The ABC Texas Gulf Coast Chapter hosted the poker tournament fundraiser on April 14th at Brazos Room A at the ABC Facilities. Some of the guests included past winners returning to defend their titles. It was an entertaining evening with many new faces in attendance.

Last Men (& Woman) Standing...

Peggy Yates - 2nd
Jay Tracy - 1st
Shane Morgan - 3rd

Congratulations to the April 2016 winners who received Visa cards and other gifts:
1st Place: Jay Tracy
2nd Place: Peggy Yates
3rd Place: Shane Morgan

Texas Hold-Em
A Game of Skill or Luck?

Join us at our next Texas Hold-Em challenge scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2016

A BIG THANKS goes to the tournament sponsors below which made this great event possible!

ROYAL FLUSH
- All American Screening & Medical
- Brock Services, LLC
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- Freeport Welding & Fabricating, Inc.
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Brand Energy and Infrastructure Services is a premier provider of integrated specialty services to the global energy, industrial and infrastructure markets. Its extensive portfolio of specialized industrial service offerings include scaffolding, coatings, insulation, refractory, formwork & shoring, specialty mechanical services, cathodic protection and other related crafts.

Chem Fabrication LLC is a Trendsetter in Industrial Fabrication and Project Technology for the Greater Gulf Coast. We have combined over 150 years experience in the design, fabrication, welding and machining of ASME, API, TEMA, and National Board Equipment.

EXCEL is a premier provider of industrial construction, maintenance, fabrication, and engineering services. Our clients include many Fortune 100 and 500 companies in the domestic and international chemical, refining, power, water treatment, alternative fuels, oil and gas, marine and manufacturing markets.

Gulf Chemical & Metallurgical Corporation is a U.S. subsidiary of Eramet, a leading global producer of nickel, manganese, alloys and special steels, employing more than 14,000 people in over 30 countries.

Fluor, a leading engineering construction company, provides engineering, procurement, construction (EPC), & maintenance project management services.

Norrell Construction Inc. is a full service General Contractor specializing in new construction of buildings. We also specialize in interior build-out, offices, control rooms, conference rooms, kitchens, bathrooms/change rooms and laboratories. We have been serving the Gulf Coast with a safe and quality product since 1999.

Port Freeport is proud to be a part of the Freeport, Texas community. As the leading economic propeller in Freeport and Brazoria County, we take our responsibilities toward the community seriously and put the interests of its residents at the heart of every approach and business decision. We value the support of our community and seek to actively engage with our navigational voting district in every pursuit.

TDECU believes in the strength of family & community. We are uncompromising in our pursuit of a better future for our members and employees.

Wells Fargo makes it easy for you to manage your everyday banking. We provide mechanical equipment repair and restoration services to industrial clients throughout the Gulf Coast. We have been providing field and shop services on rotating and reciprocating equipment since 1998.
The Board of Directors of Associated Builders and Contractors, Texas Gulf Coast, Inc., Merit Shop Training, Inc. and Brazosport Safety Council, Inc.

Cordially invite you to be our guest at the 40th Annual ABC/MSTI Graduation & Banquet

1002 ABC Avenue
Freeport, TX 77542

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Social: 6:30 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Ceremony: 8:30 p.m.
Attire: Business Casual

RSVP to 979.239.4372 or Margaret@abctxgulfcoast.org no later than Friday, May 13, 2016
Reservations are binding. Charges will be incurred for no-shows and also for cancellations after May 13th.
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Coming in June..........................

OSHA 3115 – Fall Protection  (Provider: University of Texas, Arlington)

June 27, 28, 29, 30 = OSHA #3115 – (22.5 hours)

This 4-day course includes: encounter state-of-the-art technology for fall protection and current OSHA requirements. Topics include the principles of fall protection, the components of fall arrest systems, the limitations of fall arrest equipment, and OSHA policies regarding fall protections. Course features a one-day field exercise demonstrating fall protection equipment. Topics include: Conventional Systems, Body Holding Devices, Anchor Points, Harness, Vertical / Horizontal Traveling Systems.

For additional information, please contact Margaret@abctxgulfcoast.org or 979-239-4372.

Thank You for Renewing your Membership

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Greshman Hall-Honda Power Equipment
IWS Gas and Supply
J L Solutions Mechanical, LLC
Lisco
Magid Glove & Safety
Office Universe
Theriot
U.S. Healthworks
Wells Fargo Bank Texas

Renewsals Received Since April 1, 2016
Despite significant concern from some lawmakers and the business community, the Department of Labor (DOL) sent its final rule revising white collar overtime exemption regulations to the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). OMB review is the last step in the regulatory process before publication in the Federal Register. The average review period typically lasts four to six weeks, which could mean the final rule will be published this spring, as opposed to around Labor Day.

It is not known at this point whether the final rule will resemble the proposal issued last July. The proposed rule would, among other changes, increase the salary level triggering the Fair Labor Standards Act “white collar” exemptions to overtime pay. Specifically, the minimum salary level for the administrative, executive, and professional exemptions would be set at the 40th percentile of weekly earnings for full-time employees. By the time the rule is issued, it is predicted this salary will equal $970 per week or $50,440 per year, compared to the current salary requirement of $455/week. This amount would automatically be increased per year based on either a percentile of weekly earnings or inflation. The substantial increase in the base salary requirement will likely result in vast numbers of employees being reclassified to non-exempt status and therefore being eligible to earn overtime pay. The proposal also sought to raise the compensation requirement for the highly compensated employee exemption, and asked for input on whether the duties test should be amended.

The DOL’s apparent urgency to move this rulemaking forward is likely due to election year politics. After a major rule is published, Congress has a 60-day period in which to evaluate it under the Congressional Review Act before the measure takes effect. As has happened with other controversial rulemakings, lawmakers can vote on a resolution of disapproval to try to nullify the regulation. If this happens this year, President Obama would almost certainly veto the resolution. Because this is an election year, however, there is no telling what the next President will do, particularly if a Republican takes office. If the process is expedited, however, President Obama will have a greater chance of ushering the rule to implementation.

In response to the news that the DOL’s much-anticipated white collar overtime exemption is moving forward, Republican members of the House and Senate introduced a bill that would effectively invalidate it. The Protecting Workplace Advancement and Opportunity Act, introduced in the Senate by Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC) and in the House by Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI), would require the Secretary of Labor to nullify the proposal and conduct an economic analysis to determine its impact on certain employers before implementation.

The “findings” portion of the bill criticizes the proposed rule on the following grounds: (1) The Secretary of Labor significantly underestimated the cost of compliance with the rule; (2) The Secretary of Labor did not consider the potential impact of the proposal on workplace flexibility; (3) The Secretary of Labor did not analyze the potential impact of the proposed rule on multistate employers. These companies operate in multiple states with different costs of living and different salary scales, and therefore “face costs and unique complications” in reclassifying thousands of employees in multiple jurisdictions; and (4) The Secretary of Labor lacks the authority to increase the salary threshold on an annual or other basis “without conducting notice and comment rulemaking with respect to each change...” Although the proposed rule indicates changes to the duties test might be included in the final rule, these changes would be made without the requisite notice and comment period and procedures. To this end, the bill provides that the final rule not be enforced, and that if the DOL seeks to promulgate a substantially similar rule, it must first conduct a more thorough analysis of its impact, as well as provide for notice and comment on all changes.

Even if this bill is passed by both chambers, President Obama would undoubtedly veto it. The bill, therefore, is more of a symbolic gesture, and indicates the final rule will face significant opposition once published in the Federal Register, which is estimated to occur in or around May of this year.

G. Mark Jodon, office managing shareholder of Littler Mendelson’s Houston office, is board -certified in labor and employment law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Mark can be reached at (713) 652-4739 and mjodon@littler.com.
ABC Supplier/Member Mixer & Crawfish Boil
Thursday, May 19, 2016
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sponsor Opportunities

Grab the opportunity for great networking and exposure for your business!

The ABC Supplier/Member Mixer & Crawfish Boil will be held at:
ABC Facilities
1002 ABC Avenue
Brazos Room A
Freeport, TX 77541

Your support is appreciated.

Please print this sponsorship form, fill it out, and return form to ABC.

Thanks so much for your support!

Sponsor Levels & Amounts

Please indicate your choice:

- Exhibitor $250.00
- Beverage Sponsor $100.00
- Door Prize Donation $50.00 (minimum value)

Email above choice to: ruby@abctxgulfcoast.org by May 16th.

Please Make Checks Payable to ABC
Invoice Co: ________ or CC#

Major CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED: VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express

Fill out the form above and return to Ruby or call the ABC office to make credit card payment.

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Freeport, TX 77542
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Fax: 979.239.4386
Email: ruby@abctxgulfcoast.org

For GPS map use 1400 N. Velasco Blvd, Freeport, TX 77541

COMPANY ____________________
NAME ____________________
PHONE      ____________________
DATE ____________________

WEB SITE: www.abctxgulfcoast.org
It’s That Time of Year Again

ABC Supplier/Member Mixer & Crawfish Boil
and Excavation Safety for Competent Person Training

Thursday, May 19, 2016
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Mixer - Don’t miss this!
Great networking for ABC suppliers, members and other guests.
The Mixer will showcase various ABC Supplier Member Exhibitors through an enjoyable social which includes a Crawfish Boil, sausage, corn, potatoes, refreshments and door prizes.

Excavation Safety Training is also offered for your employees.

Reservations for both the Mixer & Training are required!

Wanted - ABC Supplier Member Exhibitors!
Space is Limited - Great Networking for Your Business
Reserve Now! Call Ruby at 979.233.0279 or email: ruby@abctxgulfcoast.org

ABC Supplier/Member Mixer
Crawfish Boil!

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2016
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Location: ABC Facilities - Brazos A
1002 ABC Avenue
Freeport, Texas 77541
Cost: Free for Members & Guests
Thanks to Exhibitors & other Sponsors

Visitors! The mixer will offer a variety of products and information to assist you with your construction project needs. Learn about the support and opportunities that are at your disposal from our very own ABC Members. Attend at no charge!

Reservations are required.
Deadline is Noon, May 17, 2016

Excavation Safety for
Competent Person Training
Provided by
United Rentals Trench Safety
Questions? Contact Jerry Wagner (713)582-1429

- Training addresses OSHA Excavation Standard Subpart P
- Qualified trainers with trench experience
- Training manuals included

Documentation and certification upon successful completion
Date: Thursday, May 19, 2016
Check-in: 12:30 p.m. (lunch on your own)
Class: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Location: ABC Facilities, CR #2
1002 ABC Avenue
Freeport, Texas 77541
Cost: $100 ABC member
$125 future ABC member

Reservation & Cancellation Deadline
Must be made by Wednesday morning, May 18, 2016.
Reservations are binding.
Make reservations online:
www.abctxgulfcoast.org at Calendar of Events or
call 979.233.0279
or email: ruby@abctxgulfcoast.org

May 2016
www.abctxgulfcoast.org 9
Welcome New Members!

Founded in 1968, Raba Kistner Consultants, Inc. (RKCI), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Raba Kistner, Inc., is recognized as one of the Southwest’s largest consulting firms offering our engineering specialties. We provide professional and technical project services, which include:

- Geotechnical Engineering and Laboratory Testing, Expert Witness, Forensics Engineering
- Construction Materials Engineering, Testing, and Observation
- Building Envelope Consulting
- Roofing/Waterproofing Consulting

More than 45 years of continuous service by the same executive management substantiates that we have been, and will continue to be, available to meet our clients’ objectives in the future.

CJ Michel Industrial Services LLC is a manpower support company in Louisville, Kentucky, that offers workforce solutions for industrial and commercial contractors all across the US. We specialize in sourcing the right people to do skilled trade jobs for your company. Our cost-effective services are designed to be flexible depending on your project’s budget and needs.

All of our personnel are Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)-certified. The MSHA certification is a 24-hour training course that exposes workers to a gold, limestone, mineral, and underground mines. We are also Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10 and 30-certified. With more than 50 years of combined experience, we maintain that our relationship with our clients is the most important aspect in our business. Rest assured that every tradesman we hire and recommend will be an effective and trustworthy addition to your labor force.

Electrical Continuing Education Class
Course #14728 - Provider #1036

Thursday, May 26, 2016
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

1002 ABC Avenue, CR#4
Freeport, TX 77541
$40 ABC Member
$60 Non-Member

To schedule call 979.239.4372 or email: margaret@abctxgulfcoast.org

Meets TDLR requirement for 4-hour update for Master, Journeyman and Apprentice License Renewal. The instructor is a Master Electrician.
2016 STEP Awards
Safety Training Evaluation Process
Merit Based Safety Recognition for the Merit Shop

STEP award applications are now available online. Simplify your life and go to www.abc.org/stepapp and enter online! PLEASE NOTE – all paper applications submitted MUST include the $35.00 application processing fee, which is waived for STEP Diamond and Platinum.

If you are applying online, STEP award applications must be completed and submitted by June 27, 2016. If you are completing a paper application, this must be completed and submitted to the local ABC office by June 27, 2016.

If you need assistance, email: step@abc.org or call the ABC National Safety Department at 202.595.1848. You may also call Ruby at the local ABC office at 979.233.0279 or email: ruby@abctxgulfcoast.org.

Brazosport College Summer Registration Information

Monday, March 28- Priority registration begins for Summer I and Summer II. Open Registration for Summer I and II begins Monday, May 25 and for Summer I it continues through June 3. Late Registration for MSTI courses will be held at the MSTI offices on Thursday, June 2nd. Summer I classes begin June 6th.

Through July 13th, open registration continues for Summer II through July 13th. Late Registration for MSTI courses will be held at the MSTI offices on Tuesday, July 12th. Summer II classes begin July 14th.
Aerial Lifts Operator Certification Training

**Training Complete in 1 Day**

Classes have begun!
Offered Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
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**Required:**
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- Operator Reference Manual

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CFMA is delighted to share this education with your members and encourages you to promote this Webinar via e-mail, your Website and newsletters, and any other appropriate media. Additionally, a special page on the Education Online site at http://cfma.digitellinc.com/cfma/pages/discounts is now always available with information on your organization’s discount code!

Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Time: 2:00 P.M. (CT)
Length: 60 Minutes
Fee: ABC members receive a 40% discount, which comes out to only $39.57!
Speakers: Todd Feuermann & Jared Rosen, Ellin & Tuck

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Texas Gulf Coast Chapter

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**ABC Member Discounts!**

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May 2016

ABC, BSC, MSTI

5  3:00 p.m.  Suppliers Council Committee Meeting, Conference Room
10  4:00 p.m.  Public Relations Committee Meeting, CR #3
19  12:30 p.m.  Excavation Safety Training, CR #2
19  5:00 p.m.  ABC Supplier Member Mixer & Crawfish Boil, Brazos A
30  ABC, BSC, MSTI Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day

MSTI & BSC Classes & Training Opportunities
May  *8:00 a.m.  Basic Plus, 8:00 a.m. Mon - Thurs, *7:30 a.m. Fri  CR#4
May  12:00 p.m.  Work Permit Acceptor Training, Thursdays, CR#1
May  7:30 a.m.  Aerial Lifts Operator Certificate Training, Tues - Thurs, CR #5
May - Jun  5:00 p.m.  CMA Project Supervision Class, Tues & Thurs, CR #4,
26  5:00 p.m.  Electrical Cont. Ed. License Renewal Class, CR #2
Jan-May  6:00 p.m.  CSST’ Classes - Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, CR #3

All gave some . . . Some gave all
Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th

Ingredients:

• 3 pounds Crawfish
• 2 ounce Olive Oil
• 1 teaspoon Paprika
• 1/8 teaspoon Cayenne Pepper
• 2 quart water

Pappadeaux Crawfish Bisque

Yield: 8 Servings

• 1/2 cup each, chopped: onion and green bell pepper
• 1 tablespoon Tomato Paste
• 3 cup Whipping Cream
• 1/2 cup Chopped Tomato
• 2 ounce Brandy (4 tablespoon)

1. Boil crawfish in a large pot of water. Drain and cool until crawfish can be handled easily; remove tail and save shells. Refrigerate tail meat.

2. Heat oil in large sauce pan or Dutch oven. Add crawfish shells, paprika and cayenne. Saute 5 minutes. Add water and bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer 30 minutes.

3. Strain liquid into another pan. Crush shells to remove remaining liquid and add that liquid. Discard shells.

4. Return to heat and add onion, bell pepper, tomato paste, cream and tomato. Simmer 1 hour, stirring frequently. Add brandy and crawfish tail meat. Simmer 10 minutes. Pour all into blender and process until smooth.

5. Garnish with small swirl of whipping cream and sprig of fresh dill.


Source: Houston Chronicle - 
Pappadeaux Restaurant
Picture: www.copycat.com