



The Monitor

The Louisiana Section Newsletter



January 2025

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Message from the Chair

Corey Gautreaux, PPM Consultants, Inc.

It's hard to believe that 2024 has come and gone, the holidays are behind us, and we already planning the first events of 2025. As I begin my first year as Chair of the Louisiana Section, I can't help but thank all of those that have worked so hard to build the Section into one that is looked up to throughout the Air and Waste Management Association both here in the States and across the globe. I know I speak for all our Board Members when I say "thank you" for being part of this incredible organization.

We closed out 2024 with yet another successful Fall Conference thanks to our Conference Planning Committee volunteers, exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees. This event continues to exceed our expectations and show the overwhelming support of the Section. The annual YP Golf Tournament back in May allowed us to all come together on the golf course, practice our long and short game, and support the Section's Young Professionals. Our numerous dinner and lunch meetings allow for networking and information sharing that show the value of your membership.

As we start 2025, I would like to share my vision for the Section over the next two years. As we all navigate our job and personal obligations, I hope to provide opportunities to learn about our ever-evolving environmental world through regularly scheduled lunch/dinner meetings. I believe these meetings are valuable for networking with fellow colleagues and sharing information in a neutral forum. I also look forward to sharing information through our quarterly newsletter, The Monitor, and our new website! Finally, I look forward to continuing our support for our local communities through scholarship opportunities, providing special awards at the Louisiana State Science Fair, and numerous outreach opportunities.

In 2025 the Board will welcome our newly elected Director, John King; Treasurer, Eric Rucinski; and Vice Chair, Ashley Viator. D'Juana Beason will remain as our Secretary and Allyson Morales will move to Past Chair. A special thanks to Jason Midgett, Mary Claire Petit, and Emily von Qualen who will be completing their terms on the Board, but hopefully not becoming strangers.

We have already reserved lunch at Mike Anderson's in Gonzales for January 23rd and I look forward to seeing everyone! Information regarding the 2025 YP Golf Tournament should be hitting your inbox soon.

If you are interested in getting involved or have any feedback you'd like to share, please don't hesitate to reach out. Cheers to a healthy and happy start to the new year!

2024 Annual Conference Review

Jason Midgett, *Placid Refining*

The success of this conference year after year keeps the Louisiana Section volunteers motivated to continue focusing significant effort into its planning. 2024's outcome was no different, the planning committee continues to be overwhelmed with the support the event receives year after year! Our exhibitor floor continues to develop a waitlist, and our gracious sponsors provide us the flexibility to not sweat the small stuff. We continue to receive a good number of abstracts but can always use more, please consider speaking next year and submit an abstract!

We hired a professional development speaker to provide six mini talks instead of a dedicated YP tract this year and we will consider doing similar again next year along with advertising this opportunity early! The waste/remediation tract continues to be a popular addition and will continue. We strive to put on the best event we possibly can in order to justify your time and expense and greatly appreciate everyone's feedback (good and bad).

Looking ahead and after the 2nd Southwest Chapter Conference in February in Lake Charles the 2025 Section conference committee will convene to begin working again. 2025 will be back "on traditional Wednesday/Thursday schedule" with the event continuing to be held at L'Auberge in Baton Rouge on October 29th and 30th.

Thank you to everyone that participated; LDEQ, speakers, abstract submitters, sponsors, exhibitors, and attendees. I hope to see you all again next year! A special thanks to the volunteers and their employers that pull this event together many of which who have been on the team for 5+ years.

Save the Dates

L'Auberge in Baton Rouge
October 29th and 30th, 2025

HON Compliance Workshop

Karen Brignac, *Deltech Monomers OpCo, LLC*

Earlier last year, EPA finalized updates to the Hazardous Organic and Group I Polymers and Resins NESHAP (40 CFR 63 Subparts F, G, H, I, W, and U), as well as several New Source Performance Standards impacting chemical facilities (VVb, IIIa, NNNa, RRRa, and Kc). This 2-day workshop will address these changes in detail with presentations from experts. Presentations will also include lessons learned from other industry's experience implementing similar requirements. We also hope to have the EPA rule writer on hand to answer questions and discuss the background of the changes. Over 25 presentation proposals have been received and the planning committee is currently working on the agenda. If you work for or support a HON facility or plan to install new equipment covered by the new NSPS, please plan to attend to learn how to comply. We hope to have registration open soon – watch your e-mail and the [A&WMA website](#).

April 8-9, 2025 at the Drury Hotel, steps from the French Quarter, in New Orleans, LA. [Sponsorship and display opportunities](#) are available!

HON Compliance Workshop

Implementing Chemical Industry NESHAP and NSPS Updates



April 8-9, 2025
New Orleans, LA

Association Board of Directors Election

The Association's Board of Directors election will run from December 19, 2024 through January 18, 2025. A personalized email and ballot link was sent to all current members on December 19 for voting.

For more information on candidates, please visit the [website](#).

Upcoming Association and Section Events

SAVE THE DATES

January 23, 2025	LA Section Lunch Meeting	Section Event –Gonzales, LA
February 26, 2025 – February 27, 2025	41st International Conference on Thermal Treatment Technologies and Hazardous Waste Combustors	Specialty Conference – Tulsa, OK
March 11, 2025 – March 13, 2025	The Science of PFAS Conference	Specialty Conference – Raleigh, NC
March 27, 2025	LA Section Dinner Meeting	Section Event – Location TBD
April 4, 2025 – April 6, 2025	Leadership Training Academy	Association Training – Pittsburgh, PA
April 8, 2025 – April 9, 2025	HON Compliance Workshop	Specialty Conference – New Orleans, LA
April 23, 2025 – April 25, 2025	Air Quality Measurement Methods and Technology Conference	Specialty Conference – Aurora, CO
May 13, 2025 – May 15, 2025	Advancing PFAS Treatment and Remediation Solutions	Specialty Conference – Minneapolis, MN
May 1, 2025	LA Section Annual YP Golf Tournament	Section Event –Gonzales, LA
June 9, 2025 – June 12, 2025	A&WMA 118th Annual Conference & Exhibition	ACE – Raleigh, NC

For a complete list of Association events and registration information, please visit the [Association's Event Calendar](#). To learn more about the Section's activities please visit the [Section website](#).

2025 Annual Conference & Exhibition

from the Association website: www.awma.org

Raleigh, NC will be the host to the 2025 annual Air & Waste Management Conference & Exhibition. A city renowned for its leadership in environmental research and technological innovation, its proximity to the US EPA, the research triangle, and leading universities makes it the ideal location to foster collaboration between industry leaders, researchers, and policymakers, advancing innovative solutions that promote both equity and resilience.

As the premier global event for air quality, climate change, and environmental management, ACE 2025 will address critical topics such as new regulations and policy, clean technology, sustainable energy futures, environmental and climate justice, PFAS, green transportation solutions, and ESG approaches and reporting. Hot topics include the environmental impact of electric vehicles and battery energy storage, impacts of AI and data centers, the use of satellite data for air quality and emissions assessments, and the future of hydrogen as a fuel.

2024 Charles W. Gruber Association Leadership Award

from the Association website: www.awma.org



The Charles W. Gruber Association Leadership Award is presented to an individual who has provided outstanding service to the Association through leadership positions at both international and local levels and who has contributed toward the achievement of the mission and objectives of the Association. The recipient will have demonstrated sincere, constant, and unselfish efforts over the course of his or her membership toward the betterment of the Association. A&WMA presented the 2024 Charles W. Gruber Association Leadership Award to Bill Palermo.

LA Section Awards Gus VonBodungen Scholarships

Boyd Boswell, T. Baker Smith LLC

Kudos to the students and future leaders. The Louisiana Section of the Air and Waste Management Association (A&WMA) awarded the Gus VonBodungen Scholarship Awards for the Fall 2024/Spring 2025 to 3 deserving recipients. The recipients and their respective university and majors are as follows.

- Emily Phillips-Deshotels – University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL), majoring in Environmental Science
- Julia Morales – Louisiana State University (LSU), majoring in Environmental Management Systems – Risk Analysis
- Brylee Buford – Louisiana State University (LSU), majoring in Coastal and Environmental Sciences

These students received a total of \$10,000 in aggregate and plan to utilize this money to help them continue their education. Additionally, each will become a member of the A&WMA and each hope to attend and be part of the program and community.

While these 3 deserving recipients attended LSU and ULL, applicants from Southern University, the University of New Orleans (UNO), and Tulane University all participated in the application process. The following universities were sent the application information to be shared with their students across various engineering and science curriculums.

- Loyola University
- LSU
- McNeese State University
- Southern University
- ULL
- UNO

Thank you to the A&WMA for making this scholarship available, thank you to the universities and the educators who help engage the students, and a big thank you to the students who applied and continue the momentum of improving communities and creating a better quality of life through a sustainable future. Happy New Year!

Thank You
2024 Conference and Corporate Sponsors
Please keep an eye out for the corporate sponsorship renewals as we move into 2025.

PROVIDENCE TAYLOR PORTER Liskow TRC LANDAU ASSOCIATES ALL4 EAGLE
SPIRIT TotalEnergies GHD BRAND SAFWAY RAMBOLL KOCH METHANOL ST. JAMES A & B Labs
SEMS Inc. TRADEBE IRTP PICARRO RS BREAZEALE, SACHSE & WILSON, L.L.P. ENCINO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES Pace
ExxonMobil CK ASSOCIATES DDG air PPM NOVA Chemicals
TBS T. BAKER SMITH Alliance GREER ENTERPRISES, LLC E3 ENVIRONMENTAL TEAM Industrial Services
OPGAL PLACID Fourier & de Abreu Engineers, L.L.C. element POWER ENGINEERS SET Environmental, Inc. ultra
ENERGY TRANSFER eurofins TRICORD CONSULTING CleanAir Trinity Consultants

Board News:

Meet Your New Board Members



Treasurer: Eric Rucinski

Eric earned a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) in 2012. Eric has been a member of the Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA) since 2012 and has previously served as the co-Young Professional (YP) chair for the Louisiana Section, facilitating various YP events, including the Louisiana Section A&WMA YP Golf Tournament.

Eric is currently a Senior Project Manager located in the Alliance Technical Group (ATG) – Baton Rouge office. Eric has over 12 years of experience providing air quality services to the petroleum refining, oil and gas, and chemical manufacturing industries. His experience includes, but is not limited to, Title V permitting and compliance, Emissions Inventory (EI) submittals, Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) submittals, Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) auditing, Refinery MACT compliance, regulatory applicability analyses, and onsite support. Eric oversees the ATG - Baton Rouge office intern program and serves as a mentor to all interns and newly hired junior-level staff. Eric is a driven environmental professional who has demonstrated strong analytical, leadership, and problem-solving skills. Outside of the office, Eric enjoys spending time with his wife, Lauren, daughter, Stella, and Izzo the dog.



Director: John King

John B. King is a partner with the law firm of Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLC (BSW). His principal areas of practice include environmental and oil and gas regulatory permitting and defense, compliance assistance, toxic tort defense, wetlands, and litigation.

Mr. King has a vast amount of experience in the area of environmental law. His experience includes twelve years with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, many as the Chief Attorney for Enforcement, and as Director of Regulatory and Legal Affairs for a large oil and gas waste disposal company. Mr. King has litigated environmental matters in federal, state, and administrative tribunals and has presented briefs and/or oral arguments in the United States Court of Appeal, Fifth Circuit, the Louisiana Supreme Court, and the state Court of Appeal, First and Fifth Circuits.



Vice Chair: Ashley Viator

Ashley Viator is an Environmental Scientist Manager in the Air Permits Division of Louisiana DEQ. Ashley graduated from LSU in 2008 with a degree in Biological Sciences and began her career with the agency shortly afterwards. She became an active participant with the A&WMA's Louisiana Section in 2017 and immediately dove into the exhibition chair role on the Section's conference planning committee. Since then, Ashley has continued to serve on the conference planning committee each year, has written or contributed to the Section's newsletter, and attended the A&WMA's Leadership Training Academy in April 2023. Ashley enjoys using her unique skill set specializing in servant leadership, knowledge of state and federal air permitting regulations, and network connections within the regulatory community to support her staff and the continuing growth of the Louisiana Section.

Thank You Outgoing Board Members



Treasurer: Emily von Qualen



Director: Mary Claire Petit



Past Chair: Jason Midgett

Southwest Louisiana Chapter - Second Annual Spring Conference

Presented In partnership with the Louisiana Section



To complete your online registration please click the link below; all registrations must be completed online. Please note **registration will close February 21, 2025.**

<https://laawma.wufoo.com/forms/qxpycce0oxgp81/>

If you are interested in exhibiting at the 2025 Spring Conference please click the link below to register:

<https://laawma.wufoo.com/forms/q10n7mr90r15cxm/>

If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities for the 2025 Spring Conference, register using the link below:

<https://laawma.wufoo.com/forms/qqj9g6419v56m3/>

SPONSORS:

CONFERENCE PRODUCTS

Conference Lanyard	\$100
General Named Sponsor	\$100
Conference Program	\$150
Registration Handout	\$150
Meeting Rooms*	\$1000

*Includes dedicated table outside of meeting room, logo on program next to room, logo displayed on screen in between speakers, recognition throughout the day, individual recognition on social media platforms

MEALS AND SOCIAL

Breakfast	\$300
Breakfast Exclusive	\$600
Morning Break	\$200
Lunch	\$600
Lunch Exclusive	\$1200
Afternoon Break	\$200
Conference Social	\$1200

EXHIBITORS:

All exhibitor booths are \$450

Room sponsors (above) include a dedicated table outside of meeting room

ATTENDEES:

A&WMA Member:	\$175
Non-Member:	\$225
Government Employee:	\$50
Student:	Free

For questions, contact Katie Jorden at kjorden@citgo.com

2025 Board Members

Corey Gautreaux	Chair	PPM Consultants, Inc.
Ashley Viator	Vice-Chair / LDEQ Liaison	LDEQ
Allyson Morales	Past-Chair	TotalEnergies Petrochemicals & Refining USA, Inc.
Eric Rucinski	Treasurer	Alliance Technical Group
D'Juana Beason	Secretary	Terracon Consultants
John King	Director	Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLC
Boyd Boswell	Director	T. Baker Smith
Camran Jones	SW Chapter Chair	Westlake Corporation

2025 Committee Members

Michael Waguespack	Awards Chair	Waldemar S. Nelson & Company
Doug Melancon	Program Chair	ExxonMobil
Tokeshia Collins-Wright	Program Chair	LCA
Kelly Phillips	Facilities Chair	Vopak
Andrew Swedler	Corporate Relations Chair	ExxonMobil
-Coming Soon-	YP Chair	
Blake Vincent	YP Golf Tournament Chair	CK Associates
Amanda Polito	Communications Chair	Energy Transfer Partners
Boyd Boswell	Communications Committee - Social Media Outreach	T. Baker Smith LLC
Maureen Ducote	Communications Committee - Website	LDEQ
Vacant	Education Committee	
Vacant	Newsletter Committee	
Vacant	Membership Committee	

The Louisiana Section is one of nearly 140 geographical member units of the Air & Waste Management Association. As such, we plan, organize and present activities that focus on local and regional environmental issues. This includes holding luncheon and dinner meetings, technical seminars, annual conferences, workshops, continuing education courses, and social outings. We publish a newsletter, launch outreach activities and provide funds for scholarships. For more information about the A&WMA, [visit the A&WMA website.](#)