



Baton Rouge Newsletter

Year 28, Number 6

www.aiche-br.org

February 1, 2018

February Meeting	2
Recap of January dinner meeting	2
Call for nominations for Coates Award	2
From the Chapter Chair's Pen	3
Recap of 6 th Annual LSU-Industry Panel	4
2018 Section Contacts	6

The *AIChE Baton Rouge Newsletter* is published monthly, from September to June, by the AIChE Baton Rouge Section, 110 Chemical Engineering, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. It is distributed free of charge to members of the Baton Rouge Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Membership Fee: \$15.00/yr.

February Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 1st, 2018

Place: Sammy's Grill, 16400 Airline Highway, Prairieville (East of Highland Road)

Topic: *Carbon Usage in Chemical Processes*

Agenda: 5:30 – Registration and Social
6:00 -- Dinner
6:15 – Speaker

Speaker: **Bill Zavora**, Calgon Carbon

Menu: Starters: Shrimp & Corn Soup or Sensation Salad. Entrée: Hamburger steak, or Crawfish Etoufee, or Pepper Jack Chicken. Mashed potatoes and green beans. Or Vegetarian dish: Pasta Primavera (specify with reservation). Water, soft drinks.

Cost: \$25 per person (\$20 AIChE members, \$10 students)

RESERVATIONS

Please make your reservation with chapter secretary, Chelsea Bourdon, **by 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 27** at CBourdon@Hargrove-EPC.com

No reservations required. Bring a friend.

Professional Engineering Certification

The subject of this meeting is an acceptable activity for continuing Professional Development as defined by LAPELS and is **approved for one (1) PDH unit**.

The Baton Rouge AIChE chapter is NOT responsible for individual record keeping of PDH credits. Certificates must be obtained at the meeting by the individual.

Other Upcoming 2018 Events / Speakers

Mar 15 Chemical Engineering presentation on First Steamboat in History. Highland Road Community Park, 14024 Highland Road, Rooms 2 and 3, Baton Rouge.

If you or your colleague(s) would like to give a technical presentation at an upcoming chapter meeting for 2 professional development hours (PDHs), please contact Chapter Chair, Donna Bryant, at Donna.Bryant@Syngenta.com to schedule a meeting date and time.

Recap of the January Meeting



The speaker at the January meeting was Brian Kimbrough of Louisiana Steam Equipment Company. Brian started with a tutorial on the thermodynamics of steam and detailed the applications of saturated steam for heating and superheated steam for driving turbines. He then described the operation of five different types of steam traps, thermostatic (bellows), float and thermostatic, inverted bucket, disc trap and bi-metal, explaining their operation and the advantages and disadvantages of each type. He then discussed shell-and-tube heat exchangers and the use of strainers on the steam lines ahead of the control valves to remove dirt from the steam. He described the phenomenon of exchanger stall due to flooding caused by backpressure in the condensate line. Everyone enjoyed the Chinese buffet.

Coates Memorial Award— Call for Nominations

The deadline for nominations for the Coates Award is February 15. If you would like to nominate one of your colleagues please contact Vishal Vora, Vishal.Vora@BASF.com. A member of the Baton Rouge AIChE Section should get the award this year.

The award is given for contributions to the profession, the society, and the community. The nominator must obtain three letters of support from individuals familiar with the nominee's activities in each of the three areas, one letter for each area. A letter summarizing these activities and the nominee's résumé are the other items in the nomination package.

Deadline for Dinner Meeting Flood Victims Exemptions

Since the 2016 flood the Section has granted flood victims exemptions from paying the cost of the monthly dinner meetings. The Executive Committee voted to end the exemptions after June 30, 2018.

If your world doesn't allow you to dream, move to one where you can.

--Billy Joel

From the Chapter Chair's Pen

Snow fell in Baton Rouge in January before it did in Boston or Moscow, Idaho this year! Hard to believe, but the truth. We definitely had to see all of the snowmen it to believe it. During this time of ice and snow, it made me reflect on the overall infrastructure of the Louisiana roads. Growing up in Virginia, I had always taken for granted the fact that most of the roads were not bridges, and thus warmed to an extent by the ground during freezing temperatures. Bridges and overpasses were an outlier there, not the other way around. This is definitely not the case here, where if you don't pass over at least 5 bridges or overpasses on your way home from work, you are lucky. While states north of us can always poke fun at us for not being able to handle the cold weather, the fact of the matter is that our road infrastructure isn't meant to handle the ice well at all. Salting might help, but think of the amount of salt we would need!

Like the roads, many of the chemical plants and houses here in Louisiana are not built to handle freezing temperatures for multiple days. Like many of you, my January was filled with activities of fixing busted water lines as temperatures finally increased as well as reminding unit personnel and myself to be extra careful while walking around the unit or even blocking off certain areas due to ice. This is an experience I will forever remember!

Thankfully, it appears that the weather is finally warming up and with it a lot of the AIChE Baton Rouge Chapter functions. The next of which is a section meeting on carbon from Calgon Carbon on March 1st . In this session, Bill Zavora, will be going over how carbon is made for process use, and the overall general design of liquid and vapor services that use carbon. We will be having our March meeting, shortly after that on March 15th about the history and application of chemical engineering on steam engines. I hope to see you at these meetings.

Sincerely,

Donna Bryant, 2018 Chair



Recap of the 6th Annual LSU-Industry Panel



On Thursday, February 1st, our chapter hosted our annual industry panel with the LSU AIChE chapter in the recently-renovated Patrick F. Taylor Hall on the LSU campus. 10 panel members convened for, and about 40 students listened to, a great discussion of career insights and the many doors that chemical engineering opens after enjoying some pizza and soft drinks provided by the LSU chapter. The students then wasted no time shortly after 6:15 PM to ask the panel multiple questions: How do you decide to pursue a career in academia over industry or vice-versa? How much do chemical engineers earn for a living? How has the work place environment changed over the years?

Responses to those and other questions led to an engaging and introspective conversation with many quotable moments. For example, as moderator, I asked the panel, “What mistakes are new grads in your field expected to make? Which of them are forgivable and which are not?” Perhaps unsurprisingly, the panel unanimously agreed that understanding and demonstrating your company’s safety culture is a key aspect to learn quickly, for making a blatant mistake in it can easily be an unforgivable one.

By 7:45 PM, the evening concluded with an exciting buzz in the air from everyone, as some happily stuck around to network and continue to get some panelists’ feedback. Impressions from the panelists were positive, as chapter member John Rockwell noted, “It brings fresh breath and insight into my career.” With anticipation for the next young-professionals-oriented event in April already on the horizon, the Baton Rouge chapter would like to thank and acknowledge all of this year’s panelists for their participation:

- **Daniel Candler** – *Unit Process Engineer* (Syngenta)
- **Dr. James Dorman** – *Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering* (LSU)
- **Erick Flores, E.I.T.** – *Process Engineer* (Hargrove Engineers)
- **Jessica Gilbert, E.I.T.** – *Process Engineer* (Wink Engineering)
- **Dr. Aubrey Heath** – *Process Engineer* (G. R. Stucker & Associates, Inc.)
- **Jimmy Orr, P.E.** – *Process Engineer V* (Jacobs Engineering)
- **Stephen Reilly, P.E.** – *Principal Product Engineer* (Emerson Automation Solutions)
- **John Rockwell, P.E.** – *Chemist* (Almatis Burnside, LLC)
- **Freddie Smith, E.I.T.** – *Process Engineer* (Chevron)
- **Mayanna Stroup, E.I.T.** – *Senior Engineer* (Maverick Technologies)

Stephen Reilly

150 years



We create chemistry



2018 Section Contacts

Officers

Chair: Donna Bryant, Donna.Bryant@Syngenta.com
Vice Chair: Vishal Vora, VVVora@Gmail.com
Secretary: Chelsea Bourdon, CBourdon@Hargrove-EPC.com
Treasurer: Jimmy Orr, Jimmy.Orr@Jacobs.com

Executive Committee Members

Glenn Bryson BGBryson@BellSouth.net
Noel Ricord LCNoel55@aol.com
Armand Melikyan AMelikyan@Hargrove-EPC.com
William Buck William.Buck@WinkEngr.com
W. Clark Snyder WClarkSnyder@hotmail.com

Committees

Awards: Dal Dalferes, Joseph.Dalferes@jacobs.com
Communications: Brandon Lithgoe, BLithgoe@Yahoo.com
Education: Erick Flores, EFlore5@LSU.edu
High School Grants: W. Clark Snyder, WClarkSnyder@hotmail.com
Membership: Glenn Bryson, BGBryson@BellSouth.net
Newsletter: Armando Corripio, Corripio@LSU.edu
Nominations: Noel Ricord, LCNoel55@aol.com
Professional Development: Randy Goodman, Randy.Goodman@LA.gov
Seminars: Armand Melikyan, Armand_Melikyan@hotmail.com
Sponsorship: Stephen Reilly, Stephen.Reilly@emerson.com

Why Should You Join the Local AIChE Chapter?

1. It is a welcoming presence to new chemical engineers in the area.
2. It provides a neutral ground mentorship toward career directions and other life topics.
3. It facilitates a better understanding of local, state, and federal policies related to our professions.
4. It offers a smooth transition for graduating chemical engineers from LSU, ULL, and other nearby universities who start working in the area.

