

# ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
*of Mississippi*

*The Voice of Mississippi's Engineering Industry.*

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*And, the Angel said unto them, "Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" ~ Luke 2:10-11  
Best Wishes for a Wonderful and Blessed Holiday Season!!*

## 2012 Teddy Roosevelt Award Winners



**Hibbett Neel** (left) and **Edward Springer** (right) were both awarded with the **2012 Teddy Roosevelt** at the Annual Fellows Dinner, November 29, at the Capital Club in Jackson. This award is given for Distinguished Service to the Engineering Profession. Theodore Roosevelt once said: "Every man owes a part of his time or money to the business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has a moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions in his sphere". Congratulations to both Hibbett and Ed for being honored with this prestigious award.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



ACEC Fellows were honored at the Fellows Dinner November, 29, at the Capital Club. Fellows pictured: Stanley Spradling, Ed Dedeaux, Slade Exley, Eugene Damon, Hayden Kaiser, Jr., and Ed Davis.

December 12	EEA Projects Due
January 7-11	EEA Judging
February 12	Capitol Day - EEA Display State Capitol, Jackson, MS
March 21 & 22	Winter Meeting Capital Club
March 21	EEA Dinner Old Capitol Inn
July 11-13	Deep South Convention Sandestin, Florida

## ACEC/MS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**By Ron Cassada**

We had a great Fall Fling this year. The educational seminars and committee meetings were informative and well attended. The Fellows Dinner was also a success thanks to Judy, Leah and our meeting sponsors. For the first time we had a tie for the Teddy Roosevelt Award. Congratulations to the two winners this year, Hibbett Neel and Ed Springer. Both have made major contributions to the engineering profession. The PAC draw down held during the dinner raised an additional \$4800, bringing our total to \$11,000. We are very close to meeting our 2012 goal of \$12,600. I want to give a special thank you to Hayden Kaiser, the winner of the cash prize, for donating it back to the PAC. If you have not contributed to the PAC this year, please contact our PAC Chairman Tom Bryant and consider making a contribution before the end of the year. I want to thank Tom for the excellent job he has done in this very important position.

Judy and Al Sage are busy preparing for the upcoming legislative session and need our help. We need to remember that the primary objective of this organization is to be **“Be recognized as the legislative advocate for engineering companies in the promotion of their business interest”**. We need members who are willing to get involved by serving on the Governmental affairs committee. Several of

the issues we are preparing for this year include the Certificate of Merit, LSBP funding, On-site Wastewater law, protecting the design build- two step process, monitoring the 811 bill, monitoring P-3 legislation, and supporting efforts for transportation funding. If

you are willing to serve or have other issues that you think we need to monitor, please contact Judy or me. I would also like to encourage you to attend Capitol Day at the State Capitol on February 12, to meet your Legislators and represent ACEC/MS.

Our Winter Meeting will be **March 21 & 22 of 2013** and will include excellent programs and opportunities for you to get involved. This is also the meeting that we hold the Engineering Excellence Awards banquet and spotlight the important projects developed in the past year. Please put this event on your calendar and invite a client or peer to participate in these events.

As we bring this year to a close I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.



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## 2012 ACEC PAC CONTRIBUTORS

Judy Adams, ACEC/MS  
 Sam Agnew, ETEC  
 Dax Alexander, Brown, Mitchell & Alexander, Inc.  
 Hunter Arnold, Waggoner Engineering, Inc.  
 Ray Balentine, Garver  
 David Bowman, Neel-Schaffer, Inc.  
 Darrell Broome, Volkert, Inc.  
 Tom Bryant, Pickering, Inc.  
 Scott Burge, A. Garner Russell & Associates  
 Bill Burle, W.L. Burle Engineers, PA  
 Ron Cassada, Gardner Engineering  
 David Compton, Compton Engineering, Inc.  
 Edward Davis, Edward T. Davis & Associates, Inc.  
 Ed Dedeaux, Allen & Hoshall  
 David Dennis, Burns Cooley Dennis  
 Jimmy Dickerson, Bucharthorn, Inc.  
 Jeff Dungan, Dungan Engineering PA  
 Slade Exley, Neel-Schaffer, Inc.  
 Roger Foster, Roger Foster, LLC

Phillip Gibson, Gibson Engineering, Inc.  
 Carey Hardin, Clearwater Consultants, Inc.  
 Jim Hust, Waggoner Engineering, Inc.  
 Hayden Kaiser, III, Jordan, Kaiser & Sessions  
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 Randy Reed, FTN Associates  
 Al Sage, Sage Advice, Inc.  
 Allen Scott, Engineering Services  
 Mark Seymour, Seymour Engineering  
 Stanley Spradling, Calvert-Spradling Engineers  
 Joe Waggoner, Waggoner Engineering, Inc.  
 Brooks Wallace, Dungan Engineering PA  
 Charles Williford, Thompson Engineering

## PAC PRESENTATIONS



Tommy Dunlap, Burns, Cooley, Dennis, Inc.  
 Ed Davis, Edward T. Davis & Associates,  
 Inc., Congressman Alan Nunnelee, Tom  
 Bryant, Michael Foster of Pickering Firm.,  
 Inc. and Tracy Huffman of Waggoner Engi-  
 neering.



Walter Lyons, Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.,  
 Congressman Bennie Thompson, and  
 Judy Adams, ACEC/MS.



Tom Bryant, Pickering Firm, Inc.,  
 Senator Roger Wicker and Judy  
 Adams, ACEC/MS



Dax Alexander, Brown, Mitchell & Alexander,  
 Inc.; Congressman Steven Palazzo; Mark  
 Seymour, Jr., Seymour Engineering; Scott  
 Burge, A. Garner Russell & Associates.



# ACEC PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

By Dave Raymond

With the fiscal cliff looming only a few weeks ahead, ACEC is making every effort with legislators to avoid the cliff, protect infrastructure spending, and proceed with measures to speed up and broaden the recovery. It seems likely that Congress will defer some of these tax and spending measures until 2013, but assuming a generally satisfactory resolution, economists are forecasting 6-8% increase in construction next year including a continuing upswing in the housing market. Although the November elections maintained the prevailing balance of power – with 91% of ACEC/PAC backed candidates winning – we are pressing ahead with active PAC efforts to help candidates in retiring campaign debts and strengthening relationships with newly-elected as well as returning Members. All of these efforts lay the groundwork for an aggressive advocacy and business program in 2013.

- Working with lawmakers both directly and through various business coalitions to protect infrastructure accounts during negotiations on the fiscal cliff and sequestration.
- ACEC/PAC crossed into record territory in November, disbursing over \$1.3 million in the 2011-2012 election cycle.

- Secured provisions in Senate WRDA bill to: (1) create a new financing mechanism similar to the TIFIA model for transportation to fund larger water projects and (2) to address liability concerns facing firms doing levee inspections.
- ACEC-AASHTO Joint Committee, attended by FHWA Administrator Victor Mendez, discussed the implementation of MAP-21, funding the next transportation bill, improving the quality of environmental documents, industry concerns related to in-sourcing of engineering services, and onerous indemnification and liability provisions in contracts.
- Following-up on an earlier meeting with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on export issues, ACEC engaged with the newly created U.S. Interagency Infrastructure Working Group on actions to improve the competitive position of U.S. firms in key international markets.
- International Committee members met with officials of the Departments of State and Commerce and U.S. Embassy personnel to discuss infrastructure related business opportunities in Kuwait, Egypt, and Costa Rica.



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*Principal(s): Dennis Murphy, P.E.*

**Areas of Interest:** Murphy Engineering, Inc. provides Electrical and Mechanical professional, full-service engineering and consulting services.