

EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL COMMUNITY

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2009 Educational Travel Conference 8th Annual Seminar on Wheels

Water & Culture of New Orleans: *A very behind the scenes tour*
Wednesday, February 18, 2009, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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Eat a hearty breakfast before you start the tour this morning!

8:00 a.m. Meet in the Mardi Gras Ballroom E, of the New Orleans Marriott Hotel with this morning's study leaders, Dr. Gerry E. Galloway,

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/06/24/AR2008062401213.html>

and Dr. Jerome DelliPriscoli,

http://ncsonline.org/ncseconference/2004conference/page_fid=3321.cfm

The morning begins with Dr. (Brigadier General) Gerry Galloway's short, incisive lecture on the Mississippi River flood control and the hurricane protection systems in New Orleans—what failed during Katrina and why and what is being done to deal with future challenges. This analysis will be based on the technical U.S. national academy and international review team studies, the history of decisions made on hurricane protection over the last 50 years in New Orleans, his seven years as a member of the Mississippi River Commission, and his current service as a member of the Louisiana Governors Advisory Commission on Coastal Restoration and Protection. Given the widespread interest in this topic, Dr. Galloway's lecture will be open to all delegates at ETC.

Following the lecture, board the bus with departure at **9:30 a.m.** sharp! You will need a photo ID to board the bus along with your session ticket for the Water & Culture tour (provided to you with your registration materials). Security dictates this protocol without exception.

Dr. Galloway and Dr. DelliPriscoli will personally conduct a field tour of the flood and hurricane protection systems in collaboration with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the City of New Orleans. Visits include Lakeview, where the breach of the Canal T walls and the pumps at the end of the canal will be discussed. You'll also see a New Orleans pump station at the head of the canal, the lower Ninth Ward, St. Bernard Parish, locations that flooded during the recent Hurricane Gustav, and selected locations where current levee reconstruction is proceeding. The program will visit a few sites where Dr. Galloway can showcase the breaching and the repair and rebuilding strategies including at least three stops covering many of the past and current initiatives and issues. Plans include touring the lower ninth Ward, including an area in St. Bernard's Parish where it is currently not occupied, and a location where there is current activity in terms of building a levee, and IHNC, probably at the site of overtopping during Gustav. Beginning at the 7th St canal breach site discussion will include the foundation failures, repairs within T—walls and also temporary pump plants that worked well in Gustav. At Lakeview Dr. Galloway can discuss the breach of the canal wall and see the pumps at the end of the canal. Program will also most likely cover: I-wall foundation failures (that occurred at 17th and London Ave canals and adjacent to Lower 9th ward on the IHNC; and I-wall failures from overtopping and scour (largely in IHNC) and levee breaching from overtopping and erosion (largely along the MRGO in St Bernard). Time permitting the tour will potentially get to one of the sites on GIWW that would also allow discussion of the new navigable surge gates that are being designed and built to keep water out of the IHNC, the biggest Achilles heel of NOLA at this time.

12:30 p.m. Enjoy a boxed lunch at the creative and new Southern Food and Beverage Museum with a lecture by museum director, Elizabeth Williams on the distinct and diverse cuisine of New Orleans. All participants enjoy a New Orleans favorite—a muffuletta (www.colorpro.com/great-sandwiches/muffuletta/history.htm) sandwich filled with assorted cold cuts of meat, chips, two bottles of water and a dessert prepared by Jack Dempsey's famous restaurant in the upper Ninth Ward (www.jackdempseys.com). If you signed up ahead of time for a vegetarian option (a dinner salad and bread) this selection will be provided to you. After lunch and a tour of the delightful small museum located on Riverwalk, special treat is a tasting of specialty dessert, bread pudding New Orleans style.

2:30 p.m. Depart by bus to the French Quarter. Walk from Chartres Street into the French Quarter to the Historic New Orleans Collection (HNOC) (www.hnoc.org) on 533 Royal Street. As a final highlight of the day, enjoy a tour of the History Galleries and exhibition spaces that will showcase A Closer Look: The Antebellum Photography of Jay Dearborn Edwards, 1858-1861). The program concludes in the Counting House with an informal lecture by Williams Research Center Curator/Historian, John Magill on the history of Mardi Gras, enjoyed with tea and King Cake (made by master Manny Randazzo!)—a New Orleans tradition.
<http://www.mardigrasunmasked.com/mardigras2/KingCakeHistory/tabid/65/Default.aspx>

4:15 p.m. Return to the New Orleans Marriott Hotel through the French Quarter on foot.

What to Bring and How to Prepare:

Clothing & Accessories

Weather conditions may vary, as will the different places we visit (from the levees to museums), so please dress in comfortable clothes that can get dirty. We recommend you do not wear jewelry and that you consider layering for outdoor and indoor conditions. New Orleans temperatures have been varying between 40 to 50 degrees, and there will not be heat when we are out on the levees. Be sure to wear sturdy, comfortable shoes and bring along layered clothing and a raincoat, head covering, and sun glasses. When touring some of the reconstruction sites in progress you may be required to wear a hard hat (which will be available onsite).

It is strongly recommended NOT to bring any valuables, or purses. The bus will not always be located near us, and it will in fact leave us when the group walks into the French Quarter (which will be filled with people attending Rex Wednesday pre-Rex Mardi Gras Parade parties). Please carry a picture ID in your pocket and your session ticket, needed to board the bus. Please do not wear your conference badge.