

# ACEC

American Council of Engineering Companies  
of Mississippi

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**“The Voice of Mississippi’s Engineering Companies”**

## **ACEC/MS PAC Contributors Presented U.S. Senator Roger Wicker a Check for His Support for Our Industry**



Pictured from left: ACEC/MS Executive Director Craig Carter; National Director David Bowman; U.S. Senator Roger Wicker; ACEC Fellow Ed Dedeaux; and PAC Chairman Hunter Arnold

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

#### **OVERSTREET AND ASSOCIATES PLLC**

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Principal(s): Franklin Jason Overstreet, PE;

David Ball, PE

### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

- October 30—EEA Intent to Enter Deadline
- November 15-16—Fall Fling, Capital Club; Jackson, MS
- December 20—EEA Projects Due
- February 19, 2019 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.) - Capitol Day 2019
- March 14-15, 2019—Winter Meeting & EEA Banquet

# ACEC/MS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Allen Scott



As we start the new ACEC/MS year I would, once again, like to thank Carey Hardin for a year of truly outstanding leadership. All past presidents have generously donated their time, energies, and probably some resources to help promote and protect our profession. Carey happened to be sitting in the "pilot's seat" during a pivotal time, the changing of an executive director. And while Carey certainly had help from the entire search committee, especially Jeff Dungan, Carey was the one that kept us focused and on "course". So, if you happen to run into Carey over the next few months, thank him for his leadership.

Eight months into the leadership of our new executive director, Craig Carter, I cannot imagine how the search committee could have made a better selection. While every candidate interviewed was certainly qualified to lead the day-to-day operations of our organization, Craig possesses a unique skill set. The energy that he has brought to the position is exciting to watch. I would also like to thank Jessica for all her work and leadership in helping to make the transition as seamless as possible.

Thanks, and congratulations to Darrell Martinek for answering the call and agreeing to serve on the executive committee. Darrell brings some youth to the group and maybe a little "rebel" spirit!

ACEC/MS has received \$2,500 from the ACEC National Minuteman Fund, which we will match with \$2,500, to help fund the defense of the term "engineer" in position titles or corporate names where no professional engineering services are being provided. The Board of Registration is the defendant in a current law suit challenging our long-standing position.

PAC Chairman Hunter Arnold, along with Carey, are proposing some changes to the way ACEC/MS PAC collects and distributes funds. We have already had one event where distribution was done at the local level by ACEC/MS members and staff in lieu of taking place in Washington, D.C. by ACEC National staff members.

We have started a soft search for a new ACEC/MS office location. Our current lease expires in a few months and we wanted to explore some options.

Finally, the Special Session of the Legislature called by Governor Bryant yielded some interesting results. ACEC/MS did end up with a seat at the table on the Advisory Board for some of the transportation spending. There are a lot of details yet to be worked out and the transportation funding is only a portion of what is really needed but, every little bit helps!

## Roosevelt Day



## MAPA 1st Annual Fall Meeting October 4th-5th, 2018

### Providence Hill Farm Sporting Clays Agenda

#### Thursday, October 4th

- 1:00 P.M. - Meet at Hyatt Place Ridgeland  
[1016 Highland Colony Pkwy, Ridgeland, MS 39157](#)
- 1:30 P.M. - Transportation leaves for Providence Hill Farm  
[2600 Carsley Rd, Jackson, MS 39209](#)
- 2:00 P.M. - Registration/Safety Briefing/Begin Shoot
- 6:30 P.M. - Dinner provided by Vulcan Materials  
*Live entertainment by Acoustic Crossroads*  
*Raffle Drawings*  
*Presentation of Winners*
- 8:30 P.M. - Bus departs for hotel

### MAPA General Membership Meeting Agenda

#### Friday, October 5th

- 8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M. - PaveXpress Presentation  
*Danny Gierhart, P.E. - Asphalt Institute*
- 9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. - Etnyre Equipment Presentation  
*Tack Coat Application - Brian Horner*
- 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. - Social Media 101- MDOT Public Affairs  
*A technical presentation for the Transportation Industry*
- 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. - Legislative Panel - Speaker of the House Phillip Gunn, Transportation Chairman Charles Busby and other House Transportation Leadership

Sign up before 9/15/2018

Register online at [www.asphaltpavems.com](http://www.asphaltpavems.com)  
or email Michelle at [michelle@asphaltpavems.com](mailto:michelle@asphaltpavems.com)

Mississippi State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors has established the formal Professional Development Hour (PDH) in the requirements for license renewal. This seminar conforms to the rules established by the BLS and in consequence, provides four (4) PDH's Credit. Let us know who wants PDH Credits.

# Deep South Convention



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# ACEC President's Update: Linda Bauer Darr

## Government Advocacy

- The Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) released the first proposed rule to implement the new 20% Section 199A passthrough tax deduction that ACEC secured for A/E firms; the Council will submit comments on the proposed rule and invites input from member firms.
- The Environment and Energy Committee's summer meeting featured presentations covering Marcellus shale developments, emergent contaminants in drinking water, Army Corps implementation of an infrastructure permit streamlining initiative, and cyber-security.
- Submitted comments to FHWA on proposed "safe harbor" indirect cost rate policy, noting potential benefits for small and DBE firms but seeking uniformity and consistency in implementation by state DOTs.
- Endorsed the Restore Our Parks and Public Lands Act (H.R. 6510), a bipartisan bill to provide dedicated revenue for the National Park Service and other federal lands programs to address infrastructure improvements and deferred maintenance needs.
- Joined with industry colleague organizations in support of S. 3033, the Water Quality Certification Improvement Act of 2018, which seeks to streamline state water quality certification authority under the Clean Water Act to facilitate interstate natural gas pipeline projects.
- Submitted comments to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) in support of targeted improvements to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to streamline project delivery.
- ACEC joined the Partnership to Protect Workplace Opportunity in raising concerns about a Pennsylvania Department of Labor proposal to double the state overtime pay threshold and automatically update it every three years; this proposal is similar to the federal Department of Labor overtime pay rule that was overturned by a federal judge.
- In August, the Executive Committee approved Minuteman Fund grants for the following MOs and initiatives:
  - ACEC/Virginia & ACEC/Metro Washington (joint grant): Support for legislative effort to close QBS statutory loophole in Virginia.
  - ACEC/Missouri: Support for transportation funding ballot initiative.
  - ACEC/New Mexico: Support for indemnification legislation effort.
  - ACEC/Mississippi: Support for amicus brief on issue of protecting professional engineering licensure.
- ACEC/Alabama achieved their ACEC/PAC goal for the fifth year in a row (and for the 13th time in the last 14 years); ACEC/New Hampshire hit its ACEC/PAC goal for the first time ever (due in large part to the active support and involvement of the state's Emerging Leaders group).
- ACEC/PAC hosted congressional fundraising events for U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and U.S. Representatives Steve Chabot (R-OH), Bob Latta (R-OH), Eric Swalwell (D-CA), Mike Turner (R-OH), Juan Vargas (D-CA), and Greg Walden (R-OR); there were also 43 ACEC/PAC check presentations to Members of Congress made in the states by 11 different MOs.

ACEC/PAC leadership also approved support for two non-incumbent congressional candidates: Anthony Brindisi (D) in NY-22, and Katie Arrington (R) in SC-1.



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