Firm license renewals are due by June 30!

Payments must be postmarked by June 30, 2016 in order not to incur late fees of an additional $50.00. Firms that have failed to renew by June 30 will be delinquent and need to submit the delinquent renewal form.

The renewal form can be downloaded from the LSBAE website: www.lastbdachs.com, under the registration tab. Please download the appropriate form, complete, sign and date it, and mail with the annual license fee of $50.00. Complete Instructions are included on the form.

Simmons honored by La. House of Representatives for service

LSBAE Executive Director Mary “Teeny” Simmons was honored with a prestigious commendation by the Louisiana House of Representatives on June 1. Simmons is retiring after 41 years with LSBAE and 39 of those years as its Executive Director.

The resolution, read in the House of Representatives, noted that Simmons received the National Conference of Architectural Registration Board's (NCARB) President's Medal in 2007 “in recognition of her selfless and outstanding service.” In addition, Simmons “touched the lives of thousands of architects throughout the country with her endless energy and innovative ideas.” It also stated that Simmons’ impact on the architectural profession and the State of Louisiana “will continue for years to come and she will be sorely missed.”

The Resolution of Commendation was sponsored and read by State Rep. Reid Falconer, an architect from Mandeville who passed the LSBAE professional exam in December, 1981.
A Message from the Executive Director: Teeny Simmons

I must begin my article by addressing the “elephant” that’s in the room. As many of you have heard and/or read in our LSBAE May 2016 Special Newsletter, I will be retiring possibly by the summer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the State of Louisiana, the Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners, the many Board members, architects and staff for allowing me to serve for over 41 years. I was a mere girl when I began my extraordinary journey with the Board.

I would be remiss if I didn’t thank Paul Spaht, my friend and defender of all things legal that pertains to the Board for his 34 years of hard work and guidance and for keeping the Board operations “legal” and within the realm of its Licensing Law and Rules/Regulations. I also want to thank Mary Porche, my assistant, whom I’ve enjoyed working with for the past 15 years, and whose friendship I will always treasure.

I am happy to report that over the years this Board has established itself as a superior protector of the public’s health, safety and welfare standards, ensuring that those practicing architecture in the State of Louisiana are doing so in a safe and sustainable manner. In 2008, we started the online renewal process, and in 2010 I was excited to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Louisiana’s first Architectural Examiners Board Meeting.

In 2015, we started the process of digitizing all of the Board’s files. I have been privileged to represent the Board on many local and national committees. I am thankful to have worked with all the other Louisiana Boards and Commissions and have developed some great friendships.

Thanks to everyone whom I have had contact with over my years serving as your Executive Director. I will see you around; maybe on a cruise, at the mall, Walmart or Sam’s.

May the Lord continue blessing us all!

Simmons honored

Shown at an LSBAE luncheon to honor new licensees in 2008 are, seated from left, AIA LA Director Lynn Robertson and Teeny Simmons. Standing, architects Jerry Hebert, Robert McKinney, Ron Blitch, John Cardone, Richard LeBlanc and Jeffrey Huberman.


“Teeny, congratulations on your retirement! We’ve always known that we had an advocate who was looking out for the public, the profession, and ourselves. Good luck and go with the full knowledge that you served well and will be missed by many.”

Ray Fugatt, Architect
C. R. Fugatt, A.I.A.
How to replace Teeny!

By: Richard J. LeBlanc, AIA, NCARB, LSBAE President

My main topic of discussion for this report is the board’s mission to replace its Executive Director Mary “Teeny” Simmons. When the new Executive Director is hired Teeny will retire after over 40 years of service and leadership to the Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners.

While evaluating the process of replacing “Teeny”, we (the board) realized that we had no written criteria for which to evaluate future candidates, nor any procedures for selecting a new Executive Director, since there has only been “Teeny.” The evaluation process included verifying the requirements of the State of Louisiana Civil Service procedures that had been incorporated into the selection.

Fortunately for us, several Southern Region states have replaced directors in the last few years and we sought guidance and help from those states. The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) offered some guidelines as well. All the advice was evaluated and considered, with the help of our legal representative and the entire seven members of our board, however, getting seven members and a legal representative to meet, much less agree, was a feat of its own. Members evaluated and questioned what we wanted, needed, and what we should accept for the process. This process culminated with the production of our vacancy announcement for the position of Executive Director. The overall announcement listed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board Description</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
<th>Qualifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abilities</td>
<td>Work Environment</td>
<td>Compensation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application</td>
<td>Detailed Essential Job Functions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The position at this writing is being advertised, and as the board evaluates and interviews the applicants, we will select a replacement for “Teeny.” This should occur in the next few months.

The selection in many ways will be a challenge to the board, as it has never been done in the history of the LSBAE. We start a new era in trying to operate the architect licensing board without “Teeny.” Our number one priority is to select someone capable of taking the reins of this organization and leading it into the future, maybe not 40 years, but for many years to come.

As we look to the future, we have to reflect on the past and how we got here. Many architects have served on this board and their lives have been enriched and touched by Mary “Teeny” Simmons. Ask anyone licensed to practice architecture about the Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners and all you will hear is “Teeny.” This is also true of NCARB. When someone talks about Member Board Executives, the name mentioned is “Teeny” from Louisiana. This is a fine tribute to a lady who well deserves the recognition.

In closing, I would like to say I too have been touched by this lady over my tenure on the board. On behalf of the current board and Paul Spaht (board attorney), it has been our pleasure working with “Teeny” and we all wish her the BEST for the future.

Thank you “Teeny”.

“I first registered our firm with LSBAE in 1993, with the assistance of Teeny Simmons. I had the pleasure of speaking with Teeny on the phone several times over the years and was always impressed that she remembered me. I deal with about 42 other boards of architects for various licenses WHR has maintained over the past 27 years, and Teeny is legendary for her professionalism, courtesy and knowledge. She has been a goodwill ambassador for the State of Louisiana and LSBAE.”

Laurie Winchester
Principal, WHR Architects
“I think most of us remember communicating with Teeny when we heard that the design exam results were in, and nervously calling with the hope we passed. In August 1982, I gave her my name and she said I passed, I made her check it twice. She laughed and reassured me. One friend of mine, after many attempts at the design exam, sent Teeny a dozen roses when he passed. We will all miss her. She was always cheerful, friendly, and ready to assist no matter what the issue. Thank you, Teeny, for everything you’ve done for us over the years. It was always well appreciated.”

Barry Hickman, Architect

At an LSBAE new member appreciation reception. Shown speaking at left is Jerry Jones.

My favorites have a standing invitation to my favorite restaurant on my favorite day of the year. They are allowed to order their favorite drink, eat their favorite entrée, and enjoy their favorite desert. They can tell their favorite stories, or not. The rest of you guys must wait outside.

You will never guess who my favorite client is. Has been for a long time, and since we are both at the twilight of our careers, will almost certainly be forever.

Any “why” you ask. For one thing she has seen it all. The practice of architecture and its regulation has changed dramatically. When she began as the Executive Director, the Board had five members, not seven. There were no such things as professional architectural corporations, architectural-engineering corporations, or limited liability corporations. There was no such thing as mandatory continuing education or regulation of design build. Copy machines were in their infancy and fax machines had not been born. No one had heard of an email. Everything was more slow-paced and generally more forgiving.

She has weathered the storms, literally. Katrina, Rita, and others, that had a major impact on you and your practice. Such storms have had a major impact on the Board, too.

She has worked with all sorts of board members, each of whom has brought to the table a different experience and a different vision of where the Board should be heading. It is no exaggeration to say that she has worked with many thousands of architects from across the country. If complaints have been voiced, I am unaware.

And through it all she has been gracious and kind, patient and understanding. Always willing to serve. Always wanting to serve. Always delighting in the accomplishments of others, and always professional.

She has done a terrific job for over four decades. She deserves to be on the list, and she will be sorely missed.

“Thank you, Teeny, for the many years of prompt and courteous attention to the questions asked of you, for making the on-line registration an easy interface, and for always being there when needed. I wish you all the best for a well-deserved retirement, Happy Trails!”

Philip Quandt
USL Class of 1980, LA Architect 1983

“Teeny - Congratulations on your many years of successful service to the profession. You always bring a smile to my face as I see you or think about you. After you suggesting you would retire for so many years, it is hard to believe you are going to do it.”

Fabian
Logo Blue 281

LSBAE staff in 2009. Standing are Cheryl Guffey and Teeny, and seated is Anita Riley.

Teeny with LSBAE staffers Cheryl Guffey and Mary Porche in 2007.

Teeny with architect Randall Broussard and IDP students.
It’s hard to imagine the LSBAE and NCARB without Teeny Simmons as the leader of licensing in Louisiana and the most respected Member Board Executive (MBE) of the 54 member boards of NCARB.

I probably met Teeny soon after she started her 4 decades of service to the State, after I was licensed in 1978, and my Certificate is signed by Teeny. (I always joke that she signed it with a crayon). She urged me to get involved with NCARB when I first became a LSBAE member in the mid 1990’s, when the exam was still paper and pencil and multiple choice (fill in the dot) questions. I started my involvement by grading the paper and pencil exams and then continued working with NCARB for the next 20 years.

Teeny runs the LSBAE office so well that none of the LSBAE members ever worry about the professionalism of the office, or the consistently pleasant and efficient way that Teeny and her staff deal with firms and licensees on a daily basis.

Teeny is one of the few MBE’s nationally that has always been on a volunteer committee such as the MBE committee, the Professional Conduct Committee, the Procedures and Documents Committee, and many others. I just returned from a trip to NCARB in DC and everyone was asking me to send their best wishes to Teeny, and asking when she would be able to attend a national NCARB function so that she could be recognized for her outstanding contributions to the profession of architecture.

She has advised, nurtured, led, disciplined, joked with, and guided the architects of Louisiana for so long and with such class and dedication, that we will have a very hard time replacing her.

Everybody loves Teeny - and she deserves all of the affection we all have for her!

A hard act to follow!

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION BOARDS

expresses its sincere appreciation to

Teeny Simmons

for serving as a valued member of the 2012-2013

Member Board Executives Committee

Ronald B. Blitch, FAIA, FACHA, NCARB
NCARB President/Chair of the Board
“Teeny - Major mixed emotions here. I’m so happy that you’re retiring. I’m not sure the LSBAE can survive without you. Thank you sooooo much for the guidance you’ve given to the Board and the phenomenal service you’ve rendered. Thank you most of all for your friendship. All of us practitioners will forever be in your debt. I hope one day to run across you on some Caribbean island sipping a pina colada - you deserve it my dear....”

Mike Wilson, AIA-LA

“Teeny: Always knew this day would come; you were always a joy to be around and will be greatly missed by all Member Board Executives. Stay well.”

Robert Lopez, RA, Executive Secretary
New York State Education Department
Office of the Professions

“Teeny, you have done a superb job and no one will be able to fill your shoes! Hate to see you go. Thank you for setting the standard that all other architectural boards have to try and match.”

Malcolm Hodnett, Architect, AIA, NCARB

“Thanks for the years of outstanding service to the profession!!! You will be missed.”

Tommy Boudreaux, Thomas J. Boudreaux, Architect, AIA-LLC

“Four decades. No way! Where have all the years gone. Million thanks for all your hard work and dedication to the Board and us architects.”

Joe Schneider, Slidell, Louisiana


Teeny dons the holiday spirit at Christmas.

Teeny in undated photo.
"Over the years, I have always had helpful, cordial assistance from Teeny Simmons. I know it sounds trite, but she will be missed and leaves a pair of shoes that will be hard to fill. I have grown to view favorably everything about Louisiana thru Teeny's persona. She was the architectural board and everything that is good about Louisiana!
I wish her joy and contentment in her retirement!"

Carol Shelton
Dorland Carol Shelton AIA CCS
Architect, Ft. Worth, TX

"The most southern of ladies, always helpful."

David RC Tennant, AIA, LEED® AP
Division Manager - Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc.

"Four decades. No way. Where have all the years gone. Million thanks for all your hard work and dedication to the board and us architects."

Joe Schneider, Slidell, Louisiana

Shown with Teeny at the NCARB 2007 Annual Conference in Colorado is her sister, Jill Walters.
Mary “Teeny” Simmons

In recognition of her distinguished service to the Council and its mission to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

For 30 remarkable years as the executive director of the Louisiana Board of Architectural Examiners, Teeny Simmons has guided emerging professionals and architects through the ever-evolving registration process. Her clear-sighted outlook has long been recognized by NCARB leaders, who have named Teeny to a number of committees where she has expertly represented the interests of fellow Member Board Executives. Seemingly tireless and always conscientious, Teeny has lent her perspective to a diverse range of Council issues and initiatives, including efforts to sustain and improve the Intern Development Program and the rollout and testing of Prometric’s Accelerator software. One of Teeny’s most significant contributions was serving as an integral member of the Disaster Response Task Force. In the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Teeny has been a steady, knowledgeable presence for the Bayou State’s architectural community. Any description of Teeny would not be complete without celebrating her trademark warmth and genuine interest in the well-being of others.

For her long and distinguished service to the Council and its mission, the President’s Medal is hereby presented to Mary “Teeny” Simmons with deepest appreciation.

Robert E. Luke, AIA
NCARB President
June 23, 2007
Denver, Colorado
There are several changes to the Intern Development Program that will go into effect on June 29, 2016. First of all, it is important to note that one of these changes re-names the program that has been known as IDP. This summer it will be re-branded as the Architectural Experience Program (AXP).

Last summer NCARB released the information related to the streamlined experience program. This was a change adopted by the Louisiana jurisdiction and resulted in the elimination of elective hours from the program. The Streamlined IDP was the first part of a two-part revision to the program.

This summer – June 29 – marks the release of the second part of the revision: the overhauled AXP. With this change, the current 17 experience areas will be realigned into six broad practice-based areas: Practice Management, Project Management, Programming & Analysis, Project Planning & Design, Project Development & Documentation and Construction & Evaluation.

Another new feature is that the overhauled AXP will have two experience settings—Setting A: Practice of Architecture, and Setting O: Other Experiences. Current AXP candidates can review these changes in detail, as well as use the online calculator, in order to determine how their hours will be re-categorized: http://www.ncarb.org/Experience-Through-Internships/IDP2-Experience-Categories-Areas/Overhauled-IDP.aspx.

Board hires Joe Holt as new investigator

The LSBAE Board of Directors, at its December meeting, hired Joe Holt as the new part-time Board Investigator to replace the retiring Board Investigator, Robert Eddleman. Holt has been a registered architect since 1972, and lives in Covington, Louisiana. As Board Investigator, he will conduct investigations relating to the Board’s licensing laws and rules, and confirm compliance with same. Most complaints regarding individuals and/or firms possibly violating licensing laws are received from architects, the State Fire Marshal’s office, and the public.

His main duties will be researching complaints received in writing and discussing the cases with the Executive Director and the Board Attorney. After researching and reaching any conclusions, the results will be reported to the Complaint Review Committee of the Board at its quarterly meetings.

Louisiana Tech professor writes book on architecture

Louisiana Tech University Associate Professor Kevin J. Singh has recently written an e-book for aspiring architects. The e-book provides advice to help navigate the profession during your first few years and help plan for success. ArchDaily featured the e-book in an article in December. Below is an excerpt:

“Last year Kevin J. Singh adapted one of his lectures on giving advice to students as they embark upon a new career into an article. That article, titled “21 Rules for a Successful Life in Architecture” and published on ArchDaily in September 2014, was a runaway success, becoming our second most-read post of 2014 and among our most visited articles of all time.

As a result of his article’s success, this year Singh has taken his 21 rules as a framework for a new e-book, “Beginning Your Career in Architecture: Candid Advice for Emerging Professionals.” The e-book not only elaborates on the 21 rules from the original article, but also offers questions to the reader that lead to actionable goals, giving them the nudge they need to start out on the right track.

The e-book is available for purchase ($4.99) on Amazon’s website.
Each division of ARE 5.0 will have between 80 to 120 questions and incorporate the latest testing technology

Washington, DC—The next version of the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®), ARE 5.0, will include six divisions with test durations ranging between three and a half to five hours—a substantial decrease from ARE 4.0. Each division will include at least 80 questions, one to two case studies, and incorporate new testing technologies.

This news is the latest in a series of updates from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), designed to prepare aspiring architects for the launch of ARE 5.0 later this year.

ARE 5.0 Question Types and Case Studies

In December 2013, NCARB announced that the exam would replace vignettes with new question types: hot spots and drag-and-place, plus the incorporation of case studies. In addition to these new testing methods, the exam will continue to use multiple choice, check-all-that-apply, and quantitative fill-in-the-blank.

“Case studies are a collection of questions that are used to assess a candidate’s ability to synthesize multiple pieces of information, which is how architects solve problems on a daily basis,” said NCARB Director of Examination, Jared Zurn, AIA, NCARB. “By incorporating the latest testing methods, the exam will more closely align with modern architectural practice.”

To help make the transition to ARE 5.0 as smooth as possible, NCARB created a series of short videos about the new question types, available on YouTube at www.youtube.com/user/NCARBorg.

- Case Studies
- Hot Spots
- Drag-and-Place

ARE 5.0 Test Durations

With the adoption of enhanced testing technologies and a more focused content strategy, exam developers were able to shave eight hours off the current exam, saving candidates time away from work and family. ARE 5.0 will also include six individual divisions, compared to seven in ARE 4.0.

Developed by NCARB, the ARE is used to test an aspiring architect’s knowledge and skills, and is required for initial licensure in all U.S. jurisdictions.

NCARB will begin the final stages of ARE 5.0 exam development and administration testing this spring, which will determine the official launch date of ARE 5.0 in late 2016. ARE 4.0 will be available until June 30, 2018.

For more information about ARE 5.0 visit www.ncarb.org/ARE5.
Richard J. LeBlanc, President
Architect, AIA, NCARB
Shreveport, LA

Ron Blitch, Secretary
Architect, FAIA, FACHA, NCARB
New Orleans, LA

Allen Bacque'
Architect, AIA, NCARB
Lafayette, LA

J. David Brinson
Architect, AIA, NCARB
Baton Rouge, LA

John Cardone, Jr.
Public Member
Lake Charles, LA

Robert McKinney,
Architect/Educator, AIA, NCARB
Lafayette, LA

Knox Tumlin
Architect, AIA, NCARB, CSI
New Orleans, LA

Physical Address
9625 Fenway Avenue, Suite B
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Phone: (225) 925-4802
Fax: (225) 925-4804
Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday – Friday
www.lastbdarchs.com

Teeny with Board Member Michael Holly at IDP Forum in 2008.

J. David Brinson with Teeny and others.