



SAABE TIMES

A publication of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers

April 2016

Mark Your Calendar

JOIN US FOR OUR APRIL MEETING!

The next General Membership Meeting of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers is set for 11:30 am on **THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2016** at the University United Methodist Church located at 5084 DeZavala Road.

Heat & Treat will be presenting on QuantumFlo Booster Pumps.

RSVPs are due no later than FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH, 2016. YOU MUST RSVP, OUR NEW VENUE CANNOT ACCOMMODATE WALK-INS.

If you must cancel your attendance, please email Britney Brantley at saabetx@gmail.com BY **MONDAY March 21st AT 5:00PM** so we can cancel your meal. Cancellations received after this time will still be invoiced.

RSVPs are REQUIRED, so we can be sure to have enough meals on hand!

Many thanks to our Vendor Sponsors!

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Engineer Spotlight

by Jeff Turov

Dwayne Putney

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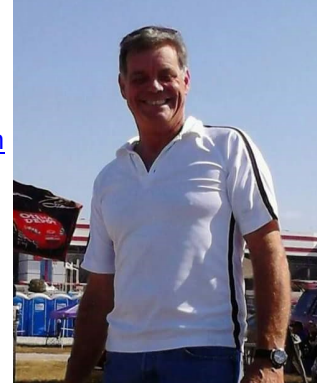
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Tell us about yourself?

I started in this field in 1989 as the youngest Chief Engineer ever in the Embassy Suites franchise. In the first year my team took the building out of default with franchise committee and saved over \$22,000 in energy cost. The next job I held was managing the maintenance, repair and construction of 35 Wendy's restaurants in the central Texas market. Later, I was hired to supervise the mechanical side of the construction of the \$17,000,000 Hard Rock Café downtown. The bulk of my experience came from 10 years of commercial, industrial and office building work as a hands-on HVAC and refrigeration technician. I owned my own business from 2003 to 2010 combining spray foam insulation and mechanical design creating the most energy efficient buildings in Texas. I now combine my experience to bring my clients solutions in the HVAC and building automation fields.

Give us your perspective of this organization as a board member.

As a SAABE member I'm fairly new with 6 years in the organization. This being my first year as our Vendor Representative, I find myself impressed by the dedication and professionalism of our fellow board members. Our organization has put a lot into motion to solidify SAABE as a registered nonprofit organization. Hats off to John and Britney for all their hard work in bringing this to fruition in the coming months. SAABE plans to move forward with our venue change for the general meetings and luncheon, will be depending on all members to be diligent with your RSVPs!!!

Continued on page 3

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Above the Ceiling

by Paul Thompson, SAABE President

Shields Up!

Captain Picard and Captain Kirk both knew that when trouble was coming (usually from the Klingons and Romulans) that the first command was always "Shields up!" While we may not normally have photon torpedoes to worry about, a lightning strike is still capable of doing some serious damage, especially to all things electrical. Likewise, while none of my buildings has ever sustained a phasor barrage, we have been through a hail storm or two (once, while motoring across Montana, mi familia survived softball sized hail!) And don't get me started on high winds!

If you crack open your memory banks, you may remember that it was about this time last year when we had a long-term onslaught of some really unsettled weather. From seriously high winds and tornadoes touching down to hail to end of the world style lightning strikes with rain that would keep Noah up at night, it was a year to remember. In addition to the tree that fell in my driveway, there was some damage to overcome at work; we also spent some time and effort trying to figure out how to avoid it in the future. This included:

- Hail guards on all our RTU and split system condensers. Stout, painted expanded metal easy to wash coils through, not a friend to hail.
- Grounding. We went through all major pieces of equipment along with the building main switchgears and corrected all grounding issues to bring up to code. Surprisingly, quite a few were found and corrected.
- Uninterrupted Power Supplies. All existing UPS had batteries checked (and replaced as needed); additional UPS were added to critical stuff (Building Automation Systems, etc.).
- Lightning protection. On one building, it was found that the RTU's were not bonded to the lightning arrestors; this was fixed.
- Backing up of Building Automation Systems, etc. If yours got zapped right now, could you back it up?
- Surge Protective Devices (SPD's; formerly Transient Voltage Surge Suppressors TVSS for short). These are the innocuous looking boxes with the three green lights you may have seen near your switchgear. Their job is to take any high-voltage spike to ground, protecting the downstream equipment (while sometimes sacrificing themselves). CPS recommends a layered approach; ours are at the building mains with secondary SPD's covering each of the big roof top units.
- Low voltage lines. One thing that surprised me was that a high voltage spike may well attack through your low voltage (phone/data) lines. We had an electrical contractor experienced in this inspect everything; this led to getting both AT&T and Time Warner come out to correct some grounding and surge suppressor issues.

- Loss of Phase protection. This is a device which is designed to take any connected three phase load (typically motors) off-line in the event of an electrical loss of phase and prevent damage. Whether the LOP occurs through CPS lines or is due to an internal fuse blowing, the result is the same and something you'd probably rather avoid.

While this list is fairly extensive, I'm sure there are things you would add. And it goes without saying that you better make sure that your roof is up to the task. But, even having done all of the above, I still don't know how to guard against a rift in the time-space continuum...

Beam me up Scottie.

Spotlight, cont'd.

Family/children?

I was blessed to be the oldest of six children growing up Northern New Hampshire. This taught me a true sense of community, accepting responsibility in surviving in this harsh and beautiful environment. I have two older children Brittany and Anthony. Anthony followed in his father's tutelage and designs building automation systems and graphics. Brittany followed her passion and coaches Volleyball at her former High school as well as two club teams.

What hobbies keep you busy?

I'm typically a home body. I recently purchased a fixer upper in Hollywood park where I'll enjoy remodeling and making a home. The yard work and gardening are also therapeutic for me as well. Some weekends are reserved for a hill country ride on my Harley visiting all this great state has to offer.

What is the best vacation that you have ever taken?

That would be Christmas of 2000, we spent the holiday in Bretton woods New Hampshire. Watching my children learning to ski, playing in this winter wonderland I called home, will always be a cherished memory for me.

Advice you would share with those just entering or considering the trade?

Embrace your passions, ask questions of those who have been seasoned in the trades. Always challenge yourself and be humble and kind.

Any interesting stories from your years in the business?

Air Side Project at USAA: My company was commissioned to seal the entire air duct penetrations around the entire exterior of this building, times 4 stories. The end resulted in 10s of thousands in energy savings,

IMPORTANT UPDATE ON OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS!

SAABE WILL BE CHANGING OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS VENUE. GOING FORWARD, OUR LUNCHEONS WILL BE HELD AT **UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LOCATED AT 5084 DEZAVALA ROAD.**

OUR LUNCHEONS WILL BE ON THE **THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH**, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF JUNE WHERE THERE WILL BE NO LUNCHEON DUE TO THE SAABE SOCIAL PICNIC.

OUR NEW VENUE CANNOT ACCOMMODATE WALKINS. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU SUBMIT YOUR RSVPS ON TIME. THE RSVPS WILL BE DUE ON THE **FRIDAY BEFORE THE LUNCHEON.** ANYONE THAT MISSES THE DEADLINE MAY ATTEND THE LUNCHEON, BUT WILL ONLY BE SERVED A LUNCH IF THERE ARE NO-SHOWS. THIS WILL BE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE. IF YOU DO NOT RSVP ON TIME AND THERE ARE NOT ANY NO-SHOWS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO VIEW THE PRESENTATION, BUT WILL NOT BE SERVED A MEAL.

PLEASE CHECK WWW.SAABE.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS.



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SAABE Serves

by Stacey Mercer



Thank you to everyone for supporting Kidd's Kids at Blackmon Mooring's 6th annual crawfish boil. With everyone's help a donation in the amount of \$5,000 will be made to Kidd's Kids to support their mission on providing enrichment activities to children with life-threatening illnesses!!! Check out www.kiddskids.com for details about the organization.

SAABE Serves welcomes you to join our upcoming committee meeting on Thursday, April 28th. We will meet in the conference room at 525 Oak Centre, Suite 240. This month we will be tabling ideas for upcoming donation drives. If you would like to attend, please reach out to Stacey Mercer with Blackmon Mooring at [\(210\) 218-6663](tel:2102186663) / smercerc@bmsmanagement.com

SAABE JOB BANK

Looking for a job? Know a great Engineer who will be a great asset to San Antonio building?

Check out the SAABE Job Bank on our website:
www.saabe.org.



Have a job position to fill? Email your job posting and contact information to Britney Brantley at saabetx@gmail.com to get your listing on our website!

Vendor Rep Report

by Dwayne Putney



New beginnings- as we move forward with our new venue, change can sometimes be difficult, but also rewarding. This brings me to a profound event occurring in my own life. I will be walking my amazing daughter down the aisle for her wedding. A bittersweet event for me, as my little girl transitions into this next chapter of her life. This spring is full of change, which we gladly embrace.

Spring is in the air, time once again to prepare our buildings for the long hot summer. With this in mind as we Change out our flower beds, clean the condensers and windows or up grading our lighting systems keep our supporting vendors in mind when ordering these and other services. As we move forward with a venue change let's not lose focus of that our mission is through continued fellowship and support. Integrity weather in business or personal is essential to every relationship.

Next SAABE luncheon .The tentative sponsor Heat & Treat will present the QuantumFLo booster pumps systems, Technical and applications, maintenance and repair. Thank you so much Glenn and Jan for your support. Engineers remember to support your SAABE vendors when seeking goods and services. We have several opportunities available for vendors to present at our monthly meetings, please contact myself or other board members if your company is interested. I look forward to seeing all of you at your next luncheon, please remember to RSVP thank you.



2016 DUES ARE DUE!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUR DUES INVOICE, PLEASE CONTACT BRITNEY AT

SAABETX@GMAIL.COM.

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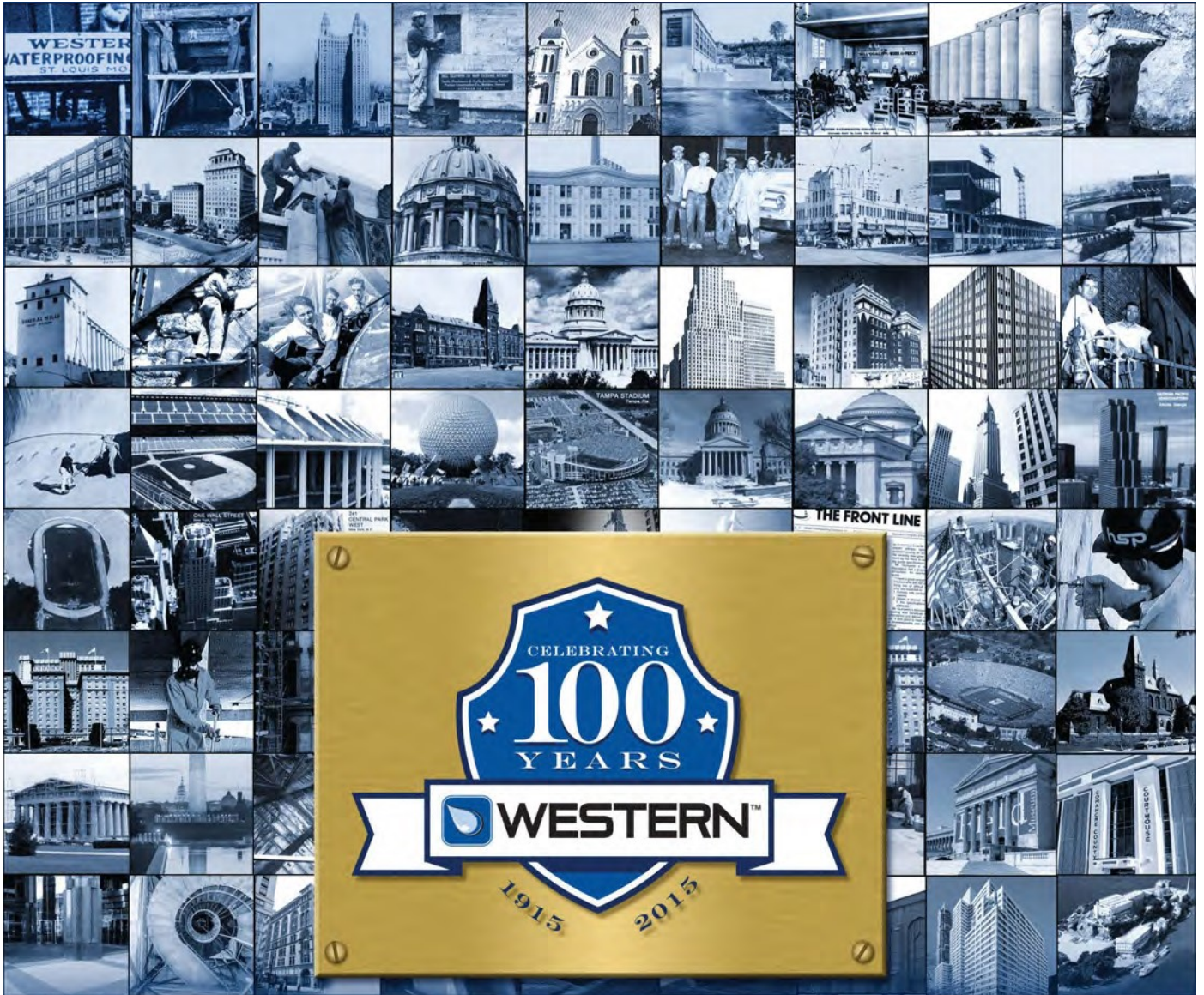
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SAABE CARES



One of our very own needs SAABE's help. Lee Cantu has been diagnosed with colon cancer. Due to the rising cost of medical expenses, we are asking SAABE members to help out if they can.

[CLICK HERE](#) to see Lee's Go Fund Me page and

help out if you can. You can read updates on his prognosis, as well.

Let's gather together to help our own.

AND A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS, YOUR DONATIONS WILL BE SENDING LEE & HIS WIFE ON A CRUISE! AND THANKS TO ART MARTINEZ FOR MAKING IT HAPPEN!

Membership Memo

by Kendal Langenberg



Thanks again to all members for your assistance in getting your 2016 membership dues paid so promptly this year! Now that renewals are squared away, we can set our sights on pursuing new members. I realize that I say this all the time, but PLEASE be promoting our wonderful organization with everyone in the industry that you bump in to. With building engineers in particular who are not currently a part of SAABE, we need to let them know that there is an organization out there that is specifically FOR THEM. We have a lot to offer our members in the way of education, education, and education! And did I mention education?! Oh, and camaraderie, fellowship, and free lunches as well. J So let's continue to get the word out. And remember that if you need my assistance in demonstrating or presenting the benefits to any potential member, I'm only a phone call or an email away.

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Association of Building Engineers

SAABE TIMES
April 2016 Issue

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Final Thought:

Weakness of attitude becomes weakness of character.

-Albert Einstein

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