

September 2025 Newsletter

STUDENT
CHAPTER OF
CENLA



Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

The Student Chapter of Central Louisiana is back in action and stronger than ever following our General Membership Meeting and Fish Fry on August 21st. Students from multiple schools gathered with local industry leaders and chapter representatives to kick off what's expected to be our most impactful year yet. We were excited to see both returning members and new faces—and we're thrilled to announce that Jena High School has officially joined the Student Chapter network. As we look ahead to September, all eyes are on the HBACL Home Show, taking place on Saturday, September 20th from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM at the Rapides Parish Coliseum. This is a qualifying community service event for scholarship applicants, and we're calling on students from all participating schools to sign up to volunteer, help with game booths, and host the event. We will also be raffling off prizes from each school, so make sure your class or team is represented!

For students, this month brings a reminder that **scholarship applications are now live**. Every student in the Chapter is eligible to apply, and we encourage all seniors to begin their community service hours early. You can find the application and full guidelines linked inside this newsletter. Get involved, earn hours, and build a strong application that represents your commitment. On September 10th, I attended the **Student Chapter Kickoff Bash** hosted virtually by NAHB. One major takeaway: our students receive a **3-in-1 membership with NAHB, LHBA, and HBACL**, gaining full access to benefits just like any business member. Our chapter is more than a club — it's a **student-led launchpad** into the real world of homebuilding. We're building future careers, one skill and one connection at a time.

Michael C. Bolen

In this newsletter
you can expect:

Home Show –
Sept 20

Scholarship
Opportunities


Welcome Jena
High School!

What You Gain
as a Member

Call to Action

Core Updates & Announcements



 HBACL HOME SHOW – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

 Laborde Earles Entertainment Center |  8:00 AM – 6:00 PM


This is one of the biggest events of the year, and the Student Chapter will be front and center! We're inviting every school to bring projects, activities, and student volunteers to represent your chapter proudly.


 Why This Matters:


- ✓ Counts toward required community service hours for scholarships
- ✓ Offers students a chance to interact with the public and industry professionals
- ✓ Excellent opportunity to display your school's talent and teamwork
- ✓ Raffle prizes will be showcased from each school


  Volunteers Needed!


We're looking for student volunteers to:

Host game booths 

Welcome guests 

Help with set-up and clean-up 

Represent your school at the Chapter table 

 Sign-up sheets are being sent to each school. Don't wait — this event will fill quickly!

 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES NOW OPEN!

 17 Deadline: March 1, 2026 |  Awards: Start at \$1,000

 [CLICK HERE TO APPLY »](#)

All Student Chapter members are eligible to apply. To qualify, you must:

Be a high school senior

Maintain a 2.75 GPA or higher

Complete up to 10 hours of community service with the Chapter

Submit a written essay and hands-on project by the March deadline

You only get one shot — scholarships are awarded once, senior year only. Get started early and don't miss this opportunity!

 WELCOME, JENA HIGH SCHOOL!

We're thrilled to announce that Jena High School is now an official part of the Student Chapter of Central Louisiana! Their students are already getting involved and will be joining us at this year's Home Show. Let's give them a warm welcome and help them feel like part of the team!

WHAT YOU GAIN AS A STUDENT MEMBER

Every member of the Student Chapter is automatically enrolled in a 3-in-1 membership with:

NAHB – National Association of Home Builders

LHBA – Louisiana Home Builders Association

HBACL – Our local chapter

This means you receive the same benefits as adult business members, including:

Access to competitions

Opportunities for mentorship and networking

Invitations to industry events

Exclusive scholarship eligibility

Career-readiness training and hands-on experience

“We aren’t just a club – we’re a student-led launchpad into the real world of homebuilding.”

You’ll build:


Leadership skills

Industry knowledge

Professionalism and communication

A network of real-world connections

This chapter is about helping you explore, lead, and grow – and we’re just getting started.

 Get Involved. Make an Impact. Build Your Future.

Whether you're new to the Student Chapter or returning for another year – this is your moment. There are events to attend, projects to build, scholarships to earn, and opportunities waiting.


✓ Sign up to volunteer at the Home Show


✓ Start logging your community service hours


✓ Apply for scholarships early

✓ Submit your product ideas for the Student Store

✓ Follow us online to stay updated

 This chapter is your launchpad – use it to grow, lead, and succeed.

 [Join the Chapter »](#)

 [Apply for Scholarships »](#)

 [Volunteer for Home Show »](#)

Let’s build something amazing – together.