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LFMA FLOODWATCH

A quarterly newsletter available to LFMA Members and other interested parties interested in floodplain management throughout Louisiana, and can be viewed at www.lfma.org

Persons interested in submitting articles for publication are encouraged to contact the editor.

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**Rodney Edwin Emmer, PhD
 1944 - 2008**



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FROM THE CHAIR

Hello and welcome to the September 2008 “Floodwatch” newsletter. I am very happy to represent each of you as the new Chairwoman for LFMA. Our past chairman Michael Hunnicutt has done a wonderful job for all of us the past two years and I thank him very much for all the help he has given each of us. Mike has not gone too far, as he is now the new Vice Chairman. Brad Duhon has remained as our Secretary and Pam Mattingly is our new Treasurer. I look forward to working with everyone.

On August 3, 2008, the LFMA family along with many other organizations was informed of the death of our Executive Director Rod Emmer. As most of you already knew, Rod had been dealing with Multiple Myeloma, a type of blood cancer. In this newsletter, you see a special tribute to Rod, which is very touching and written by James Wilkins as well as past photos of Rod and the LFMA family. I have had the pleasure to have known Rod for the past 5 years. I can remember the very heartfelt discussion we had at the Carencro Community Center in July 2005 as he was the one to convince me to get more involved with LFMA. I remember telling Rod how I was nervous to talk in front of a crowd and he made me feel as though I could talk to anyone. Rod always asked about my family and particularly about my husband who he knew

was in law enforcement and spent months working in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. Rod had always told me that family comes first and if I couldn't be somewhere to do something due to family issues, he made me feel okay about saying no. Rod had such knowledge and experience in floodplain management that I can't remember a time I had to ask a question that he didn't know the answer to or how to direct me in the area that I need to be. I can personally say that I will miss Rod very much and I know he will be in our hearts forever.

On Friday, July 25, 2008, LFMA along with the Avoyelles Parish Police July co-sponsored an “Elevation Certificate” workshop at the Marksville Community Center. The welcome address was given by Mr. Mickey Romano, President of the Avoyelles Parish Police Jury and several topics on how to read a FIRM, elevation datum, community official, and the overview of the 2006 elevation certificate were presented by Pam Mattingly, Ted DeBaene, James Demouchet and David Heigel. A special thanks to Chip Johnson and his staff for the outstanding work done in preparation for the workshop.

Our next workshop will be held on Friday, October 24, 2008 in Hammond, LA. If you would like a special topic to be discussed, please feel free to forward that information to Pam Mattingly or myself. Keep checking our website, www.lfma.org for updates and schedules as well as copies of past and current newsletters.

**Let's Keep Louisiana Safe through
Floodplain Management,
Bonnie Anderson, CFM**

Rodney Edwin Emmer, PhD

1944 – 2008

Editor's Note

The following tribute was written by Jim Wilkins, Director Law & Policy Advisory Service at the Louisiana Sea Grant College Program at LSU. He had the privilege of working with Rod for 20 years on various coastal resource and hazard mitigation issues. They co-taught a course in coastal zone management at LSU for the last 10 years. Rod Emmer has been a part of the Sea Grant College Program for the last two-and-a-half years. He and Jim co-authored a recent study of land use planning in coastal Louisiana and just released a publication titled, "Louisiana Coastal Hazard Mitigation Guidebook."

As many of you are aware, Dr. Rod Emmer passed away Sunday, August 3rd., 2008, the victim of multiple myeloma, a type of blood cancer. I don't think it is an overstatement to say that the state of Louisiana and the country have lost a great resource of knowledge and experience in the fields of floodplain management, hazard mitigation, geography and culture. Rod's dedication to his profession and his stellar work ethic made him a great force for the benefit of our state but Rod was much more than a top notch professional. Throughout my association with Rod over the last twenty years I found him to be a generous and friendly person, always willing to help whenever needed. To those of us that spent a lot of time with him he was like a big brother, a big man with a big heart.



Rod and I taught a course in coastal zone management at LSU for ten years and I learned a lot about teaching and dealing with students from him. He was willing to bend over backwards to help a student learn but that student had better be willing to work or he was toast.

Rod was a true epicure. Having grown up in the cradle of fine cuisine, New Orleans, the man knew how to eat well. He eschewed what he called the phony "brass and glass" restaurants in favor of the earthy, genuine eating establishments that you find in the neighborhoods and on backstreets. Not that he didn't like fancy restaurants, but they had better be sticking to business when it came to the food. I never stumped Rod when looking for a place to eat. He knew at least one or two in almost every town of any size in Louisiana, plus



the best bakery to get his beloved New Orleans style French bread. Rod hated a po-boy made with what he called a "weenie bun."

Rod spent his childhood in the New Orleans of the 1940's and 50's and he loved to entertain his friends with stories of how the city was back then and how those cultural rivers had diverged and coalesced into what we see today. Rod's roots were deep in New Orleans and it seemed he was happy there as a child, but he chose Baton Rouge as his adult home, much to our benefit.

Rod never married, he said he had a couple of chances over the years but let them slip away. C'est la vie he said, but he still enjoyed the company of women and would visibly light up when in their presence. Having no children Rod "adopted" his three nephews and their children, playing the role of the kind eccentric uncle and of course helping them in any way he could. One Christmas he and I spent several hours in my workshop making all different shapes and sizes of wooden blocks to give to a great nephew because Rod believed children benefited from the simple creative play that modern electronic gizmos couldn't provide. Rod would probably have made a pretty good father.



Rod knew how to manage money, he could pinch a penny until it screamed. I guess that came from being pretty much self sufficient and independent in what he called "the real world" from the time he left home for LSU, then on to Korea with the army, to Oregon State and finally back home to his beloved Louisiana. His German practicality didn't prevent him from being generous though, he valued people above all.



Rod had the gift of gab and could make friends easily but he was a straight shooter. He knew how to keep his mouth shut when politics dictated but if prompted to speak, which was often, you had better be prepared to hear the truth as he saw it, delivered in that distinctive upper ninth ward accent, and he usually hit the heart of the matter with great accuracy.

The disease laid Rod low but he displayed great courage and maintained as much dignity as the pain and hospital conditions allowed. Rod loved a good

joke between friends and at the end he was still laughing even through his labored breathing.

As well-wishes from friends in the various circles of Rod's life, Rotary and other professional groups poured in these last few weeks, Rod said to me more than once that he couldn't get over how good the people at Sea Grant were to him when he got sick. It amazed him that people he didn't have much history with would rally around him so much. He was so appreciative of that and I know that I speak for him and myself when say I thank you so much for being such caring, considerate people and being there for him. You are good bunch of folks.

So goodbye Rod. You did "not go gentle into that good night"* but you are still gone. Goodbye dear friend.

**My apologies to Dylan Thomas*



Rods's Beloved Sunset - Biloxi, MS

“Remembering Rod”







Goodbye friend!

2008 – 2009 LFMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIRMAN

Bonnie Anderson

Bonnie has been employed with the City of Carencro since January 2003 as their Floodplain Manager and Planning Department Head. Bonnie was previously employed with St. Mary Parish Government from May 1993 until January 2003 as the Senior Clerk for the Public Works and Planning Departments. Bonnie became a Certified Floodplain Manager in July of 2007 and in October of 2002 was certified as a Certified Administrative Assistant. Bonnie's duties include all Floodplain information, building codes, subdivision reviews, and drainage analysis to name a few. Also, Bonnie administers the City's health and dental insurance plans to all City employees. For a brief time, Bonnie was also the Assistant City Clerk and was in charge of all agenda items, minutes, publication, etc... however the Planning Department has been busy with its own work and therefore the job was given to another employee. Bonnie is married to David Anderson and has one son Brett Price and two step-daughter's Courtney and McKenzie Anderson. Bonnie truly loves her job and enjoys working with the public.



Email Bonnie – planning@carencro.org

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Michael Hunnicutt

Mike graduated from Louisiana State University with a Degree in Landscape Architecture from the College of Design, and from the University of New Orleans with a Masters Degree in Planning from the College of Urban and Public Affairs. He is Registered and Licensed as a Landscape Architect and Contractor in the State of Louisiana, and is a Certified Inspector with the International Building Code and a Certified Floodplain Manager with the Association of State Floodplain Managers. After working for two prominent Architectural, Engineering and Planning Firms in the City of New Orleans, Michael started his public service career working in the Department of Community Development for St. Bernard Parish Government, Louisiana, in 1990. He was appointed to the Directors position in 1996. As Director for the Department of Community Development, he was in charge of the Offices of Planning and Zoning, Safety and Permits, Coastal Zone Management, Homeland Security/ Emergency Preparedness, and Animal Control. Michael is currently the Deputy Section Chief for Hazard Mitigation NFIP/Compliance, working for the Department of Homeland Security under the Federal Emergency Management Agency. His duties with Hazard Mitigation are oversight of the National Flood Insurance Program, Compliance of Local Communities with FEMA Floodplain Management Regulations, Map Modernization Projects, and Community Education and Outreach. Michael is very involved in the local community and serves on the Board of Directors for Los Islenos Heritage and Cultural Society and the LSU Alumni Association, and he is a member of several regional and state organizations such as the Planning Directors Council, Southeast Hurricane Task Force, 911 Communications District, Louisiana Chapter American Planning Association, Emergency Planning Council, Building Officials Association, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Louisiana Floodplain Managers Association. He resides in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana.



Email Mike – Michael.hunnicutt@dhs.gov

TREASURER**Pam Mattingly**

Pam graduated from McNeese State University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. She has 26 years experience in the field of Planning. Pam started her career with Calcasieu Parish Police Jury in 1982 as Departmental Secretary and her current position with them is Assistant Director of Planning.

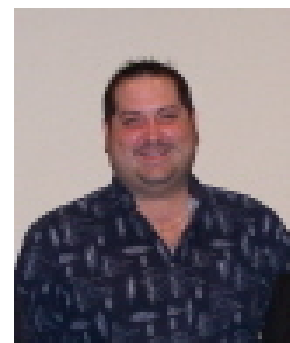


Some of her professional achievements include Certified Floodplain Manager, achieved Community Rating System for Calcasieu Parish, received and implemented various state and federal grants, instrumental in facilitating FEMA Flood Map Revisions, instrumental in Hurricane Rita recovery programs, coordinated the annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program and past Chairman of LFMA. Pam currently serves on the LFMA Board of Directors as Treasurer and Workshop Coordinator.

Email Pam – pmattingly@cnpj.net

SECRETARY**Brad Duhon**

Brad is a Certified Floodplain Manager originally from Scott, Louisiana. Brad began his career in Floodplain and Emergency Management over ten years ago in his home town of Scott as their Chief Inspector. Since then Brad has worn many hats. He opened a restaurant in Saint Martinsville and after realizing that owning your own business is even harder than dealing with the “Bubbas” of the world he moved on to work as the Floodplain Administrator for the Lafayette Consolidated Government. While working for the LCG, Brad revamped LCG’s Floodplain Management Department to allow it to become a source of information for the community. He was instrumental in mainstreaming the permitting department and sat on the Drainage Board.



Brad suffered a great loss in March of 2005 and decided that it was time that he move on to bigger and better things so after being offered a job with FEMA in early 2006 he left his home of Scott and moved to Baton Rouge to work as a Flood Insurance Specialist at the JFO. Unfortunately FEMA’s operations were moving to New Orleans so he once again changed jobs to avoid the hustle and bustle of New Orleans. Brad now works for Innovative Emergency Management as a Lead Hazard Mitigation Specialist. Brad along with other members of his staff run many Hazard Mitigation Programs around the state. Brad has also worked with the Department of Natural Resources Debris Removal Program, has formally participated in events for Lafayette MDA, Lafayette JC’s, Lafayette Festival International, Scott Business Association, Lafayette Drainage Committee, Building Officials of Louisiana and now sits on the City of Scott’s Zoning Commission and serves as Secretary to the LFMA.

Email Brad – bdduhon@yahoo.com

LFMA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

REGION 1

Wayne Berggren

Wayne was born and raised in New Orleans, and has lived in Mandeville, since 1979. He attended LSU for 3 years and graduated from Southeastern La. University in 1977. He has a B.A. in Business Administration. His work history includes: Lead Superintendent for U.S. Home 1979-1980, President of Batture Homes 1980-1985, Building Inspector/Floodplain Administrator for the City of Mandeville from 1985-2006 and currently is the NFIP Group Supervisor- FEMA Transitional Recovery Office in New Orleans. Wayne holds the following certifications: Certified Floodplain Manager-CFM, Certified Building Inspector-ICC, Certified Hud Inspector.



Wayne has been married to Donna for 25 years and has four children, two boys and two Girls. One set was twins (boy and girl). His hobbies are golf and tennis.

Email Wayne – wayne.berggren@dhs.gov

Tom Rodrigue

Tom is currently employed as Floodplain Manager/Community Rating System Coordinator with Jefferson Parish Emergency Management since December, 2000. Employed previously with the Louisiana National Guard for 37 years with the last nine (9) years as the Director of Military Support where one of his primary responsibilities was to manage Emergency Preparedness for the National Guard statewide and provide assistance to the 64 parishes of the state when necessary. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and retired from the National Guard as a Colonel in August 2000.



In his current position he has completed the FEMA National Flood Insurance Program Course as well as the Community Rating System Coordinator's course conducted at Emmitsburg, Maryland. He is a Certified Floodplain Manager. He was the recipient of the 2005 ASFPM National Floodplain Manager of the Year Award. He is currently a member of the Board for the Louisiana State Floodplain Management Association as their Treasurer and is listed in International Who's Who for Public Service.

Email Tom – TORodrigue@jeffparish.net

REGION 2**Alyson Lapuma**

Alyson has 16 years with Tangipahoa Parish Government in the Building Department, where she served as Planning Secretary, permit office manager, Building Inspector, Floodplain Manager and became Building Official in 1999. She is a certified Residential Inspector through the International Code Council and certified as Floodplain manager through the Association of State Floodplain Managers. She has been a member of: Tangipahoa Parish Home Builders Association, Building Official Association of Louisiana, United Way of Tangipahoa, International Code Council, Capital Region Planning Commission and has served on the board for Louisiana Floodplain Management Association for the past 12 years.



Alyson also serves on LFMA's Awards Education Committee. In January of 2008, Tangipahoa Parish President Gordon Burgess, created a well needed Planning Department and named Alyson as the Parish Planner. In this capacity she will use the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan to lead Tangipahoa Parish into smart growth.

Email Alyson - alapuma@tangipahoa.org

Toni Jo Simon

Toni Jo has been employed with the Tangipahoa Parish Government in the Permit Office for 11 years. Her duties include assistant office manager, permit clerk and floodplain management. She is a graduate of Ponchatoula High School. Toni is currently learning about the CRS program and is working towards her CFM. She has been a member of LFMA for 10 years.

Toni Jo has been married to Glenn for 37 years, no children. Hobbies are reading and spending time at their camp on the Tangipahoa River.



Email Toni Jo - : tsimon@tangipahoa.org

REGION 3

Windell Curole

Windell has worked as the General Manager of the South Lafourche Levee District for the past 26 years overseeing hurricane and flood protection projects. He has worked to negotiate and administer cost share agreements and grants on federal, state, and local levels worth millions of dollars in several areas which include flood related, environmental and cultural activities. Windell is currently the Assistant Director for the Lafourche Parish Emergency Preparedness and is responsible for making the decision of when to evacuate the citizens of South Lafourche when faced with approaching hurricanes or tropical storms. Windell has spent the past 31 years working on coastal issues for South Louisiana. His involvement in coastal activities has led him to serve on various committees and organizations including the Governor's Coastal Restoration and Conservation Advisory Commission (2002 – 2006) and presently the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. He has also served on the Lafourche Parish Coastal Zone Management Committee for over 13 years and is currently the CZM Administrator. In addition, Windell served as Chairman of the Management Conference for Barataria Terrebonne Estuary Program for seven years, is the current President of the Cheniere Hurricane Centennial, served as the Extension Service Sea Grant Agent for five years, and is a former President of the Chamber of Commerce of Lafourche and the Bayou Region. Windell holds a B.S. in Science of Biology and has received his teacher certification from Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, LA. His dedication in hurricane and flood protection has earned him the National Hurricane Conference Award for two years.



Email Windell – sld@mobiletel.com

Darla Duet

Darla has been employed by the Lafourche Parish Government for over 25 years. Her job duties have been Food Stamp Issuance Clerk, Food Stamp Issuance Supervisor, Permit Officer Supervisor, CRS Coordinator, Public Works Clerk and Floodplain Manager.

In July of 2006 she became a Certified Floodplain Manager through ASFPM. Since this time she has become the Floodplain Manager for Lafourche Parish Government. "I don't think I could have accomplished this without the LFMA family and all of the knowledge gained through meetings/"networking" functions."



Email Darla - DuetDA@lafourchegov.org

REGION 4**Carol Vinning**

Carol was born in 1935 on Avalon Plantation, a little north of Patterson, La. He is a graduate of Patterson High School and the School of Engineering at Fort Belvoir, Virginia; School of Cartography. He served in the Armed Forces, United States of America, Far East & Asia. He also serviced as Cubmaster and Scoutmaster Scouting Program where he received the Outstanding Cubmaster Award, Silver Beaver, and Bronze Pelican Award.



Carol began his career as a land agent and manager of Williams, Inc. in 1954 through 1992 where he managed 83,000 acres of land in 13 south Louisiana parishes. During that time he also worked part time with the City of Patterson as Building Inspector and Floodplain Manager. He is currently employed by St Mary Parish Government as Director of Planning & Zoning, Floodplain Manager and Building Official since 1993. Carol is an active member of the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association, serves as Region Representative and was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation with regard to NFIP from LaDOTD at the 2008 LFMA Conference in Lake Charles.

Carol is the co-founder of Patterson Cypress Sawmill Festival and Chairman of the Board of the Cypress Sawmill Foundation. He is a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and KC Council 1710, Patterson. He is married to Alene Rushing Vinning, and is the father of 4 children. In his spare time, he built a 2-story duplex & present 2-story home. His hobbies include woodworking, fishing and alligator hunting.

Email Carol – cvinning@parish.st-mary.la.us

Linda Duhon

Linda was born and raised in Lafourche Parish, attended South Lafourche High School and the University of Southwestern Louisiana. She has been with the Vermilion Parish Police Jury for 10 years. She is currently the Assistant Administrator and Certified Building Official. Since becoming the CBO for Vermilion Parish, she has attended many various conferences and certification classes and floodplain management training.



Linda She has been married for 35 years to Robert" Bobby" Duhon and have two children, Alisha – 32 and Austin – 21.

Email Linda - vermilionppj@yahoo.com

REGION 5

Tammy Tonn

Tammy has been working for the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury's Division of Planning & Development for 12 years and is a Senior Planner. She attended McNeese State University in Lake Charles. Tammy has been married to Robert Tonn for 12 years and has two children, Cutter, 8 and Kindal, 5. Tammy is a Certified Floodplain Manager and a member of the American Planning Association.



Email Tammy – ttonn@cppi.net

Terri Hawes

Terri came from 25 years in the banking industry to the Permit Department at Westlake City Hall in June, 2005, three months before Hurricane Rita! Terri says "I can answer darn near anything about banking, but I didn't have a clue what I was doing in this job. I had to learn it really fast." Now, three years later and another hurricane, she feels like she may be a little wiser than she was back then - just hoped we wouldn't have to do that again so soon.

Terri became an ICC Certified Permit Technician in February, 2008. Along with issuing all building, electrical and plumbing permits, she keeps up with contractors' licensing and files. She is the Floodplain Administrator and the Grants Coordinator (in her spare time), and also goes out and sees who's not mowing their grass.

While she's out doing that, she finds the depressed or abandoned properties in town and gets them cleaned up or torn down. "They love me over here"! Terri's a one person department, so she gets to do just about everything that bigger towns have several people doing.

She's a single parent to one daughter, Robin, who is 15 years old and a sophomore at Hamilton Christian Academy in Lake Charles. She's been in Westlake her whole life and always tells people that she can't find the exit to leave, and couldn't imagine living anywhere else. She feels like she's been looking her whole life for this job, crazy as it sounds, because she feels it was meant for her to be here.



Email Terri – terrihawes@hotmail.com

REGION 6**Melissa Becker**

Melissa Becker is a native of Louisiana and has been employed with the Rapides Area Planning Commission for 15 years. She is currently serving as the Building Official and Floodplain Manager for Rapides Parish. She is responsible for code compliance, development & building permits, zoning, floodplain management and subdivision development. She is the Project Manager for several projects; the CTP program to update the parish's floodplain maps, levee certification and HMGP grants. She has been instrumental in the development of the Kisatchie-Delta Regional Code Compliance Office and the Regional permitting software. She has recently been appointed to serve on the Rapides Area Planning Commission's Board.



Since becoming involved with the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association, Melissa has completed the Cooperating Technical Partners (CTP) course in Emmitsburg, MD and the National Flood Insurance Program course in Baton Rouge. She achieved her certification as a Certified Floodplain Manager through ASFPM in 2003 and serves on LFMA's Board of Directors as Region Rep and Editor of the newsletter. She was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation with regard to NFIP from LaDOTD at the 2008 LFMA Conference in Lake Charles. She also serves as a Notary in Rapides Parish and is a member of the Louisiana Notary Association.

Email Melissa @ mbecker@rapc.info

Glen J Couvillion

Glen is the Zoning Enforcement Analyst for the City of Alexandria.

Floodplain Management is just one of his many duties, but considers it his most important oversight. He will celebrate his ninth year as an employee of the City of Alexandria this month. Shortly after joining the Planning Division and learning more about the complexities of floodplain management, Glen decided to prepare for the Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) exam and received his certification in April, 2006 through ASFPM. Glen strives to take advantage of every learning opportunity he can, as he wishes to serve as diligently as possible, and become the best at whatever GOD has in store for him. He is a proud graduate of LSU, where he earned a Bachelor of Engineering Technology in May 1983, after having completed two tours of duty at LSU; the party tour and the study tour. Glen says "there's not enough space here to elaborate". Besides, his most life-changing experiences have occurred since the spring of 1979, when he surrendered his life under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.



He is happily married to his wife, Marcia, and the father of three wonderful and talented children; Marcy (LSU - May 2003), and her husband, Eric (SLU - May 2001), live in Baton Rouge. David is a student at LSU, majoring in Industrial Engineering. Micah attends elementary school in Alexandria, and is currently in the third grade.

Email Glen - Glen.Couvillion@cityofalex.com

REGION 7**Don Crista**

Don has worked for the City of Bossier in the Engineering Dept. for 15 years. As Engineering Aide, his duties include preparing utility and drainage plans, assigning addresses to new subdivisions and businesses, Community Rating System, and field work. Don has been an active member of the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association for 13 years.



Email Don - cristad@bossiercity.org

Juanita Fowler

Juanita Fowler heads the Department of Planning & Zoning for the City of Natchitoches. She has represented the City & Parish in Floodplain Management and the Planning profession for 16 years. Juanita coordinates long-range planning initiatives, oversees zoning and land use development, permits, code enforcement and floodplain management procedures. Juanita serves as the liaison for the Planning Commission and the Historic District Commission which regulates development in the District, one of only two nationally recognized Landmark Districts in the State. She currently serves as a Regional Representative on the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association Board.

Juanita received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Northwestern State University of Louisiana.



Email Juanita: jfowler@ci.natchitoches.la.us

REGION 8

Lisa Richardson

Lisa is the Building Permit Officer for the Ouachita Parish Police Jury. Her main duties with the Police Jury include issuing building permits, floodplain management, CRS Coordinator, and most recently, the new statewide uniform construction code. She has been a Certified Floodplain Manager for 4 years. She is also and ICC Certified Residential Building and Electrical Inspector through the International Code Council and is currently working on becoming a Certified Building Official. She has been an active member of LFMA for 10 years and serves as Region Representative.



Email Lisa – lrichardson@oppj.org

LFMA COMMITTEES

MEMBERSHIP/CAP

James Demouchet

James was born in Lafayette, Louisiana and grew up in the small town of Welsh. He graduated from Welsh High School in 1972 and enlisted in the United States Air Force on August 1, 1972.

He successful completed an Air Force career of twenty-four (24) years in the administrative and personnel career field. His time in the Air Force took him to such places as Arizona, Germany, South Korea, Japan, Austria, Switzerland, Mississippi, Turkey, and Bossier City, Louisiana to name only a few. He has been assigned to the Caddo Parish, Public Works Department as the Public Works Floodplain Administrator and Property Standards Specialist for the past twelve (12) years. He is responsible for floodplain management within Caddo Parish.



James has earned Associate Degrees from Louisiana Tech University (Associate of General Studies) and the Community College of the Air Force (Associate in Applied Science, Information Management). He has successfully completed the EMI course – NFIP: Community Rating System; DOTD – Community Permit Official Training Program; and FEMA Elevation Certificate – Training Course.

He is a former Chairman of LFMA and has held other positions such as Membership Coordinator, Regional Rep and Secretary. He is married to the former Ruby J. Carter of Marshall, Texas and they have been married for 32 years. They have one daughter Shemika R. Demouchet Berry, and is a Grandfather (Pawpaw) of three.

Email James – jdemouchet@caddo.org

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Ted DeBaene

Ted is Vice President of Owen and White, Inc., Consulting Engineers. He has been specializing in Floodplain Management and Hydrologic Analysis for 35 years. He is experienced in Flood Insurance Studies, No Adverse Impact Analyses, Stream Improvement, Basin Models, Conveyance Analysis, Enhanced Zone A BFE, Determinations, and Expert Witness Services.

Ted received a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, MBA in Quantitative Analysis from Wayne State University and has taken Advanced Hydrological Training Courses at the USACE Hydraulic Engineering Center

His professional affiliations are Professional Engineer, Certified Floodplain Manager, Tau Beta Pi, Louisiana Floodplain Management Association - Former Vice-Chair and Chair and Association of State Floodplain Managers - Former Chair of Stormwater Management Committee.



Email Ted – ted@owenandwhite.com



CFM CORNER

For a current list of ASFPM Certified Floodplain Managers go to:

www.floods.org/Certification/certlist.asp

EXAM OPPORTUNITY

CFM Exam will be offered following the LFMA Workshop in Tangipahoa Parish October 24, 2008 at 1:00 pm at the La Works Department of Labor

Please register at www.floods.org click on Certification

Deadline to register for exam is October 11, 2008. Walk-ins NOT accepted.

The requirements to maintain your ASFPM CFM Certification are:

- You must earn at least 4 of your required CECs in your first year of the two year period.
- Over the two year period, acquire 16 Continuing Education Credits (CEC's), of which a maximum of 12 can be earned in any one year.
- On or before completion of the two years, submit the renewal form(ASFPM will send you) and the appropriate fee for recertification, furnishing a listing of the training and/or education courses you have completed.



THE MITIGATION CORNER

By: Michael D. Hunnicutt, CFM

The mitigation corner is for the purposes of informing every one of the mitigation activity and programs available to them from FEMA. This special series of articles highlight what services the Mitigation Section of FEMA provides to the public and communities, and future articles will highlight programs in more detail. The Mitigation Section is a division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which is part of the United States Department of Homeland Security. The area of mitigation being focused on this article will be “Mitigation Planning”.

Mitigation Planning is a process for State, Local, and Indian Tribal governments to identify policies, activities, and tools to implement mitigation actions. Mitigation is any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event. This process has four steps: 1) organizing resources; 2) assessing risks; 3) developing a mitigation plan; and 4) implementing the plan and monitoring progress. The [Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000](#) provides the legal basis for FEMA's mitigation plan requirements for State, Local, and Indian Tribal governments as a condition of mitigation grant assistance. As of May 31, 2007, all 50 States, the District of Columbia, 7 Territories and 36 Tribal governments have approved State Mitigation Plans, and over 14,000 local jurisdictions currently have approved (or approvable pending adoption) Local Mitigation Plans that cover approximately 59% of the nation's population.

To help local governments better understand the Local Mitigation Plans requirements under 44 CFR Part 201, FEMA has prepared the “Local Multi-hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance” document with two major objectives. First, the Guidance is intended to help local jurisdictions develop new mitigation plans or modify existing ones in accordance with the requirements of the regulation. Second, the Guidance is designed to help Federal and State reviewers evaluate mitigation plans from local jurisdictions in a fair and consistent manner. This guidance document can be viewed and downloaded online.

Grant Programs with Mitigation Plan Requirement under the Stafford Act include the [Hazard Mitigation Grant Program \(HMGP\)](#), the [Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program \(PDM\)](#), and the [Public Assistance \(PA\)](#) program. Grant Programs with Mitigation Plan Requirements under the National Flood Insurance Act include the [Flood Mitigation Assistance \(FMA\)](#), the [Repetitive Flood Claims \(RFC\)](#), and the [Severe Repetitive Loss \(SRL\)](#) program. FEMA has several Partners in Mitigation Planning, such as, the [American Planning Association](#), the [Association of State Floodplain Managers](#), the [Institute for Business & Home Safety](#), the [National Institute of Building Sciences](#), and the [Whole Building Design Guide](#).

If you have any questions about the Mitigation Section of FEMA or any of its programs, you can contact Michael Hunnicutt, CFM, Deputy Section Chief, Hazard Mitigation Division, NFIP/Compliance, FEMA, DHS, at 504-762-2298 or visit FEMA website at www.fema.gov.

**LOUISIANA FLOODPLAIN
MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION**

AND
*Tangipahoa Parish
Government*

SPONSOR

**Floodplain Management
Workshop**

FRIDAY, October 24, 2008
8:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon

LA Works Department of Labor
1711 Nashville Avenue
Hammond, LA 70401

Make your own Hotel Reservations

Best Western University
(985) 345-0003

PLEASE FAX, MAIL, or E-MAIL THIS BY
October 21, 2008 TO:

Alyson Lapuma
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Hammond, LA 70403
alapuma@tangipahoa.org
FAX: 985.542.8574

NAME: _____
TITLE: _____
ORGANIZATION: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____
FAX #: _____



AGENDA

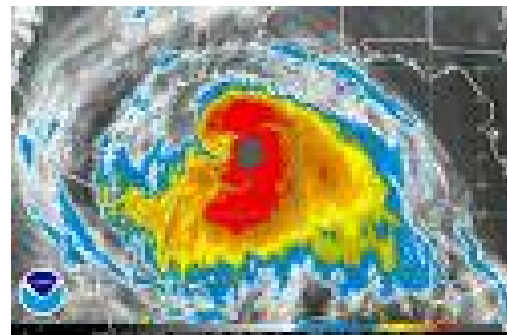
- 8:15 a.m.- Coffee & Donuts
- 8:30 a.m. - **Introduction**
Bonnie Anderson
LFMA Chairman
- 8:40 a.m. - **Welcome** by President
Tangipahoa Parish Government
- 8:45 a.m. - **How to Read a FIRM**
Pam Mattingly, CFM, Asst. Planning
Director, Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
- 9:00 a.m. - **Master Planning with Floodplains**
Alyson Lapuma, CFM, Parish Planner,
Tangipahoa Parish Government
- 9:30 a.m. - **Permit/Records**
Bonnie Anderson, CFM
Administrative Asst., City of Carencro
- 10:00 a.m. Break
- 10:15 a.m. - **Accessory Buildings**
Dana Guidry, CFM, Permit Supervisor,
Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
- 10:45 a.m. - **Higher Regulatory Standards**
Brad Duhon, CFM, Permit Supervisor,
Calcasieu Parish Police Jury
- 11:15 a.m. - **Enforcement Actions**
James Demouchet, CFM, Floodplain
Administrator,
Caddo Parish Police Jury
- 11:45 a.m. - Question & Answer
- 1:00 p.m. - CFM Exam**
(Pre-registration required)

CFM Exam will be offered following the
workshop at 1:00 pm. Please register at
www.floods.org - Click on "Certification"
Deadline to register for CFM Exam is
Oct. 11, 2008 *Walk-ins not accepted.**

For more information on the CFM Exam,
please contact: James Demouchet
318-226-6930
jdemouchet@caddo.org

This workshop earns 3 CEC Credits
Contact for workshop: Pam Mattingly, CFM
pmattingly@cppi.net (337) 721-3600

Hurricanes Gustav & Ike



Ike followed Gustav by two weeks and brought much heavier flooding – the way Hurricane Rita followed Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

As a participating community in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), the provisions of your local floodplain management ordinance are very important during this period of flood recovery.

Your “Good Standing” status is contingent upon proper enforcement. Don’t jeopardize your community’s continued participation in NFIP.

Development permits **are** required for all proposed construction or other development, **including post-disaster repairs**, within the identified special flood hazard areas of your community.

Don’t forget about the substantial improvement and substantial damage rules! See FEMA Pub 213 “*Answers to Questions about your Substantially Damaged Buildings*”. DOTD has published a special newsletter with regard to Substantial Damage www.dotd.state.la.us/intermodal/division/water/fp_newsletter.asp

If you have questions, contact:

NFIP State Coordinator –	Cindy O’Neal – 225-274-4318
FEMA Region VI	Diana Herrera – 940-898-5523
	David Hiegel – 940-898-5405



DHS' READY CAMPAIGN AND 2,700+ COALITION MEMBERS URGE AMERICANS TO PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES DURING FIFTH ANNUAL NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's *Ready Campaign* (www.ready.gov) is sponsoring the fifth annual National Preparedness Month (NPM) in September with support from more than 2,700 NPM coalition members, the largest amount to date. NPM coalition members, consisting of national, regional, state, and local organizations, will combine efforts throughout the month of September to encourage all Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies before they happen.

"National Preparedness Month is an important reminder about each American's civic responsibility to prepare for emergencies," said Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. "Those with the capacity and wherewithal to help themselves must do so in advance, so that in the event of an emergency, responders can first assist those who are unable to tend to themselves. From wildfires and earthquakes in California, to hurricanes and tropical storms along the Gulf Coast, to flooding in the Midwest, recent events remind us more than ever that we must prepare ourselves and our families for a disaster. This is the time, each year, when every American should ask the question, 'Am I ready?'"

The *Ready Campaign* and Citizen Corps (www.citizencorps.gov) are encouraging individuals across the nation to take important preparedness steps that will greatly improve their ability to survive and recover from all types of emergencies, whether natural or man-made. These steps include getting an emergency supply kit, making a family emergency plan, becoming informed about the different emergencies that may affect them, and getting involved in community preparedness and response efforts.

NPM coalition members are encouraging Americans to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses, schools, and communities by hosting events such as seminars, fairs, community outreach events, workshops, webinars, and trainings. For a complete list of events, please visit www.ready.gov.

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Joseph I. Lieberman and Ranking Member Susan M. Collins, along with House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Bennie G. Thompson and Ranking Member Peter T. King, will serve as honorary Congressional Co-Chairs of NPM 2008. They will lead the effort to increase public awareness about the importance of emergency preparedness on Capitol Hill and throughout the country.

For more information on the *Ready Campaign* and NPM, please visit www.ready.gov or www.listo.gov. Individuals can also call 1-800-BE-READY or 1-888-SE-LISTO for more emergency preparedness information.

February 2008 marked the Ready Campaign's fifth year at the Department of Homeland Security. Launched in 2003 in partnership with The Advertising Council, Ready is designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies, including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks. It has proven to be one of the most successful campaigns in Ad Council's more than 65-year history. Since its launch, the campaign has generated more than \$756.5 million in donated media support. Individuals interested in more information about family, business and community preparedness can visit www.ready.gov.

Get Floodsmart Before The Next Flood

Top Ten Facts About Flood Insurance

Release Date: September 15, 2008

Release Number: HQ-08-216

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Many residents across the country have recently experienced devastating losses caused by flooding. Some suffered the total loss of their homes to floodwaters. Others are trying to make their homes livable again. Time and time again, far too many individuals shoulder these burdens without the financial cushion of flood insurance. In some instances, people have been told they cannot buy flood insurance because of where they live, or because they've flooded before. To address these and other misconceptions about the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), FEMA has compiled the following key facts that everyone should know about flood insurance:

1. **Flood insurance is available.** You can – and should – buy flood insurance. As long as you live in a participating NFIP community, and there are more than 20,500 nationwide, you can purchase flood insurance from your insurance agent. And you can purchase a policy if you have, or have not, flooded before. Renters, condominium owners, homeowners and business owners are all eligible to purchase a policy.
2. **Flood insurance is sometimes required – but should always be considered.** Flooding can happen anywhere, anytime, due to factors such as heavy rains, melting snow, failed protective devices such as levees and dams, as well as tropical storms and hurricanes. Most individuals that have a home in a high-risk area are required by law to carry flood insurance. But, just because flood insurance is not required does not mean it is not needed. Even if your lender doesn't require you to carry it, you should ask your agent about flood insurance options to better protect your biggest investment. Without a flood insurance policy, your financial security is at risk.
3. **Flood insurance is the most dependable resource for a speedy recovery.** Most homeowners insurance does not cover losses due to flooding. Only flood insurance covers damage from rising waters. Remember that all floods are not major floods and, despite what many might think, Federal disaster assistance is not always available after a flood. When such assistance is available, it usually comes in the form of a low-interest loan, which must be paid back with interest.
4. **Flood insurance is affordable.** Rates are based on a variety of factors such as flood zone, date of construction, history of flood claims, elevation of the lowest floor of the building, etc. The average flood insurance premium is around \$500 per year. If you live in a low-to-moderate risk area, lower-cost Preferred Risk Policies start as low as \$119 a year. Flood insurance rates are federally set and will not differ from one insurance company to another.
5. **Flood insurance is available for your building and its contents.** Standard flood insurance policies require that you purchase additional coverage for your contents. However, if you live in a lower-risk area, you may be eligible for a Preferred Risk Policy that covers both your structure and personal items for a lower cost than a standard flood policy. For a complete summary of building and contents items covered by flood insurance, visit http://www.fema.gov/pdf/nfip/summary_cov.pdf.
6. **Know your coverage limits – and be fully insured.** A maximum of \$250,000 of building coverage is available for single-family residential buildings; \$250,000 per unit is also available for residential condominiums. The limit for contents coverage on all residential buildings is \$100,000, which is also available to renters. Commercial

Get Floodsmart Before the Next Flood - continued from page 24

structures can be insured to a limit of \$500,000 for the building and \$500,000 for the contents. Review your coverage limits to make sure you are adequately insured for your building, its contents and any improvements made to your home.

7. **The 100-year flood standard – what it really means.** The government’s definition of a floodplain, or high flood risk zone, is an area which has at least a one-in-100 or one percent chance of flooding in any given year. These one percent chance flood events are often called “100 year floods”, but that term can be misleading. The 100-year flood benchmark is a minimum standard used for insurance purposes. While major flood events are not common, they happen, have happened recently and will happen again.
8. **Levee protection comes with risks.** Levees, dams and other flood control structures are designed to protect against a certain level of flooding. In more serious flood events, levees can fail or overtop. And, as levees age, their level of protection can change. When levees overtop or fail, the flooding that follows can be catastrophic. Because of these unique risks, if you live near a levee, dam, or in areas reliant on other flood control structures, purchasing flood insurance is highly recommended.
9. **Filing your claim – what to expect.** After a flood event, call your agent or insurance company and ask when to expect an adjuster at your home. Be sure to call your insurance company back if you haven’t been assigned an adjuster within several days of flooding. Before the adjuster arrives, separate damaged and undamaged items, take photos, make a list of damaged or lost items and make a copy of the damage estimates prepared by a contractor to give to the adjuster. Once a detailed proof of loss statement has been prepared and agreed upon, your claim can be submitted.
10. **Stay insured.** You can purchase flood insurance at any time. However, there is usually a 30-day waiting period before the policy becomes effective. If you already have a flood policy, remember: your policy needs to be renewed each year.

For more information: agents and tools. For more information or for help in finding an agent near you, please visit the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) website, www.FloodSmart.gov.

FEMA coordinates the Federal Government’s role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or manmade, including acts of terrorism.

New Levee Outreach Toolkit

Levees are built to provide a specific level of flood protection. However, recent events have shown how storms can bring floodwaters that exceed that level, causing levees to overtop or fail. The flood losses that occur due to a levee failure can be devastating and have even a greater impact on home and business owners who do not carry flood insurance. It is important for residents living and working near levees to know about their flood risk and their insurance choices.

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and FloodSmart have recently created a new *Levee Outreach Toolkit* that contains materials developed specifically for outreach in communities with levees. The materials in this toolkit provide various audiences, including floodplain managers, with templated, flexible materials to adapt and use in addressing flood risks behind levees and the flood insurance implications of levee status changes, as well as flood risk zones and Special Flood Hazard Areas that are being remapped or revised.

Communication Tips for a Successful Process

The following tips will help ensure that the overall approach to conducting community outreach is on target. Keep these tips in mind to make communications around levee and map changes in your area a smooth - and successful - process.

- **Start early.** Getting started on outreach efforts as early as possible will allow you to identify and address key issues and obstacles and secure the broad-based support needed prior to the rollout of new maps.
- **The media will tell the tale - engage them.** Local and regional media outlets have an interest in this issue and will want to know how map and levee changes affect the average citizen. Providing the press with access to good information in advance of the release of new maps will help ensure that they have a solid understanding of the process.
- **Reach out to representatives from affected industries.** Representatives of the insurance, realty and lending industries will all be affected by the changes that new maps bring. Keeping them updated about developments in the map change and levee review process, getting their feedback on outreach materials and using them to disseminate information to their colleagues are key to a successful communications effort.
- **Residents and business owners need clear messages about flood risks - as well as cost-saving options for protection.** Providing the public with messages and materials that stress both risks and available cost-saving flood insurance options can make the need or requirement for flood insurance more palatable.
- **Make sure you communicate often with all audiences.** Open, transparent and repeated communication goes a long way to building consensus and garnering buy-in in your community. Holding open houses or town hall meetings gives residents and business owners an opportunity to raise issues and concerns in a friendly, educational setting.
- **Get key decision makers on board.** Local elected officials and county board members will ultimately be responsible for adopting ordinances that make new flood maps official and effective throughout the area. If the area around the levees is going through a map change, make sure key officials clearly understand the map change process, insurance implications and overall project benefits.

Please email us at info@fema floods mart.gov to request a copy of the Levee Outreach Toolkit. Please continue to visit FEMA.gov and FloodSmart.gov for information about map changes, levee status changes and flood insurance.

The following are flood-related Mitigation courses:

FEMA EMI 2009 TRAINING SCHEDULE

January 12–15, 2009: HAZUSMULTI-HAZARDS FOR FLOOD (E172), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

January 26-28, 2009: Benefit/Cost User Workshop (E275), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

February 2–5, 2009: HAZUSMULTI-HAZARDS FOR HURRICANE (E170), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

February 2–5, 2009: ADVANCED FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS II (E282), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

February 23-26, 2009: INTRODUCTION TO ARC GIS (E190), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

March 23–26, 2009: UNIFIED MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (E212), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Call (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

March 23–26, 2009: ADVANCED FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS III (E284), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

March 30-April 2, 2009: MITIGATION FOR TRIBAL OFFICIALS (E344), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

April 6–9, 2009: RETROFITTING FLOOD-PRONE RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS (E279), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Call (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

April 6–9, 2009: BASIC HAZUS MULTI-HAZARDS (E313), Emergency Management Institute, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Contact (800) 238-3358 or see <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/>.

NEW FLOOD MAPS BECOME EFFECTIVE FOR 21 MILLION U.S. RESIDENTS

As part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Flood Map Modernization program (Map Mod), new Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) for more than 21 million people have or will become effective over the next several months. These maps will affect more than 900 communities in nearly 30 states and include large, metropolitan areas like Los Angeles, CA, Milwaukee, WI and Baltimore, MD.

As the new DFIRMs become effective, flood risk designations for many properties are subject to change. This means that home and business owners may have questions about whether or not they should, or are eligible to, purchase flood insurance. Current policyholders may also have questions about selecting the best product and/or policy rate changes.

As a result, it is important for community officials and insurance agents to know when new flood hazard maps will become effective for their communities and how to appropriately communicate risk. A schedule of map effective dates is posted on FEMA's website at www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/st_lfdlist.shtm. Tools for communicating about FEMA's Map Mod program are also available by visiting www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/mm_main.shtm.

FEMA's Map Mod program is a multi-year effort to provide new DFIRMs for 92 percent of the nation's population by the end of Map Mod. The new maps are more reliable, easier-to-use, and readily available than paper maps.

Upcoming Events

September 21–24-2008

AFMA Fall Conference
Embassy Suites Hotel
Hot Springs, Arkansas



October 11-15, 2008

4th National Conference & Expo on Coastal and
Estuarine Habitat Restoration
Providence, RI

October 24, 2008

LFMA Fall Workshop
Hammond, LA



November 16-20, 2008

National Floodproofing Conference IV
Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel
New Orleans, LA

June 7 – 12, 2009

ASFPM 33rd Annual National Conference
Orlando, FL



UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION!



It is very important to keep your contact information current so that we may continue to notify you of important information and upcoming events.

Please complete the following form anytime you have a change in your information and submit to James.

Company Member

Address

City State

Contact Phone

Title Fax

Region E-mail

The LFMA Membership directory is maintained by James Demouchet.
(318) 226-6934 or email at jdemouchet@caddo.org

Louisiana Floodplain Management Association
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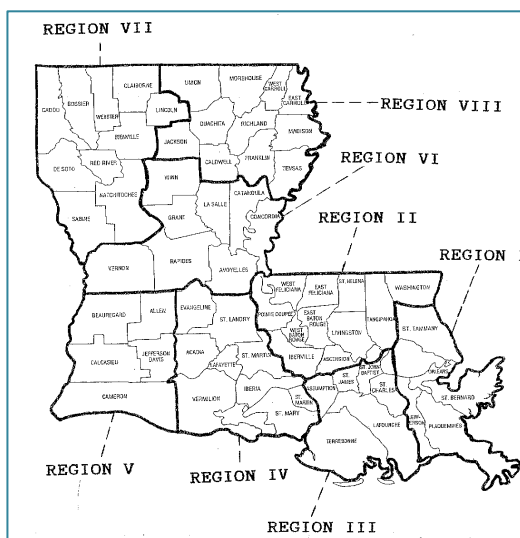
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Floodwatch is published by the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association. Information and opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect the views of all members. Items for publication and other editorial matters should be directed to the Editor: mbecker@rapc.info