



SAABE TIMES

A publication of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers

May 2017

Mark Your Calendar
JOIN US FOR OUR MAY MEETING!

The next General Membership Meeting of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers is TO BE DETERMINED at the Embassy Suites San Antonio Northwest, located at 7750 Briaridge, San Antonio, TX 78230.

Hughes Plumbing Supply will be sponsoring and presenting.

RSVPs are due no later than Monday, May 15th. YOU MUST RSVP or you will have to wait until all attendees are seated.

If you must cancel your RSVP, please email saabetx@gmail.com BY MONDAY MAY 15TH 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!



IMPORTANT REMINDER

In order to complete basic electrical repairs, such as changing lightbulbs at your property, all Building Engineers and Maintenance Technicians must have an Electrical Permit on file with the City of San Antonio. **Don't forget to renew. All buildings must also have an Electrical Permit on file.** Click below for detail information on how to apply and renew.

[ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE PERMIT APPLICATION](#)

[ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE LICENSE APPLICATION](#)

[ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE LOG](#)



LUNCHEON SUMMARY

by Art Martinez

SAABE would like to thank CPS Energy for their **great presentation on their "Load Curtailment Program"**.

The presentation was very informative and a great program for those properties who are looking to **save energy. What's best of all, they pay for those saved KW!!**

For more information please go to the CPS web site.

Many thanks to our Vendor Sponsors!

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Above the Ceiling

by Robert Andrews, SAABE President

“Roll with the punches.” is one of the sayings that I have thrown out without really considering its original source. This is actually a boxing term that means to move your body away from your opponents blows to lessen the force of the unavoidable impact. Having worked in this profession for 15 years and having two children I am extremely familiar with the unavoidable punch that comes when you least expect it. **This isn't something that you can read and learn, it just happens to you and you must learn it the “hard way”.**

Many years ago I was working as a control technician / installer and while in the middle of converting an air handler from one control system to another during lunch time we heard the fire alarm start to go off. We quickly found that the control board that we had removed also took care of the kitchen exhaust fans for the kitchen down the hall that served close to 400 people per lunch. **This punch I didn't roll with right away. It wasn't until the lead tech made me sit down and wait that it all became clear.** The damage is done, the fire department is on the way, rushing to correct the mistake won't help. He was right, of course, and 10 minutes later the smoke was gone and people were coming back to finish their lunch. Rushing through it, could have saved us 2 minutes, but could have also created another mistake.

It's a tough thing to learn to slow down and be methodical when life comes at you with sirens blaring. However once you can absorb punches you will find that you remain on your feet longer and can swing back.

What you're supposed to do when you don't like a thing is change it. If you can't change it, change the way you think about it.” — **Maya Angelou**

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 saabetx@gmail.com to get your listing on our website!

Education Corner

By John Leifester



May is almost upon us! We are excited for our Summer Social that is approaching in June. Just a reminder to all members that are not current on their dues, you will be turned away at the door at the May meeting if you are not paid up. Please expect a phone call from our board members letting you know you are not current. If you think you are not current, Please email saabetx@gmail.com to confirm payment.

If you are a vendor and have training you think would be beneficial, please email me at john@dedicatedls.com for more information.

Thanks and God Bless



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SAABE SPOTLIGHT

By Justin Titus

Lee Moore, FAL, ME
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Tell us about yourself.

Life has taken me all over the world as my father was in the Military. I was born in Oklahoma, lived in Germany for 7 years, and lived in many other places in between. Home is Polo Missouri, which is 50 miles North of Kansas City. I joined the Military after High School and was a Munitions Tech for 4 years. I ended up meeting my wife in the Military, and she was from San Antonio, and here we are today.

Have you received any awards/recognition/special training?

I am a Master Electrician, Licensed Fire Alarm Technician, have my FMP through the International Facility Managers Association (IFMA) and I am a Veteran.

Family and Children?

I have been married to my beautiful wife for 17 years. I proposed to her on her birthday, and we decided to get married one day later by the JP. We never told our families that we got married, and one year later, to the day we had a wedding at the Church. We have 2 sons. Our oldest, Lane is 11 and he is Autistic and youngest is Evan and he is 9.

What hobbies keep you busy?

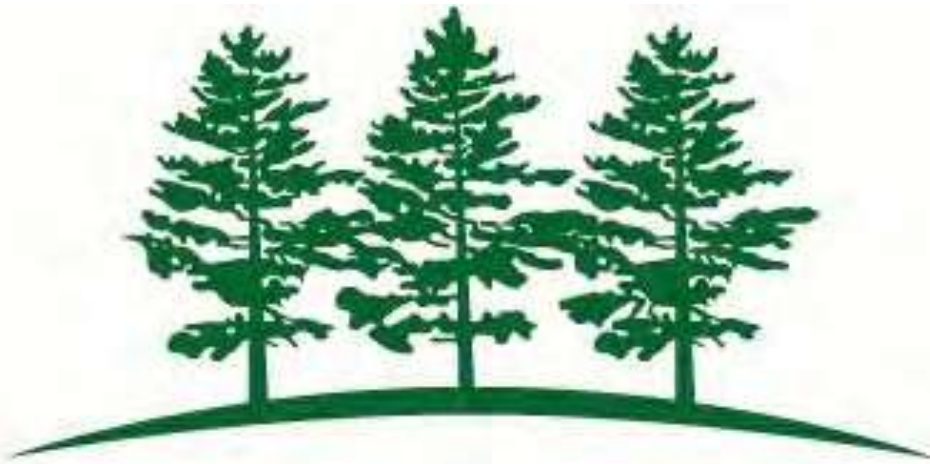
When I am not working I am the head coach for my sons Little League team. I also work with Autism advocacy groups, working with families who have Autistic children to help prepare them. I am also in the process of re-building a 1974 Chrysler boat. I tore it completely down taking out the decks and all internal pieces. It is almost complete, and I cannot wait to get it on the water.

What is your favorite destination that you have traveled to?

When I was a teenager I lived in Germany for 7 years and it allotted me to travel all over Europe. My favorite places are Sicily, Italy and Paris, France.

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

Get ahold of as many Vendors and sit down with them and learn as much as you can. The most valuable information will not come from a classroom, it will come from **people who have experienced it and who have done it. Don't be afraid to get your hands dirty and learn your craft. Also**, build a goal and stick to it and see it through completion. Finally, seek the occasional accreditation. Personally, I do not feel like an accreditation qualifies an individual. It is about true knowledge, and getting your hands dirty, and asking good questions to seasoned experts.



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TECH TALK—FILTERMAN NEWS

by Jose Blancas

Recent research by several scientific organizations has looked into the ultrafine particles in our daily surroundings and is sharing some serious implications of their concentrations. Health effects from autism to arterial circulation of blood seem to be affected by the inhalation of these pollutants. There are numerous ongoing research projects (over 90) worldwide that are looking at these things far in advance of the rest of our understanding.

What is known - the concentration and sheer number of ultrafine particles is greater than we previously thought due largely to the efficiency at which we burn fuel combining with the off-gassing of the many petroleum based products we use every day in plastics and other polymers.

This begs the question of our historical selection of products to protect the components of HVAC systems, operating rooms, and industrial equipment from pollutants that degrade their performance. This is the beginning point of protection from respirable particulates for humans.

History shares that the largest mass of airborne pollutants in the atmosphere are larger particles of earth origin. Generally we have believed that these are greater than five microns in size up to 30 plus microns in certain conditions. This modeling has led to the recommendations for filtration that primarily work on the larger sizes and tend to ignore the smaller **particles. Now some of the experts are sharing that the 'mass' concentration in our air is well under one micron – in the ultrafine category.**

Combine this with engineering controls for reduction of ingestion of pollutants and we see some anecdotal evidence that may support this thinking. In recent years we have seen the lower efficiency filtration products last many times longer than in the past and yet show very little loading. **Is this because they aren't working or is it because we are addressing the wrong size pollutant and the mix is changed?** How is it that we can make painstaking effort to install filtration properly sealed and still find

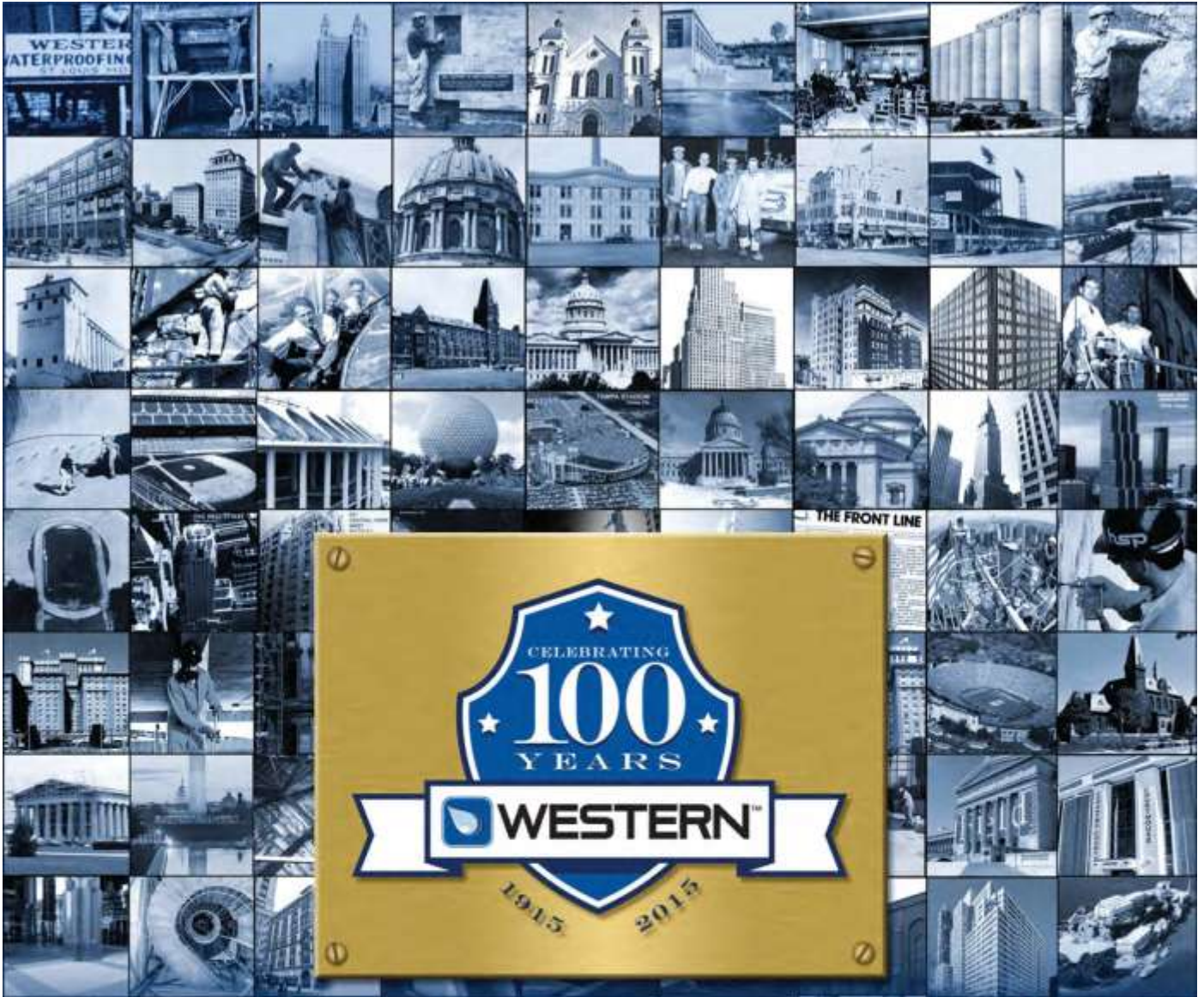
fouling of coils, or cooling slots in rotary equipment, or microbial infestation of areas we wish to protect?

Recent installations of UVC fixtures for cleaning cooling coils has revealed that even when the protection has been maintained diligently – coils are severely fouled. When the UVC irradiation reduces the coil pressure drop by half an inch or more we must realize that the filtration DID NOT work! Yes we need to examine the fit, seal, and framing components but at some point we need to evaluate – did we target the right particle size to begin with?

Additionally, when often using HEPA filters, microbes enter the system and find hospitable conditions for the propagation of their species within the HEPA filter media. While this size pollutant is expected to be removed by the HEPA it is also easily possible to remove these before they ever get that far in the system. This would protect the investment of the HEPAs and allowing them to work on just the ultra-fines they were planned to address.

In research, we have learned many of the ultra-fines are not solid particles at all and as thus remain in somewhat liquid state. As a liquid, these tend to accumulate on cooling slots and compressor sections of rotary equipment creating fouling that we were not aware of just a few years ago.

The simplest of answer is that the efficiency that once worked effectively **for the systems we protect just isn't enough any longer. Instead of targeting the 5 – 10 micron size for general equipment we likely need to work toward 1 – 2 microns.** Realizing that for more critical applications we need to focus on pollutants smaller than that. A few years ago this seemed preposterous to think possible and yet today we can improve our performance in particle size efficiency within similar operating pressures and flow rates merely with the selection of product we use.



WE'VE BEEN BUILDING UP TO THIS MOMENT FOR OVER A CENTURY.

My, where does the time go? For the past 100 years Western Waterproofing has restored some of the greatest buildings and landmarks all across our great nation. And now, after a century of unsurpassed excellence, we turn to reinvent ourselves. To offer a wider variety of specialty services to an even wider variety of industries, Western Construction Group's five member companies, and 30+ branches, will now be known as Western Specialty Contractors. Although our name may have changed, our dedication to quality service and our employees will never waiver. For the next 100 years and many more to come.



The BESST of SAABE

by David Ellis

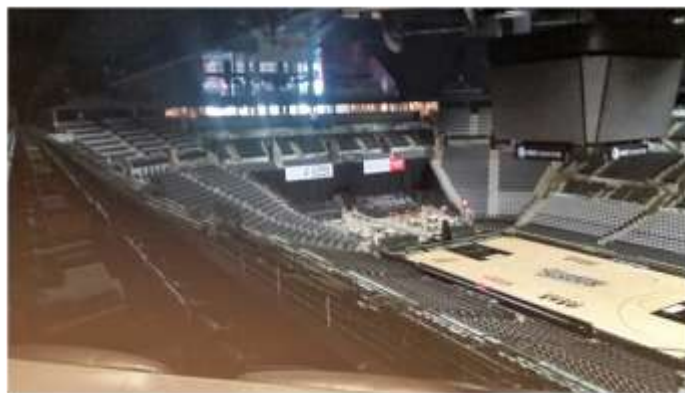
As a Master Level Engineer and active Member---trust me, this is YOUR main corridor for showing, seeing, learning and experiencing advanced “LIVE” applications of construction, mechanical/electrical, pneumatic, plumbing, HVAC, safety, security and their integrated automated systems used in today’s complex buildings, event centers, medical office buildings, data centers and manufacturing plants.

Most will never experience all of these arenas, even if they choose to stay in this career field—but HERE you can build your knowledge base, exceed in your career if you are an active participate. And this does count toward your Certification if you have what it takes. (See Rules for details)

Owners and Management companies have a hard time finding the “Right” person as they tend to lean toward someone whom has been around and has knowledge about the systems they have in place.

Building, Equipment, Services and Site Tours

Previously the Good, the Bad and the Ugly-by Doug Graves. The name was changed due to negative impact on some of the Tours, as they were denied due to misunderstandings of what this Committee is all about. The recent past captured these pictures, where you there?



Our association is very much alive, changing and expanding by reaching out in many ways to extent our reach and impact on the future of our membership by providing growth avenues and advancement capabilities—be active in the Association.

If there is some place you would like to tour, equipment you would like to see and learn about in the future via BESST, **please let us know so we can work on making it happen.** I’m finding that this is much harder than it seems and could use help in working through the processes of getting these Tour activities approved by the Management and Owners. This mainly depends on the site engineer to relay to his manager what the program is all out—Sharing and Learning.

I would like to give a personal thanks to our sponsors, contributors and everyone that has helped get some of these Tours planned. Your efforts are appreciated.

VENDOR REPORT UPDATE

by Dwayne Putney

I trust everyone enjoyed the being back at the Embassy Suites for our SAABE luncheons, I felt the overall experience was a good one. I look forward to future meetings and solidifying our venue move, please comment on how we can make this a better experience for you. Thank you for your RSVP efforts, those of you that have not payed your membership dues please do so quickly. Your participation in the meeting will be suspended if you fail to do so.

Big thanks goes out to CPS for last month's presentation please take advantage of their rebate programs many of you may already qualify. Next SAABE luncheon will be presented by Hughes Supply Brandon Boral will introduce his company, than focus will be on the Slone electronic flush valves. Mark Boyd with Dillards and Associates will be our presenter. 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 after Aug is open, 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.

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for more information on our
training, building tours,
membership meetings and
more!



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Association of Building Engineers

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May 2017

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Final Thought:

There is nothing nobler than risking your life for your country.

- Nick Lampson

WE HOPE EVERYONE HAS A SAFE AND HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

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