



The Monitor

Louisiana Section of Air & Waste Management Association

Special points of interest:

- LSU Student Chapter hosts A&WMA Webinar with Paul Algu!
- 3rd Annual LA Section Golf Tournament
- Boiler MACT Workshop and March Dinner Meeting
- An Inconvenient Irony—Hydraulic Fracking
- Southwest Chapter Update

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Have an idea for the Monitor?
Send it to the editor to see your thoughts in action!
Contact
[Mary Claire Lambert](mailto:MaryClaire.Lambert@awma.org)

Message from the Chair

For the regulated community and consultants in our profession, “Compliance Season” is our busiest time of the year. In the first four months of the year we have to submit Tier II Chemical Inventory Reports, Title V Annual Compliance Certifications, Title V Semi-annual Monitoring Reports, Hazardous Waste Generator Reports, Solid and Hazardous Waste Financial Assurance Reports, Specific Requirement Reports, Greenhouse Gas Emission Reports, NESHAP Reports, and Annual Emission Inventory Reports (did I miss any?). And if that isn’t enough, this year we threw in a two day Boiler MACT Workshop. It’s enough to stress anyone out!

We all deal with stress in different ways. For me, letting off some steam by acting silly every once in awhile helps. For others, a day in the garden or on the golf course helps. So, with Compliance Season complete, May 2 was the perfect day to relax on the golf course at the YP Golf Tournament at Pelican Point. Jason Midgett and his committee did a fantastic job getting sponsors and players. The rain even held off (mostly) until we were safe under roof eating crawfish. There was plenty of delicious food on the course and lots of camaraderie among the teams.

The YP Golf Tournament raises money for the “YP to ACE” program to assist deserving Young Professional in attending the Annual Conference and Exhibition. This year’s ACE will be the week of June 24 in Chicago. The A&WMA Technical Committee and local host committee always do a fantastic job of putting on a conference full of technical information and some fun on the side. If you haven’t made your plans yet to attend, it’s not too late to take advantage of the early registration fees.

Our May meeting this year is also a combination of technical information and fun. We return after a several year absence to Middendorf’s in Manchac. Dr. Robert Moreau with Southeastern Louisiana University will lead two trips to Turtle Cove Environmental Research Station and discuss the important work being done there to understand the coastal wetland environment. After the tour we will relax on the deck and enjoy Middendorf’s famed seafood.

The Fall Conference committee has begun planning for this year’s conference to be held October 29 and 30 at the Crown Plaza in Baton Rouge. The call for abstracts will go out soon so be looking for it. If there is a specific topic you would like to see at the conference, please let conference co-chairs Bill Palermo and Jennifer Tullier know.

During the golf tournament, pictures were taken of each team. The photographers

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asked each team to take a normal, serious picture and then to do something silly. My team complied but most teams chose not to. My challenge to all for next year is to top our silly picture! After all, we are serious environmental professionals but we don't have to be serious all the time! Now, back to all that work that was pushed to the back burner during Compliance Season!



Karen Brignac

LA Section Chair

Left: Karen and team at the 3rd Annual LA Section Golf Tournament

LSU Student Chapter

The LSU student chapter recently hosted the A&WMA YP Webinar, "Jump Start Your Environmental Career" at the Renewable Natural Resources building on campus. One of the webinar speakers was LSU alumnus Paul Algu, who spoke on his experiences as a young professional and recent graduate. The live stream of the webinar was attended by members of Dr. Maud Walsh's EMS 3040 class, who learned valuable networking and career advice from the panel. This event would not have been possible without the support of the LSU Superfund Research Center, Dr. Walsh, and new student chapter chair Brittany Dupre. Thanks to all who support our burgeoning Louisiana Section student chapters and be sure to look for more events in the future!

Paul Algu

LA Section YP Member

Top Right: Paul Algu and members of Dr. Maud Walsh's environmental management systems class.

Bottom Right: Students of Dr. Walsh's class



The 3rd Annual LA Section Golf Tournament

The 3rd Annual LA Section Golf Tournament was hosted by the YP Group on May 2nd. A full course of players dodged a few rain drops but were able to get in a full round. Over \$300 was raised for DonorsChoose.org from mulligan purchases to help fund a Louisiana teacher's classroom science project. The success of the 2013 tournament supports the "YP to ACE" program, awarding sponsorship for deserving YPs within the LA Section to attend the Association's Annual Conference (ACE) in Chicago. The tournament also supports the growth of the YP Group and provides new opportunities for YP members to be involved in A&WMA throughout the year.

Thank you to all of the players, sponsors, and volunteers that made this year's tournament happen with great success. A special thank you to Platinum Sponsors C-K Associates, and Sage Environmental Consulting, L.P., and our Gold Sponsor Chicago Bridge & Iron (CB&I). Many thanks to the on course sponsors (food & drinks), Conestoga-Rovers & Associates (CRA), CB&I, One Source EHS, Compliance Consultants, Inc. (CCI), Environmental Resource Management (ERM), and C-K who all provided goodies throughout the day to tournament participants. The tournament was capped off this year with a crawfish boil sponsored by Steve Kent Trucking and cooked by Mr. Chucky LeJeune of Ashley Manor/Bayou Bistro. The awards program was sponsored by Tidal Tank.

Jason Midgett

Young Professional Chair



Top Left: Tournament sponsors and display board; Top Right: Golfers on the way to their first holes;

Bottom Left: The winning team, URS; Bottom Right: Awards Ceremony crawfish boil.

The Boiler MACT Introductory Workshop: A Brief Reflection

On March 21, 2013, the Louisiana Section A&WMA Young Professionals held a workshop to introduce the regulatory foundation of EPA's final Boiler MACT rule. ERM generously sponsored the workshop, which helped to provide the room, AV equipment, drinks, and snacks for the participants. The workshop served as a primer for the subsequent Boiler MACT Workshop, which was held in New Orleans on April 23-24 and sponsored by the International A&WMA organization. The introductory workshop included presentations by both attorneys and consultants regarding the Boiler MACT rule; their contributions culminated in six different presentations facilitated by Diane Leche, from ExxonMobil. Each presentation addressed unique aspects of the rule and its effects.



Above: Diane Leche, Jason Swofford, Karen Blakemore and George Holder

First, Karen Blakemore, an attorney with Phelps Dunbar, explained the background of the Boiler MACT rule, which is located at 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart DDDDD. Ms. Blakemore's presentation generally covered the different stages of the rule, from its genesis through the recent Revised Final Rule published in February of 2013. Second, George Holder, a Senior Engineer for ERM, discussed the final Boiler MACT rule for major sources. In addition to explaining the rule, Mr. Holder also discussed its significance, noting that the rule affects 200,000 boilers and other combustion units nationwide, provides consistent compliance requirements, and tightens allowable emission limits for some regulated pollutants. He also addressed the various exemptions to the Boiler MACT rule. Third, Jason Swofford, a consultant with Trinity Consultants, discussed the application of the Boiler MACT rule in two case studies, one involving multiple gas-fired units and the other involving a wood-fired unit. Fourth, Ms. Blakemore discussed the final Area Source Rule and noted its unique effect on the Louisiana sugar cane processing industry. Fifth, Mr. Holder discussed the related Boiler GACT rule and its applicability to non-major sources. Sixth, and finally, Mr. Holder discussed strategies for compliance with the new Boiler MACT rule. He stressed early action to gain an understanding of the rule, identify its applicability, and create a strategy and schedule for compliance.

As young lawyers not very familiar with the Boiler MACT rule, we particularly enjoyed and benefitted from the different perspectives presented by the speakers. We found that the different backgrounds of the panel members provided a well-balanced presentation of the rule and its effects. Ms. Blakemore's presentations provided us, and the other lawyers in the audience, with a valuable overview of the rule's history and application. Mr. Holder's and Mr. Swofford's presentations balanced the legal discussions by highlighting technical details particularly relevant for the industry and consultant audience members. The variety among the presentations, as well as the examples discussed throughout, allowed us to walk away with a general understanding of the rule's application and effects.

The Louisiana Section A&WMA Young Professionals would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the speakers for their time and contribution to the Boiler MACT Introductory Workshop and ERM for serving as the Workshop sponsor. The event hosted a great turnout of (both young and experienced) environmental professionals.

Sarah Y. Dicharry
Megan J. Spencer
Environmental Attorneys

March Dinner Meeting

A&WMA: four letters that have a huge impact on professionals within the environmental field in Louisiana. Through the Air and Waste Management Association, not only are networking opportunities expanded, but the organization provides valuable information related to new and existing environmental programs and regulations. At the March 2013 dinner meeting, professionals from the southern part of Louisiana were able to hear two great presentations from Dr. Samuel Washington of Southern University and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ).

The Louisiana Section is trying to strengthen the organization's connection with local universities. Dr. Samuel Washington, the Director of Southern University's Center for Energy and Environmental Studies, spoke to the meeting attendees about environmental programs at Southern. Dr. Washington brought a few of his students with him for networking opportunities. The LA Section is looking forward to working with Dr. Washington and the students in his program.

The evening started out with a cocktail hour in which participants were able to meet and mingle. Contrary to popular belief, a room full of environmental specialists can be quite lively!! Conversation even branched out from the usual "regulation" or "calculation" chit-chat as a suggested icebreaker was used to get parties introduced to one another. Each person was required to find someone who shared the same birthday month as their own and introduce themselves. From personal experience, it is A&WMA interactions like these that begin lifelong work relationships and friendships. The networking is great!

As the evening settled down, dinner was served and the first of two presentations began. In the first presentation, Jackie Heber, a staff scientist with LDEQ, presented information about the Emissions Reporting Inventory Center (ERIC) for Emissions Inventory (EI) reporting. In the second presentation of the night, Celena Cage and Leigh Gauthreaux, Enforcement Division Representatives, presented valuable information on the completion of compliance reports. Both presentations spoke on frequent errors made while submitting these reports and provided helpful resources to aid those who may not be familiar with the programs.



Above: Jackie Heber, Leigh Gauthreaux and Speaker Chair Michael Waguespack.



Above: Chair Karen Brignac, Dr. Samuel Washington and Celena Cage

By listening to these presentations and understanding exactly what LDEQ desires within their reports, the quality of air emissions data can be improved. With these enhancements, the Air Permit Division of LDEQ will have a high quality comprehensive report of the criteria and toxic air pollutants in Louisiana. This data can provide the information needed to refine the regulations and programs for the future and enrich the air quality within this great state. All in all, the A&WMA March dinner meeting was definitely a success. Thank you to all the presenters!

Evan Burns

A&WMA YP Member

An Inconvenient Irony

Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, remains the target of many environmental groups and some governments who seek to prohibit or significantly curtail the practice. Fracking, however, has provided an abundance of cheap natural gas, which has played a major role in the dramatic decrease in the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted in the United States. The decrease in CO₂ and the role fracking has played in it has created an interesting, and perhaps inconvenient, irony.

The combustion of fossil fuels (such as coal, oil, and natural gas) in the energy, transportation, and industrial sectors creates the vast majority of greenhouse gases (GHG). Coal combustion creates much more CO₂ than the combustion of natural gas. CO₂ is the most abundant of GHG and remains in the atmosphere much longer than other GHG, such as methane. Although methane and other GHG have a higher global warming potential, the large amount of CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere has been a major focus of the climate change (formerly known as 'global warming') debate. Recent Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations and the Kyoto Protocol are examples of national and international efforts spurred by environmental groups seeking massive decreases in CO₂ emissions.

For its part, though, the United States has decreased its CO₂ emissions. The most recent data establishes that the amount of CO₂ emissions in the US has dropped to the lowest they have been in about twenty years. Emissions in the US peaked in 2007 at 6.1 million metric tons, but fell to 5.6 million metric tons in 2011. The average emissions since 2007 has been 5,691 million metric tons per year.

The main cause for the sudden and appreciable decline in CO₂ emissions? Cheap and plentiful natural gas. Fracking has become widespread throughout the country, from Texas' Barnett Shale, to Louisiana's Haynesville Shale, to South Dakota's Bakken Shale, and to Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale. Even Gov. Jerry Brown of California has suggested that California should consider fracking to tap into the state's vast fossil fuel reserves. In turn, the abundance of natural gas has driven costs down, causing many power companies to burn much more of it, thus reducing the amount of CO₂ emitted. Although the EPA has issued stringent emissions guidelines for coal-fired power plants seeking to curb CO₂ emissions, they have not yet been fully implemented. Instead, the market, through cheap natural gas, has begun a trend that may accomplish what costly EPA regulations have not yet achieved.

However, fracking, the cause of the decrease in natural gas prices and the underlying cause of the recent decrease in CO₂ emissions, remains under fire from the very same entities that support mandatory decreases in CO₂ emissions. For example, EPA issued a highly controversial draft report regarding shallow groundwater contamination in the Pavillion Field in Wyoming. Even though EPA noted in the report that the fracking at issue in Pavillion was atypical of current fracking practices, many environmental groups have seized on the report as proof of the harm caused by fracking. Further, the federal government itself is moving forward with fracking regulations. The Bureau of Land Management has issued a proposed rule to regulate fracking on federal lands. EPA already requires 'green completions' under Clean Air Act regulations. It plans to issue 'guidance' for fracking when diesel fuels are used under the underground injection control program. States continue to pass legislation and enact regulations designed to development information about fracking fluids and/or ensure safe practices are used in fracking. Some want to prohibit it entirely. In New York, for example, horizontal drilling for shale gas has effectively been halted until a comprehensive environmental impact review is complete.

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In short, fracking has created a market climate that has resulted in a substantial and welcome reductions in CO2 emissions. However, instead of acknowledging the role fracking has played in this achievement and seeking to make it as safe as possible so that more clean-burning natural gas may be produced, many groups and some governments seek to hinder and/or eliminate fracking. The irony that fracking, a practice reviled by environmental groups, has helped decrease CO2 emissions, an outcome long sought by those same groups, seems lost due to their animus to all forms of fossil fuels, even to the use of the one that burns the cleanest.

John King

Environmental Attorney

John B. King is a partner with Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson LLP in Baton Rouge, La. His practice relates mainly to environmental regulatory permitting and compliance. Prior to joining the firm in 2003, he served as chief attorney for enforcement for the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. For more information, please contact John B. King at jbk@bswllp.com or call (225) 381-8014.

Louisiana Science and Engineering Fair

Each year the A&WMA Louisiana Section gives three awards at the Louisiana Science and Engineering Fair. Our award winners for the 2013 Louisiana Science and Engineering Fair were:

First Place: Caroline Trammel, St. Joseph Academy, Topic: The Effects of Soil Bulk Density on the Ability of *Spartina alterniflora* to Resist Simulated Storm Surge Water Force

Second Place: Chelsea Sparrow, St. Joseph Academy, Topic: The Tolerance of Grass Species to Flooding and Waterlogging

Third Place: Kiley Simpson, Caddo Parish Magnet, Topic: The Effect of Natural Ingredients as Herbicidal Agents Against *Salvinia*



Veronica Crow

Membership Chair

Southwest Chapter Update

The Southwest Louisiana Chapter of A&WMA hosted its second quarter luncheon on Tuesday, May 7th, 2013. The event was held at Reeves Uptown Catering in Lake Charles, Louisiana. The lunch featured a regulatory update by Sam Phillips, Assistant Secretary of the Office of Environmental Services of LDEQ. At the luncheon, the chapter also honored Mr. David Monfore, outgoing treasurer for the chapter and an A&WMA member since May 1976, for his many years of service to the chapter and organization.

The SWLA chapter will host its third quarterly luncheon at Reeves Uptown Catering in Lake Charles, Louisiana on Thursday, September 19th. This luncheon will feature Richard Metcalf of Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association (LMOGA) and Henry Graham of the Louisiana Chemical Association (LCA) discussing current environmental issues for the SWLA area. More information regarding this event will be distributed as the event approaches.



Above: Don Johnson, Nominating Chair for SWLA Chapter, presenting David Monfore, outgoing treasurer for his many years of service at quarterly luncheon.



To get more information on future events hosted by the Southwest Louisiana Chapter of A&WMA, please contact Mike Dever (mikedever@providenceeng.com) or Morgan Verrette (morgan.verrette@sageenvironmental.com).

Left: Sam Phillips of LDEQ

Morgan Verrette

SW Chapter Programming Co-Chair

Member Spotlight: Doris Grego

Doris is originally from Puerto Rico, she holds a bachelor degree in chemical engineering from the University of Puerto Rico. She has been working in the environmental arena since 1980, when she moved to New Orleans and began working with Walk, Haydel and Associates. After four years of consulting she came across the opportunity to work with industry. She worked with Monsanto for five years and has been with DuPont for almost 24 years, where she manages the water program and a portion of the air program for the site.

Doris became a member of the Association back in 1984 when it was called the Air Pollution Control Association (APCA). She has served as secretary in three different occasions, served as Corporate Relations Chair for over seven years, and has been Director in various occasions. At a meeting or conference you can find her at the registration table with Carol.

Doris is married and has two daughters. Erica, the oldest one, is working in Houston and Amanda is studying pharmacy at Xavier. She enjoys cooking, gardening, and reading mystery novels.

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Important Dates

May 16, 2013	May Dinner Meeting (Middendorf's in Manchac, LA)
June 25, 2013	2013 Annual Conference and Exhibition (Chicago, IL)
September 19, 2013	SWLA chapter's Third Quarterly Luncheon (Reeves Uptown Catering in Lake Charles, LA)
October 29-30, 2013	2013 LA Section Annual Fall Conference