



# SAABE TIMES

A publication of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers

June 2015

Mark Your Calendar

## JOIN US FOR OUR JULY MEETING!

The next General Membership Meeting of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers is set for 11:30 am on Wednesday, July 22, 2015 at the Embassy Suites Hotel (7750 Briaridge Drive; northeast corner of IH-10 and Loop 410).

The presentation will be the City of San Antonio regarding building emergency preparedness and will be sponsored by Joe W. Fly Co, Inc.

**Please RSVP no later than Monday, July 20th at 5:00pm.**

If you must cancel your attendance, please email Britney Brantley at [saabetx@gmail.com](mailto:saabetx@gmail.com) BY **MONDAY, JULY 20TH, 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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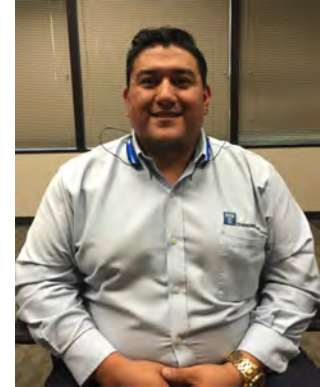
#### Journeyman Level

Dedicated Landscape Solutions

Fox Service Company

Voss Lighting

## Engineer Spotlight



### Joshua Benavides

Transwestern

8200 IH-10 West, #810

San Antonio, TX 78230

(210) 825-1185

[joshua.benavides@transwestern.net](mailto:joshua.benavides@transwestern.net)

### Tell us about yourself.

I am originally from San Antonio and graduated from Highlands High School. From high school I joined the military and served in the Navy for six years. I enjoyed my years in the Navy and traveled to over fifty countries. I saw active duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. After completing my Navy tour of duty I came back home to San Antonio. I have been working for Transwestern for 1.5 years now and have been a SAABE member for the same amount of time.

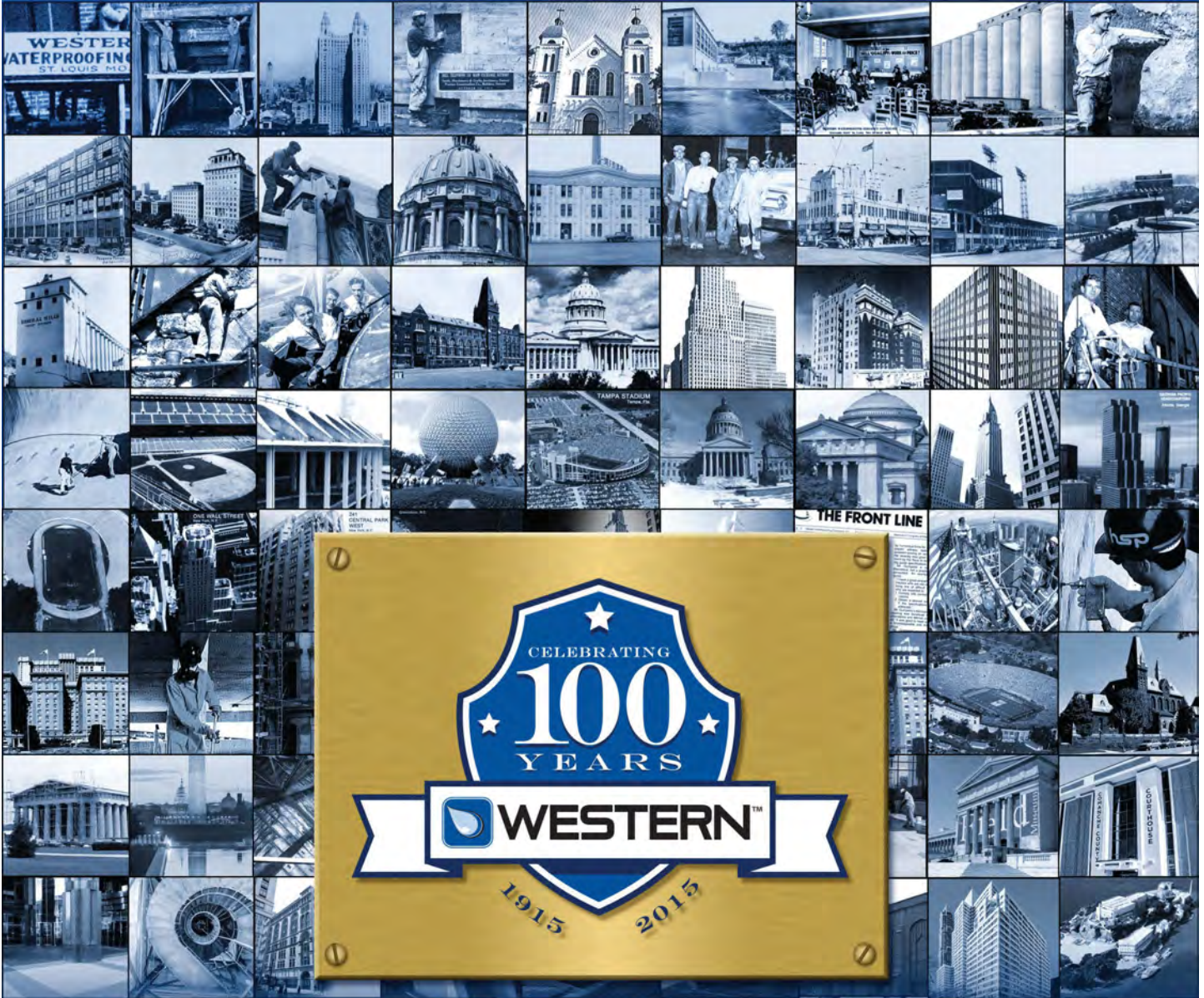
### Any awards, recognition, or special training?

My years in the Navy taught me many things about life and a pride in being an American. Working on a ship teaches you a lot about how mechanical and electrical systems work. This exposure to these kinds of systems motivated me to earn my HVAC license. I am also in the process of earning a bachelor's degree in business management from the University of Phoenix.

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

I enjoy working with my hands and problem solving. I spend off hour's wood working and enjoying my family.

*(Continued on page 3)*



## 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.



## Above the Ceiling

by Paul Thompson, SAABE President

### An Unsettled Spring

One thing about Texas, for better or worse, it's all in. You want dry weather? How about we order up a four year drought? Entire state extremely dry. Wildfires as a forest burns in Bastrop. Crop failures as even irrigated land had no water. Dust storms in Lubbock. Wells drying up. Lakes just going away. The entire flow of the Medina River could go through my bathtub at 6" deep. Praying for rain...

Be careful what you ask for. Since mid-April, something changed. Seems every time I looked at the weather forecast, it showed rain seven days out. Not just rain, but rain of legendary proportions putting the Blanco River 27' above flood stage within a matter of hours as it hit unsuspecting Wimberly. Turning downtown Houston into a lake and every low water crossing in San Antonio into a torrent. And hail. And high winds and tornadoes with a deadly F-5 hitting right across the border. Trees dropping branches or entire trees coming down. Along with lightning strikes off the charts and power failures; outages, single phasing, spikes, etc. The lake bed in front of my house, dry since the spillway blew out in '07, was up to the banks! And every day I'd go outside and the single thing that struck me was just the unsettled feeling in the air, like something was always fixing to happen.

(cont'd...)

And maybe it did to you. I'm certain everyone is pin-balling through your delicate electronics or taking out motors? Trees down in need of a chain saw? Hail damage on those condenser coils on the roof? Any foundation issues as our dried out ground got saturated? Don't forget about the hidden damage that mold can do in something that stays wet for too long. You might have had some unwanted snakes or other critters find their way to you. And the bugs: don't ask me about the mosquitoes, flies, fleas, etc., etc.

And so we move on. Survey the damage, patch things up and maybe spend a little time talking about some lessons learned and how we'll be more ready next time. Hail guards on the condensers, maybe surge suppressors/loss of phase monitors on the big AC equipment, anything else need to go on the generator, get on top of those roof leaks!

We took the drought, we'll take the flood.

### Engineer Spotlight (continued)

#### Family/children?

My wife and I have one son, three dogs and a cat.

#### Tell us about an interesting experience you had in the Navy.

One memorable experience was being dispatched to the Suez Canal to provide support in combating the pirating activity that occurred a few years ago. If any of you have seen the movie Captain Phillips our ship was directly involved in the events that occurred in this film. Being involved first hand was a stressful experience. It was really interesting to see the movie after the fact to learn how the entire series of events unfolded.



### INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING?

Contact Britney Brantley, SAABE  
Association Manager at  
saabetx@gmail.com for advertising  
opportunities and rates!

## THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY

By Doug Graves



Don't miss the next The Good, the Bad & the Ugly meeting!

**THURSDAY JULY 18TH AT 11:15 AM**

We are looking for places to visit or discuss about:

1. **Another VFR site** to visit with a Mitsubishi, Samsung or other type bigger VFR systems so we can compare to recent Daikin.
2. **Recent lighting retrofits** ideas, projects or plans with or without CPS rebate.
3. Any good stories about **CPS rebates** and/or lack of rebates or drop in demand rates if demand reductions were done.
4. Primary Secondary chilled water systems sites or special HVAC systems to visit.
5. LEED buildings or build-outs, new or old or is **ANYONE** in town doing **ONGOING LEED** certification or.....  
is everyone just getting their LEED plaque and ...  
**"sitting back on their silver or gold plaque"??**


Does any SAABE vendors or members have a site with any of these above things (on anything unusual) going on?

If so... Call Doug Graves at [210-870-0903](tel:210-870-0903) or [210-243-2213](tel:210-243-2213).

**Bring your good or bad stories, we'll provide the ugly!**

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## Be in the know....



## City accepting nominations for SA Tomorrow Sustainability Awards

The City of San Antonio's Office of Sustainability is now accepting nominations for the inaugural SA Tomorrow Sustainability Awards, an event showcasing breakthroughs and innovations addressing the three pillars of sustainability – social, economic and environmental. Previously known as the Green Building Awards, the SA Tomorrow Sustainability Awards spotlight the City of San Antonio's SA Tomorrow initiative.

The SA Tomorrow Sustainability Awards will honor programs, projects and building structures that promote sustainability through engagement with the people who use it and the environment that surrounds it. The awards feature categories for new commercial and residential construction and retrofit projects. The City of San Antonio has expanded the timeframe of eligible projects and structures initiated or constructed between Jan. 1, 2010 and Dec. 31, 2014.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, July 10, 2015. Nomination forms are available at the [City of San Antonio Office of Sustainability](#). Winners will be announced at a special awards ceremony on Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 at the Carver Theater, 226 N Hackberry.

SA Tomorrow is a three-plan approach to guide San Antonio toward smart, sustainable growth with efforts to preserve our resources and quality of life. The initiative aims to address issues of importance to the entire community including air and water quality, energy efficiency, transportation, jobs and housing through the following plans: the Comprehensive Plan, the Sustainability Plan and the Multimodal Transportation Plan.

For more information on the SA Tomorrow Sustainability Awards, contact Liza Meyer, Office of Sustainability at (210) 207-1449 or by email at [liza.meyer@sanantonio.gov](mailto:liza.meyer@sanantonio.gov).

### IECC: Learn about San Antonio's newly adopted international code

Join us for a special chapter luncheon for an update on the newly adopted 2015 International Energy Conservation Code and how this could effect energy efficiency in design and construction.

Thursday, July 9, 2015  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm

[\*\*REGISTER NOW\*\*](#)

Location:  
[The Barn Door](#)

Cost:  
Member: \$30  
Non-member: \$40  
Student: \$20



CENTRAL TEXAS - BALCONES

During this presentation you will learn about the major impacts of how the IECC 2015 effects the mechanical, electrical, plumbing and building envelope systems. You will also learn what the code required of the design professional for construction documents and how the changes impact design considerations. This technical presentation highlights changes in newly adopted 2015 version of the International Energy Conservation Code, especially as they relate to the building design and commissioning process. This presentation discuss the major impacts to building design in the HVAC design and equipment selection, lighting controls, thermal envelope, fenestration and commissioning process for HVAC.

USGBC Central Texas-Balcones Chapter monthly luncheons include networking time, lunch, and valuable insights from thought-leaders and researchers related to sustainability and the building industry in the region.

Participants: USGBC Central Texas-Balcones members and non-members are welcome.

*Refunds for USGBC CT-B events will only be given as a result of cancellation by the Chapter.*

## May 2015 Luncheon Summary

by Mark Rybczynski

The May's meeting was called to order and the speakers put on a great presentation about access control and what we should look for when installing in our buildings and what questions to ask. Also they introduced us to a pretty cool lock that works off our cell phones. These phones are taking over the world. Thank you Mark Howell and Levi Truillo from IDN-Acme for this presentation.

The picnic was held on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. At Kane's OL' River Hideaway and registration will start at 9am. A big thank goes out to John Leifester for taking care of the BBQ, Texas Fifth wall roofing for the sides and deserts and Voss lighting for water and sodas. This was a great event and we had a good turnout. Thank you to all the board members that worked on this event.

The good, the bad and ugly will be discussing variable refrigerants systems this month they will be having a tour this week, at Cleary Zimmermann Engineers, 1344 S Flores St #101.....San Antonio, TX 78204, this Thursday at 11:30 am to about 12:30 pm. Please bring your own lunch.

First Thursday training will be June 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:30. The presenter will be VRV Technology & Systems presented by Chris Richardson. Thank you CRAM roofing for the May's training.

Membership directories were passed out last month if you did not receive one please attend the next meeting in July as we will not be having a general meeting this month due to the picnic.



**The 2015 Membership Directory is now available! If you are an active member, pick your copy up at the July luncheon!**

## Vendor Rep Report

by Randy Cummings



Thanks to everyone who came out and helped at the SAABE Picnic. We had a great time even with the threat of rain and the higher than been in 7 years Guadalupe River that we couldn't play in. How great it is to see our rivers and lakes full of water again! As we come into the dog days of summer and everyone is off on

family vacations remember to stay safe and cool. As SAABE continues to grow now is the time to step up and help the organization prosper. There are several committees to join and consider running for a board position. Everyone's help is needed to make SAABE run.

I'm always looking for vendors interested in doing a monthly presentation. Remember this is an educational only presentation and a sales pitch or catalog advertisement of your services will not be tolerated. As always I want to hear the engineers feedback on the presentations or ideas on new topics. As always remember to RSVP.

### 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](http://www.saabe.org).



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



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# 10TH ANNUAL SAABE / PHIL ANDERSON MEMORIAL PICNIC

by Roland Trevino

First of all, let me start off by saying thank you to everyone who came out despite the weather and ban of water activities at the venue. Very special thanks go out to all the SAABE BOARD members who went the extra mile to help pull off the entire project. Your hard work and dedication did not go unnoticed and unappreciated.

We had a great time at Kane's Ol' River Hideaway in New Braunfels and thanks to the Bob & Kim Kane for helping us pull off a great event!

Once again John Leifester with Dedicated Landscaping, Randy Cummings with Gerloff Company were both on point with the BBQ, Kendal Langenberg & Voss Lighting provided drinks and newcomer Michelle Bolt with Texas 5th Wall Roofing did great with all the sides.

After the clouds blew out the sun made an appearance, the horseshoe competition was underway. Eight teams participated in the tournament but only one team took the first place title! Along with the years worth of bragging rights. Congratulations to Lee Moore & Nate Martinez!

The grand prize winner at the picnic this year was Louis Vega....Congrats.

Thank you all SAABE members and vendors alike! We couldn't have done it without you. See ya'll next year!



SAABE President, Paul Thompson & his wife, Dee.



SAABE BOD Members (L to R): Louis Vega, 2nd VP, Britney Brantley, Association Manager, Roland Trevino, 1st VP, Lee Moore, Treasurer, Kendal Langenberg, Membership Chair, John Leifester, Education Chair & Randy Cummins, Vendor Rep





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Kendal Langenberg & Sons



Horseshow Tournament Winners: Nate Martinez, and Lee Moore with his son, Lane Moore.



Roland Trevino, Louis Vega & Randy Cummings handing out door prizes!

**THANK YOU TO OUR FOOD AND DRINK SPONSORS!**



Michelle Bolt with her daughter Reagan.





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## SAABE May First Thursday Training Seminar

DUE TO THE INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY, **WE WILL NOT BE HOSTING A FIRST THURSDAY TRAINING IN JULY.** PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS ON THE AUGUST FIRST THURSDAY TRAINING SOON!



**CONTACT BRITNEY BRANTLEY AT  
SAABETX@GMAIL.COM  
TO FIND OUT HOW!**



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## Education Corner

By John Leifester

With all the plans for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, what do you remember most about Independence Day growing up as a kid.

I remember getting together with cousins, and relatives and having a big party. QWe would have a bbq, drinks and of course, a piñata and fireworks for all the kids.

I also remember sitting with my Uncles and Grandfathers and listening them tell us kids about the wars. How brave men and woman have fought and died to protect our freedoms and rights, and I will always be thankful for those who have served. It was our rights being impeded on that formed this great nation.

This 4<sup>th</sup> of July, thank a soldier, past and present. And remember that Independence Day is truly a gift. Enjoy your weekend with your families, and have safe travels wherever you may go.

Again, if you would like to sponsor, please contact me at [john@dedicatedls.com](mailto:john@dedicatedls.com) or on my cell at 210-771-7081.

Thanks and I hope you all have a blessed July.

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Association of Building Engineers

## SAABE TIMES May 2015 Issue

PO Box 781261  
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### **Final Thought:**

“Do not be angry with the rain; it simply does not know how to fall upwards.”

—Vladimir Nabokov

## 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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