

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Mississippi

The Voice of Mississippi's Engineering Industry.

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Engineering Excellence Awards



Grand Conceptor Award Winner: HNTB for US 84 Mississippi River Bridge PIN and Link Replacement. Pictured from left to right: James Greg, HNTB; Aaron Cagle, MDOT; and Scott Burge, ACEC President.



Grand Award Winner: Neel-Schaffer, Inc. for GPT Runway Pavement Replacement. Pictured from left to right: Kreg Overstreet, Neel-Schaffer, Inc.; Tom Henderson, Neel-Schaffer, Inc.; Carl Breland, Gulfport-Biloxi Regional Airport Authority; and Scott Burge, ACEC President.



Honor and People's Choice Award Winner: Dungan Engineering for Lincoln Civic Center Baseball Complex project. Pictured from left to right: Quinn Jordan, Director of Lincoln County Civic Center; Dr. William Kimble, Lincoln County; Bobby Watts, Lincoln County Board of Supervisors; Eddie Brown, Lincoln County Board of Supervisors; Ryan Holmes, Dungan Engineering, P.A.; and Scott Burge, ACEC President.

Reception Sponsor: *Control Systems*

Dinner Sponsors: *Environmental Technical Sales, Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions, Mississippi Asphalt Pavement Association, and Sunbelt Sealing.*

ACEC/MS Thanks *Grantham Poole* for Hosting the Project Manager's Workshop for Both 2016 and 2017



ACEC/MS Thanks
Michael Baker International
for Sponsoring our Newsletters



July 27-29, 2017 Deep South Convention
Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort

Reservations: 1-800-320-8115 Group Code: 23L2SL Cut Off Date: June 26, 2017

ACEC/MS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Scott Burge



I am sure that everyone who attended our recent 2017 Winter Meeting & EEA Dinner would agree with me that it was a fantastic event. Thank You to Judy, Jessica and our Program Committee for scheduling three very outstanding speakers on various informative and interesting topics. We were delighted to have our ACEC Vice President, Satch Pecori, in attendance for our Thursday meetings to provide in-sight on national issues and on his presentation on the Go/No-Go Method of Winning Proposals.

The Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet was also a huge success and delightful evening. Although the quantity of EEA projects submitted this year were less than normal, the high quality and uniqueness of each was outstanding. Thanks to all entrants for your efforts in submittal of the projects and congratulations to each for demonstrating your excellence in engineering.

As we have come to expect each year, Judy has again been very active on keeping up with legislation that affects our profession. As we enter the final stretch of this year's Legislative Session, your voice and influence is greatly needed to communicate with our legislators on the issues that Judy tirelessly keeps us informed on. In these final weeks, please pay close attention to Judy's updates and assist in any way possible.

Hunter Arnold and the PAC Steering Committee are putting forth a great effort in updating our ACEC/PAC fundraising plan. Your participation in the forthcoming efforts to meet our State Goal is appreciated. ACEC Annual Convention and Legislative Summit will be held in D.C., April 23 – 26. I encourage your serious consideration in attending this very impressive national convention. The Capitol Hill visits provide the opportunity to meet with our state's congressional delegation to discuss key issues such as infrastructure, energy, FAA reauthorization, tax reform, regulatory reform, etc.

Efforts are already well underway for planning another fantastic Deep South Convention at Sandestin from July 27 – 29. Bring your family and enjoy this incredible venue for an informative and enjoyable time. I look forward to seeing you in Sandestin!



Mark McConnell, PE, has Joined Volkert as Vice President and Mississippi Operations Manager

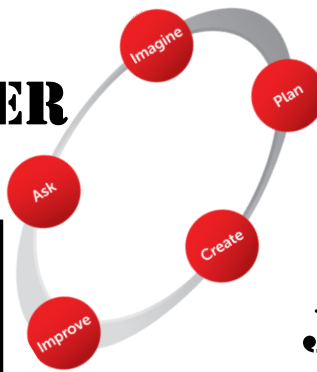
Mark brings nearly 30 years of experience and a wealth of knowledge about the state's transportation infrastructure to Volkert's Mississippi Operations. He began his career with the Mississippi Department of Transportation in 1988 and served in numerous roles including Project Engineer, District Maintenance Engineer, Assistant State Maintenance Engineer, and Assistant Chief Engineer for Field Operations. He retired in 2016 as Chief Engineer and Deputy Executive Director. He has also chaired various AASHTO committees and subcommittees and in 2010, was named Mississippi Government Engineer of the Year.



2017 ACEC/MS SCHOLARSHIP WINNER PHONG LY



Pictured from left to right: Randy Ahlrich, Burns Cooley Dennis; Phong Ly; and Scott Burge, ACEC President.



2017 ACEC/MS JIMMY NELSON SCHOLARSHIP WINNER JEREMIAH GLASZ



Pictured from left to right: Frances Nelson, wife of the late Jimmy Nelson; Jeremiah Glasz; and Scott Burge, ACEC President.



NEW MEMBERS

Cornerstone Engineering, LLC –2

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Phone: 601-941-9599

Principal(s): Mauricka McKenzie, P.E.

W Engineering, P.A.

301 Central Avenue East

Wiggins, MS 39577

Phone: 601-928-5981

Principal(s): Hollis S. "Pete" Williams, P.E.

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ACEC PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

By Dave Raymond

General

- In a major victory for ACEC, President Trump ordered a "do-over" of the Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule, which would have imposed an expansive regulatory framework preventing critical infrastructure improvements for questionable benefits to water quality; a "do-over" will benefit both development and water quality protection.
 - Six new Members of Congress – Representatives Matt Gaetz (R-FL), Drew Ferguson (R-GA), Paul Mitchell (R-MI), Lloyd Smucker (R-PA), Scott Taylor (R-VA), and Bruce Westerman (R-AR) – were at ACEC headquarters in February for orientation visits and discussions on the Council's agenda; ACEC/PAC also co-hosted a fundraiser for Representative Charlie Dent (R-PA).
 - Hosted the FIDIC (international council of engineering associations) Executive Committee meeting at ACEC headquarters to review progress on QBS and other industry issues worldwide.
- Our fast-approaching Annual Convention will address key infrastructure, tax, regulatory, and other business practice issues; 36 Grand and Honor EEA winners will be recognized along with 126 National Recognition Award recipients at the 50th anniversary EEA Gala.

Government Advocacy

- The House cleared ACEC-backed legislation to overturn the proposed "Blacklisting" rule, which would jeopardize government contractors for mere allegations of various labor rule violations; the Council also launched a grassroots Action Alert urging ACEC members to contact their Senators to support the legislation.
- Signed a coalition letter in support of repealing the health insurance tax (HIT) on the fully-insured health plans typically offered by small firms.
- Joined business allies in support of legislation that facilitates association health plans, such as the ACEC Life/Health Trust.
- Joined 40 transportation stakeholder organizations urging Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao to modify a burdensome new rule requiring state DOTs to measure greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and set emission reduction targets as part of a broad performance management framework; the final rule has been delayed for 60 days under a Presidential Executive Order postponing implementation of regulations published in the last days of the Obama Administration.
- Joined with the U.S. Chamber, National Association of Manufacturers, the American Chemistry Council and other organizations in urging President Trump to submit nominations to fill the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's three vacant commissioner positions; this is needed to facilitate the approval of permit applications for major energy infrastructure projects.

The 2017 Capitol Club (members who contribute \$5,000 to ACEC/PAC each year) welcomed John Carrato (IL), Tom Collins (IL), Satch Pecori (IL), Jason Webber (FL) and Jerry Wolverton (GA); they join Anthony Bartolomeo (PA), Milo Rivero (NY), Mitch Simpler (NY), Peter Strub (SC), and Jerry Stump (TN) in this august group who receive various privileges (contact Katherine Bohny or Greg Knopp for additional information).

- ACEC staff provided federal legislative briefings at state meetings in Kentucky in Wisconsin.

The ACEC Environment and Energy Committee winter meeting in Washington, D.C. featured presentations on regulatory challenges and market opportunities in the energy and water sectors.



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