

SPRING EDITION

GAS LINK NEWSLETTER

Official Newsletter of the Louisiana Gas Association



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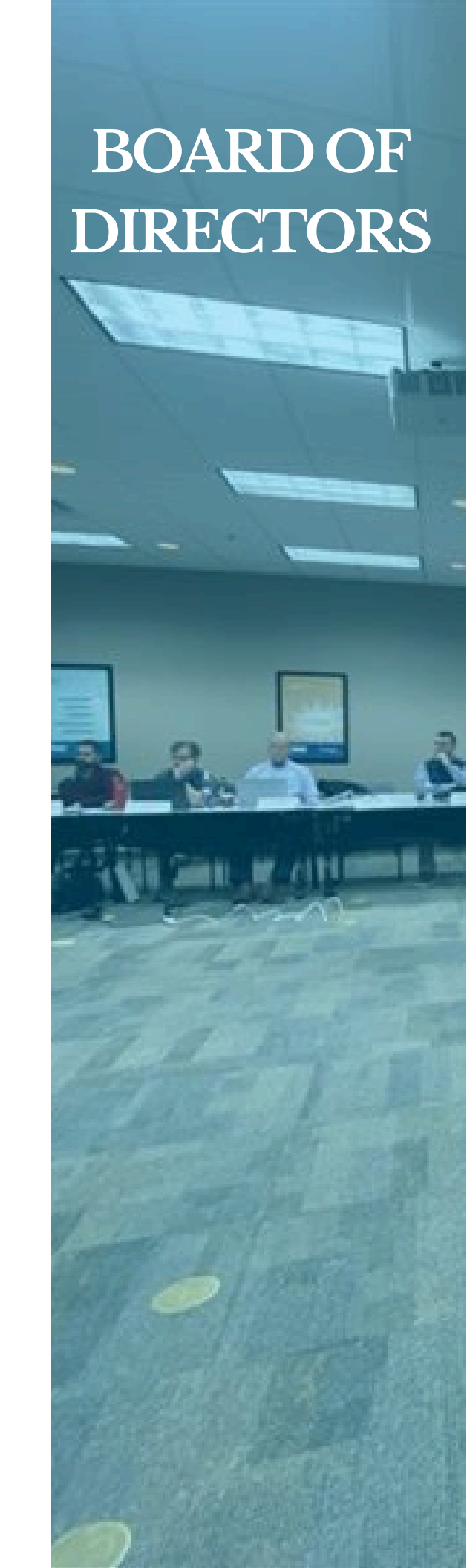
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is an honor to step into the role of President of the Louisiana Gas Association.

As many of you know, Larry Williams has completed his term as President and now transitions into the role of Immediate Past President. Larry's leadership and steady guidance have positioned LGA for continued success, and I am grateful for his service and support. Having previously served as First Vice President, I am excited to now take on this responsibility and build upon the strong foundation laid before me.

I care deeply about this organization and the vital role it plays in our industry. Over the past several months, I have dedicated significant time and thought to defining what I hope to accomplish during my two-year term. I've shared these goals with the Board and developed what I call a "Pillar Approach" to clearly outline the priorities that will guide our efforts moving forward. You'll see a visual representation of this framework on the next page, and I look forward to working together to strengthen each of these pillars.

We are already hard at work on two of our cornerstone events. I am proud to be chairing both the Pipeline Safety Conference Committee and the Annual Operations Conference Committee. Planning is well underway, and our teams are committed to delivering exceptional conferences that provide meaningful education, collaboration, and value to our members.

Another major focus during my presidency will be evaluating how we can best utilize the GASTEC Facility. We are exploring opportunities for member companies and industry partners to use the facility for training purposes, ensuring that this asset continues to serve as a valuable resource for workforce development across Louisiana.

In addition, I want to recognize the tremendous efforts of LGA's Gas Worker Committee which has worked alongside Industrial Training Services to develop and launch a Gas Worker Program at South Louisiana Community College. This initiative has been years in the making, and seeing it come to fruition later this year is a significant achievement for LGA and our industry as a whole. It represents exactly the kind of forward-thinking investment that strengthens our workforce for the future.

As President, I want my time in this role to matter. I want it to mean something. I have spent time reviewing and charting LGA's past milestones — identifying moments when our organization has peaked, grown, and plateaued.

My goal is to help lead LGA toward its next milestone and ensure we continue moving forward with purpose and momentum.

We have a great year ahead. I encourage you to stay engaged, attend our upcoming events, and remain involved in the work of this association. You can find a full list of upcoming events on our website.

Thank you for your continued support of the Louisiana Gas Association. I am honored to serve and ready for a great year.

Nathan Gray, LGA President



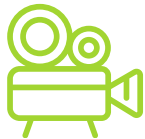
LGA PILLARS OF SUCCESS

The Louisiana Gas Association is adopting a strategic “Pillars of Success” approach to guide the organization forward. Built around four core pillars — **Safety, Teamwork, Trust, and Future** — this framework clearly defines what matters most to LGA and where we will focus our energy over the next two years.

Each pillar represents both a commitment and a call to action: promoting safety & public awareness, strengthening communication & collaboration, building trusted relationships, & positioning LGA as “best in class” through innovation and growth. This approach ensures our efforts are aligned, intentional, and measurable as we work toward our next major milestone.

DO THE BEST YOU CAN EVERYDAY TO BE “BEST IN CLASS”

SAFETY

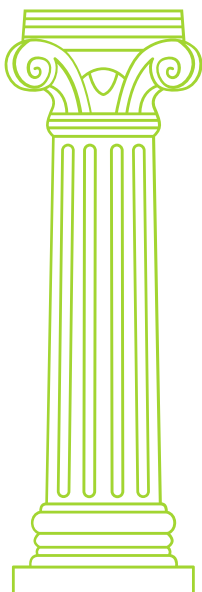


**PROMOTE
SAFETY**

LA DIG LAW

**SAFETY
MOMENTS**

**PUBLIC
AWARENESS**



TEAM WORK



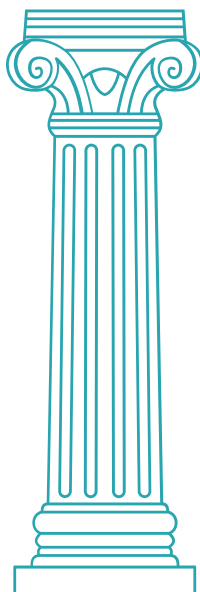
COMMUNICATION

COLLABORATION

SCHOLARSHIP

TRAINING

**INFORMATION
SHARING**

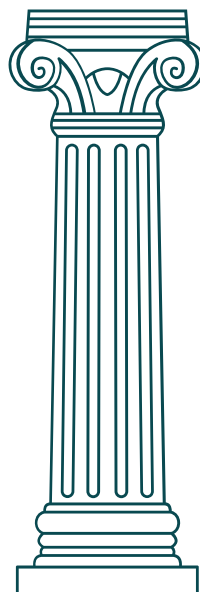


TRUST



RELATIONSHIP

ORGANIZATIONAL



FUTURE

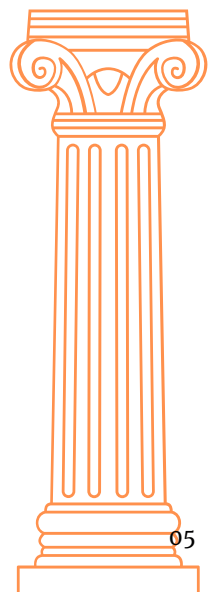


BEST IN CLASS

**NEW
INNOVATIONS**

REPUTATION

GROWTH



2026 PIPELINE SAFETY CONFERENCE KEYNOTE

We are excited to announce the Louisiana Gas Association will feature a keynote speaker this year – and one you won't want to miss!

Eric Giguere

Motivational Safety Speaker



Join us in New Orleans, August 10–13, 2026, as we welcome Eric Giguere as our conference keynote speaker. Eric's powerful presentation delivers a message that is as compelling as it is unforgettable, making him a perfect fit for this year's Pipeline Safety Conference.

Eric is a former construction worker who survived a life-altering trench collapse early in his career. Buried alive while working in a trench, Eric came face-to-face with the realities of jobsite safety in a way few ever experience. Today, he shares his story with honesty, humility, and purpose—driving home the critical importance of damage prevention and safety awareness.

Through his firsthand account, Eric connects with audiences at every level, reminding us that safety isn't just a rulebook—it's personal. His message is simple, serious, and impactful: this can happen to you. Once you hear his story, safety takes on an entirely new meaning.

We are thrilled to bring this keynote experience to the 2026 conference and cannot wait for attendees to hear Eric's story and take away lessons that truly matter—on the job and beyond.

Stay tuned for more conference details, and be sure to mark your calendar for what promises to be an engaging and meaningful event in New Orleans.

SAFETY TIP OF THE QUARTER: STAYING PREPARED



Safety has always been at the core of our industry, but in today's evolving environment, it extends beyond the jobsite. Protecting our people, infrastructure, and systems requires a broader awareness of both operational and security-related risks.

As utilities continue to monitor changing global and domestic conditions, many organizations are placing increased focus on preparedness — ensuring that both physical and digital assets remain secure while maintaining reliable service to the communities we serve.

This quarter, LGA encourages members to take a proactive approach by reviewing key areas of safety and security within their operations.

This includes evaluating physical site security, reinforcing employee awareness of reporting procedures, and ensuring that cybersecurity best practices are consistently followed across systems and devices.

Strong communication and coordination also play a critical role. Staying connected with local agencies, industry partners, and regulatory bodies helps ensure timely information sharing and a unified response to emerging risks.

By maintaining a balanced focus on safety, security, and awareness, we continue to strengthen our industry and uphold our commitment to safe and reliable operations across Louisiana.

SMALL OPERATOR ROUNDTABLE HIGHLIGHTS



The Small Operator Roundtable recently held in Raceland, LA brought together industry professionals for a valuable day of education, discussion, and connection.

The event welcomed 13 participants. Their engagement and thoughtful questions helped make the session both productive and collaborative. Special thanks to South Coast Gas Company for providing a welcoming space.

Instructors from the Department of Conservation and Energy delivered key insights on enforcement, situational awareness, and the complaint process, along with a helpful Q&A on annual reporting. Their practical guidance gave attendees greater clarity and confidence in their compliance responsibilities.

GenGatorz added to the experience by sponsoring and preparing a delicious spaghetti meal. Fittingly, the roundtable fell on St. Joseph's Day—a South Louisiana tradition centered around Italian food—making the gathering even more memorable.

We look forward to continuing this momentum at our next roundtable on April 9 in Carencro, which will feature two breakout sessions: one for Small Operators and another focused on EMS and Fire Training to help first responders prepare for natural gas emergencies.



UPCOMING EVENTS

A banner for an upcoming event. On the left, there is a photograph of a classroom setting with several people seated at desks, facing a presentation screen. The background of the banner is dark blue with a pattern of light blue hexagons. The text is in white and yellow.

CARENCRO, LA

**SMALL OPERATOR ROUNDTABLE +
EMS & FIRE SAFETY TRAINING**

APRIL 9, 2026

Who it's for: Small Operator staff (Supervisors, managers, etc) or EMS Personnel (Sergeants, Sheriffs, Local Enforcement, etc)

Location: Carencro Community Center | 5115 N University Ave, Carencro, LA 70520

Time:

Small Operator Roundtable | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

EMS Fire & Safety Training | 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Lunch & Expo for Both Groups | 11:30 - 1:00 pm

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GASTEC FACILITY

VALVE MAINTENANCE TRAINING

JUNE 15, 2026

A banner for an upcoming event. On the left, there is a photograph of a classroom setting with several people seated at desks, facing a presentation screen. The background of the banner is dark blue with a pattern of light blue hexagons. The text is in white and yellow.

GASTEC FACILITY

REGULATOR & RELIEF VALVE TRAINING

JULY 21, 2026

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON
www.louisianagas.org/education

UPCOMING EVENTS



Join the Louisiana Gas Association for GASTEC Expo Day, a hands-on industry event held at the GASTEC Training & Educational Center in Zachary, Louisiana. This expo brings together natural gas professionals, operators, and vendors from across the state to explore the latest equipment, technology, and services supporting the natural gas industry. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with exhibitors, network with peers, and learn about innovations that help improve safety, efficiency, and performance in the field.



The Louisiana Gas Association's Pipeline Safety Conference (PSC) brings together natural gas industry professionals, regulators, and vendors for several days of education, networking, and collaboration. Held in New Orleans, the conference features expert speakers, technical sessions, and an extensive vendor exhibition focused on pipeline safety, regulatory updates, and best practices across the natural gas industry.

[CLICK HERE TO FIND MORE DETAILS AND REGISTER ONLINE.](#)



The LGA's Scholarship Golf Tournament is a fun and meaningful day on the course that brings industry members together to network while supporting a great cause. Held annually at the Jennings Golf Club, the tournament raises funds for the LGA Scholarship Program, helping provide educational opportunities for the children of LGA members and investing in the next generation of industry leaders.

LGA ISSUES DAMAGE PREVENTION LETTER TO STATE & LOCAL OFFICIALS

As concerns grow within the natural gas industry over increased incidents of pipeline damage tied to underground construction, the Louisiana Gas Association (LGA) has taken action. In early January, the Damage Prevention and Public Awareness Committee drafted a formal letter urging state and local officials to work collaboratively with industry partners, LA 811, and the Dig Law Advisory Committee to address this pressing issue.



The letter highlights a significant rise in pipeline and related facility damage linked to the rapid deployment of buried broadband fiber infrastructure across Louisiana. This trend has not only increased the risk of service interruptions for critical utilities, but also heightened public safety concerns as construction activity expands.



Recognizing the urgency of this challenge, the association's letter outlines a proactive action plan, calling for:

- Mandatory education and compliance with Louisiana's Underground Utilities and Facilities Damage Prevention Law for all excavators and utility operators.
- Improved communication between fiber installation contractors and utility operators to reduce conflicts during excavation.
- Broad enforcement of the Dig Law, including participation from state and local agencies across all underground utilities, not just gas.
- Stronger partnerships among utility operators, excavation professionals, and emergency responders to enhance damage prevention and public safety efforts.

This effort reflects LGA's ongoing commitment to pipeline safety and public awareness — core parts of our mission to support safe operations, protect infrastructure, and educate both industry stakeholders and the wider public.

[Read the full letter here!](#)

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS



The Louisiana Gas Association is proud to announce that the LGA Scholarship Program is now open for applications, with a deadline of July 15.

One of the many valuable benefits of LGA membership is the opportunity to invest in your people — and this scholarship program does exactly that. Designed to support education, workforce development, and industry advancement, the program provides financial assistance to students connected to LGA member companies who are pursuing higher education or specialized training.

Because LGA membership is company-based, this benefit extends across your entire organization. If your company is an active LGA member, any employee of that company — from administrative staff and field personnel to leadership and small operators — may apply, provided all eligibility requirements are met. This is a meaningful way for companies to support professional growth, continuing education, and career development for their teams.

The scholarship program reflects LGA's ongoing commitment to strengthening our industry from within. By supporting education and training, we are helping build a stronger, more skilled workforce for Louisiana's natural gas community — today and for years to come.

We encourage all eligible employees of member companies to take advantage of this opportunity and submit an application before the July 15 deadline.

To review eligibility requirements and apply online, visit:

<https://www.louisianagasassociation.org/scholarship>

Don't miss this chance to invest in your future through one of the many benefits of LGA membership.