



INSTITUTE OF  
ELECTRICAL AND  
ELECTRONICS  
ENGINEERS, Inc.

*The Baton Rouge Section*

# NEWSLETTER

Newsletter of the Baton Rouge Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. Mar, 2023

## 2023-2024 BR SECTION CONTACTS

### Chair

Robert Walker  
(225) 448-5503 (O)  
(225) 907-7622 (C)  
[robert.walker@ieee.org](mailto:robert.walker@ieee.org)

### Past Chair

Don Couvillion  
(225) 362-2846 (C)  
[dcouvill@ieee.org](mailto:dcouvill@ieee.org)

### Vice-Chair

Donald Elliott Jr.  
404-274-3221 (C)  
[donaledelliottjr@hotmail.com](mailto:donaledelliottjr@hotmail.com)

### Treasurer

Seth Chandler  
(225) 300-4341 (C)  
[sethchandler@gmail.com](mailto:sethchandler@gmail.com)

### Secretary

Seth Chandler  
(225) 300-4341 (C)  
[sethchandler@gmail.com](mailto:sethchandler@gmail.com)

### Newsletter Editor

Robert Walker

### IAS Chapter Chair

Charles Darnell

### Professional Activities

Dennis M. Kates

### WIE Affinity Group Chair

Vacant

### Student Branch

#### Counselors

LSU- Dr. Choi  
SU – Dr. Fred Lacy

## Chairman's Message

The February meeting was held in person with a total of 22 in attendance. Seventeen (17) were IEEE members and four (4) were guests. Those in attendance included five (5) IAS and two (2) ISA members.

BR Section officers were elected at the February meeting. The officers and contacts are listed to the left.

The February meeting topic was "Medium Voltage Switchgear Maintenance" presented by Aaron Ross, PMP Technical Director, Products and Services for Crescent Power Systems. Aaron explained that switchgear maintenance includes work on breakers, buses, PT's, CT's, cables, relays and function test of each. Work includes visual inspection, cable megging, ground resistance checks, turns tests. At the same time, maintenance can affect the site power system study. A good maintainer will look at what has changed since last maintenance, any new relays, breakers and look at whether trip values match TCC's. Tan delta can be used to trend values on insulation resistance. Other important questions are:

- are breakers where they should be?
- any new firmware updates?
- state of shorting blocks, CT polarity?
- are the buses torqued to spec?

Finally, Aaron mentioned that switchgear maintenance is very important and is often overlooked as a way to ensure site reliability and safety.

Please RSVP before the day of the meeting. The sign-in list is typically published based on those that registered as of Wednesday evening (about 12noon). Also note there is a charge, at the door, for meals at our IEEE meetings and we can only accept payment in cash or check.

The next Baton Rouge Section IEEE meeting will be held:

**March 09, 2023**

**LaContea Italiano Ristorante**

**Presentation Starts At 6:30pm**

**Please RSVP BEFORE March 09**

To RSVP to meeting click on link below

<https://events.vtools.ieee.org/event/register/350825>

Your RSVP for the meeting is important as this is an in-person meeting.

## UPCOMING AGENDA

- April 13, 2023 – Arc Flash Protection & Design, Shawn Johnson P.E., Eaton
- May 11, 2023 – TBD Josh Norton, Pinnacle Power
- June 8, 2023– IEC 61914 Cable Cleats for Electrical Installation, Charles Darnell P.E., Atkore

If you know of another PDH opportunity, let me know when and where.

Thanks.

Robert Walker

# MEETING NOTICE

Date: **Thursday March 09, 2023** Time: Social.....6:00pm

Place: **LaContea Italiano Ristorante** Speaker Presentation.....6:30pm

Dinner: **Cash or Check only (\$20 members/ \$30 non-members/\$10 students)**

## AGENDA:

- Meeting Sign-in—**Please circle if IEEE IAS ISA WIE member**
- 2023 PCIC
- 2023 Tech Night
- Upcoming Events
  - March 13-17 2023 IAS Electrical Safety Workshop (Reno)
  - April 19-21 2023; IEEE Green Conference (Denver)
  - April 21-23 2023; IEEE Region 5 Annual Meeting & Student Competitions (Denver)
  - August 11-13 2023; IEEE Sectional Congress (Ottawa)
  - Sept 11-14 2023; IEEE PCIC (New Orleans)
- **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT** Joint meeting IEEE, IAS & WIE Professional Presentation  
**"Power Factor Correction Placement on Low and Medium Voltage System"**  
**Presented by: Alejandro Deschamps**  
**Southern States, LLC**

### ABSTRACT of PRESENTATION

This presentation will be on "Power Factor Correction Placement on Low and Medium Voltage System"

When implementing a power factor correction project in a facility, there's always the question on whether the equipment should be installed on the low voltage buses closer to the loads or on the medium voltage bus. The answer is not always trivial, the optimal solution will depend on several factors like the size of the facility, the distribution network, power demand, power quality of the loads, voltage regulation, physical space available, etc.

It is the purpose of this presentation to analyze the main drivers and provide the necessary tools to help the user make a more informed decision.

### BIOGRAPHICAL DATA of PRESENTER

Alejandro Deschamps has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering from the Institute of Technology and Higher Education of Monterrey (Monterrey Tech) and a Master of Science degree in Energy Engineering from the same institute. Early in his career, he specialized in industrial electrical processes like electric arc furnaces, rolling mills and implementation of VSDs for process control. After those early years, he specialized in reactive power compensation and power quality. He has been working in that area since 2012. Alejandro has been a part, and leader, of a team that delivered more than 500 power quality studies and implemented low and medium voltage solutions for over 200 industrial facilities in the past 5 years.

Alejandro Deschamps

Southern States LLC

30 Oak Street

Hampton, GA 30228

Phone 770-946-4562

Email: [a.deschamps@southernstatesllc.com](mailto:a.deschamps@southernstatesllc.com)

### Ramblings and etc.

- **Meeting notices will be emailed each month.**
- Please use the link in the email to register or join meeting. If you do not get an email meeting notice each month, Please notify one of the officers.
- If you cannot RSVP thru the link or have questions, please email, or call Robert Walker or one of the other officers.
- Meeting sign-in include if member of IEEE, IAS, ISA or student.

### VISIT THE BR SECTION WEBSITE

We are working on updating the BR IEEE section website

[http://sites.ieee.org/baton-rouge/  
Section Newsletters](http://sites.ieee.org/baton-rouge/Section%20Newsletters)

### 2022-2023 Officers of the IEEE LSU Branch

**President** – Chandler Pumford [cpumfo1@lsu.edu](mailto:cpumfo1@lsu.edu)

**Vice President** – Patrick Maloney [pmalon9@lsu.edu](mailto:pmalon9@lsu.edu)

**Secretary** – Sam Chanove- [schano1@lsu.edu](mailto:schano1@lsu.edu)

**Treasurer** – Nathan Muralles- [nmural1@lsu.edu](mailto:nmural1@lsu.edu)

**Advisor:** Dr. Jin-Woo Choi [choijw@lsu.edu](mailto:choijw@lsu.edu)

### 2022-2023 Officers of the IEEE SU Branch

**Southern Branch Officers list is being updated.**

**Officer:** Vacant

**Counselor:** Dr. Fred Lacy – [fred.lacy@subr.edu](mailto:fred.lacy@subr.edu)

**RSVP (Non-Members and Members) via the link BEFORE March 9th, 2023.**

**If you have issues, please email [robert.walker@ieee.org](mailto:robert.walker@ieee.org)**