



Action

NEWS

Volume 10 Number 1

A Publication of Louisiana AGC

Spring 2010

Louisiana AGC Installs 2010 Officers

Contractor Clint Graham, Lincoln Builders of Ruston, Inc., was recently installed as President of the Louisiana Associated General Contractors, Inc., a statewide construction trade association headquartered in Baton Rouge comprising nearly 800 construction businesses.

Clint Graham has been with Lincoln Builders since 1989. Lincoln Builders, Inc. is a full-service general contracting, construction management, and design/build firm headquartered in Ruston, Louisiana with regional operations in Ruston, Louisiana, Fort Worth, Texas and Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Lincoln's diverse experience includes educational, health care, religious, institutional, commercial and industrial. Established in 1962 with a vision to build a respected contracting

firm committed to superior client service, Lincoln Builders today holds to that vision by remaining firmly rooted in the values that make us strong – honesty, excellence, fairness and integrity.

Graham is actively involved in the Louisiana AGC, having served on the board and various committees. In addition, he is also a member of the Young Presidents' Organization. He is married to Kim of 23 years and has three children.

Other officers of Louisiana AGC serving in 2010 are Senior Vice President **Harvey Bessette**, Bessette Development Corp., Lake Charles; Vice President **Kelly Commander**, Command Construction Industries, LLC, Metairie; Treasurer **Vic**



2010 Board Officers Left to right: Senior Vice President Harvey Bessette; Vice President Kelly Commander; President Clint Graham; Treasurer Vic Weston

Weston, Tri-State Road Boring, Inc., Baton Rouge; Immediate Past President **Bruce Hix**, James Construction Group, LLC, Baton Rouge.

Critical Issues Summit Another Success

Louisiana AGC co-hosted the Construction Critical Issues Summit January 14-15 at the New Orleans Marriott at the Convention Center. Approximately 150 contractors, architects, and engineers attended the two-day meeting. For the past two years, LAGC has co-hosted this event with the American Institute of Architects of Louisiana and the American Council of Engineering Companies of Louisiana.

Guest speakers included U.S. Senator David Vitter; State Senator Jack Donahue; Chief Economist AGC of America, Ken Simonson; Jared Hueter, Priestley School of Architecture & Construction; Sherri LeBas, DOTD Secretary; Colonel Alvin B. Lee, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; John Davis, Director, Office of Facility Planning & Control; Chris Williams, Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration; Chief Dan Wallis and Don Zeringue, Fire Marshal's

Office; Norbert Crabtree, Horne L.L.P.

A LEED panel included representatives with AIA and the U.S. Green Building Council of LA. An informative legal session moderated by LAGC Legal Counsel Russ Wray, Wray & Pierce L.L.P., included LAGC members Steven Loeb, Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P.; Daniel Lund III, Shields Mott Lund L.L.P.; and Denise Puente, Simon, Peragine, Smith & Redfearn, L.L.P.

Thank you to all speakers and panelists for contributing to the success of our program. Thank you also to the following sponsors who made this event possible: James Construction Group, LLC;

Letterman's Blue Print & Supply Co.; Trinity Highway Products; and Wray & Pierce, L.L.P.



Russ Wray (Wray & Pierce L.L.P.) pictured with member Daniel Lund III (Shields Mott Lund L.L.P.)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Clint Graham

The mission of LAGC is to be the voice of the Louisiana construction industry. To be a voice that is listened to, LAGC must have members who do more than pay dues. While dues are necessary to pay the bills, participation is the real key to the success of any organization. Whether you are a general contractor member or an associate member, through your involvement, you can make a difference.

Membership Is More Than Paying Dues

As the economic climate is deteriorating, businesses are constantly evaluating where they invest their time and money and which investment will bring the biggest gain. By investing in LAGC, you are investing in the future of the Louisiana construction industry.

Membership participation is the key to the success of our legislative efforts and LAGC cannot be effective without feedback and support from its members concerning issues. We must continue to educate and inform our legislative leaders about the effects of their decisions on our business. No matter what business you are in, or what size you are, you can have a positive impact on the decisions made at the capitol.

As the old saying goes "What you give, you get, ten times over." LAGC provides many opportunities for its members to participate and contribute to the betterment of our business environment. The list of events is long:

district meetings, golf tournaments, critical issues summit, summer conference, seminars, etc., to name a few. By attending meetings and functions, you will gain valuable knowledge and build relationships that will certainly enable you to be more profitable in all accounts.

As Theodore Roosevelt once said, "Every man owes a part of his time and money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has a moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions within his sphere." This is our association. Please show your support by being involved.



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

by Ken Naquin

There's a saying, "The only things that are new today are those that we did not heed yesterday." That can be said for what we, at LAGC, see occurring today within the Louisiana construction industry. Right, wrong or otherwise, there's a new dynamic we see that may or may not be healthy for our industry.

North, south, east or west... building, highway, utility, or heavy... large and small. We are seeing more public bids

New Dynamic Working Within Industry

challenged by other bidders than the low bidder, each and every day. LAGC is not casting judgement as to the challenger, but by the sheer volume of calls we receive from bidders, it is more than ever before. We have received inquiries from as far down as the seventh bidder as to the validity of those below them. Too, many calls are from the low bidder themselves inquiring as to "can we do this," and "what happens if." In discussing this phenomenon with several LAGC associate member law firms, they too see the same trends.

Again, we are not judging the validity of the calls. But we have to ask, why this trend? Is it the design professional and/or public owner lack of detail with their bid documents? Is it a combination of any or all three? Certainly, the construction market is down in Louisiana from last year. And by all indicators, it will continue to decline throughout 2010 and 2011. We do anticipate a rebound by mid-2012. However, the industry has experienced market downturns before.

Who in the industry does not remember the 1980's. We just do not recall that there was such conditions that fostered the challenges we see today.

The creation and implementation of the standard big form was supposed to make the public bid process, in a word, easier. Getting the design community and local governments to recognize the bid form and to limit what a bidder is to submit with their bid, has been a nightmare. LAGC has contacted and asked the AIA of Louisiana, the ACECL of Louisiana, the Louisiana Municipal Association and the Police Jury Association to announce the standard bid form. Some have and some have not. We even asked for their mail list so that LAGC could make that announcement ourselves and have done so. Much to our consternation, few have either bothered to read the announcement or received notices from their respective associations. Because of this, many

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Dynamic

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challenges we see today stem from those design professionals and public owners that continue to require items with the bid that are not allowed in the standard bid form. Daily, LAGC staff is contacting designers and owners that ignore the standard bid form. In one recent instance, LAGC contacted a public owner and its consultant engineer, that project specifications were requiring items not allowed by the standard bid form. Both claimed ignorance as to the law and agreed to issue an addenda that would address the problem. Addenda came out, addressed our concerns, and then added two more bid requirements not allowed. Bids were taken and of course challenged. Let me add, that the Louisiana Supreme Court ruled many years ago, that if such requirements that are not challenged before bids are taken, they can not be challenged after bids are taken.

Whenever LAGC staff receives a call regarding challenges before bids are taken, we will 100% of the time contact the design professional and/or public owner. Most times we are successful. When we receive calls regarding challenges post bid, we will inform the member of what the law allows and/or disallows. We will contact the designer and/or public owner if the issue is not between two LAGC members. We will not get between two LAGC members, no matter the issue. As the construction market continues to free-fall and the standard bid form confusion remains, we at LAGC expect more calls for challenges to bid specifications and the bids themselves.

Summer Conference

Reminder, this year's summer conference will be held July 7 – 11, 2010 at the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa in Destin, FL. Be on the lookout for registration information in the coming weeks. If you would like to take advantage of our sponsorship opportunities or would like to help support the LAGC Construction Industry PAC by donating an auction item, please contact Kristy Smith at kristys@lagc.org or 225-344-0432.

NAWIC Block Kids Building Program

The Baton Rouge chapter of the National Association of Women in Construction held the annual Block Kids Building Program competition on February 19th at the Mount Carmel Baptist Church of Baton Rouge. Over twenty Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts participated in the contest.

The Block-Kids Building Program is a national building program competition that is sponsored on the local level by NAWIC chapters and other organizations. The award-winning program introduces children to the construction industry in an effort to create an awareness of and to promote an interest in future careers in one of the many facets of the industry. The program is open to all elementary school children in grades 1-6. The competition involves the construction of various structures with interlocking blocks and three of the following additional items: A small rock, string, foil and poster board. Local winners advance to Regional Competition and one semifinalist from each region is entered in the National Program competitions. National prizes are awarded to the top three projects.

The National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) was formed in 1953 and is dedicated to the advancement of women in the construction industry. To find out how you can get involved, please visit www.nawic.org.

LSU Scholarship Awards

Four LSU construction management students received LAGC scholarship awards for the Spring 2010 semester. Louisiana AGC congratulates Amanda Cobb, Joseph Yenni, Michael Galasso, and John Abbate.



Congressional Voting Records

While at the AGC of America Convention March 17 - 20, LAGC picked up the following information regarding our Congressional Delegation and how they vote on AGCA issues.

Sen. Landrieu (D) 60%
Sen. Vitter (R) 81%
Rep. Alexander (R) 79%
Rep. Boustany (R) 65%
Rep. Cao (R) 60%
Rep. Cassidy (R) 80%
Rep. Fleming (R) 60%
Rep. Melacon (D) 78%
Rep. Scalise (R) 43%

Issues included, but not limited to, health care, stimulus, climate change, highway funding, jobs bill, death tax, PLAs, and 3% withholding. For a further breakdown of specific votes, contact LAGC.

Member News

Barriere Construction Co., LLC recently earned the National Asphalt Pavement Association's Diamond Quality Commendation on their Franklinton Plant Hot-Mix Asphalt Facility (pictured below). Earning the Commendation exemplifies the idea of a blueprint for excellence to the pavement material that is produced. Louisiana AGC congratulates Barriere Construction Co. on this honor.



LAGC congratulates longtime member **Buquet & LeBlanc, Inc.** in celebrating its 65th anniversary in 2010.



LAGC congratulates **Hannis T. Bourgeois, LLP**, LAGC's CPA firm, on celebrating its 85th year of excellence.

Louisiana AGC congratulates **Boh Brothers Construction Co.**, who was recognized as one of only 15 Build America winners at the 2010 AGC of America Convention held in March. The AGC/Aon Build America awards honor AGC members who build the nation's most impressive construction



projects ranging across the building, highway and transportation, municipal and utilities, and federal and heavy divisions. Known as the construction industry's "Oscars," the Build America Awards recognize the highest achievements in construction for state-of-the-art advancement, project management, innovation in construction techniques or materials, safety record, client service, community relations, and environmental sensitivity. Boh Brothers Construction Co. was recognized for building the USACE Harvey Canal Sector Gate Complex in Harvey, Louisiana.

After several design changes, this U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project became a cast-in-place structure, requiring three cofferdams, one on each side of the canal, and a third in the center that joined the halves into one structure roughly the size of a football field. Boh Bros. fabricated the 36', 27.5' tall sector gates in its New Orleans yard, transported the 120-ton gates by barge and lifted them into their final location. During construction, Boh devised and utilized a floating bridge comprised of barges in order to provide access for

material delivery to the work being performed in the Harvey Canal. The gate structure was constructed exclusively from floating plants. The entire contract was constructed within the limits of the heavily trafficked Harvey Canal, which was shut down only to complete the construction of the concrete sill in the middle of the gate structure. The tight schedule, limited access, and constantly changing scope of the project mandated careful planning, constant communication, and exceptional project management. Boh crews worked over 380,000 man-hours and completed the project with no recordable accidents.



Boh Brothers Construction Co. accepts its Build America Award at the 2010 AGC of America Convention held in March.

Did You Know?

The LAGC Baton Rouge district sells statewide plan copies. Members receive special member pricing. Contact Andrea at 225-344-0432 to order your plans today.

April is Safe Digging Month

Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal recently proclaimed April Safe Digging Month. A few days later the US Senate declared April National Safe Digging Month, voting out the resolution by unanimous consent.



The month of April is dedicated to increasing awareness of safe digging practices in Louisiana and across the country, and it commemorates the three-year anniversary of 811, the national call-before-you-dig number.

Louisiana One Call encourages safe digging statewide in a variety of ways, including thousands of radio and TV commercials, advertising in print and on the internet, and appearances and presentations by David Frey, damage prevention manager. Member pipelines and utilities also spread the word using direct mail and marker signs as well as advertising.

LA One Call would like to thank everyone who dials 811 before they dig, waits 48 hours, respects the marks and digs with care.

Staff Members Recognized

Congratulations to Steve Terrill, Alexandria, Monroe and Northwest District Manager for 15 years of service with Louisiana AGC. Congratulations also to Rhonda Flemister, Monroe plan room supervisor, for 5 years with LAGC.



President Clint Graham presents area manager Steve Terrill with his 15-year certificate

Division Reports

Building/Industrial Division

LAGC has worked with the Office of Facility Planning & Control on two issues – no Ethics ruling on whether a contractor for a public entity is a public servant and whether a contractor can bid work to a public entity if a relative works for the design professional working for that entity.

The Office of Facility Planning & Control will now check every bid bond to ensure that it is legal representative of a surety licensed to write in Louisiana.

Flood Protection / Coastal Restoration

LAGC recently sent members the letting schedule for the Corps of Engineers and the Office of Coastal Restoration. The COE is looking at almost 100 projects totaling \$3 billion for the year, and the Coastal Restoration is looking at \$500 million in projects for 2010.

LAGC met and opposed the OCR&P proposal to do best value approach of award. They will continue with the low bid statute.

Highway / Heavy Division

LAGC met and offered assistance to the acting DOTD Secretary, Sherri LeBas.

DOTD DBE Task Force is finalizing the procedure for electronically submitting the DBE data to DOTD. This would have to be done within the 10-day period and paperwork before execution of contract. The same process as that of Good Faith Efforts.

Municipal - Utilities Division

LAGC met with the Louisiana One Call Board regarding the citing of excavators for not complying with the One Call Law. State Police has increased activity in this area and will continue to do so. Excavators can be fined for NOT calling for a locate, for excavating within the 48-hour mark by time, for excavating beyond the 120-hour mark by time, and not generating a new call.

Louisiana One Call proposed changing the law to include as a violation any damage to underground utilities. LAGC opposed this, as all accidents/damages

are not the result of a violation. They have pulled the proposal.

Events

April 8.....Baton Rouge Crawfish Boil

April 15....Lake Charles Crawfish Boil

April 19....Thurman Potts / AGC Scholarship Golf Tournament

April 23....Lafayette Crawfish Boil

April 29....New Orleans Crawfish Boil

April 30....Alexandria Crawfish Boil

May 14.....Lafayette Golf Tournament

July 7-11...LAGC Summer Conference



2010 President Clint Graham presents 2008-2009 President Bruce Hix with chapter award

Chapter Achievement Award

At the 2010 AGC of America Convention, LAGC received a chapter achievement award for its 100% board participation in the AGC Political Action Committee.

The Chapter Board Contest is an annual competition giving chapters a way to involve their Board of Directors and increase support for AGC PAC. The Chapters with 100% board participation receive an award and special recognition at the AGC National Convention. The AGC PAC is an essential part of our legislative influence on Capitol Hill.

Only eighteen out of thirty-three participating chapters received this award.

These Things Considered: The Uniform Bid Form

The economy is a paramount concern these days keeping many of us up at night. The Governor is pushing state agencies to economize in anticipation of a \$3 billion drop in state revenue. This is not the time for state government in Louisiana (or elsewhere) to waste taxpayer dollars in procurement of public works. The Public Bid Law is designed and intended to obtain the best price for public work through open competitive bidding, and to avoid fraud and favoritism at taxpayer expense. Competitive bidding depends upon the scope of work as well as the terms and conditions being uniform for all bidders, the price being the sole distinguishing factor. Uniformity is critical to the competition.

When the economy turns sour, the number of bidders on public projects dramatically increases, and invariably, bid disputes erupt. During the economic downturn in the early 1980's, the Public Bid Law was amended in La. R.S. 38:2212 A(1)(b) to quell bid disputes and provide a bright-line rule to preclude waiver of bidding errors that could allow for mischief by public officials. Let's face it, bid disputes are costly to all parties involved, not the least of whom is the taxpayer.

Over the 25 years since it was first enacted in 1984, Section 2212 A(1)(b) has been clarified several times, most recently in 2001. Currently, it provides:

"The provisions and requirement of this Section, those stated in the advertisement for bids, and those required on the bid form shall not be waived by any entity."

During that time, several appellate courts continued to employ the traditional substance vs. form analysis to allow waiver despite the clear language of La. R.S. 38:2212 A(1)(b). The ability to waive minor errors allowed public agencies spending taxpayer dollars to pick and choose the "low bidder" who was not always the least expensive choice for the work.

After many writ applications were

denied, the Louisiana Supreme Court, in 2005, granted writs in Hamp's Construction, L.L.C. v. City of New Orleans, 2005-0489 (La. 2/22/06), 924 So.2d 104. In that case, the bidder at issue merely failed to attach a copy of the invitation to the bid form, an error that under the law prior to La. R.S. 38:2212 A(1)(b), would not only have been waivable, but would not likely have been just cause to reject the bid. Thus, the issue of the proper scope of interpretation of La. R.S. 38:2212 A(1)(b) was squarely before the court in Hamp's. The High Court in Hamp's, quoting from their 2004 decision in Broadmoor, L.L.C. v. Ernest N. Morial New Orleans Exhibition Hall Authority, 2004-0211 (La. 3/18/04), 867 So.2d 651, said:

Thus, we reaffirm that language from the majority opinion in Broadmoor and hold that La. R.S. 38:2212A(1)(b) mandates that "when a public entity elects to place certain requirements in its advertisement for bids and on its bid forms, that entity is bound by those requirements and may not choose to waive them at a later date." As stated by Justice Weimer in his dissent in Broadmoor:

This prohibition against waiver furthers the public interest because it expressly prevents a public entity from specifying certain requirements in a bid and later changing those requirements to accept alternate or substitute proposals. In this sense, the law severely curtails the discretion of the public entity, thereby **insuring a level playing field** for all bidders and a fair and equitable means by which competing bids might be evaluated to determine the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. One bidder cannot be provided with an advantage over another bidder due to a waiver.

The court concluded that: "the most recent amendment to the statute serves to emphasize that these requirements cannot be waived under any

circumstances, regardless of whether they could be considered as informalities. Accordingly, the public entity should not include any requirements in its advertisement for bids or bid form that it considers insignificant or waivable, because once included, these requirements are nonwaivable as a matter of law." Hamp's Construction, L.L.C. v. City of New Orleans, 2005-0489 (La. 2/22/06), 924 So.2d 104.

So now what? Bidders were given the "level playing field" they wanted but in the form of an unyielding rule requiring rejection of their bid for **any error** on the bid form. Rejected bidders were upset and some didn't see the big picture. Moreover, the lowest prices offered were lost in favor of a higher bidder sometimes due to technical errors. In response, the legislature passed an amendment to La. R.S. 38:2212 in 2009 to make the bid form uniform for all public works, and instructed the Division of Administration to promulgate a uniform bid form. The bid form on all public works can now include only:

"Bid Security or Bid Bond, Acknowledgment of Addenda, Base Bid, Alternates, Bid Total, Signature of Bidder, Name, Title and Address of Bidder, Name of Firm or Joint Venture, Corporate Resolution and Louisiana Contractors License Number, and on public works projects where unit prices are utilized, a section on the bid form where the unit price utilized in the bid shall be set forth." La. R.S. 38:2212 A(ii)(aa).

All other information requested is to be supplied at a later time by the bidder (which includes such things as DBE forms, financial information, and the non-collusive affidavit, etc.). The uniform bid form was officially promulgated August 20, 2009. The purpose is to simplify the process and minimize the opportunity for errors requiring rejection of the bid.

Despite that, public agencies have continued to impermissibly require other information with the bid form. The

Uniform Bid Form Cont.

Division of Administration itself has done so, and other public entities for various reasons have also done so. This leaves an unresolved issue as to whether doing so invalidates the process and requires all bids be rejected. The better solution is to treat the bid form (which forms parts of the contract) much like a statutory bond. Whatever extra that has been added is read out. La. R.S. 38:2216 M provides:

Any term, provision, or condition of any contract for public works which is contrary to or in violation of the provisions of the Public Bid Law, Chapter 10 of this Title, is against public policy and shall be invalid and unenforceable. When a contract contains a provision which is invalid and unenforceable under this Subsection, that provision shall be severed from the other provisions of the contract and the fact that the provision is void and unenforceable shall not affect the other provisions of the contract.

Thus, errors in extraneous forms should not be grounds for rejection based upon La. R.S. 38:2212 A(1)(b), under the Hamp's standard.

The courts and the industry will continue to grapple with these issues and, despite the legislature's best efforts to do away with bid disputes, such disputes continue today. Courts will also need time to accept that the legislature said what they meant and apply the law as written.

Russel W. Wray is a partner in the firm of **Wray & Pierce, L.L.P.**, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Questions or comments can be directed to Mr. Wray at P. O. Box 3238, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-3238, telephone (225) 334-9200, fax (225) 334-9288; and email: russwray@wraylaw.com. See also the firm's website at www.wraylaw.com.

Alexandria District

At the District's first quarterly meeting of 2010, Elton Pody (President) and Rick Ranson (Vice President of Economic Development), both with the Central Louisiana Chamber of Commerce, served as guest speakers. Mr. Pody recapped the Chamber's recent visit to Capitol Hill, while Mr. Ranson discussed the efforts of the Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance.

Baton Rouge District

The Baton Rouge district has been working with the East Baton Rouge Parish Department of Public Works regarding the issue of payment of stored materials. By policy, DPW treats each project individually and the payment of stored materials is very inconsistent.

LAGC is also working with the city to shorten the payment time for contractors.

Lafayette District

Lafayette will be hosting **Unit 6 of the Supervisory Training Program: Understanding and Managing Project Costs** on April 15-16 and April 30. The program is designed to meet the specific needs of the construction professional. Topics include: Introduction to Understanding and Managing Project Costs, Construction Estimates, Reporting and Analyzing Actual Costs, Planning for Cost Control, Cost Control Strategies, Labor Cost Variances, Managing Risk and Loss Potentials, Working with Project Partners and Post-Project Evaluations. The course will be held at the Lafayette AGC office. To register, visit www.lagc.org/seminars.

The district, along with the Lafayette Area Utility Coordination Council, will be hosting the **10th Annual "Diggers Night Out"** safety program on April 22, 2010. The event will be held at River Oaks Conference Center in Lafayette. For more information, contact the Lafayette office at 337-232-1501.

The Lafayette District's 21st Annual Charity Golf Tournament will

be held Friday, May 14 at Acadian Hills Country Club in Lafayette. This year's beneficiaries are the Family Promise of Acadiana and the Lafayette District Scholarship Fund.



The Lafayette district hosted a joint construction issues meeting with AIA, ASCE and CSI on April 6, 2010 at Don's Seafood & Steakhouse Downtown.

Russell Wray, Louisiana AGC Legal Counsel, moderated a panel discussion with construction industry leaders and attendees. The panel focused on issues such as; Louisiana Public Bid Laws (i.e.) Lien Laws, Uniform Bid Form; Alternative Delivery Methods, Plan Review, Plan Services, Codes and Lafayette Parish School Board's policy issues & much more. Industry panel members included: Russell Wray, LAGC Legal Counsel (Wray & Pierce L.L.P.); H. "Butch" Browning, Louisiana State Fire Marshall; Robert "Popie" Builleaud, J B Mouton Inc; Paul Lemaire, Corne-Lemaire Group; and Tom Carroll, Lafayette Consolidated Government.



AROUND THE STATE. . .

Traffic Control Class Held

A Traffic Control Supervisor certification class was held March 12 - 13 at the AGC office in Baton Rouge. Glen Eggers served as instructor for the course. Fifty-two participated in this two-day class.



Lake Charles District

The district will host **Unit 5 of the Supervisory Training Program: Planning and Scheduling** on April 26 - June 28. (Monday evenings only.) Topics covered in this session include: Intro to Planning and Scheduling, Using the Schedule on the Jobsite, Preparing the Project Plan, Updating the Construction Schedule, Communicating the Plan, The Schedule as Documentation, The Critical Path, Using Planning and Scheduling and Computer Scheduling I and II. The class will be held at Sowela Technical Community College in Lake Charles. For more information, visit www.lagc.org/seminars.

Representatives from the **Calcasieu Parish School Board** recently attended the Lake Charles District's March membership meeting to promote the school board's upcoming \$49 million construction bond issue. Construction Manager Harold Heath stated that board members felt it was important to receive AGC contractors' support.

The **11th Annual AGC Charity Sporting Clay Shoot** was held November 13, 2009 at the Lake Charles Gun Club. Proceeds went to Children's Miracle Network of St. Patrick Hospital and the Southwest LA Chapter Autism Society of America. Approximately \$5,000 was raised to support these two local charities.

Thanks to all those who came out to support our charities and especially those sponsors who made this event possible.

Monroe District

Charles Monroe, Director of Maintenance for the Monroe City Schools, served as guest speaker at the first quarterly district meeting of the year. He discussed several upcoming construction projects planned by the school district. School Board President **Mickey Traweek** was also in attendance and spoke about the funding for these projects.

The **Monroe Diggers Night Out** was held Thursday, April 1st on the ULM campus. This was the area's 9th annual event, promoting excavation safety.

The **Thurman Potts -AGC Scholarship Golf Tournament** is scheduled for Monday, April 19th at Calvert Crossing Golf Club in Calhoun. This annual event funds the largest scholarship at ULM's School of Construction Management. It



also funds other scholarships for construction students at both ULM and Louisiana Tech.



New Orleans District

Prior to the New Orleans Mayor's election, LAGC, in conjunction with GNOCTF, hosted a meeting with then candidate Mitch Landrieu to address industry concerns; more specifically to address issues that create challenges when working with/for the City of New Orleans. There was a commitment made by Mitch Landrieu and members of the contracting community to work together on all matters of concern. To honor that commitment, Mayor-Elect Landrieu appointed four LAGC members to his Transition Task Force. The following LAGC members graciously accepted to serve on the respective sub-committees: **Robert S. Boh** - City Contracting and DBE Sub-committee

Pat Gootee - Education Committee

Kelly Commander - City Contracting and Professional Services Sub-committee

Paul Flowers - Building A Green New Orleans Sub-committee

The New Orleans District held its Executive Committee Meeting at the **Priestley School of Architecture and Construction** in February. After the meeting, they received a guided tour from students who have participated in the Construction/Agricultural program. In the meeting with the Priestley staff, the district found out the construction program is suffering from a lack of supplies, advisors, mentorships and an internship program. As in the past, the proceeds from the New Orleans District Golf Tournament are donated to Priestley School. In addition, the district is organizing efforts to allow members to donate excess materials and welcoming any time members can donate to serve in the roles of advisors or mentors.

Jefferson Parish has approved an ordinance to penalize contractors who knowingly engaged in unethical activities with employees and Jefferson Parish officials. **Councilman-at-large John Young** will explain this new ordinance at our Second Quarterly District Meeting. The time, date and location of the next district meeting will be announced. There is a similar ordinance in Orleans Parish that we are closely monitoring.

The New Orleans and Baton Rouge Districts will host a **joint golf**

tournament. Time, date, and location to be announced. Kelly Commander will serve as Chairperson.

The District is continuing efforts to improve working relationships with St. Bernard Parish, starting to see headway in receiving payments in Orleans Parish, and closely monitoring the bid practices in Jefferson Parish.

Northwest District

DOTD District 04 Administrator John Sanders served as guest speaker for the Northwest District's first quarterly meeting of the year. This has become an annual visit between Mr. Sanders and the District membership. He discussed ongoing and upcoming work in northwest Louisiana.

Area manager, Steve Terrill served on a **DOTD Interview Committee** in February, for the position of Assistant District Administrator - Business for District 04.

On April 16-17, the **CSI Gulf States Regional Leadership Conference** is being held in Shreveport. There will be a conference and a products exhibition at the downtown Hilton Hotel in Shreveport. CSI Chapters from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee will be participating.

Need More Space?

Louisiana AGC has meeting space available exclusively for members in three locations.

Baton Rouge AGC Office

225-344-0432

Classroom -

Accommodates 60

Board Room -

Accommodates 20

Library - Accommodates 6



Lafayette AGC Office

337-232-1501

Classroom - Accommodates 30

Board Room - Accommodates 14

Monroe AGC Office

318-387-1982

Classroom - Accommodates 35

Please note that rooms are based on availability and must be reserved in advance by calling.





Associate Member Highlight

Attorneys

New Orleans	Adams & Reese, LLP	(504) 585-0291
Baton Rouge	Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson	(225) 387-4000
Baton Rouge	Carleton Dunlap Olinde Moore & Bohman	(225) 282-0615
Baton Rouge	Chaffe, McCall, LLP	(225) 922-4300
New Orleans	Chaffe, McCall, LLP	(504) 585-7011
New Orleans	Coats/Rose	(504) 299-3073
Baton Rouge	Craig L. Kaster & Associates, LLC	(225) 658-5450
New Orleans	Deutsch Kerrigan & Stiles, L.L.P.	(504) 593-0605
New Orleans	Hulse & Wanek	(504) 524-6221
Baton Rouge	Kean Miller Law Firm	(225) 382-3417
Baton Rouge	Kracht & Frazier, LLP	(225) 293-4568
New Orleans	McCranie Sistrunk Anzelmo Hardy Maxwell & McDaniel PC	(504) 831-0946
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Monroe	IESI Waste Services	(318) 651-0404
Alexandria	Interface Security Systems	(318) 445-0364
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Lake Charles	OMi Crane Systems	(337) 222-9679
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Monroe	Rowton Masonry	(318) 644-2690
New Orleans	Supreme Integrated Tech	(504) 464-0528
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LAGC/McGraw Hill Construction Dodge Plan Room Locations

Louisiana AGC is proud to have partnered with McGraw-Hill Construction Dodge on their respective paper and electronic plan room activities. The following is a list of paper plan rooms around the state.

Alexandria

3622 Government Street
Alexandria, LA 71302
318-445-1466
318-445-1467 fax

Baton Rouge

666 North Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225-387-5820
225-387-8746 fax

Lafayette

150 Industrial Parkway
Lafayette, LA 70508
337-232-1501
337-232-1502 fax

Lake Charles

120 W. Pujo St., Suite 202
Lake Charles, LA 70601
337-439-9003
337-439-4477 fax

Monroe/Northwest

807 Hudson Lane
Monroe, LA 71201-5520
318-387-1982
318-387-1983 fax

New Orleans

2475 Canal St, Suite 101
New Orleans, LA 70119
504-821-3370
504-821-3464 fax

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