmichael, El Member *

John Michael Carroll, PE Member
Joshua Jeux Chauvin, El Member *
Dylan Pierre Clark, El Member *
Garrett Cook, Associate Member
Cameron Jude Cormier, El Member *
Braden Jude Dauphine, El Member *
Emily Jane Delcambre, El Member *
Caleb Patrick Derouselle, PE Member
William John Emblom, PE Member
Matthew Ryan Fain, El Member *
Patrick Lawrence Fenstermaker, PE Member
Cameron James Fitzgerald, El Member *
John Parker Furman, PE Member
Austin Charles Futrell, PE Member
Jace Markeith Guillory, El Member *
Joshua Paul Harris, El Member *
Michelle Johnson, PE Member
Dylan Joseph Kracher, El Member *
Stephen LaRochelle, Associate Member
Dylan Paul Miller, PE Member
Ryan Michael Oubre, PE Member
Caleb Sebastian Pournier, El Member *
Ian J. Ransonet, PE Member
Jasmin M. Remedio, PE Member
Lincoln Richard, Associate Member
Sydney Richard, Associate Member
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Gabrielle L. Romero, El Member *
Mark Schafer, Associate Member
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Nicholas Boyd Simon, El Member *
Cameron Singer, Associate Member
Blake Talbot, PE Member
William C. Thomas, PE Member
Jeanne Marie Vidrine, El Member *
John Cole Woods, El Member *

Lake Charles Chapter

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Donald Stemmans, El Member *
Matthew Ryan Hennigan, El Member **
Christopher Joseph Higginbotham, PE Member
Zachary Morrison Honeycutt, El Member *
Jose Angel Iglesias, El Member **
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Sophie Campbell Knighton, PE Member
Benjamin Labrie, El Member *
Brock Michael LaVerne, El Member *
Ty Cooper LeJeune, PE Member
Caleb Heath Maddox, El Member *
Nicholas Manuel, Associate Member
Emma Grace Rich, El Member *
Wen-Huai Tsao, PE Member

Monroe Chapter

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Ethan Lee Dement, El Member *
Davis Hugh William Floyd, El Member *
Matthew Allen Hein, El Member *
Brandon Kyle Bolen, El Member *
James D. Palmer, PE Member
Hunter Pearce, PE Member
Samuel Foster Pepper, PE Member
Parker Robertson, El Member *
Joseph Murry Smith, PE Member
Mohammad Tarikuzzaman, El Member **

New Orleans Chapter

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Yahya Abdelbaqi, El Member *
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Kyle A. Babin, PE Member
Leaf Aquilla Ballast, PE Member
Rachel Fortin Bancroft, El Member *
Isabel Marina Barrios, PE Member
Bryson Spencer Beard, PE Member
Jeffrey Lee Benjamin, PE Member
Kaleb Bradburn, Associate Member
Sophie Mae Brady, El Member *
Scot Joseph Breaux, Jr., PE Member
Alyssa Gail Bueche, El Member *
Margaret Elise Burkes, El Member *
Anthony James Carleton, PE Member
Marlena Ljubicia Cutura, PE Member
Amanda Clare Darda, El Member *

Peter Anthony DiMarco, El Member **
Kate Elizabeth Doiron, El Member *
Elizabeth Lauren Donner, El Member *
Samuel Evans Dreuil, El Member *
Carter Michael Duet, El Member *
Tyler Ferdinand Falk, PE Member
Benjamin Adam Fanguy, PE Member
Alexander Richmond Riester Favrot, El Member *
William Luc Fontenot, PE Member
Chelsie Elizabeth Franck, El Member *
Richard Graham Guttenberg, PE Member
David Allen Hall, PE Member
Robert "Alan" Harris, Jr., PE Member
Shannon Cypress Harris, El Member *
Kemp Wesley Hartzog, PE Member
Scott James Hebert, PE Member
Luke Paul Hebert, El Member **
Jacob Charles Hogan, El Member *
Allison Leigh James, PE Member
Lars Jensen, III, PE Member
Thomas Fisher John, PE Member
Dan Alexis Johnson, PE Member
Eleana Ninoska Vasquez Juarez, El Member **
Christopher Patrick Kelley, El Member *
Travis Paul Kieff, El Member *
Noah Andre Labbe, El Member *
John Dale Landry, III, El Member *
Grant P. LeBeau, PE Member
Eddie Ly, El Member *
Marysa Taylor Maier, El Member **
Michaela Shaye Metesh, El Member *
Seth Weldon Michael, El Member *
Joseph Henry Mieczkowski, El Member *
Dawson Wayne Millet, El Member *
Weston Lee Mitchell, PE Member
John Maxwell Murret, PE Member
Alex Cameron O'Neil, El Member *
Gabe O'Regan, El Member *
Britton Scott Overby, El Member *
Cleo Alexia Pappas, PE Member
Jacob Michael Paretto, El Member *
Dalton Alec Peneguy, El Member *
Samuel Isaac Pettitt, El Member *
Vernon David Mangum, Jr., El Member **
Katherine Theresa Robinson, El Member *
Chris Rowan, PE Member
Joseph Rene Scandalio, El Member *
Adam Carl Schneppe, PE Member
Alexandria Nicolette Shepard-Davis, El Member *
Andre St. Martin, El Member **
Christopher George Trahan, II, El Member *
Tyler Quang Tran, El Member *
Tony Van Nguyen, El Member **
Nicholas Vu, El Member *
Jingwei Wang, PE Member
Marin Thomas Welch, PE Member
Vincent Edward White, PE Member
Conner Bryan Wick, PE Member
Zachary Alexander Zemmer, El Member *

Non-Resident Chapter

Oxana Bonjorn-Giros, El Member *
John Abraham Campbell, El Member *
Jalil Ghobadi, Ph.D., El Member **
Dr. Ammar Al Maabreh, El Member **
Luke Morazan Meadows, El Member **
Maria Samantha Stone Mogenssen, El Member *
Connor Regard, El Member *
Alejandro Yiu Kuen Leon Wong, El Member **
Joseph Unger, PE Member

Shreveport Chapter

Daniel Amire, PE Member
Will Bagley, Associate Member
Britton Dee Evans, Jr., El Member *
James Thomas Lentz, III, PE Member
Lynsey Alexandra Mhire, PE Member
Ethan Johnye Parks, PE Member
Kevin Eugene Parnell, El Member *
Garrett James Petro, El Member *
Jeron Rogers, PE Member
Samuel Joseph Szwak, El Member *

*Denotes members under 30

**Denotes members over 30

LOUISIANA CAPITOL VIEW

FROM HAYNIE AND ASSOCIATES

Governor Calls Special Legislative Session

Governor Jeff Landry has officially called the Louisiana Legislature into a Special Session beginning at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 23, which may run through November 13, 2025.

The stated purpose of this session is to address adjustments to next year's election schedule, prompted by ongoing legal challenges to the state's congressional redistricting map.

While this session is not expected to concern LES clients or engineering-related issues, Haynie & Associates will continue to monitor proceedings at the Capitol for any developments that could indirectly impact the profession or state agencies.

Redistricting in the National Spotlight

This month, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the high-profile case over Louisiana's congressional voting map, a dispute that has significant implications for how the state's six congressional districts are drawn.

The Court's decision—expected later this year—could influence future elections and how federal voting protections are interpreted nationwide.

Looking ahead to the 2026 session

The 2026 Regular Legislative Session will convene on March 9, 2026, and it will be a general session — meaning legislators may file an unlimited number of general subject matter bills, with the only restriction being that fiscal issues such as taxes and appropriations are off-limits.

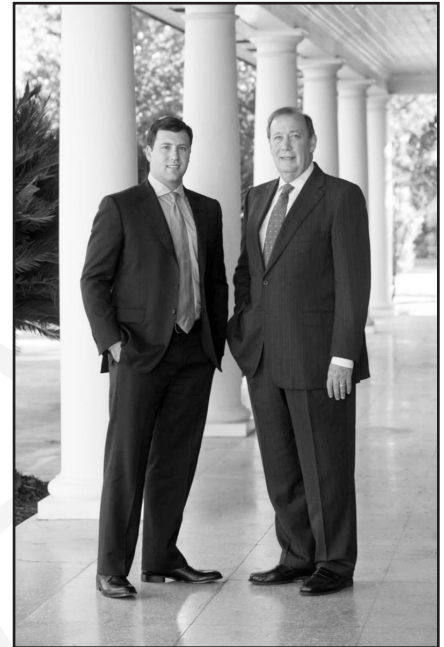
Because this is the final general session before the 2027 limited fiscal session and the fall 2027 statewide elections, lawmakers are expected to bring forward a heavier-than-usual bill load. Many will use this window to advance major or politically sensitive proposals that are more difficult to consider during fiscal years or campaign seasons.

LES anticipates that this will result in a busy and wide-ranging session, with could produce legislation potentially impacting engineering practice, public works, and professional licensure.

Now is the time for LES members to engage early:

- Connect with your legislators to share the engineering community's priorities.
- Offer guidance on policy areas that affect infrastructure safety, flood protection, and project delivery.
- Stay informed as prefilings begin and committee agendas start to take shape early next year.

Early communication and collaboration between professional associations will also help ensure that Louisiana's engineers remain a trusted and informed voice when the Legislature convenes in March.



Ryan Haynie and Randy Haynie
Haynie and Associates

LES

Since 1980, Haynie & Associates has been a leader in Louisiana lobbying and government relations. With proven skills, established credibility, and unfailing integrity, we consistently deliver success for our clients.

Randy Haynie
President
randy@haynie.com

Ryan Haynie
Vice-President
ryan@haynie.com

Haynie & Associates
P.O. Box 44032
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

CHAPTER UPDATES

LES

Baton Rouge Chapter

Laurence Lambert, PE, PTOE, PTP

The Louisiana Engineering Society - Baton Rouge Chapter kicked off the fall season with an engaging luncheon featuring former U.S. Representative Garret Graves. Attendees were treated to a thoughtful discussion on infrastructure policy, federal funding opportunities, and the evolving role of engineers in shaping Louisiana's future. Graves' insights and candid Q&A session sparked meaningful conversations among members and highlighted the importance of engineering leadership in public service.

We welcomed members at our most recent luncheon on Thursday, October 30, at Mike Anderson's Restaurant in Baton Rouge. The featured speaker was Eric Dauphine from the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD), who introduced the newly established Office of Project Delivery. This initiative aims to streamline project execution and enhance collaboration across engineering disciplines.

In addition to professional development events, LES hosted its annual Skeet Shoot on Friday, October 17. This popular event offered a fun and informal opportunity for members to connect, compete, and enjoy the outdoors.

LES is also proud to support STEM education in the Baton Rouge area. Applications are now being accepted for STEM grants aimed at empowering local schools to develop innovative science, technology, engineering, and math programs. Educators and administrators are encouraged to apply.

As always, LES remains committed to fostering professional growth, community engagement, and educational outreach. [Stay connected with us through our website](#) and social media channels for updates on upcoming events and opportunities.



Laurence Lambert, PE, PTOE, PTP
Baton Rouge Chapter President

Lake Charles Chapter

Kalyn Partin, PE

As we move into the end of the calendar year, the LES Lake Charles Chapter would like to thank all our members for their continued engagement and support. The past few months have been both informative and inspiring, with a strong lineup of speakers who shared their time and expertise with us.

In August, we welcomed Ted Thompson, PE, who delivered an engaging presentation on engineering ethics, providing valuable insights and reminders relevant to our professional responsibilities.

In September, Dr. Nikos Kiritsis offered an in-depth McNeese State University update, highlighting ongoing initiatives and developments within the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

In October, representatives from the Calcasieu Parish Engineering Department joined us to discuss current and upcoming infrastructure projects, giving members a closer look at the work shaping our local community.

As a reminder, LES Lake Charles will not meet in November or December as we take our usual holiday break. Regular meetings will resume in January, and we look forward to another great year of learning, networking, and professional growth.

Wishing all our members a safe, restful, and happy holiday season!



Kalyn Partin, PE
Lake Charles Chapter President

CHAPTER UPDATES

Monroe Chapter

Noah Sampognaro, PE

We kicked off the 2025–2026 year with our first chapter meeting on September 11, where we had the pleasure of hearing from Corey May with Nexus Land and Timber Solutions. Corey presented on Navigating Endangered Species Regulations and how they affect project planning and development. As engineers, we often view environmental studies as project delays and don't always see the value they bring. Corey's presentation was a great reminder of why it's important to address environmental constraints on the front end and gave us a better understanding of some of the common endangered species found here in northeast Louisiana.



Noah Sampognaro, PE
Monroe Chapter President

Also in September, we wrapped up our annual sponsorship campaign, which was once again a huge success. I want to thank everyone who supported our chapter this year through sponsorship. These contributions go directly toward funding our two endowed scholarships for Louisiana Tech College of Engineering students. Applications opened September 1 for these scholarships, and recipients will be selected this coming spring.

Our October 9th meeting took us out of our usual location at the Monroe Civic Center and over to the Monroe Water Treatment Plant, where members had the chance to tour the brand new facility and see firsthand how the City of Monroe treats and delivers clean water to our community. We owe a big thank you to Sean Benton, Nathan Morris, and all the Water Treatment Plant staff for taking the time to host us and put together a great presentation and tour.

After the tour, I was visiting with some of the staff, and one of them joked that they usually only give tours to school-age kids and that engineers might be the only adults just as excited to learn how water gets treated. He said it was a nice change of pace having an older crowd, but added, "Y'all asked way more questions than the kids ever do. I could tell immediately y'all were engineers." The feedback from members was overwhelmingly positive, and I've already had several folks ask where our next "field trip" will be; so, I guess I better start working on that!

Our next chapter meeting will be held on November 13, where we'll hear from T.J. Stokes, P.E. with T. Baker Smith. He'll be presenting on Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE), a topic that's becoming increasingly important as underground utilities get more congested. I know I'm not the only one who wishes SUE fit into the budget on every project.

We're also excited to welcome Gavin Gautreau, P.E., LES State President, and Mary Claire Ruckert, LES Executive Director, to Monroe for this meeting. It's always great when we get to host our state leadership, and we hope to see all our members there. If you've been meaning to make it to a meeting, this is a great one to come to!

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CHAPTER UPDATES

New Orleans Chapter

Eric R. Wright, PE

The New Orleans Chapter has had a successful start to this year. I'm proud to say that we have had a great blend so far of both professionals and students attending our meeting, and we are looking forward to continuing to establish student chapters at Tulane and UNO.

We held our first meeting in September in which Ryan Foster, Director of Engineering at the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East, gave a presentation on Management, Coordination, and Operation of New Orleans Flood Risk Reduction System during a Hurricane or Storm Event. The presentation was a great depiction of our system and how New Orleans reacts to a storm event.

October was a very busy and exciting month for the New Orleans Chapter. For our October meeting, Mark Drewes, Director of Public Works for Jefferson Parish, gave a presentation on how Jefferson Parish improvement projects are done from conception to implementation. Later in the month we also participated in a joint professional social with ASCE, SAME, APWA, CMAA, ACI, WTS, and US Green Building Council. On October 31st, we held our 17th annual golf tournament at Lakewood Golf Club. The proceeds of the tournament will allow us to help fund the local MATHCOUNTS competition, the FIRST Robotics competition, and award several scholarships to local engineering college students.

We have our meetings in November and December already lined up, so please keep on the lookout for email announcements coming soon. For information on all our upcoming events for the entire 2025-2026 season, please go to our website at: <https://neworleanschapter.les-state.org>



Eric R. Wright, PE
New Orleans Chapter President

Shreveport Chapter

Luke Haney, PE

The new LES year in Shreveport is off to a solid start. We've had two successful luncheons so far with great turnout and engagement, and I want to thank everyone who's made the effort to attend and stay involved.

Our first meeting on September 10 featured SWEPCO, who gave an insightful presentation on upcoming design standards for subdivision utility placement and coordination. It was a timely topic with a lot of practical value for anyone working in site design or infrastructure planning.

On October 1, we hosted a luncheon titled "What Contractors Wish Engineers Knew," which turned into one of the most interactive sessions we've had in a while. A panel of local contractors discussed common engineering pitfalls and shared their perspective on how better communication and clearer plans can make jobs go smoother for everyone involved. It was a straightforward, honest conversation between both sides of a construction project.

Looking ahead, our next luncheon will be on November 12, covering Digital Twins—interactive 3D models of structures and assets that can be used to improve maintenance, management, and long-term tracking of infrastructure through its lifecycle. It's an exciting topic that ties directly into where our industry is headed with data-driven design and asset management.

I'm also pleased to report that our sponsorship campaign was a big success this year. We had over 20 sponsors commit support for the Shreveport Chapter's 2025–2026 cycle. Those contributions will help fund our luncheons, the upcoming Christmas Social (details to follow soon), and the MATHCOUNTS competition in January 2026. Thank you to all who sponsored and to those who helped make it happen.

We hope to keep the momentum going as we close out the year. Join us at our next luncheon and learn more about the local engineering community!



Luke Haney, PE
Shreveport Chapter President

PLEASE CONSIDER A MATHCOUNTS DONATION TO LES!

The MATHCOUNTS program offers hundreds of junior high students a two-part workout to strengthen their numerical know-how and polish their polynomial pride. MATHCOUNTS, a nationwide math coaching competition program, encourages and prepares students to pursue mathematics in high school and beyond by making the subject as fun and exciting as a school sports event.

The MATHCOUNTS program starts in September with the free distribution of MATHCOUNTS "coaching" materials to math teachers nationwide. Materials focus on problem-solving, analytical thinking, exploration, and teamwork. Next, throughout the fall teachers use the prepared "warmups" and "workouts" as supplement classroom material or as an extracurricular activity to spark seventh and eighth graders' interest and achievement in math.

MATHCOUNTS really gets underway in February with local competitions around the state. Winning teams and individuals then progress to the State-level competition held in March. The top students from the state-level competition will finally progress to the national-level competition in May.

The MATHCOUNTS Foundation expects 350,000 students to take part in MATHCOUNTS this year. Since the program began in 1983, over three million students have participated in MATHCOUNTS coaching and competition.

Today's children need every opportunity to achieve in math to succeed in the new economy. MATHCOUNTS not only engages students in creative approaches to learning mathematics but also **helps to create tomorrow's problem-solvers in all areas of society. Help make MATHCOUNTS available to more students in this new school year! Please consider contributing to this worthy program. Remember, contributions are tax deductible.**

For more information about MATHCOUNTS or to obtain a free school coaching kit, contact Mary Claire Ruckert at the Louisiana Engineering Society at (225) 924-2021 or maryclaire@les-state.org.

2026 Competition Dates

Chapter: February 1 – 28, 2026

State: March 27, 2026

National: May 10 – 11, 2026

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Who we are:

Since 1898 LES has been the flag bearer for the licensure and professional practice of engineering in Louisiana. The Society represents the individual Engineer in all technical disciplines and all occupational areas of practice, including construction, education, government, industry, and private practice. Our organization is dedicated to the continuous advancement of the professional engineer by:

- Encouraging engineers to elevate their skills, competencies, and ethics
- Upholding that the health, safety, and welfare of the public are best served when engineering work is performed by or under the supervision of a professional engineer
- Supporting and promoting high standards for engineering education
- Recognizing engineering achievements and academic scholarships
- Contributing services to the public and the profession
- Advocating professional registration of all engineers

What we do:

Through our eight chapters in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Bayou, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe, New Orleans, and Shreveport, LES exemplifies its long-term legacy and commitment to our state by providing:

- Recommends appointments for 9 of the 11 LAPELS Board members
- Best legislative lobbyist in Louisiana tracking legislative bills for the Society
- Two Annual Conferences for members to acquire multiple PDHs and further education Host multiple 8-hour seminars to help members gain Life Safety Code & ADA compliance Appointment of two LES members to the State's Facility Planning and Control Engineering Selection Board
- Recognize members' accomplishments by awarding up to 8 annual awards
- Offer On Demand Recorded Webinars for members to help meet PDH requirements Provides excellent networking opportunities Publishes The Louisiana Engineer & Surveyor Journal quarterly
- LES Members get a discounted rate for all LES conferences and seminars both live and virtual Provide Leadership Opportunities by serving on State Board, Chapters' Boards, and State Committees
- Provide scholarships for college students studying engineering
- Sponsors state level & participates in national level MATHCOUNTS Competitions