



Summer 2007

Groundbreaker

Newsletter

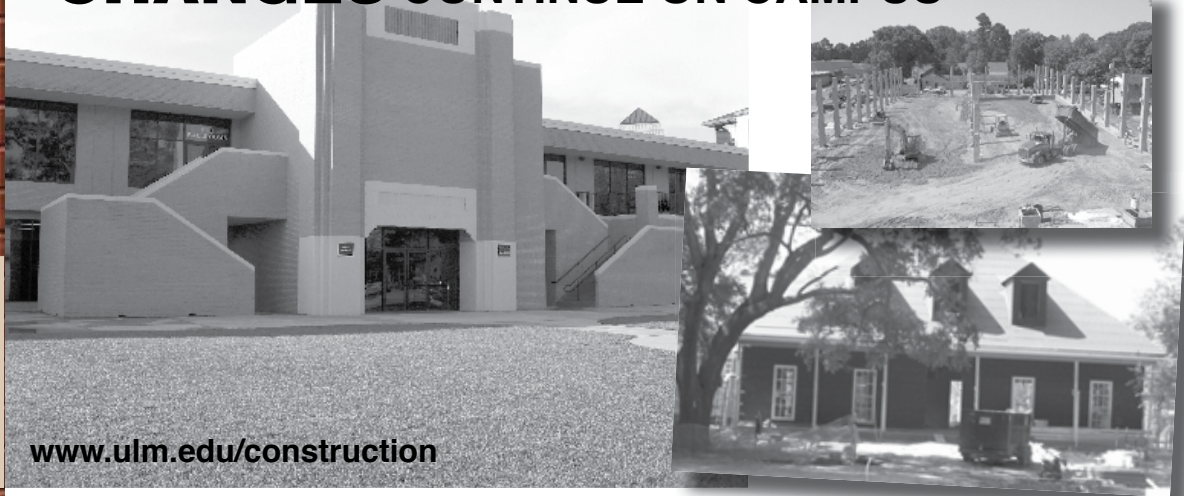
Published for the Alumni, Students, and Friends of the ULM School of Construction Management



School of Construction Management

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www.ulm.edu/construction

CHANGES CONTINUE ON CAMPUS



www.ulm.edu/construction

For the last couple of years, students, faculty, and staff have witnessed the changes that the ULM campus has undergone. Some of these changes consist of the renovation of the Student Union Building, the construction of a new parking facility (Intermodal Transit Facility), and the President's House.

On January 23, 2007, ULM held a grand opening for the renovated SUB (Student Union Building) and its companion building, the Student Center. At the inauguration of the building, Dr. James Cofer, ULM president, made a special presentation to Mrs. Yvonne Anderson, the first female Student Council president of then Northeast Junior College 1945-46. After the ceremony, students, faculty, and staff had the opportunity to tour the new building. Samples from the food court vendors were available at the grand opening.

ULM also began construction of a new parking facility that will provide the ULM campus with 285 parking

spaces. This facility is undergoing construction on the parcel of land located diagonally across from the School of Construction Management Building, next to the Nursing Building. This facility has also served as a model of observation for construction management students. "We are very fortunate to have these projects underway this close to campus. It makes it much easier to show students the different materials and techniques that we discuss in class," said Mr. Greg Smith, assistant professor of construction management.

A new president's residence is also under construction. The new facility will be located at 4508 Bon Aire Drive, on the same road where the Alumni Center is located. The estimated time to complete the project is one year. The upper floor of the president's residence will consist of three bed-and-bath suites for guests. The lower floor will consist of master bedroom with master bath, extra bedroom, dining room, kitchen, wine cellar, elevator, offices, and storage room.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

Spring 2007

David Ajlani
Donovan Bailey
Ryan Dees
Benjamin Dumas
Stephen Emery
Chrischon Guient
James Hickey

Roger Ross
Robert Rychart
John Strolis
Justin Wade
Kevin Wilkerson
Adam Wyatt

Summer 2007

Michael Barron
James Holmes
Jeremy Lewis
Houston White

Check out our Students' Resumes at
www.ulm.edu/construction

What's Inside

Director's Corner	2
CETF Speaker Series.....	2
Alumni Updates.....	2
Mark Your Calendars.....	2
Alumni Spotlight	3
Alumni Events.....	3
Faculty Updates.....	4
Digger's Night Out	5
Industry Advisory Council	5
Students' News.....	6
Students' Play House.....	6
Mechanical Contractor's Convention	7
Alumni Updates.....	8

SUMMER 2007



Dr. Keith Parker

"I would like to thank all the alumni that have participated in the various activities of our program during this past year and to encourage each of you to stay involved."



**Monica Castro
Editor**

The Groundbreaker is published by the ULM School of Construction Management for its alumni, students, and friends. It is funded by the Potts Fund.

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Alumni and Friends,

The past few months have been an excellent time for the School of Construction Management. The job market provided many opportunities, not only for full time employment, but for internships as well. Approximately 20 students reported accepting internship positions for the summer. We look forward to reports this fall regarding the activities each internship provided.

The physical appearance of our campus continues to improve with the renovation of the front of the campus along Desiard Street. Additionally, we have been working with the university and its contractors to document the construction of the President's House and the new parking garage. These two projects should provide excellent teaching tools for several years to come.

I would like to thank all the alumni that have participated in the various activities of our program during this past year and to encourage each of you to stay involved.

Keith Parker

Director, ULM School of Construction Management

CONTRACTOR'S EDUCATIONAL TRUST FUND'S (CETF) DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SEMINAR SERIES

Tom Rabb, Vice President of Project Management at FLUOR, a multi-billion dollar corporation, visited the University of Louisiana at Monroe on March 7, 2007. Over 75 students, ULM faculty members, Dr. Ray Sterling — Louisiana Tech Civil Engineering professor, and industry personnel attended the event.

The lecture held at the School of Construction Management Auditorium consisted of Mr. Tom Rabb's journey from being a farm boy from rural northeast Louisiana to becoming a successful person in the construction industry. He emphasized the importance of safety in the workplace. He also discussed the five steps to project management: plan, staff, organize, direct, and control. "I



From left to right: Dr. Keith Parker, Mr. Tom Rabb, and Dr. Ray Sterling

have always tried to remember those steps," said Rabb. This presentation was part of the Contractor's Educational Trust Fund's Special Seminar Series that was held for the second time at the University of Louisiana at Monroe.

School of Construction Management Graduate Earns Certification

Jonathan Kaufman, a School of Construction Management graduate, is one of the 23 Louisiana inspectors who has been accredited as a Certified Building Official. The certification process involves administrative and technical training and is conducted by the International Code Council. As soon as Kaufman graduated from ULM in May 2006, he started working for the city of West Monroe. "I love my job. I meet new people every day and get to work all over the city. It's a great atmosphere," said Kaufman.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Aug. 11
Summer Commencement

Aug. 17
CenLa Alumni Event

Aug. 21
Convocation

Oct. 17-20
College of Business Symposium

Oct. 20
Homecoming



2007 Football Schedule

Aug. 30	Tulsa at Monroe, LA
Sept. 9	at Clemson, SC
Sept. 15	at Texas A&M
Sept. 29	at Troy, AL*
Oct. 06	Arkansas State at Monroe, LA*
Oct. 13	at North Texas*
Oct. 20	Florida International at Monroe, LA*
Oct. 27	Florida Atlantic at Boca Raton, FL*
Nov. 03	Middle Tennessee at Monroe, LA*
Nov. 10	Grambling State at Monroe, LA
Nov. 17	at Alabama
Nov. 24	at Lafayette*

*Sun Belt Conference Games

For more ULM athletics schedules, visit:

www.ulmathletics.cstv.com

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Groundbreaker
Newsletter



Brad Augustine, '01
Project Manager
Gilchrist Construction Company

Gilchrist Construction Company, LLC

Founded in 1981, Gilchrist Construction Company, LLC is a fast-paced heavy highway contractor based in the state of Louisiana. Awarded as one of Louisiana's Top Highway Contractors, Gilchrist Construction Company, LLC offers services such as pile driving, excavation and embankment, clearing and grubbing, concrete production and paving, general building, bridge construction, asphalt production and paving, among others.



Ricky Dunn and Amy Nugent present a check from the **Ouachita Joint Utility Council** to Paul Cadiere

Brad Augustine, born in Marksville, LA, originally came to the University of Louisiana at Monroe to study Occupational Therapy. However, he states "my heart was always in construction; once I was introduced to the Construction Program at ULM, I fell in love with it." Brad's interest in construction is shared by other members in his family. His dad, grandfather, and great-grandfather were construction workers. "It is in the blood," said Brad.

As a goal-driven person, Brad's first major step was to finish school. During the years at ULM, Brad was the vice president of Sigma Lambda Chi, the construction honor society. After graduation, he started at Gilchrist Construction Company in an entry level position. Subsequently, he became a project manager after only six weeks of employment. "Utilizing what I learned in school and on the job, I have managed to build successful projects. The School of Construction and their instructors taught me how to think outside of the box, which is a good characteristic to have in this business. It also provided me the tools and fundamentals to function at a superior level in a short period of time."

Brad's tasks and duties as a project manager include scheduling of crew and resources, budget analysis, project

submittals, purchasing and scheduling of materials, cost tracking, and budget projections. He also assists in the estimating of upcoming projects for bid, in developing a management team, and in conducting operational analyses on the work efficiency of various crews.

"The School of Construction and their instructors taught me how to think outside of the box, which is a good characteristic to have in this business."

Throughout the years he has worked for Gilchrist Construction Co., the company has been involved in projects such as the Delcambre Bridge, which Brad stated is a "lift bridge with columns that span as much as 90 feet in the air with counterweights weighing as much as 120 tons apiece." Gilchrist Construction Co. also constructed twin quarter-mile overpasses over LA 83 in New Iberia. This project was awarded The Merit Award by Louisiana Contractors.

Today, Brad is married and has a son. He enjoys hunting, fishing, and watching football of any league.

"My advice to students today is to actively participate in your classes. By participating more you will gain confidence as an individual to function well in groups. This is one of the things that makes a leader."

ALUMNI EVENTS

During the spring semester, the School of Construction Management and the ULM Alumni Association attended several crawfish boils. On March 31, 2007, at the Anna Gray Noe Alumni Center in Monroe, LA, Dr. Keith Parker and Dr. David Manry attended the Crawfish Boil. On May 5, 2007, Dr. Keith Parker and Dr. David Manry attended the Alumni Crawfish Boil in Dallas, TX. They also attended the Alumni Crawfish Boil in Austin, TX on June 3, 2007 and the Alumni Greater Baton Rouge Johnny's Pizza Party on June 23, 2007.

Keep in touch with your closest Alumni Chapter! If you want information about the nearest Alumni Chapter to you, please contact Dr. Parker or visit www.ulm.edu/alumni/chapters.



AUSTIN

Alumni Event in Austin, TX. From Left to Right: Mark Oliveaux, Dr. Manry, Kelton Day, Randy Bentz, Dr. Parker, Ted Williamson, and Trent Livingston.



DALLAS

Crawfish Boil in Dallas, TX. From Left to Right: Dr. David Manry, Dr. Keith Parker, James Hewitt, Brandon Strong, Charlie Paris, Justin Ebersole, Stephanie Clausing, Matt Bratton, Mark Castellana, Keith Roberts, Madison Flowers, and Mark West in Dallas, TX.



BATON ROUGE

Alumni Event in Baton Rouge. From Left to Right: Dr. Manry, Dr. Parker, Ashley Thornton, Gary Thornton, and Cindy Thornton.

Interested in becoming our next Alumni Spotlight Guest?

Send us your news or get in touch with Dr. Keith Parker at (318) 342-1871 or e-mail: kparker@ulm.edu

Keep in Touch! It is great to hear from you!

Faculty and Students Present Paper at International Conference

Two School of Construction Management (SOCM) students – Paul Cadriere and John Strolis – and faculty member Dr. David Manry traveled to the Associated Schools of Construction's 43rd Annual International Conference to present Drs. Hollis Bray and Manry's paper on "Active Learning in a Reinforced Concrete Design Class." This year's event was held at Northern Arizona University (Flagstaff, AZ) from April 12 –14, 2007.

Beside attending educational sessions, the SOCM group attended the annual meeting of the Sigma Lambda Chi honor society in which all three attendees have been inducted. An additional highlight of the trip was a sunset tour of the Grand Canyon followed by the conference banquet and dinner at the Maswick Lodge on the south rim of the canyon.

Fill out and return the form on the last page or e-mail your news to kparker@ulm.edu to have your news published in the next issue

University of Louisiana at Monroe
School of Construction Management
700 University Avenue
Monroe, LA 71209-0540

FACULTY UPDATES

March 22–April 15 2007 Dr. Hollis Bray visited South Australia as a member of an **American Council for Construction Education (ACCE)** accreditation team.

April 10, 2007 Dr. June Bruyninckx attended a pre-conference event, "**Aging is Good Business,**" in Greensboro, NC.

April 11–14, 2007 Dr. Bruyninckx attended the **Southern Gerontological Society Conference** in Greensboro, NC.

April 10–15, 2007 Dr. David Manry attended the **Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Annual Conference** in Flagstaff, AZ.

April 17, 2007 Dr. Keith Parker attended **Digger's Night Out** and the **State Utility Council Meeting** in Lafayette, LA.

April 19, 2007 Dr. Bobby Ensminger attended the **Scheduling Training Seminar** hosted by LOR-MAN Education Services in Washington, D.C.

May–June, 2007 Dr. Parker and Dr. Manry attended the **Alumni Events** in Dallas, Austin, Baton Rouge, and Mandeville.

Dr. Hollis Bray



Dr. Hollis Bray in Adelaide, SA

Goes Down Under

Dr. Hollis Bray recently returned from a three week visit to South Australia. Dr. Bray was part of a three-man accreditation team from the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) that visited the University of South Australia in Adelaide, South Australia. ACCE has recognized programs in China and Canada by reciprocity with other accrediting agencies. However, this was the first accreditation visit by an ACCE team to a program outside of the United States. ACCE will vote on the program in July. During his trip, Dr. Bray also made a presentation on teaching methods for reinforced concrete design at the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Adelaide. Dr. Bray took a trek through the outback to visit the remote mining town of Coober Pedy and observed underground construction techniques there. Eighty percent of the world's opals are mined in Coober Pedy, where the temperature hits 120° F in the summer. The locals live in underground homes hewn from the sandstone that bears the opals. The underground homes have a constant temperature of about 72° F. The water supply is 30 kilometers away and must be treated by reverse osmosis. Water and electricity cost about four times the U.S. average.

DIGGER'S NIGHT OUT

The 7th Annual Digger's Night Out, presented by the School of Construction Management and the Ouachita Joint Utility Council, took place on April 27, 2007 in the Student Union Building at ULM. Representing a broad spectrum of industry leaders from northeast Louisiana, approximately 135 people attended the event.

Dr. Keith Parker, Director of the School of Construction Management program, was the Master of Ceremonies. Thomas Evans with Training Logic, Inc. was the guest speaker. Mr. Evans talked to the attendees about the "Level of Safety Learning."

Mr. David Frey, Louisiana One Call Damage Prevention Manager, concluded the event by reminding the attendees about the importance of digging safely.

A buffet style dinner was served, and door prizes were awarded throughout the evening.

The School of Construction Management and the Ouachita Joint Utility Council would like to thank the 2007 Digger's Night Out sponsors: AT&T Southeast, Atmos Energy, Columbia Gulf Transmission, Comcast, DCP Midstream, Entergy, GD Womack Trenching, Gulf South Pipeline, Louisiana Associated General Contractors (AGC), Louisiana One Call, Scott Construction Equipment, Tennessee Gas Pipeline, and Vermeer MidSouth.



**REMEMBER: Call before you dig • 1-800-272-3020
Respect the Marks • Wait 48 Hours • Dig Safely**



IAC

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Industry Advisory Council (IAC) held its spring meeting on May 4, 2007, at the ULM School of Construction Management.

Larry Favalora, president of the IAC called the meeting to order and introduced the existing members of the IAC. An official vote was made to accept the nominees for the IAC: Jeff Acreman, Mark Castellana, Bill Cocreham, Shawn Legé, and Dan Poole.

Dr. Ron Berry met with the IAC for an hour to discuss some of the aspects of the College of Business. He expressed the efforts of the College of Business to increase funding for internships around the country.

Assistant Professor Greg Smith presented a proposal to build a lab facility in order to improve and enhance the learning experience for students enrolled in the Construction Management program. "By having mock-ups of standard wall sections in a designated area, students would have the opportunity to have more hands-on experience," said Greg Smith.

One of the main goals of the IAC is to increase the Potts Fund to make it possible to improve the School of Construction Management. The IAC appreciates your contributions for this purpose. Donations should be made to the "ULM Foundation – Potts Fund."

FISHING TRIP



From left to right: Chris White and Todd McGrew

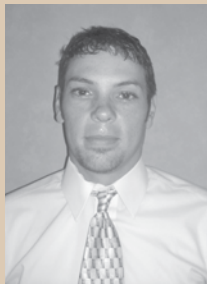
On June 9th and 10th, IAC Chairman Larry Favalora, Dr. Parker and guests took a trip to Lafitte, LA, to take on trout and redfish. Each year Mr. Favalora donates the fishing trip to the Construction Guild banquet auction.

According to Dr. Parker (this year's winner), the fishing trip was well worth any money donated to the auction. "We had a blast all the way around. The house we stayed in was first class. The boat and fishing were excellent. I highly encourage others to come to the auction and bid on this wonderful trip."

*If you wish to become a member of the **INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL**, please contact Dr. Keith Parker at (318) 342- 1871 or e-mail kparker@ulm.edu*

STUDENT NEWS

Groundbreaker Newsletter GUILD OFFICERS



Brandon Fryday
President



Michael Stutson
Vice-President



Jonathan Barnes
MCCA

Home Expo 2007 Open Doors to Students' Play House

Visitors were delighted with the displays of 101 exhibitors that showed their products and services at the successful Home Expo 2007 held in the Monroe Civic Center on February 16, 2007.

Visitors from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and the surrounding areas had the opportunity to see it all under one roof. Exhibitors were able to meet potential customers that were interested in their products or services. Homebuilders, remodelers, decorating services, residential designers, and mortgage bankers were part of the exhibitors.



From left to right: Jonathan Barnes, Brandon Earl, Paul Cadiere, Riley White, Dr. David Marry, John Strolis, Daren Richey, Brandon Fryday

The School of Construction Management was also part of the Home Expo 2007. Students decided to build a play house that was to be raffled at the culmination of this event. The materials for the construction of the play house were donated. The funds collected with the selling of the tickets were directed to the Construction Guild's foundation account.

The students took three months to build the play house. "It was hard to coordinate all the students," said Riley White, student project manager. "I feel the project went very well overall. It gave us a starting point for future projects that may benefit the Guild."

The following students were involved in building the play house: Donovan Bailey, Jonathan Barnes, Paul Cadiere, Brandon Earl, William Escribano, Trey Folk, Brandon Fryday, James Hill, Matt Lee, Jamie Norton, Adam Rambin, Daren Richey, Emily Rowland, John Strolis, and Michael Stutson.

The School of Construction Management students would like to thank Paul Stephenson, Executive Officer of the Home Builder's Association, for his great cooperation. The construction of the play house was also possible thanks to sponsors such as Russell Moore Lumber, Allied Building Supply, Tom Sanders, Home Improvement Outlet, Hogan Hardwood, Jim Walter Homes, Overhead Doors, Sherwin Williams, Superior Paint, and J. P. Windows and Doors.

Sigma Lambda Chi (ΣΛΕ)

Sigma Lambda Chi held its awards ceremony on April 21, 2007. Approximately 30 people attended the event. Kevin Wilkerson received the "Highest GPA Award" and Stephen Emery received the "Outstanding Graduate Award." Congratulations!



Emery



Wilkerson

Sigma Lambda Chi

ΣΛΕ

Spring Inductees



From left to right: Kevin Ellington, Drew Wiggers, John Justice, John Strolis, Emily Rowland, David Sturdivant, Dale Langford, Matthew Lee, Tyler Rambin.

AGC GOLF TOURNAMENT by Stephen Terrill (AGC Area Manager Monroe-Northwest Districts)

The Monroe District held their 13th annual golf tournament on April 23rd at Calvert Crossing Golf Club in Calhoun. The Thurman Potts-AGC Scholarship Golf Tournament was officially declared a sellout SIX WEEKS before the tournament date. Proceeds from this event are used to provide scholarships to construction students at both the University of Louisiana – Monroe and Louisiana Tech. These scholarships include the Thurman Potts/AGC Scholarship, which is the largest scholarship given to a student at ULM’s School of Construction Management.

A short cloud burst only delayed the scheduled tee time by fifteen minutes, and fortunately cooled down the temperature. Teams from as far away as New Orleans and Dallas participated in this year’s tournament. ULM Construction Management students participated in this event. Dr. David Manry, School of Construction Management associate professor, was awarded for serving as a Golden Pelican Sponsors (top sponsor level).



From left to right: Michael Stutson, Paul Cadiere, Heath Culp, John Strolis

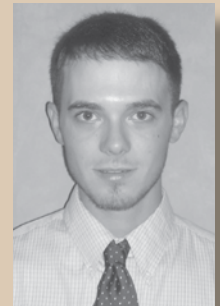


From left to right: Rhonda Flemister (AGC), Thurman Potts, and Stephen Terrill (AGC).

Groundbreaker Newsletter GUILD OFFICERS



William Escribano
NAHB



Trey Folk
ABC



Cedric Garth
AGC



Severen Girod
Treasurer

FUTURE CONSTRUCTION LEADERS LEARN ABOUT **DAMAGE PREVENTION**

On March 20, 2007, the SOCM welcomed Mr. David Frey, Louisiana One Call Damage Prevention Manager, to campus as he made his annual presentation to Dr. David Manry’s Construction Safety class. More than 50 future construction leaders were in attendance as he discussed damage prevention to underground facilities and the corresponding Louisiana Damage Prevention Law.

ULM School of Construction Management Delegation ATTENDS MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS CONVENTION

The ULM School of Construction Management and its Construction Guild were represented at the 118th Annual Convention of the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) held from February 24 – March 1 in Orlando, FL. The ULM delegation consisted of eight students – Jonathan Barnes, Paul Cadiere, Heath Culp, Chrischon Guient, Jamie Norton, Emily Rowland, John Strolis, and Michael Stutson – and

their faculty advisor Dr. David Manry. More than 160 students/faculty from over 20 colleges and universities were part of the 2,000 attendees.

The convention allowed the ULM delegation to mingle with a couple of the Louisiana MCAA affiliates who also happen to be strong supporters of the ULM School of Construction Management. Mechanical contractors from both the MCA of Shreveport-Bossier and MCA of the Central Gulf Coast spent time during the convention to become better acquainted with the ULM attendees.



University of Louisiana at Monroe
 School of Construction Management
 700 University Avenue
 Monroe, LA 71209-9222

A member of the University of Louisiana System • AA/EEO



ALUMNI UPDATES

Damon Beasley, '05

Project Coordinator, Nabholz Construction
 Tulsa, OK.

"I have been with Nabholz Construction in Tulsa, OK, for one year now. I am Project Coordinator by title. I touch all aspects of the projects from buyout to submittals to pay applications and warranty claims. I have also had the opportunity to manage my own projects. The first day I walked in the door, I was handed the plans for a classroom addition to one of Tulsa's oldest elementary schools in the downtown area. I was told 'this job is yours'. It was me and my superintendent. Tulsa Public Schools was a brand new client for us. Seven month later, we finished on time and within budget and were given another project; uncontested. That was my first real management experience as a Construction Manager at Risk. I owe my good fortune to the solid foundation that the School of Construction provided me. I really appreciate the education and experience I received from all of you. My wife Angela is pregnant with our first child and is due August 8, 2007. We're very excited."

Carla Hannah Beckendorff, '86

Housing Rehabilitation Specialist,
 Fort Bend County, Rosenberg, TX.

Madison Flowers, '02

Project Manager, MEDCO Construction
 Fort Worth, TX.

Chris Guice, '01

Business Development, Austin Commercial
 Dallas, TX.

"On the business development side of the company, we primarily focus on maintaining a positive relationship with current clients, pursuing work with existing clients into new markets, exploring our options of building relationships with new clients in current markets, analyzing the risks/rewards of entering into new markets with new clients, and actively following upcoming projects in our current business segments (including RFQ and RFP submission, interviews, team introductions, and presentation process)."

James Reneau, '04

Project Manager, Walton Construction Company,
 Shreveport, LA.

"I am currently working on a new facility/RV Park at Barksdale Air Force

Base. I recently finished a 168-person dormitory at Barksdale Air Force Base, and also finished an addition and renovation for Cox Communication in Bossier City."

John Darrel Shipman, '71

Senior Vice President, BE & K Building Group
 Charlotte, NC.

ALUMNI NEWS, KEEP US INFORMED!

ALUMNI UPDATE:

Name: _____

_____ Year Grad.: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Home Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Job Title: _____

Company/City/State: _____

Co. Phone #: _____

Yes, I am interested in becoming a member of the Industry Advisory Council.

Your news to be published in the newsletter:

Signed/Date _____

Return your news to Editor Groundbreaker, University of Louisiana at Monroe, School of Construction Management, Monroe, LA 71209-0540. Or e-mail to: kparker@ulm.edu; or fax to (318) 342-1861