

LOUISIANA



2019 Spring Meeting

Itinerary

Friday, May 10, 2019

9:00 am – 10:15 pm

Tour (Ferrara)
Holden, LA

10:15 am – 11:15 am

Travel to 4H Mini Farm LSU Campus

11:30 am – 12:45 pm

Business Meeting
Mini Farm

1:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Social/Crawfish Boil

Registration (includes meal)

General \$35 ea.

Students or Guests \$25 ea.

The American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers

Louisiana Section will host its 2019 spring meeting on Friday May 10, 2019 in Baton Rouge, LA at LSU 4H Mini-Farm on the LSU Campus. Attendance at the meeting will provide 2 PDHs. A tour of Ferrara near Holden LA will start the day off.

The "Spirit of Louisiana" has a long history of helping out in times of need. After the 9/11 attacks in 2001, the Official Fire Department City of New York (*FDNY*) needed to replace its fire equipment, and Louisiana citizens stepped in to fund the project. The first fire engine that was commissioned was dubbed the "Spirit of Louisiana." It was built by Ferrara to City of New York specifications and was delivered in December 2001.

After arriving in New York, the "Spirit of Louisiana" was used for years in firefighting efforts. Then, after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast, the *FDNY* dispatched 300 firefighters to assist Louisiana in its recovery and response efforts. The "Spirit of Louisiana" was also loaned to the City of New Orleans, which had lost many fire engines in the storm. The "Spirit of Louisiana" served New Orleans until it was decommissioned in 2010. The State of Louisiana also received a request for support from the State of New York in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. The request was for emergency assistance to the City of Long Beach Fire Department due to damage to the department's fire apparatus. The "Spirit of Louisiana" made its way once again to New York to assist in fire emergencies.

Ferrara's founder, Chris Ferrara, became involved with firefighting equipment in 1977 when, as a 20-year-old, he joined the Central Volunteer Fire Department in Central, Louisiana, near Baton Rouge. A pipefitter by trade he worked for the area's Exxon petrochemical refineries and soon put his skills to work for his local fire department. Wanting to go into business for himself, Ferrara in 1978 began to act as a smalltime firefighting equipment and supply distributor. Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Inc was born. The company continued to grow and prosper. In 2017 the REV Group (REVG) acquired Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Inc. ("Ferrara"), known as a leading custom fire apparatus and rescue vehicle manufacturer that engineers and manufactures vehicles for municipal and industrial customers.

After the tour we will conduct our business meeting at the 4H Mini Farm.

A social and crawfish boil will wrap up the day's events. Please let us know if you are planning on attending this event.

RSVP to wendall.meaux@la.usda.gov by May 3, 2019 if you plan to attend the tour and/or meeting.

PDH Credits Earned for Program (initial if attended):

_____ - Business Meeting (1 PDH)

_____ - Tour/Presentation (1 PDH)

- Directions to Ferrara. Address: 27855 James Chapel Road Holden, LA 70744
- Phone: 225-567-7100

Traveling I-12 east, take exit #29 (Holden, LA), N on Hwy 441, right onto James Chapel for about 1.5 miles - Traveling I-12 west, take exist #32 (Albany, LA), N on Hwy 43, left onto James Chapel for about 2.6 miles - located on James Chapel Road - I-12 frontage road, north of I-12, Large Facility, can't miss it.

4H Mini-Farm

