

Fall 2015

MCIA Today

Events

MCIA Winter Meeting

January 7, 2016
Hilton Garden Inn
Tupelo, MS

2016 Tri-State

Summer Convention

June 1–4, 2016
Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort
Destin, FL

Training

2015 MCIA ACI Certification Class

Schedule

available at

www.MississippiConcrete.com

Recent Changes and New Opportunities for MCIA

Executive Director Harry Lee James Resigns

As you may know, the primary objectives and mission of MCIA are: promotion, training and certification, regulatory activities, legislative and political work, technical support, meetings and communications, and membership development and involvement. The MCIA Board has spent a great deal of time over the last few months in discussion to reorganize, renew, and refocus our efforts on MCIA's highest priority, to promote concrete.

While progress has been made in the last few years in other objective areas under the leadership of MCIA's Executive Director Harry Lee James, through mutual decision with the MCIA Executive Committee, Harry Lee resigned his position with MCIA effective September 29, 2015. The Board is appreciative of his years of service to MCIA and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

The Board feels very confident and comfortable about moving MCIA forward and feels this is a pivotal opportunity to do bigger and better things in the future geared toward an aggressive promotions approach. Promotion of concrete is a broad objective which requires a skilled and multi-dimensional approach to communicate, market, and educate a wide range of audiences through dynamic promotion and presentation both within and outside the state utilizing social media, advertising, and outreach to other disciplines such as engineers, builders, architects, landscape architects, home and commercial designers, government and transportation officials, the general public, etc.

We are excited about this opportunity to take the next step in creating an association that fulfills our mission and meets the needs of all of our members.

Driver Competition

Delta Industries driver Bobby Brown represented Mississippi in the NRMCA National Driver Competition in San Antonio on September 20, 2015. He placed first in the state-level MCIA Driver Competition, held May 2 on the campus of Holmes Community College in Ridgeland, MS. Eleven drivers from Delta Industries and

MMC Materials participated in the event. First runner-up was Delta Industries driver William Styron; second runner-up was MMC Materials driver Ronnie Doerner. Congratulations to all the participants and a big "THANKS" to all who volunteered and made this a safe and successful event.



Summer Convention

The 2015 MCI A Summer Convention was held at the Ritz Carlton in New Orleans, LA, June 24–27. The food and refreshments as well as the atmosphere and fellowship were outstanding.

Bill Temple, P.E., Executive Director of the Concrete and Aggregate Association of Louisiana (CAAL), kicked off the opening reception on Wednesday night with a “Welcome to NOLA” theme, followed by remarks on the state of the concrete industry in Louisiana.

On Thursday morning participants in the golf outing witnessed a real “alligator fight” while on the course. At least it distracted us from the heat and humidity.

Thursday afternoon all were invited to tour The National World War II Museum and to attend a special showing of the



Touring the National World War II Museum was a highlight following the golf outing.

film, “Beyond All Boundaries.”

An unexpected highlight was seeing actor Gary Sinise touring a new exhibit at the museum with a group of WWII veterans.

On Friday morning, Mississippi Speaker of the House Philip Gunn spoke to attendees on the importance of the election this year and the potential impact that Initiative 42, a proposed constitutional amendment related to public school funding, may have on the state budget.



Speakers included Mississippi Speaker of the House Philip Gunn and Dan Fordice, son of former Governor Kirk Fordice.

The next speaker was Dan Fordice, a veteran and the eldest son of the late Governor Kirk Fordice, the first Republican Governor of Mississippi elected since Reconstruction. Mr. Fordice discussed the two philanthropic endeavors he has founded: the Warrior Bonfire Project and the Southern Heritage Air Foundation. The Warrior Bonfire Project is a non-profit group committed to providing programs that improve the lives of Purple Heart recipients on their lifelong journey of recovery and healing. The Southern Heritage Air Foundation is devoted to preserving the history of WWII aviators and the planes they flew.

We closed our summer convention with a spectacular dinner that included a jazz quartet for entertainment. The atmosphere, food, and socializing was great and a good time was had by all.

Aspiring Concrete Professionals Can Win Money for College

The 2015 High School Essay Contest is now under way! We are soliciting original essays written by high school juniors and seniors. The entry deadline is November 16, 2015.

Participants must live in Mississippi and must be at least 16 years old at the beginning of the school year. Essay topics can include anything concrete-related. Possible topics include concrete’s benefits to society; how concrete affects the environment; and using concrete to build homes, commercial buildings, bridges, or roads.

Students compete for scholarship awards of \$1,000 for first place, \$300 for second place, and \$200 for third place. The first place essay will also be submitted to NRMCA for judging at the national level. The national grand prize is a one-time \$5,000 scholarship for a student who enrolls in a concrete-related curriculum at a school recognized by NRMCA.

Additional details and entry forms are available on the MCI A website, www.mississippiconcrete.com.

MCIA Funds MSU Concrete Study

Researchers to evaluate ‘Improvement of Paste–Aggregate Bond in Concrete Made with Mississippi Gravel.’

The MCIA Board of Directors voted at its June 2015 meeting to provide \$40,000 for a three-year paste–aggregate bond (PAB) study by Mississippi State’s Construction Materials Research Center. A contract with MSU was executed in August. The study is expected to benefit the concrete industry in Mississippi and the members of MCIA.

The aggregate commonly available to the Mississippi concrete market is smooth gravel. However, the bond between the

cement paste and aggregate is stronger when the aggregate is crushed limestone. As the bond can be affected by many variables, this study aims to identify feasible mix design adjustments that would improve the strength properties of concrete made with smooth gravel aggregates.

Dr. Isaac L. Howard of MSU’s Civil and Environmental Engineering Department will serve as Principal Investigator. He will be assisted by graduate student Brad

Hansen, who expects to make the project the subject of his master’s thesis.

The project is slated to begin in January 2016 and be completed by the end of December 2018. The project has the potential to improve performance, consistency, cost, and sustainability of concrete produced in Mississippi by making more efficient use of local aggregates and available fly ash sources.



Delta Industries Celebrates 70 Years

MCIA congratulates one of our longstanding producer members, Delta Industries, Inc., on turning 70 years old this year. Delta and its family of companies supply Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana with quality ready-mix concrete and related products. Their Ready-Mix Concrete logo has been a symbol of quality concrete for seven decades now. As soldiers returned from WWII, Delta began outfitting surplus military trucks with mixers and had one plant. Since then Delta has grown to 36 ready-mix concrete plants and more than 180 mixers. Delta’s staff has been very active throughout the history of MCIA and we appreciate them being part of this association. Happy 70th birthday, Delta Industries!

New Members

Barnes Industrial Group
Murfreesboro, TN

Foley Products Company
Prentiss, MS

ISE Logik Industries
Gulfport, MS

Precision Engineering Corp.
Oxford, MS

Southeastern Concrete Co., Inc.
Hattiesburg, MS

Stephens Manufacturing
Tompkinsville, KY

W Geotechnical and Testing, Inc.
Wiggins, MS