

SAABE TIMES

A publication of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers

September 2010

Mark Your Calendar—

JOIN US FOR OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING!

The next General Membership Meeting of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers is set for 11:30 am on Wednesday, September 15, at the Embassy Suites Hotel (7750 Briaridge Drive; northeast corner of IH-10 and Loop 410).

The meeting topic is "NFPA 70E – 2009 Edition Changes," and the presenter is Ray Grullon, the Environmental Health and Safety Director for Trane's West territory. The meeting sponsor is Trane.

Please RSVP no later than Monday, September 13, at noon.

If you must cancel your attendance, please call Melodie Goff at 408-8135 BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, AT NOON so we can cancel your meal.

Please make sure to check in at the front desk when you arrive.

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



Engineer Spotlight

by Jeff Turov



Roland Trevino

Griffin Partners 7550 IH 10 West, #110 San Antonio, TX 78229 rtrevino@griffinpartners.com (210) 349-3324

• How long have you been in the building engineer trade?

Well, where should I start....I have been in the engineering industry for 20 years. I started out in the hotel industry and moved on to commercial properties. At that time, I worked on a nine acre property taking care of over 100 rooftop package units. I left that for some 80 year old historical buildings in the downtown area where I tackled water source heat pumps. Now the new challenge is working with two 400 ton chillers controlled by an energy management system that practically runs itself. Don't get me wrong, I've done it all at one time or another from unclogging toilets and changing compressors to digging trenches for irrigation lines. I've had the privilege of working with great mentors that really knew their jobs and always put a high value on integrity, honor, and a strong work ethic. Everything you need in a great recipe for success!

Hobbies/what do you enjoy during off-hours?

My hobbies are coaching little league baseball, fishing, and all types of water recreation with my family. I've been blessed with five children - three girls and two boys who range from eight to 15 years old. And, I have a wonderful wife that keeps us all in check.

(Continued on page 7)



A Message from the President

by Charles Mikolajczyk, Jr., CBE-M

The expression that "it's hotter than a \$2 pistol" comes to mind when making chilled water this past month. In mid-August, San Antonio was averaging 78° Wet Bulb (WB) temperatures for the entire month! In layman's terms, the difficulty you may be, or have been, experiencing is due to the shortage of tonnage on your cooling tower due to the WB temperature being at, or more than likely above, the design operating temperatures of your cooling tower. If you're contemplating a new cooling tower, be sure to specify the following in your RFP: a 10° F Delta ΔT with 95° entering water temperature at a 78° F WB temperature. More often than not, the operating temperatures of a new tower are specified at a lower WB rating, and what this means is that when the WB temperature is over your design temperature, your 300 ton tower may now only be a 250 ton tower during these conditions. If you need assistance when getting bids, just let me know, and I'll help you out.

Speaking of equipment, I'd like to be making some of the commissions on the portable rental equipment in town. There is almost nothing worse than having to be on portable equipment this time of year. If it was due to an unforeseen failure - things happen. If it was due to deferred maintenance, that's another story! Good luck to those of you on portables this summer!

Just a reminder - the kids are back in school so be careful, and remember, "all" school zones are no cell phone zones (state law). Even if the CoSA has not yet funded and installed all of the signage, in a court of law, "ignorance of the law is not an excuse for the law."

At the August SAABE luncheon, Allen Mangrum was awarded with an appreciation plaque for his service as the SAABE Vendor Representative. The SAABE Board and I thoroughly enjoyed working with Allen. As Allen pursues his ambition in "Shaky" (CA), he will be truly missed as a friend and a counterpart. Allen, thank you for your dedication and service over the past years!



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Ask About

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Also, Randy Cummings with Gerloff, Inc., is now the Pro Tem SAABE Vendor Representative. It is with gratitude that the SAABE Board appreciates his dedication and choice to serve on the SAABE board. Please welcome and congratulate Randy when you see him!

I would like to express thanks to Jay Jorczak with Yaskawa America, Inc. for presenting "Domestic Water Booster Savings Opportunities with Variable Speed Drives" at the August luncheon and Sid Hebert/Gillette AC, Mike Donovan and Mark Pickett/Heat Transfer Solutions on the Last Thursday Training Seminar "McQuay Magnetic Bearing Chillers!"

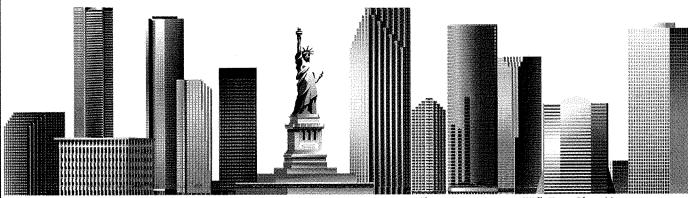
Gone fishing, be back hunting season!
Live a little, a lot...and enjoy the ride! ❖





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Left to right: Pan American Life, New Orleans; Greenway Plaza, Houston; JP Morgan Chase Tower, Houston; Wells Fargo Plaza, Houston; San Felipe Plaza, Houston; Seagram Building, New York City; The Statue of Liberty, Liberty Island; Wachovia Financial Center, Miami; One Brickell Square, Miami; 1400 Smith Street, Houston; 1100 Louisiana, Houston; Five Post Oak Park, Houston; One Sheel Square, New Orleans

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SAABETIMES

Vendor Rep Report by Randy Cummings

By the time you're reading this, the dove are flying and football season has kicked off. Man I love Texas in September!

I want to take a second to thank Allen Mangrum for all his hard work and support of SAABE for the last six years. I know I have a big challenge following in his footsteps, but I look forward to serving as your vendor rep and watching this organization continue to grow.

The 2010 luncheons have all been booked; however, I do not have any commitments for 2011. Anyone interested in sponsoring a lunch and providing an educational presentation, should contact me at 210-394-6233, or email me at rcummings@gerloffinc.com. Remember, there are no sponsored luncheons in June (summer social) and December (annual board meeting/elections), so there are only ten slots available. They will fill up fast, so contact me to make sure your company takes advantage of this great opportunity to get your name in front of the engineers and provide training in your field of expertise.

Thanks, and remember to RSVP! See ya'll next month. .

Job Openings

There are several job openings currently listed on the SAABE website (www.saabe.org). Visit the site for full details.

If you have job openings, please forward them to laurabray@braycommunications.com for posting. •



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SAABE September Last Thursday Training Seminar

Save the date for this month's Last Thursday Training Seminar. The topic is "Fire Sprinkler Systems: Maintenance, Repair and Inspections," and the presenters will be Brian Popham and James McClure with Western States Fire Protection, which is also this month's training seminar sponsor.

Where: First National Bank (6243 IH 10 W)

Tenth floor conference room

When: Thursday, September 30, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

(Lunch provided by Western States Fire Protection)

Western States Fire Protection was founded in 1985 with two offices and now, like their name says, have offices throughout the western part of the United States. They design, install, service and inspect fire protection systems in addition to being involved in the engineering, design, construction and installation of LEED related projects.

For more information about Western States Fire Protection, contact Brian Popham at (210) 912-6743 or brian.popham@wsfp.us. Or, visit their website at www.wsfp.com.

The seminar is open to **SAABE Engineers and their** assistants only, and there is no cost to attend. There is a limit of 25 attendees.

If you are coming, please email mgoff@braycommunications.com. Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 29 so we know how many lunches to order. If you RSVP and cannot attend, please call Melodie Goff at (210) 408-8135 so she can move someone off the waiting list. ❖

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Electrical Troubleshooting & Preventive Maintenance

- Sponsored by American Trainco
- October 6-7, Holiday Inn Express Airport North, SA
- Cost: \$980 (both days)
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Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

- Sponsored by American Trainco
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• To sum it all up.

I'm a little league baseball coach, and what I tell my players at the beginning of the season when they are wearing their new uniform is that if they want to succeed or make the big play, they have to get that uniform dirty! That's my outlook on life in general. If it be at work or at play, if you're going to succeed in this field, you have to get your uniform dirty. If you don't, you'll just ride the pine all season long while someone else gets your spot! ❖

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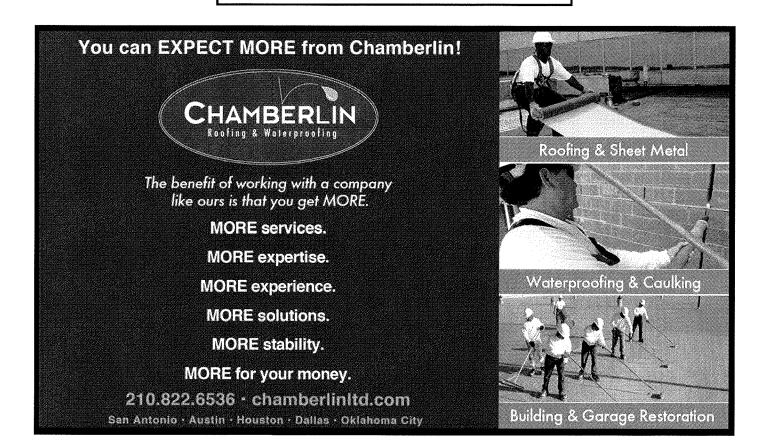
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August Lunch Summary

by Curtis Thompson

Good day everyone! August is upon us, and the sun has come out to play! Hopefully, everyone is staying nice and cool.

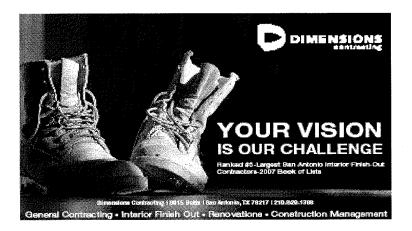
We had an awesome turnout for last month's SAABE luncheon. Once again, we really appreciate everyone's participation.

The meeting presentation was provided by Jay Jorczak from Yaskawa America, Inc. (represented in San Antonio by Mechanical Reps). Jay discussed Variable Frequency Drives (VFD's) in booster pump applications and the energy saving benefits of VFD's.

Jay said that, with a VFD, there is a great deal of control of the flow or pressure of the pumping system, and that the flow is directly proportional to the speed. The pressure is directly proportional to the square of speed, and the input power is directly proportional to the cube of speed.

An average system that needs 70% flow will show an energy savings of 65.7% (versus a bypass valve), and there will be approximately a 50% reduction in energy consumption compared to a throttling valve (PRV or clay valve). In most cases, a VFD retrofitted on a pump will have a payback of around one year.

Additional benefits of VFDs are elimination of water hammer and less wear on the motor and the pump system.



The Yaskawa iQpump VFD product was also discussed. This product is designed specifically for pumping systems, including retrofitting of booster systems. It is capable of replacing existing starters and multiplexing controls (or lead/lag controls) with just the VFD. The imbedded software allows for up to eight VFD's to be multiplexed together and operate with no third party control. And, it has additional features and protective functions specifically tailored for pumping applications.

If you have any questions or would like more information about Yaskawa VFD's, please contact Mechanical Reps at (210) 650-9005 or Yaskawa at (800) 927-5292. ❖





CATASTROPHE MANAGEMENT

Emergency Preparedness Plan

Gerloff's Emergency Preparedness Plan is designed to provide the highest quality and the best catastrophe management service possible. With your assistance, Gerloff Co Inc. will create a proactive format to facilitate a positive outcome from any unfortunate event of any size or magnitude. The more prepared for any event, the better the results.

Gerloff has been assisting our Texas clients and the insurance community since 1985 in the restoration of Commercial and School Properties affected by water, hurricane, fire, and wind emergencies. These properties, referred to as Emergency Preparedness Plan Partners have experienced a sense of confidence and piece of mind knowing that Gerloff can be contacted to do the right job, the first time.

Benefits: Emergency Preparedness Plan Partners

- § Priority response for Emergency Preparedness Plan Partners
- § No survey or catalog fees
- § Emergency staff on call, prepared to respond 24/7
- § Designed to work along side any existing contingency plans.
- § EPP Partners are provided with a catalog for at-a-glance location reference
- § Minimizing of business down time while reducing size of loss.
- § Providing turn-key restoration and reconstruction services
- § Eliminating lengthy bidding process by pre-approval with our partner and the insurance carrier.

TIP: Emergency Preparedness Kit

- Pack a Flashlight with back up batteries
- Pack a Transistor Radio with back up batteries
- Pack bottled water
- · Pack Cell Phone

- · Pack personal hygiene supplies
- · Pack a manual can opener
- Pack a first aid kit

(210) 490-2777

Energy Efficiency - What's Your Take, and Where are You?

by Tom Lasater

Energy efficiency roundtables are back on the agenda!

The SAABE High Performance Building Forum will be held on Tuesday, October 12 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Watch for faxes and electronic notices regarding the location..

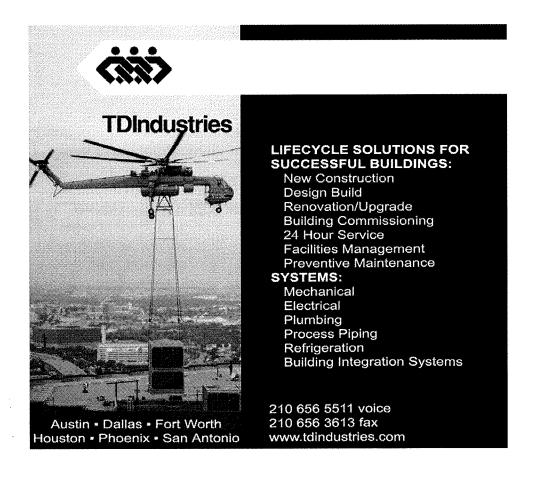
At the roundtable events, Engineers who have completed successful energy conservation projects in their buildings will detail these projects to other Engineers. There will be a question and answer session afterwards.

In addition, there will be roundtables with vendors, Engineers, and representatives from CPS Energy and SAWS explaining ENERGY STAR programs they have installed in buildings. This will also include a question and answer session.

The goal is to use these roundtable sessions as a forum for sharing successful energy saving programs with other SAABE members and provide San Antonio's Mission Verde a platform for extending energy conservation throughout the city.

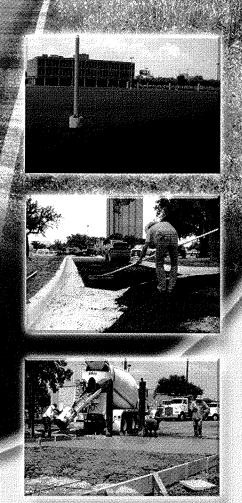
So, mark your calendar for the October 12th roundtable. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Lasater at (210) 771-5824. ❖







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COSA Planning and Development Services Department Updates

Below are some highlights from the City of San Antonio's (CoSA) Planning and Development Services August, 2010 newsletter.

"Tree Preservation Ordinance" Presentation

A copy of the "Tree Preservation Ordinance" training that was given on August 27 is available at http://www.sanantonio.gov/dsd/pdf/InHouseTreeOrdiananceTra ining.pdf

New Storm Water Inspection

Effective September 1st, the CoSA's Planning and Development Services department will insert a flood inspection on your application permit if storm water determines that an elevation certification or other requirement is needed prior to issuing the Certificate of Occupancy. This "inspection" can only be cleared by Storm Water Engineering after receipt and approval of the elevation certificate or other required documentation.

If you would like to receive updates from the COSA's Planning and Development Services department, please join their mailing list at

Meeting RSVPs

The staff at Embassy Suites has been very accommodating to our growing group. SAABE must call in a meal count on the Monday prior to the meeting, so that's why we've been stressing the importance of RSVPs and timely cancellations. We MUST receive your RSVP no later than the Monday prior to the meeting at noon.

If you RSVP and do not attend, you could receive a no-show invoice. If you must cancel your attendance, please call Melodie Goff at 408-8135 by the **Monday prior to the meeting at noon** so we can cancel your meal. Cancellations received after this time could still be invoiced.

While we appreciate your call on Wednesday morning that you cannot attend, you could still be billed for the meal, since Embassy Suites has already prepared it for you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Laura Bray (408-1699) or any board member. •

Lunch Policy for Vendor Members

A few reminders about SAABE's policies for lunches for vendor members:

- Lunch cost for SAABE vendor (associate) members is \$20. (Guests are \$25.)
- You may bring an additional person from your company to two SAABE meetings as a guest. After that, the additional representative must purchase a SAABE membership to continue to attend. SAABE memberships are by individual, not by company.
- You may substitute an attendee if your primary representative cannot attend.

SAABE values the support and contributions of its vendor members, and we have several vendors who support SAABE with multiple memberships and frequent participation.

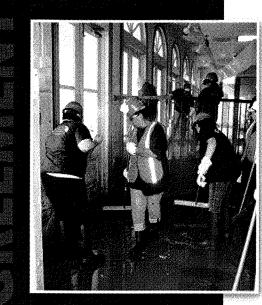
Please contact Laura Bray, SAABE Association Manager, if you have any questions about SAABE's policies and procedures.

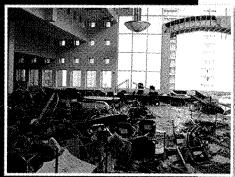
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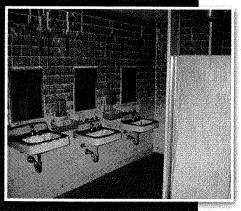
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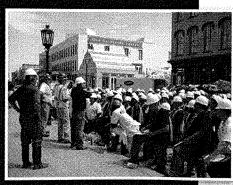
Send ad copy (preferably in GIF or JPG formats) and payment to SAABE, PO Box 780785, San Antonio, TX 78278, or email (preferred) to laurabray@braycommunications.com. •

SAABETIMES











Be Proactive. Be Prepared.

Is your company prepared should a disaster strike? Will you be action oriented or reaction oriented?

Last-minute decisions in the face of a disaster are almost certain to increase both the time and the cost of recovery. Disaster planning offers you the opportunity to make calm, well-considered decisions prior to a critical event. Plans will vary widely from one organization to another. Let Blackmon Mooring assist with prioritizing your company's needs.

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Charles Mikolajczyk Jr Endeavor Real Estate Group 8000 IH 10 W, Suite 250 San Antonio, TX 78230

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SAABE TIMES September Issue

Final Thought:

"Don't worry about people stealing your ideas. If your ideas are any good, you'll have to ram them down people's throats. - Howard Aiken

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Laura Bray

Association Manager

(laurabray@braycommunications.com)

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 15
"NFPA 70E – 2009 Edition Changes"
Sponsored by Trane

Upcoming Program:

Wednesday, October 20

"Commercial Irrigation Rebates and Services" (presented by Mark Peterson with SAWS)

Sponsored by Preferred Landscape and Lighting

The SAABE Times is edited by Bray Communications.