



SAABE TIMES

A publication of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers

December 2010

Mark Your Calendar—

JOIN US FOR OUR DECEMBER MEETING!

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

This will be the annual business meeting and board elections. Awards for perfect 2010 attendance will also be presented.

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

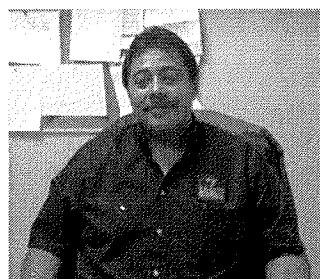
If you must cancel your attendance, please call Melodie Goff at 408-8135 BY **MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, AT NOON** so we can cancel your meal.

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



Art Martinez

Travis Commercial
21 Spurs Lane, Suite 200
San Antonio, TX 78240
Phone: (210) 558-2087
amartinez@traviscommercial.com

- **How long have you been in the building engineer trade?**

I have been involved in this industry for sixteen years and have worked in retail, residential and commercial office building properties. For the past four months, I have overseen operations at the Texas Center for Athletes for Travis Commercial. It is an exciting property to work at, a great company and I am happy to be here. I have been a member of SAABE since 2000.

- **Any awards, recognition or special training?**

While at One Alamo Center, my maintenance team won the "Building Engineer Team of the Year" award from Transwestern Commercial Services. I also hold my CBE-J designation from SAABE and am a member of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

- **Family and children?**

I am married and have three kids, all of whom are grown and out on their own.

- **Hobbies/what do you enjoy during off-hours?**

I coach football for the San Antonio Wolverines, and last season we won the championship in the Texas Football League. I also enjoy spending time with my family and fishing and bowling when time permits.

- **What is your favorite holiday tradition?**

My family has their Thanksgiving dinner on the Wednesday before the actual holiday so that we can then separate and go visit other family members. This allows us not to miss anyone during this holiday.

(Continued on page 7)

CELEBRATING
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A Message from the President

by Charles Mikolajczyk, Jr., CBE-M

It doesn't seem that long ago that 2010 started; not to mention it doesn't seem like two years ago, in December 2008, that I was elected as the SAABE President. I guess time really does fly when you're having fun. Or, is it really like your elders used to proclaim that time flies when you get older? It doesn't matter, for the truth is I've had fun, and I've gotten older! One can not control the latter, but you can make the best out of what you do. Hope your year or past years are same felt!

As we enter into the election month for quite a few officers on the SAABE Board of Directors (BOD), it is with great pleasure that we are seated among some of the greatest minds and friends in our industry. Please note that, over the past few years, SAABE has been recognized by the City of San Antonio (CoSA) and by various organizations in our area and in Houston. Your board of directors has expended numerous hours, and many after business hours, participating on committees, boards, etc. representing SAABE. Please take the time and thank a board member when you see one, as there is a lot behind the scenes.

Relationships and positions come and go. It's a way of life, but it is sad to lose a direct line to some of them. Some of the most recent ones I would like to mention are the following colleagues/friends, and I will greatly miss many of them:

Raymond Martinez - Past Chief Electrical Inspector/CoSA

Robert Stricker - Past Chief Plumbing Inspector/CoSA

Roland Maldonado - Past Chief Mechanical
Inspector/CoSA

Jackie Mallette - Past 2010 BOMA SA President

And back to what we do...As usual, we are rolling into a new year and at least a day or two of freezing precipitation. Be sure you are stocked up on whatever you use to deice or increase traction/footing at the place of your employment. Inventories of sand and deicer run out quick at the last minute.

When using sand, coarse grade stays in place when applied but is hard to clean up afterwards. Fine sand is easy to clean later but has a tendency to blow away with the wind before you need it or while being applied!

Be careful if you're new to the industry and use salt. It will dissolve and creep into concrete and cause infant mortality of the rebar and, in most cases, cause blowouts due to the expansion of the metal. Salt also kills the landscape it or the run-off comes into contact with, and it make a mess out of carpet.

Let us see what 2011 brings, and until then...

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, God Bless America! ❖

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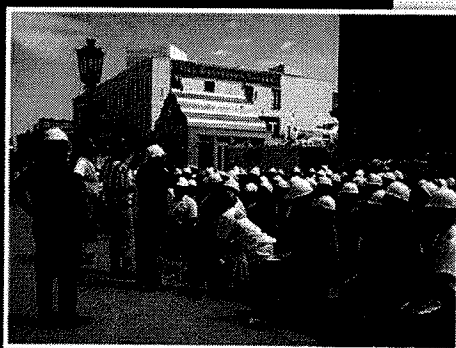
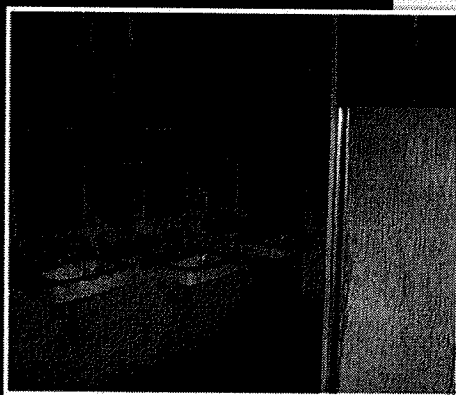
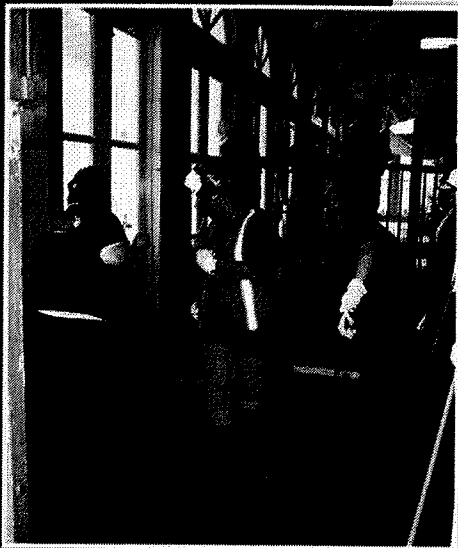
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Vendor Rep Report

by Randy Cummings

Now that the Christmas holidays are here, I hope everyone has the opportunity to slow down their work schedule and spend some quality time with the family. It's easy to get tied down with work and forget about the more important things in life.

Going into 2011, we have several great presentations on the plate, including CPS Energy in January. There are not many more months available, so please get with me ASAP if your company wants to take advantage of this opportunity. Anyone interested in sponsoring a lunch, should contact me at 210-394-6233 or rcummings@gerloffinc.com.

Don't forget about the annual Christmas party. If you have not done so already, please RSVP. You will not want to miss this great time of food, fun, drinks, games and great door prizes.

Speaking of door prizes, we need all vendors to step up and help us out. Your company will be recognized for the prizes you donate. Please see me or any board member to donate.

Thanks, and I hope everyone has a joyful and merry Christmas, as well as a fun and safe New Years Eve/Day. ❖

Please note that there will not be a Last Thursday Training Seminar this month. Watch for faxes and emails regarding the January seminar.

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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

**For Any Questions or to Set Up Your Inspection Contact Drew VanWyck at Our Main Office
14955 Bulverde Rd.
San Antonio, TX 78247
(210) 490-2777**

SAABE Annual Toy Drive



Left to right: Robert Steele, John Leifester, Michael Copp, Kendal Langenberg, JR Uresti and Melodie Goff

Thank you to each of you that participated in SAABE's annual toy drive for the Construct a Kids Christmas program—the construction industry's toy drive and fundraiser for abused and neglected children in Bexar County. Above are your SAABE board members and Melodie Goff (Bray Communications) dropping off the toys.

SAABE appreciates your support of this wonderful cause! ❖

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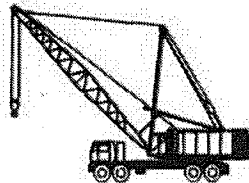
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SAABE Holiday Social

Save the date for this year's SAABE Holiday Social. The Social will be held on Friday, December 17 from 5pm - 10pm at Dave and Busters. We hope to see you there!

Education Corner

Unified Development Code Amendments

- Sponsored by the COSA Planning and Development Services Department
- December 17, Cliff Morton Development and Business Services Center, San Antonio
- Cost: FREE
- For more information, visit <http://www.sanantonio.gov/dsd/lunchlearn.asp>

Sign Policies and Procedures

- Sponsored by the COSA Planning and Development Services Department
- January 21, Cliff Morton Development and Business Services Center, San Antonio
- Cost: FREE
- For more information, visit <http://www.sanantonio.gov/dsd/lunchlearn.asp>

Microsoft Excel 2007/2010 Basics

- Sponsored by Career Track/Fred Pryor Seminars
- January 27, La Quinta Inn and Suites Medical Center, San Antonio
- Cost: \$79
- For more information, visit <http://www.careertrack.com/site/default.aspx?Zip=78201> ❖

Engineer Spotlight (continued)

Also, about three years ago we decided to share clothing items and food with those that are less fortunate. So every Christmas season we head over to the West Commerce street bridge and share food and clothing with those in need.

• **Any interesting stories from your years in the business?**

When I worked at One Alamo, I was told a fish story that I wasn't sure was true. I was told, that at some point, a predecessor had stocked the in-ground cooling tower at the building with fish. Although I was tempted to break out my rod and tackle, I never found the time. But, I did find fish bones around the strainer during an annual cleaning. ♦

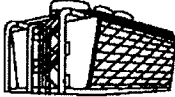
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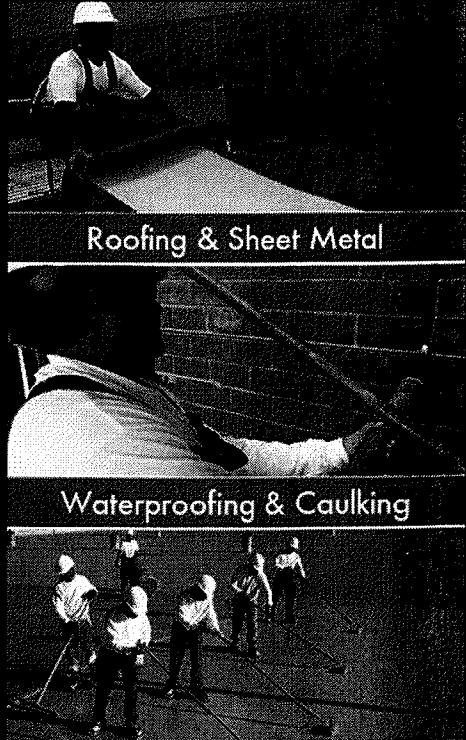


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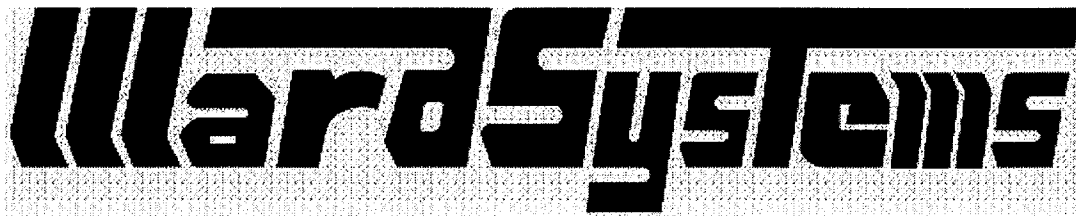
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November Lunch Summary

by Curtis Thompson

I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving! We are thankful for all the support that you have given to us during the year!

Here is a recap of the November 2010 SAABE luncheon presentation. A super special thank you to Paul Dockery with Chemsearch for doing a last minute presentation!

“Loading Docks and Material Transfer Zones” sounds like a boring subject, right? But, as Paul Dockery of Chemsearch explained during his presentation, this subject is just like peeling an onion—lots of layers. The short and to-the-point presentation gave a number of things to think about regarding this important feature of many properties.

From slip and fall safety, to wastewater and storm water management, to odor and pest control, there are lots of things to consider. Not only is the loading dock a vital part of the facility, it sometimes makes the first and lasting impression of your facility to your suppliers and customers. If they can smell it before they see it, it’s probably not going to make a great impression. Additionally, loading docks are often gathering areas for employees and tenants. So, next time you walk by your loading dock, take a minute to look around.

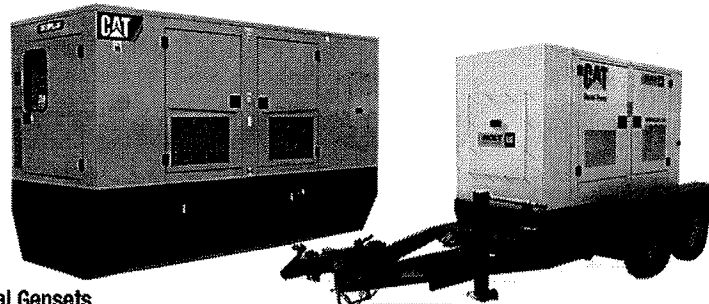
If you would like Paul to come and do a survey and site assessment, please contact him at (210) 723-8990 or Soapeddler@aol.com. ❖

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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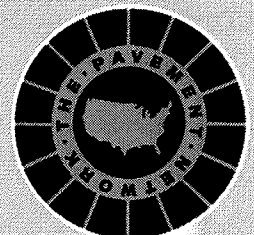
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The San Antonio Building Codes Academy will host training sessions focusing on the adopted 2009 International Fuel Gas Code (IFGC) and the anticipated adoption of the 2011 National Electrical Code (NEC).

Registration fees for the "2009 IFGC Design, Installation and Inspection Principals" are \$160. Registration fees for the "2011 NEC Analysis of Changes" are \$75. The course schedule will be as follows:

January 25, 2011	"2009 IFGC Design, Installation and Inspection Principals"
January 26, 2011	"2011 NEC Analysis of Changes" (morning session)
January 26, 2011	"2011 NEC Analysis of Changes" (afternoon session)
January 27, 2011	"2009 IFGC Design, Installation and Inspection Principals"

For more information, please visit
<http://www.sanantonio.gov/dsd/sabca.asp>. ❖


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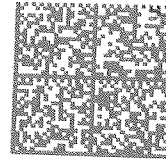
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SAABE Holiday Social

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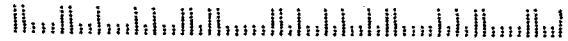
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**SAABE TIMES
 December Issue**

Final Thought:

"I wish we could put up some of the Christmas spirit in jars and open a jar of it every month." - Harlan Miller

3880 0025



2010 Board of Directors

Charles Mikolajczyk, Jr., CBE-M President	341-0828
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Curtis Thompson Secretary	557-9977
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Randy Cummings Vendor Representative	394-6233
John Leifester Education Director	771-7081
Kendal Langenberg Membership Chair	885-5194
Bob Beal Past President	830-868-4749

Laura Bray 408-1699
 Association Manager
 (laurabray@braycommunications.com)

Next Meeting:

**Wednesday, December 15
 Business Meeting/Board elections**

Upcoming Program:

**Wednesday, January 19
 "CPS Energy 2011 Programs and Services"
 Sponsored by CPS Energy**

The SAABE Times is edited by Bray Communications.