



# SAABE TIMES

A publication of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers

July 2016

Mark Your Calendar

## JOIN US FOR OUR AUGUST MEETING!

The next General Membership Meeting of the San Antonio Association of Building Engineers is set for 11:30 am on **THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2016** at the University United Methodist Church located at 5084 DeZavala Road.

Check the SAABE website for details on the presentation in August.

**RSVPs are due no later than FRIDAY, AUGUST 12TH, 2016. YOU MUST RSVP, OUR NEW VENUE CANNOT ACCOMMODATE WALK-INS.**

If you must cancel your attendance, please email Britney Brantley at [saabetx@gmail.com](mailto:saabetx@gmail.com) BY **FRIDAY AUGUST 12TH 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!**

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## Above the Ceiling

by Paul Thompson, SAABE President

### City Codes Update

So, you saw an extra charge of \$153.00 on your SAWS water bill, something about a Failure to Comply; what gives? And then, last week the Fire Marshal shows up and politely asks if you can give him a tour of your building to look at fire extinguishers, fire alarm control panel, fire walls, fire pump, sprinklers, etc.; he also mentions something about a fee (did he say \$650?) that you KNOW you did not budget for. If you are considering a new seal coat for your asphalt parking lot, be advised that costs may be going up next year also. What's going on? Well, real briefly, some new codes requirements are being adopted or are now going into effect through SAWS and the City of San Antonio:

**Important Updates to the Irrigation Checkup Requirement for 2016.** As of this year, failure to comply with SAWS annual irrigation checkup requirements by May 1<sup>st</sup> will result in an **annual fine of \$153.00. An additional monthly rate of \$0.0969 per 100 gallons used (or about \$1.00 per 1,000 gallons)** shall continue until requirements of the checkup have been met.

In addition, **top user properties** with over 2.5 million gallons consumption in the previous calendar year must submit copies of the **Irrigation System Analysis Form** before May 1<sup>st</sup> (in addition to submittal of the Online Irrigation Checkup form) to complete the compliance process. This detailed analysis includes schedules documentation, identifying and action taken for maintenance, calculation of peak season totals, etc.; VERY DETAILED.

There are additional rules, exemptions not shown here. Please **contact** Chad Cospers at [Chad.Cospers@saws.org](mailto:Chad.Cospers@saws.org) phone 210-233-3028 for more info. For the Irrigation System Analysis Form and an FAQ with more detailed info, checkout: [http://www.saws.org/conservation/commercial/irrigationcheckup\\_notice.cfm](http://www.saws.org/conservation/commercial/irrigationcheckup_notice.cfm)

**Take away:** the cost of water irrigation wasting is going up. Maintain your irrigation systems, check your bill for extra charges and check to make sure you are in compliance.

### **San Antonio sets new High Rise Fire Code regulations.**

This is a new program by the San Antonio Fire Marshals' office, largely in response to the Wedgewood fire of 12/29/2014 when five people died in an older, unsprinklered 11 story residence. San Antonio Fire Department Division Chief Randy Jenkins is in charge of this program; Captain Mike Tolar is doing the inspections. The new ordinance applies to ALL buildings in the City of San Antonio with a floor 75' or greater than street level. **To read all about it,** go to [sanantonio.gov/safd](http://sanantonio.gov/safd) and type in High Rise; this will bring you to a page that has four documents you can open or download. Basically, these consist



**2016 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORIES ARE READY!**

**BE SURE TO PICK UP YOUR COPY AT THE AUGUST LUNCHEON!**

- High Rise Retrofit Sprinkler Ordinance. This went into effect November 2015 and basically **requires the owners of all high rises to have their buildings fully sprinklered within 12 years.**
- High Rise Retrofit Sample Letter. This is a sample Letter of Intent meant to be sent from the affected high rise owner/operator to the City of San Antonio Fire Marshal showing that they intend to follow the new law and get their building sprinklered. It is **due by October 1, 2016.**
- High Rise Inspection Letter. This was a letter sent by the COSA Fire Marshal 12/10/2015 to owner/operators of all high rises explaining that the City is starting a new annual fire inspection program and listing fees (**\$650.00 up to ten stories, \$850.00 eleven stories and above**).
- San Antonio High Rise Inspection Checklist. A basic checklist of all the systems that they will be looking at.

**Take away:** Fire officials will now be holding the owner/operators of all High Rise buildings to a higher standard than previously. As long as you do your job, no problem.

**City outlaws use of Coal Tar for asphalt seal coating.** Beginning in 2017, San Antonio will join several other Texas cities and become the largest city in the country to ban the use of these type sealants. The goal is to prevent the compounds (a known cancer risk) from getting into storm sewers and ground water.

**Take away:** A product will go away, another (probably more expensive, possibly not as durable) will take it's place and life will go on. Anyone remember chromate? Me neither.

If you can't count on anything else, you can count on change. Learn to roll with the changes, life goes on.



## 11th Annual SAABE / Phil Anderson Memorial Picnic

by Lauren Littlefield

Thank you to those who came out to our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual SAABE picnic at Kane's 'Ol River Hideaway in New Braunfels, especially to the board members who worked so hard to plan and organize the event. The weather was great, despite a little rain, and we were lucky enough to enjoy the river this year along with water guns and a giant water slide for the kiddos! A big shout out to John Leifester with Dedicated Landscapes who grilled up his award worthy BBQ and his juicy brisket that we are all still dreaming about. (Did you know he competes in 15 BBQ competitions a year? Thanks for saving us a weekend John!) We were able to quench our thirst thanks to Kendal Langenberg with Voss Lighting who provided beverages and of course a BBQ would not be complete without some delectable sides and desserts provided by Michelle Bolt with Texas 5<sup>th</sup> Wall Roofing. So many awesome door prizes were handed out from coolers to Yeti cups, to buck knives, gift cards, and spot lights. But, the grand prize went to David Reed who took home a Gas BBQ grill! Hey Dave, maybe if you're lucky, John will tell you his secret ingredients... well, wishful thinking at least! We had an exciting horseshoe tournament, with Dwayne Putney and Travis Grebe taking third, Pedro Cantu and Josh Benavides winning second place and the winners of the horse shoe tournament that dominated first place were Oscar & Jenise Flores! Through SAABE serves, we also donated the pool toys and floats to Pools for Kids by Todd Arredondo, a local organization that provides pool and water activities to those that are less fortunate. Hope to see everyone next year! Have a happy, safe a cool summer!





# 11th Annual SAABE / Phil Anderson Memorial Picnic

**CHECK OUT THE SAABE  
WEBSITE FOR MORE  
PICTURES!**





## Vendor Rep Report by Dwayne Putney



In Light of recent events in Dallas, I find myself concerned about the state of our great nation. This being an election year we once again have an opportunity to elect change, be sure your voice is realized and vote. Whenever there is a collection of people gathered for a common purpose differences in options are going to arise. This is true within our SAABE organization, our next area of opportunity is the CBE program. We are looking for recommendations and solutions from the collected body of our organization to

develop a new CBE certification. I look forward to seeing all of you at our next General Meeting, as always remember to RSVP...

Our July SAABE luncheon was sponsored by Amcon Controls with Bob Barnaby and a presentation Honeywell regarding their partnership with CPS Energy on the Demand Response Program. It was a great presentation, thank you to both companies for providing SAABE with vital information. 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, 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.

## Membership Memo by Kendal Langenberg



Wow, what a GREAT picnic last month! Every single year, I greatly anticipate John's masterfully-prepared brisket, hoping that it will again live up to my memory of being the "best brisket in the world" – and once again, I was not disappointed! And then to enjoy the fun, fellowship, door prizes, horseshoes, and decent weather on top of the fantastic food – what a day! Special thanks go out to Lauren, John, Britney, our vendor sponsors, and so many others who helped make this yet another successful SAABE picnic. These events are a great reminder of ALL of the benefits of SAABE. Sure, we all understand that education is huge for this organization. But there are also so many other benefits and blessings of being part of SAABE! Let's all continue to promote our great organization with everyone in the industry who is missing out. And as always, remember that I'm here to help as your membership director...feel free to send any potential new engineers or new vendors my way.

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## Education Corner

By John Leifester



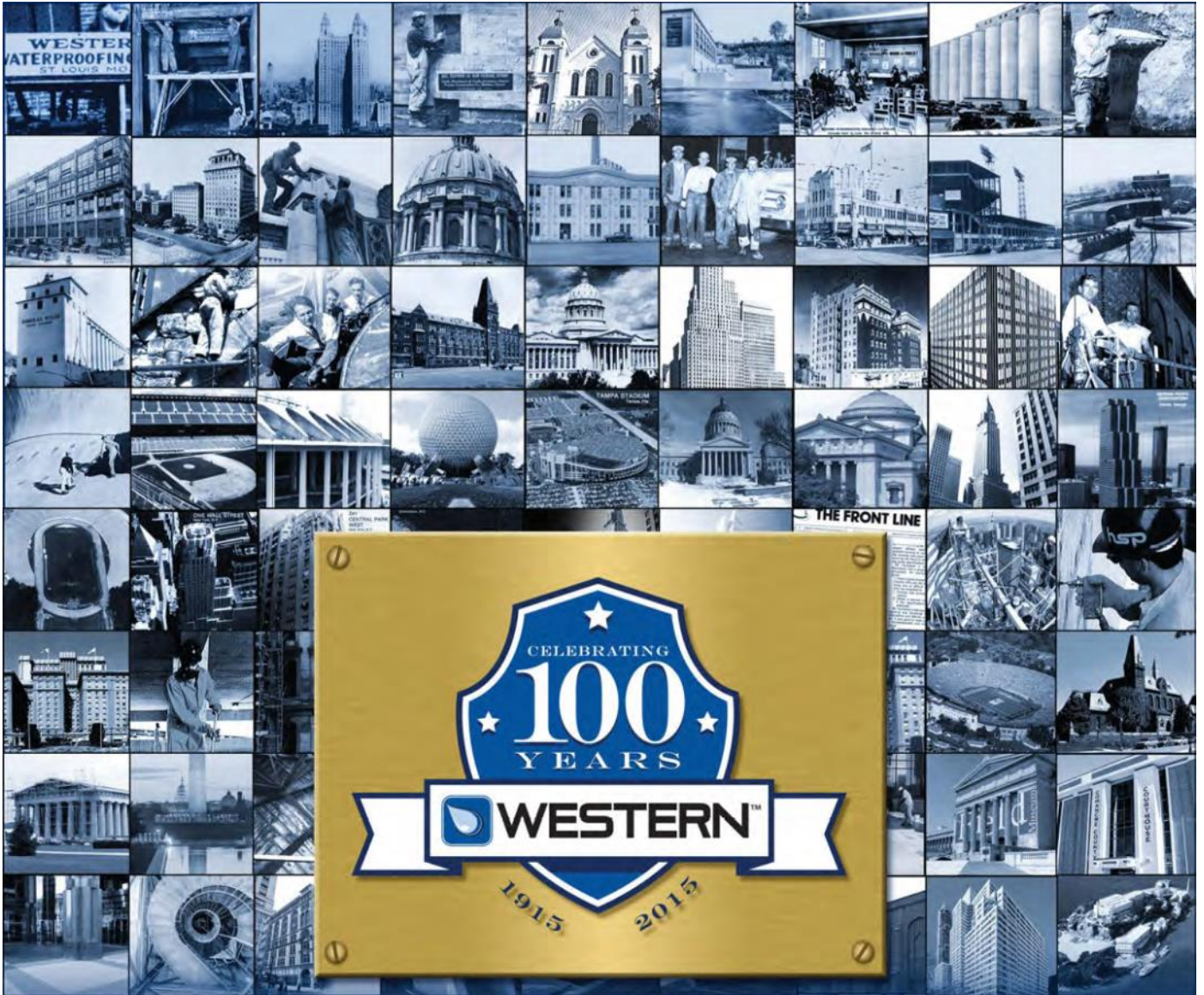
Howdy!

Our August First Thursday training will be held on August 4, 2016. Mike Layman with Mechanical Reps, Inc. will be presenting on Spirotherm-Hydronic Air and Dirt Elimination. You will be getting an email this week to RSVP. If you are interested in sponsoring training, please let me know. Please see the SAABE website for more information.

We are seeking sponsors for the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Trainings for 2016. If you haven't sponsored before, please take a moment to consider. 20-30 engineers in a captive audience listening to you educate them on your field and products related to it. That is a dream audience. Please don't hesitate to contact me at

[john@dedicatedls.com](mailto:john@dedicatedls.com) or on my cell at 210-771-7081.





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## **IMPORTANT UPDATE ON OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS!**

SAABE WILL BE CHANGING OUR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS VENUE. GOING FORWARD, OUR LUNCHEONS WILL BE HELD AT **UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LOCATED AT 5084 DEZAVALA ROAD.**

OUR LUNCHEONS WILL BE ON THE **THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH**, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF JUNE WHERE THERE WILL BE NO LUNCHEON DUE TO THE SAABE SOCIAL PICNIC.

**OUR NEW VENUE CANNOT ACCOMMODATE WALKINS.** IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU SUBMIT YOUR RSVPS ON TIME. THE RSVPS WILL BE DUE ON THE **FRIDAY BEFORE THE LUNCHEON.** ANYONE THAT MISSES THE DEADLINE MAY ATTEND THE LUNCHEON, BUT WILL ONLY BE SERVED A LUNCH IF THERE ARE NO-SHOWS. THIS WILL BE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE. IF YOU DO NOT RSVP ON TIME AND THERE ARE NOT ANY NO-SHOWS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO VIEW THE PRESENTATION, BUT WILL NOT BE SERVED A MEAL.

PLEASE CHECK [WWW.SAABE.ORG](http://WWW.SAABE.ORG) FOR MORE DETAILS.



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Association of Building Engineers

**SAABE TIMES**  
**July 2016 Issue**

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

“What we hope ever to do with ease, we must first learn to do with diligence.”  
– Samuel Johnson

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