



ASCE®

American Society of Civil Engineers

SHREVEPORT BRANCH

August 2006 Issue

President's Message

By Elba Hamilton, E.I.



I cannot believe that almost three years has passed since I moved from Dallas. I have been working in Shreveport for a little over two years now and how time does fly when you are having a great time! I am excited about the opportunity that I have to lead you as your Branch president. Dallas being the larger city, the opportunities to lead in a position like this so soon in a career are not as great, but I am looking forward to the challenge. As an active ASCE member since college at LSU, ASCE has always been a part of my engineering career wherever I've gone. However, a couple of years ago when my boss asked if I would be willing to volunteer as an ASCE officer, I thought it was a little premature for me. I had been at work for only a month, but I obviously had to comply. I took the challenge and I have not regretted one minute of it. I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet and learn from many of you, and I have seen your commitment to

the profession, community and ASCE.

It will be my honor and privilege to serve as your president this year. Throughout the year, at my right hand, will be a great group of officers that will help me especially during the first months when I will be adding yet another activity to my suddenly hectic schedule-I'll be a mom! For those of you that do not know, my husband and I will be expecting our firstborn in early August. I am looking forward to this year and will leave you with a brief summary of what the Branch has been doing for the last three months.

The Branch hosted the traditional golf tournament, The Spring Classic, at Southern Trace Country Club on May 8th.

Throughout the afternoon, Branch members and guests enjoyed a great time of visiting, eating the country buffet, and playing golf. Winners this year included: Fenner Consulting –

First Place, Raley and Associates – Second Place, and Balar – Third Place. On behalf of the Branch, I would like to thank all who sponsored and participated in this year's tournament. Special thanks goes to Rusty Cooper for planning and organizing this outstanding event.

During the luncheon, Section Treasurer Ali Mustapha installed the new officers that will start leading the Branch in September. Our president, Ashley Sears, missed the tournament this year because of the birth of her beautiful baby girl, Stahley Madeline Sears. Congratulations Ashley! I would also like to welcome our new officer Cody Goodwin, who will serve as our branch secretary.

In May, we also had the opportunity to do outreach to elementary school students in the area. Responding to an invitation made by Waskom Elementary School in Waskom, Texas, I was

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Next Monthly Meeting

... **Date:** **Wednesday, September 20, 2006**

... **Time:** **11:45 am**

... **Location:** **University Club**

... **Speaker:** **TBA - It will be a joint ASCE/LES meeting.**

... **Cost:** **\$15.00**

PLEASE RSVP to Rusty Cooper at rcooper@alliance-ae.com or call at 318.221.7501



able to represent the Branch by speaking to the school's third grade class about civil engineering. Thirty children listened to a brief presentation on what civil engineers do, looked at pictures of different engineering marvels around the world, and participated in an activity. Using materials provided from ASCE nationals and the Zoom into Engineering program, the kids tried to build the tallest tower they could out of newspaper. Limited to only two sheets of newspaper, a ruler, and fifteen minutes to come up with their design, the children had to build a tower that had to stand for at least 30 seconds without falling over. The children then each wrote essays about what they had learned from the lecture and activity, and also included very sweet thank you notes to me. It was highly rewarding experience to introduce children to our great profession. Though we do not know if any of the

children will make civil engineering a profession, we hope that they now have some idea of what they can expect from the engineering field. Unlike in other years when activities start winding down during the summer, the Shreveport Branch still runs at full steam. The officers met together in June for strategic planning for the upcoming year. The officers have even started to talk about the Spring Conference that the Shreveport Branch will be hosting next year. Younger Member representative, Sai Eddanapudi, is already planning our traditional fall canned food drive.

The officers will be trying to keep the membership in touch during the long summer break through presentations of ASCE web-seminars. We had a great response from our membership for the first series that took place in July. This seminar was *On-Site Circulation and Access Design for Commercial Developments*.

I would like to thank Jarred Corbell for organizing this event and Alliance, Inc. for offering their conference room for the presentation.

I hope you have a great summer and I hope to see everyone at the next Branch membership meeting on September 20th. Please refer to your newsletter for more information on the next meeting and branch news.



Anyone interested in participating in the Outreach Program please contact Elba Hamilton at ehamilton@afjmc.com.



Barbara Featherston was honored by ASCE and named an Extraordinary Engineer!

Member of the Month Barbara Featherston, P.E., D.E.E.

By Cody Goodwin, E.I.,
L.S.I.

Barbara was honored by ASCE earlier this year for being published in the new book [Changing our World: True Stories of Women Engineers](#). The Publication celebrates the contributions of women engineers of all ages and backgrounds. The book won the 2006 Design and Effectiveness Award in the Illustrated Text category from the Washington Book Publishers and tells the untold story of extraordinary women who serve as role models in engineering. Barbara has served ASCE

greatly. She currently is on the Nominating Committee Chair for Louisiana Section Committees for ASCE.

Barbara is currently employed with Camp Dresser & McKee Inc. (CDM), a consulting, engineering, construction and operations firm in Shreveport, Louisiana.

A special thanks and congratulations to Barbara for being such an outstanding leader in the Engineering profession.



Younger Members

By Sairam Eddanapudi, E.I.,
Younger Member Chair

This year, we are going to try a few new things to encourage participation among our younger members. We are planning extra activities and with your help, I believe we can make these activities a success for everyone. We will try to hold bi-weekly "Happy Hours" for those who want to kick back after a long day and just relax. Look in this section of the newsletter in the up-coming months for times and locations for these "Happy Hours." It will be a good way to meet and get to know everyone better.



Sai, Younger Member Committee Chair, "stylin and profilin" at the ASCE Golf Tournament

ASCE Web Seminars

By Jarred Corbell, E.I.,
Treasurer

Our branch tried a little something different last month. The first Web Seminar of possibly many was conducted. It was a success but also a learning experience to make future events better for professional development. The Web Seminars are very informative and also give us time to get to know one another better. We

would like to thank those who attended, and we look forward to greater attendance in the future. Refer to the upcoming Web Seminars below for future offerings. We would also like to thank Alliance Inc. for allowing us to use their conference room and those who made this event possible. Please contact me if you have a special interest in one or more of the upcoming Web Seminars. The seminars will not be conducted unless feedback is received from you.



Contact information:
jcorbell@afjmc.com or
318-425-7452.

Upcoming Web Seminars

Renovations of Pre-Engineered Buildings, Tuesday August 8th from 11:00am - 12:00pm

Intersection Design and Channelization, Tuesday September 12th from 11:00am - 12:30pm

Renovations of Slabs on Grade, Tuesday August 29th from 11:00am - 12:00pm

Design of Brick Veneer Systems, Thursday September 21st from 11:00am - 12:00pm

Signalized Intersection Safety, Thursday September 7th from 11:00am - 12:30pm

"The seminars will not be conducted unless feedback is received from you!"

Welcome NEW MEMBERS!

- Michael Falcon—American Testing Lab
- Fred Hall—Arco Builders Inc.
- Michael Baumert—LATech
- Frederick Lindy—FBL & Associates
- Clay James—Meyer, Meyer, LaCroix and Hixon
- Daniel Thompson—AFJMc
- John Irving—Construction Testing Lab

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Don't miss an Opportunity to be Heard.

Voting members have the opportunity to shape the direction of the Society. Log onto www.asce.org and look for the logo to vote on the new governance structure. Deadline to vote is August 14 at 4:00pm EDT.

Please send your correct e-mail address to Cody Goodwin at his address on page 6. We cannot deliver your notices and newsletters if we do not have your correct address.





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"ASCE Shreveport News" is the official publication of the ASCE Shreveport Branch, which is the professional society for civil engineers in northern Louisiana. It is affiliated with the ASCE Louisiana Section and ASCE which are the state and national professional civil engineering societies.

"ASCE Shreveport News" is published ten times a year (August—May). Any suggestions or comments on the format or content are welcome. News on members, the Section or the profession should be submitted to the Branch Secretary.

2006 Spring Classic Golf Tournament

By Rusty Cooper, E.I.

The Shreveport Branch ASCE would like to thank everyone who participated in and sponsored our Annual ASCE Spring Classic Golf Tournament. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to the following

Winners:

- 1st Fenner Consulting
- 2nd Raley and Associates
- 3rd BALAR

Longest Drive (Hole #9)

Alan Lyles with FBL and Associates

Closest to the Hole (Hole #4)

Eric Hudson with Alliance Inc.
(Too Little Too Late, Sorry Eric)

(Hole #16) David Murphy



Rusty Cooper, E.I.,
President Elect

A SPECIAL THANKS TO DON RAZINSKY AT
RIDGWAYS FOR PRINTING, FOLDING AND
DISTRIBUTING OUR NEWSLETTER FOR FREE!



Mr. Ed Elberson, Principal of Somdal Associates in Shreveport and member of the Fenner Consulting team that came in first place