



# SAABE TIMES

A publication of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers

July 2018

### Mark Your Calendar

The next General Membership Meeting of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers is set for 11:30 am on THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2018 at the Embassy Suites San Antonio Northwest, located at 7750 Briaridge, San Antonio, TX 78230.



The Filter Man will be sponsoring and presenting at the July Membership Luncheon.

**REMINDER: 2018 DUES MUST BE PAID TO ATTEND**

**IF YOU MISSED YOUR CHANCE TO RSVP, PLEASE EMAIL SAABERSVP@GMAIL.COM TO SEE IF WE HAVE HAD ANY CANCELLATIONS.**

If you must cancel your RSVP, please email our Association Manager at saabetx@gmail.com BY MONDAY JULY 16TH AT 5:00PM so we can cancel your meal. Cancellations received after this will be invoiced for the cost to attend.

### Many thanks to our Vendor Sponsors!

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### THE 13TH ANNUAL SAABE / PHIL ANDERSON PICNIC

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## Above the Ceiling

by Robert Andrews, SAABE President

If you were going to be affected by the enforcement of bi-directional amplifiers for radio coverage by the San Antonio Fire Department, get ready for some good news! The Fire Department has agreed that enforcing the installation of a soon to be antiquated technology is not the best use of our money and suspended the antenna install requirement. However this does not take away some of our responsibilities to keep our occupants and fire fighters safe. What we will need to do is install signage identifying which locations/floors have the deficiency. The exact verbiage / font / size is still being worked through, but this will be far cheaper to dispose of than the antennas. Once the new radio system is installed you will need to have your building re-tested, at which point the signs can either be removed or the new amplifiers installed. Thank you Charlie for the dedication and patience that it took to help us all get through this!

For those of you that weren't able to make it to the SAABE Picnic, you missed quite a bit. We had competitions for who can extend a tape measure the farthest, change a ballast fastest, water balloon toss, and even a timed water heater change out. It was great to see everyone being able to participate, including the kids, in some new activities. Of course it wouldn't be the SAABE Picnic without horseshoes, which got "heated" until the unexpected rain shower showed up to cool us down. Who knows what next year will bring, but I for one am putting down my RSVP now.

If that wasn't enough for one month, we also had a couple board member changes. Chris Lutz had to step down as the role of Treasurer (we will miss your contributions Chris), but on his way out the door reached out and tagged Debbie Berryhill from Koetter Fire Protection to take his spot so that SAABE didn't miss a beat. However, Debbie's contacts and knowledge better suited her to interacting with people rather than numbers. Nate Simpson was gracious enough to take over the numbers game, which means Debbie is our new Vendor Representative. Confused yet? We will introduce you to the "new" board on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July at our next membership meeting! See you then!

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## Picnic Review

by Lauren Littlefield, Social Chair

Horse shoes, balloon toss... and who could change out a hot water heater the fastest??? Who would have thought you could get all this and more at one place, at one time? The 13th Annual SAABE/ Phil Anderson Memorial picnic went out with a Bang with 86 attendees at a new location on Saturday, June 9th at the Castroville Park. There was delicious BBQ provided by Mr. John Leifester with Dedicated Landscape and all of the members took away a door prize. We had some stiff competition for the balloon toss sponsored by Koetter Fire Protection, but Oscar Flores and Louis Vega took the top spot. Also, new this year was the maintenance mania competition consisting of plumbing, lighting and measuring up sponsored by FSG and Way Engineering. Changing out a water heater the fastest went to Joe Garza with a time of .42 seconds, wow! He had Pete Saucedo just behind him with .43 seconds and Oscar Flores rounding out the top three with .46 seconds. Joe Garza also took home first place in the measure up competition with 89 inches and Ernest Ortiz coming in a close second with 87 1/2 inches. Rounding out the maintenance mania with the lighting competition in first place was Samuel Nino with 1:55 (holy smokes!) Ernest Ortiz in second with 2:36 and Joe Garza with a time of 3:01. In the much anticipated horse shoe tournament sponsored by the Filterman, we have a new reigning champion, Ernest Ortiz with his wife, taking home \$300, second place went to Oscar Flores and Joe Garza, winning \$200- congratulations! What a great event and a great turn out, we would like to thank all of our sponsors who made the picnic a success- Whole Hog Sponsor: Jim Whitten Roof Consultants; Thrill of the Grill Sponsor: Mechanical Maintenance of Texas; Half Hog Sponsors: Allied Fire Protection & ABC Home and Commercial Services; Getting Piggy with it sponsor: JPM Building Services; Balloon Toss Sponsor: Koetter Fire Protection; Horse Shoe Tournament Sponsor: The Filterman; A La Cart Sponsor: Blackmon Mooring; Ale Yeah sponsor: FSG; Ring of Fire sponsor: Gerloff; Maintenance Mania: FSG and Way Engineering. Thank you to the board and volunteers who helped as well, we look forward to seeing this event grow every year!

## The Education Corner

By David Ellis CBE-M – Article SAABE 07-2018.1

[\(Questions or Comments\)](#)

**Great news! Our weekly, one on one or up to four, training classes called 'Box Top Help' sessions are being filled.** So far the interests have been keyed locking systems including re-pinning/picking and understanding construction MEP plans. These classes are recognized by SAABE for any CBE-Designation application as SAABE Certificates will be issued for passing. And to remind everyone, if you have your SMT or SMA you automatically can receive the equal SAABE designation by presenting it to the SAABE CBE Committee or any other Board Member with your completed application—simple and sweet.

The current CBE committee includes me, the chair, filled seats are Paul Thompson, Rhondo Jauer, Jock Tilghman, and Doug Graves. We each have our Proxies for voting on each CBE application to speed things up. AND most importantly the applicant will actually meet with the Committee during the assessment process so no stone will be left unturned and all applicator questions will be answered during and through the process till final decision. This has needed to be done for years and we are now there!

The stand-in voters or Proxies include Robert Andrews, Mike Skinner, Stephen Lobo Sr., and two more forthcoming—one for each of the designated five seats. A 3/5 vote will secure your Designation request.

**I've received many inquires since this drive to motivate members to get on board with SAABE and their Designations.** I encourage all that have previously tried to get a CBE to do it again and now. The rules are now more balanced and reasons for denial, like never before, are recoverable in real time.

Our current Officers Robert Andrews, Art Martinez, Pete Saucedo, and Chris Lutz fill-in have been working with both BOMA and IREM to form a relationship all would benefit from. More details to come, with updates as they happen on this critical step as the Officers go through this process. It looks good!

I urge all current and future Engineers with SAABE to seek assistance from their managers and owners to help **mentor and grow their careers in this industry. Right now the average Chief Engineer is in their late 40's or early 50s and some Senior Engineers in their 60's and 70's and there are FEW up and coming replacements.**

This is now the time to act if you truly want to advance in this industry. Most employers will pay for training **related to the employees' position requirements if they have plans for you to move up. If you don't ask or act uninterested in moving up the ladder—you might get your wish of going nowhere, if that person is you. BUT do know someone else will move up if they have the motivated desire. Make that person YOU.**

GET your [CBE](#) with SAABE!

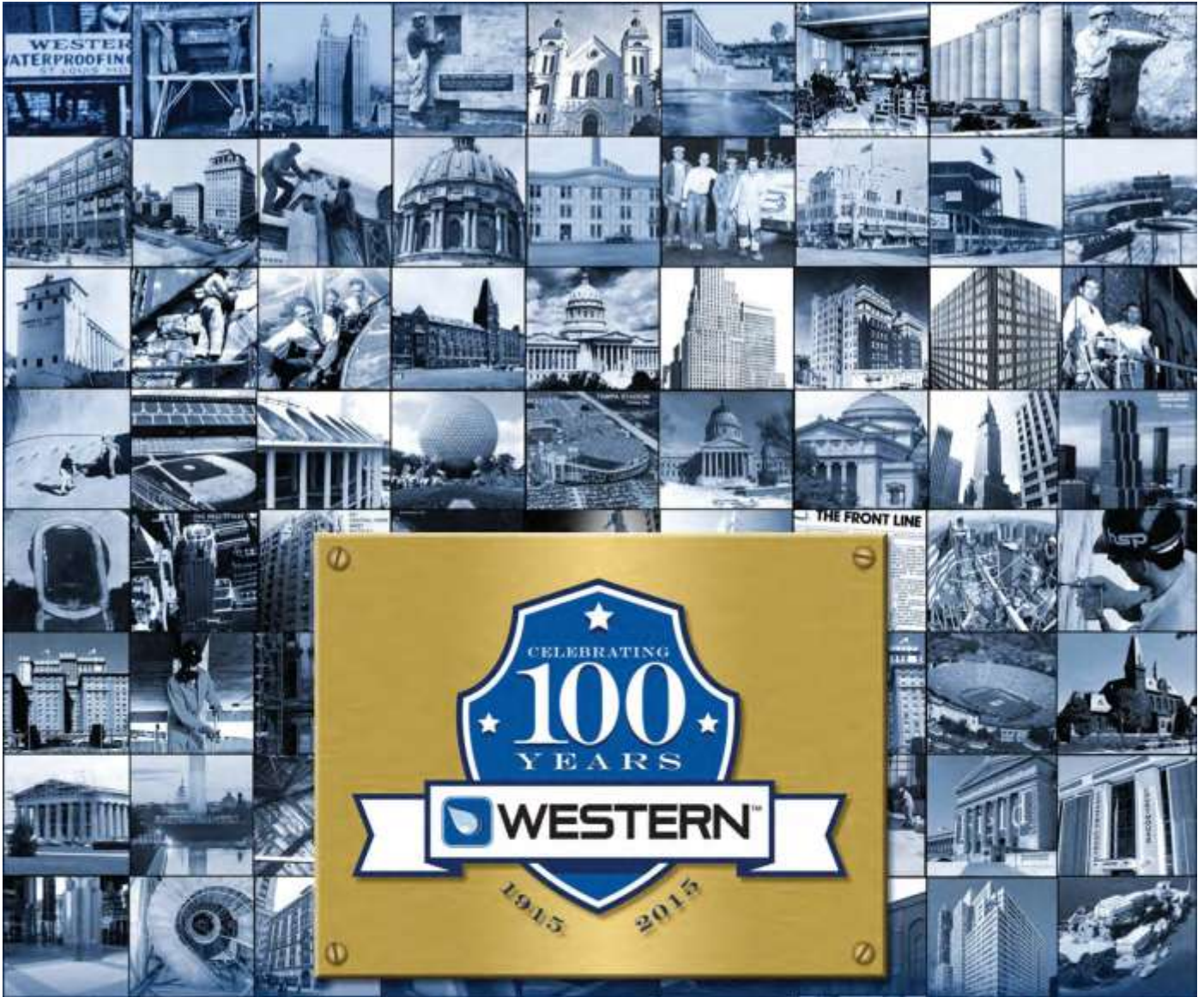
SAABE 2018 now offers training sessions in many areas. Most every member should qualify to sport the CBE Certification, got yours? Check our website SAABE.Org.

**Don't have your membership shortened or your job end because of Tempus Fugit. There are now training options to fill those gaps.**

[Click](#) here if you read this article, please.

Call *David Ellis*, Education Director at SAABE today to help clear the way to your CBE!





## 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.





# 13th ANNUAL SAABE / PHIL ANDERSON MEMORIAL PICNIC



## SAABE SPOTLIGHT

by Justin Titus

### Brent Miller

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### Tell us about yourself.

I was born in Sacramento, California and shortly after my parents moved the family to Los Angeles. I enjoyed living in California and I might move back when I retire because I will not have to worry about fighting traffic going to and from work. In 1999, I uprooted and moved to San Antonio. I enjoy NASCAR and Drag-Racing. My wife and I enjoy going to the races and we are trying to make it to every NASCAR track in the country. Cooking has always intrigued me and it quickly became a passion of mine. I enjoy cooking for my family or others and finding the perfect ingredients to make a delicious meal. Italian food is my specialty.

### How long have you been a member of SAABE?

I have been a member of SAABE for 10 years. It is a great association and provides great opportunities to meet fellow engineers and contractors. Over the years, I have met many great contractors that I use on my properties. Had I not been involved in SAABE, these relationships might have never been formed.

### Family and Children?

I have been married to my beautiful wife for 11 years. We have one daughter, and she is attending Texas A&M University San Antonio where she is studying Criminal Justice.

### What hobbies keep you busy?

In my free time I love building furniture. I have a wood shop and enjoying making pieces for our home and others. My wife and I also enjoy taking our RV out for a good camping trip.

### Advice you would share with those just entering the trade?

Pay attention to your elders and learn as much as you can. Also, learn as much as possible from the contractors that you use. The more you know the better off you will be.

### What is the best vacation or favorite place you have ever been to?

My wife and I went to Boston several years ago and it was an absolute blast. We had the opportunity to go to a Celtics/Lakers game and it was awesome. I am a huge Lakers fan and my wife loves the Celtics.

### If you could do anything you wanted and money was not a factor, what would you do?

I would open my own restaurant.

## Hip Pocket Share:

By David Ellis CBE-M – Article SAABE 07-2018.2

[\(Questions or Comments\)](#)

Okay, let's make this one about a common residential A/C unit. One like at a house, like one we might live in per say.

Oh, by the way to date the only WINNER has been Charles in the Hip Pocket Share and is restricted as well as Rhondo from winning this round but their comments are welcomed. Do Send!

Everyone please send in your answer. Thanks and bring it Charles, if anyone has something to add to this column let me know! Charles won the last Hip Pocket Share dare with the answer of 240 feet with a 104 psi reading on a pressure gauge to determine his building height. Say WHAT, yes—25 dollars for delivering the simple answer. I would have hoped for more incorrect answers personally. And due to me personally talking with Rhondo about this a/c issue previously, he is excluded as well.

The new Share:

Okay, a service call comes to the HVAC company YOU own and you happen to answer the phone that morning because **your office staff where not in yet. It's about a 5 ton split system condensing unit that 'squeals at a very high pitch' for a long time when it shuts off yet it still cools. And that it's not a heat pump and that the unit seems to be running a little longer than normal, but this sound is new. They also state that the unit is under 10 years old and has had good maintenance checks performed.**

What would you tell them?

THE TECHNICAL ANSWER

We would need to send someone out to verify the issue  
Check your Home Insurance Policy for any warranty  
Sounds like a condenser fan failure leading to a **compressor 'by-pass' situation**  
Definitely discharge valves requiring a compressor change

[Choose only one answer for your response to enter the Dare.](#)

Winner will be the first participant getting the correct answer and being preset at the following regular membership meeting. Member will receive Notice of Winning and a 25\$ gift card.

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## IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP & LUNCHEON INFORMATION

by Pete Saucedo

Hello my fellow SAABE peers. I would like to talk about RSVP's and how they affect each and everyone of us as a organization. So when the send out the email blast about our general membership meeting we ask for you to RSVP before the cut off day and time.

This is to give Embassy Suites the count so they can prepare enough lunch's for all that have RSVP. We all know that things happen and you may not be able to attend after you have RSVP. We do pay for those lunches if you show up or not.

We started to track last year and found we had a lot of no shows that RSVP monthly. We pay roughly about 25 a plate. So if 10 members RSVP and don't show we lost 250. dollars a month. If we add that up at 9 months. 2,250.

This affects everyone not just the board or a certain individual. This is money from our organization that we throw away every month and year. So we ask that if you RSVP and are not able to make it that you let us know ASAP or try to find someone else to go in your spot.

We would like to have a happy hour or after hours event in the future but we can sub-stain this type of loss and put on extra event. So I put out a challenge let do our part as SAABE member to help reduce the number of no shows. We are tracking and keep names of those who do this multiple times. There is a 25. dollar to re-enter the general membership meeting that must be paid if you have more then one occurrence.

Thank you and hope to see you guys at the picnic and Happy Father's Day to all the wonderful dads.



San Antonio



Association of Building Engineers

SAABE TIMES

July 2018

PO Box 781261

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*Final Thought:*

My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive.  
-Maya Angelou

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