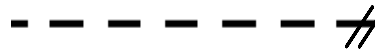




*Setting the Standard for Automation*

# New Orleans Section

June 2008  
The Current Pnewsletter



## Next Section Meeting

- Date** Tuesday, June 10, 2008
- Place** Smilie's Restaurant  
Harahan, Louisiana
- Time** Open at 6:00 p.m.  
Serving at 6:30 p.m.
- Price** Admission \$25 per person
- RSVP Email:**  
[isa\\_neworleans@yahoo.com](mailto:isa_neworleans@yahoo.com)  
Type your name, quantity in party

\*RSVP by noon Monday, June 9\*

# Thank you for a great year!



**With the closing of the 2008 ISA New Orleans Section year, we would like to specially thank every involved for participating and making this year very successful!**



**We would like to especially thank our President, Larry Saunders, for his leadership and guidance throughout this past year. His dedication, perseverance, and motivation helped rebuild the foundation of our local Section. Also, we thank our Board Members for their commitment, enthusiasm, and responsibilities. Lastly, we thank our members for their steadfast devotion to our Section. It's the commitment and charm of the people that makes our city so wonderful!**

**Together we look forward to a great upcoming year!**

## SECTION OFFICERS 2007-08

### President

**Larry Saunders**  
(504) 849 3365

### President-elect

**Henry Suthon**  
(504) 836 8903

### Vice President

*Vacant*

### Secretary

**Beth Walker**  
(985) 785 3489

### Treasurer

**Roger Reedy**  
(985) 785 3427

### Marketing

**Sherryl Benbow**  
(504) 561 6000

### Section/District Liaison

*Vacant*

### Education

**Bob Deeb**  
(985) 549 5934

### Honors & Awards Chairman

**Hugh Roser**  
(504) 737 7973

### Membership Chairman

**Fawad Javed**  
(985) 785 4599

### Programming

**Toby Miller**  
(504) 934 2108

### Codes, Standards, & Practices

**Ram Ramachandran**  
(985) 764 1692

### Historian

**David Bishop**  
(985) 764 9902

### Exhibits

**Pat Lyles**  
(985) 377 1040

### Past President

**Barry Acosta**  
(504) 835 2577

### Student Section Liaison

**Leo Holzenthal**  
(504) 836 8902

### Arrangements

**Mike Benbow**  
(504) 616 3282

### Strategic Planning

**Erston Reisch, Jr.**  
(985) 727 2869

### Golf Tournament

**Bryan Pittman**  
(504) 887 8550

### Webmaster

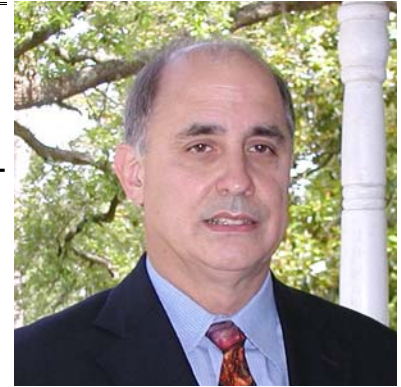
**Mike Perschall**  
(985) 377 1031

### Newsletter Editor

**Anna Schindler**  
(504) 458 9526

## President's Corner

**Larry Saunders**  
**Eaton Corporation/Cutler-  
Hammer**  
**Executive Tower**  
**3500 N Causeway Blvd.**  
**Suite 540**  
**Metairie LA 70002**  
**Ph (504) 849 3365**



Dear Fellow Members,

I have been very honored to serve as your ISA New Orleans Section President for the 2007-2008 Term. I am most appreciative of the ISA Board for the support, the dedication and the hard work over the term. By your hard work, the New Orleans Section's many successes include:

- A fully staffed governing board, perhaps the first fully staffed board in the last 10 years.
- Addition of new board positions.
- Recruitment of younger members to the governing board to improve diversity.
- Assimilation of a great new Newsletter Editor.
- Addition of a great Webmaster and the launch of an outstanding website for the New Orleans Section.
- A very successful Electrical Installations in Hazardous Locations seminar that was sold out beyond planned capacity.
- An extremely successful New Orleans and Baton Rouge Exhibit. It was the first one in over 7 years. Attendance at both the seminars and the exhibit booths was well over goal. Many thanks to our sponsors and supporters.
- A very successful and well-attended shrimp boil.
- Improved attendance at meetings.
- A very successful Honors and Awards Banquet.
- Significantly increased section membership.
- Improved organization and consistency.
- Addition of over \$12,000.00 to the treasury.
- Identification of issues with emailing list and plans to expand it.
- The election of a full slate of new officers for the 2008-2009 term.

We so much appreciate the monthly guest speakers for our monthly meetings. Your presentations were great. The June meeting rescheduled to June 10 will be the last meeting in the 2007-2008 ISA New Orleans Section Term. Please plan on attending the June Meeting. This is also a good time to provide feedback on what you would like to see on the program schedule for the 2008-2009 Term.

Your ISA Section needs your feedback. Your ISA Leaders are very open to your comments, suggestions, and questions.

Sincerely,

**Larry Saunders**

**ISA-President of the New Orleans Section**

Cell Phone----- (504) 723-4302

FAX----- (504) 834-6086

Email: [LawrenceASaunders@eaton.com](mailto:LawrenceASaunders@eaton.com)

## Articles & Announcements

### Articles and Announcements

Please submit articles or announcements for the New Orleans ISA Section newsletter, *The Current Pnewsletter*, to Anna Schindler at [anna.schindler@awc-inc.com](mailto:anna.schindler@awc-inc.com).

### Deadline

Materials must be submitted by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding the issue in which it should appear. Please submit typed material via e-mail.

## Meeting Minutes, Executive Board ISA New Orleans Section, Inc.

**May 13, 2008**

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Mike Benbow   Fawad Javed   Toby Miller  
 Roger Reedy   Larry Saunders   Henry Suthon  
 Beth Walker   Hugh Roser   Bob Deeb  
 Dave Bishop

### Call to Order

Larry Saunders called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

### Agenda Adoption

Toby Miller made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mike Benbow seconded and motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Beth Walker made motion to approve the April Board Minutes. Toby Miller seconded and motion passed unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report and Financial

Roger Reedy reported increase in section members due to the training course by Dave Bishop. There were questions as to what percentage the section receives from National. Roger volunteered to investigate and report back to board on this matter. Roger will inquire about any insurance assistance available from ISA National. Dave Bishop recommended renaming the category of "gifts" to "speaker honoraries". Roger Reedy presented idea of reducing cost of monthly section meetings due to increase in funds from the successful seminar and exhibit. Hugh Roser motioned that in an effort to promote engineering expertise in community ISA, to reduce the cost by \$10 a person effective 9/1/08. Mike Benbow seconded and motion passed unanimously.

### New Business

Membership Activities:

There were discussions on the importance to use several methods to advertise the sectional meetings to both members and non-members. Fawad updated the board on the proposal to buy labels to produce mailings to non-members. Bob Deeb requested that Fawad work with Anna Schindler to determine if any discrepancies exist between the Pnewsletter distribution list and the ISA NO section members list. Larry Saunders clarified that the Membership Chair should handle the distribution list and the Newsletter editor should handle the Pnewsletter. Fawad and Anna will determine the best method.

New Rules on Providing PDHs:

Larry Saunders discussed briefly last month's discussions about Leo Holzenthal facilitating the ISA being registered as an approved provider of PDHs with the Louisiana Engineering Society.

### Program Chair Report

Toby Miller reported that Greg McMillan would be presenting on the root causes of poor performance in pH control systems for the next sectional meeting on June 10th.

Spring Leader's Meeting:

Larry Saunders again provided information on the ISA Spring Leaders Meeting to be held in Palm Beach, Florida May 31 – June 4. The President Elect and the future officers will determine who should and is available to attend.

Faculty of UNO:

Henry Suthon led a general discussion about possible changes at UNO.

### Next Board Meeting

There is a change. The next Board meeting will be held on June 10th at 5:00pm at Smilie's Restaurant.

### Adjournment:

Larry Saunders adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

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### ISA New Orleans Section 2008-2009 Officer Ballot Results

President	Henry Suthon
President-Elect	Mike Williamson
Vice President	Beth Walker
Secretary	Fawad Javed
Treasurer	Roger Reedy

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**ISA New Orleans Section  
2007–08 Program and Meeting Schedule**

Date	Topic	Speaker
Tuesday, 10 June	The Root Causes of Poor Performance in pH Control Systems	Gregory K. McMillan Monsanto Company/Solutia Inc.

**June 10, 2008 —The Root Causes of Poor Performance in pH Control Systems  
Guest Speaker: Gregory K. McMillan—Monsanto Company/Solutia Inc.**

**The Root Causes of Poor Performance in pH Control Systems**

The source of problems can originate in the process, piping, equipment, electrode, valve, or controller. Basic principals and key concepts are discussed and developed to provide an understanding of the basic nature of the challenges and options. Plant and control system designs are analyzed to get the most cost effective solution.

Gregory McMillan is a retired Senior Fellow from Solutia Inc. During his 33 year career with Monsanto Company and its spin off Solutia Inc, he specialized in improving loop performance, controller tuning, valve dynamics, opportunity assessments, dynamic simulation, fermentor control, pH control, and reactor control. Greg is the author of more than 50 articles and papers and 18 funny and serious books, his most recent being New Directions in Bioprocess Modeling and Control and The Life and Times of an Automation Professional. He is also author of the ISA best sellers for 2001 and 2002 titled Good Tuning: A Pocket Guide and Advanced Control Unleashed. He has contributed to several handbooks, is the editor of the Process/Industrial Instrumentation and Controls handbook, and writes a monthly “Control Talk” column for Control Magazine. Greg is an ISA Fellow and received the ISA “Kermit Fischer Environmental” Award for pH control in 1991, the Control Magazine “Engineer of the Year” Award for the Process Industry in 1994, and was one of the first inductees into the Control Magazine “Process Automation Hall of Fame” in 2001. Greg was most recently honored as one of Intech’s 50 most influential innovators for advancing automation and control technologies. He received a B.S. from Kansas University in 1969 in Engineering Physics and a M.S. from University of Missouri – Rolla in 1976 in Electrical Engineering (Control Theory). Presently, Greg is an affiliate Professor of Washington University in Saint Louis, Missouri and is a consultant through CDI for Emerson Process Management in Austin, Texas.

Gregory McMillan’s weekly thoughts can be found on:

<http://ModelingandControl.com>



# Announcements

## Help Wanted—E&I Engineer

The Monsanto Electrical and Instrumentation Engineer (E&I) executes improvements in E&I equipment performance, as well as having engineering and management responsibility for the design, installation, and start up of the Luling, Louisiana Plant projects. Other duties include (but are not limited to):

- Provide E&I technical assistance on daily maintenance activities, when requested.
- Become intimately familiar with unit's or area's production & maintenance E&I needs.
- Assist in the development of maintenance E&I procedures (Work Plans & MJA's).
- Monitor/trend, identify and develop solutions to E&I equipment issues (accuracy, high downtime, high maintenance cost &/or high quantity of repetitive failures).
- Generate Management of Changes documentation for solutions to E&I equipment problems that deviate from original design.
- Review and make changes to assigned unit's or area's E&I Preventive Maintenance (PM) & Predictive Maintenance (PdM) programs.
- Assist in establishing, monitoring and controlling the E&I portion of the maintenance budget and forecast in assigned area.
- Monitor and control the level of nuisance alarms in unit or area.
- Participate in World Class Maintenance initiatives (Reliability Teams, Meter Team, etc.).
- Maintain Instrument Specifications and E&I documents in assigned area.
- Perform Incident Investigations and participate in unit or area safety teams.
- Serve as backup to other area E&I Maintenance Engineers.
- Assist in providing technical training for Engineering and Operations personnel.
- Work closely with drafting personnel, production and maintenance personnel, vendors, consultant engineers, corporate engineering, and construction contractors.
- Achieve Long Range Plans manufacturing goals by up-grading equipment by further reducing costs and improved safety with emphasis on further reducing cost through a continued cost reduction program targeted at manufacturing cost.
- Provide technical support for area's PLCs, ProVox and or Delta V systems.

### Required Skills:

Requirements:

- B.S. in Electrical Engineering
- Ability to work as an individual contributor and as part of a diverse team composed of fellow engineers, operations personnel, maintenance personnel and leadership.
- Strong communications skills, both oral and written.
- Strong decision-making and problem solving skills.
- Must be able to perform work in a manufacturing plant environment, including ascending/descending stairs and ladders.
- Computer proficiency in Windows based programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook).
- Strong Safety ethic.

Desired skills/education/experience/attributes:

- Minimum of 3 years engineering experience in manufacturing, engineering or related field.
- Ability to work on multiple assignments in a manufacturing plant environment.
- General knowledge of batch and / or continuous process operations.
- Ability to apply statistics and Six-Sigma tools in a manufacturing environment.
- Strong computer hardware and network experience.

**Monsanto values diversity and is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.**