

A Message From Your President, Tammie Brewer



Hello, MS ACTE members. I hope your school year has gotten off to a great start.

I know you are all busy with new curriculums, new students and the Mississippi redesign. What exciting challenges we have this year with change. With your help we can continue to challenge ourselves, our schools and our state education levels.

Mr. Mike Mulvihill, the MDE staff, the RCU staff, Community/Junior College board and the tech prep coordinators met with the MS ACTE executive board in October to discuss the 2009 "MEGA ACTE Summer Conference." This year went so wonderfully with over 1,000 participants, we are going to do it again. This time, we are going to do it a little later in the year to try to get people in their contract period. The conference is set for July 28-July 31, 2009. This will be "The" conference for career and technical teachers. C.E.U.'s and SEMI credit will be offered free of charge.

This will be a great conference, with a little help from our affiliate groups. Many of you have secrets to share with your best practices. We are holding a "call for presenters" for the conference and we would like for each affiliate to send in some presentation proposals so that the teachers and administrators can take the lead this year. Keep your eyes on rcu.blackboard.com for the call for presenters that will be posted within the next month. Fill it out immediately and submit your presentation ideas.

There are several other dates that need to be in the forefront of your minds. Our Legislative Coffee and Reception is to be held again at the Mississippi Cattleman's Association on January 22, 2009. Please be there to talk with your legislative representatives to ensure their continued support for career and technical education.

January 30, 2009, is the next date you need to remember. We need you to make sure that Mississippi is well represented in the Region IV Awards this year. January 30 is the deadline for all submissions for the Region IV conference. The categories for submissions include: ACTE Outstanding Career and Technical Education Professional, ACTE Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher, ACTE Outstanding Teacher in Community Service, and, last but not least, ACTE Teacher of the Year. Make sure that your division is represented by one winner in one or more of these categories.

So far, we have played beautiful music together with all practicing their parts. We are playing in harmony with MDE, RCU, and other players. Let's keep it up for the rest of the year and, by Summer Conference, we will be able to play in the Mississippi ACTE Symphony Orchestra. We need some bright, fresh faces in our orchestra, so keep the recruitments going and encourage those who have been members in the past to join again.

Greetings From Your Executive Director, Linda Bath

Greetings from the Mississippi ACTE office. Thanks to all of you who either joined or renewed your ACTE membership. Our enrollment is up! Currently we have 875 members. Please continue to support your professional organization by keeping your membership current and by recruiting your co-workers who may not be members.

Plans are under way to host the best Mississippi ACTE Summer Conference ever. We are adding a "First-Timers" session that will be hosted by national ACTE's CEO, Jan Bray. We feel this will be a very beneficial session to all of you who have recently joined ACTE as well as those who may be attending the summer conference for the first time. Bray will also be a presenter at some of our break-out sessions.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance to you or your center.



Allied Health I guest speaker, John Hubbard with Farm Bureau, teaching First Aide.

Left to right: Fisher Sullivan, Amelia Lowrey, Maegan Bolton, John Hubbard, and Peyton Swindle.

District V Fall Meeting

Submitted by Sandra Whiteside

District 5 held their fall meeting on October 30 at Look Out 49 in Gulfport.

Members present were: Dr. Ed Mann, Southern Miss; Sue Batson, Stone High School; Lisa Courtney, MGCCC-Perkinston; Linda Bath, MS ACTE Executive Director; Mary Taylor and Gretchen Walters, Lamar County Career and Technical Center; Mary Hill, Charlotte Cannon and Tina Byrd, Petal High School; Sandy Owen, David Fava and Sandra Whiteside, Gulfport High Technology Center. A meal was enjoyed by all and David Fava spoke to the group about high school redesign. A door prize was won by Lisa Courtney.



MAVESNP Awards former Greenwood Vocational Technical Student Scholarship Check



On Tuesday, September 2, 2008, the President of Mississippi Association of Vocational Educational Special Needs Personnel (MAVESNP) 2007-2008, Loretta Tidwell, awarded Ashley Martin, a former high school student of Greenwood High School and the Greenwood Vocational Technical Center, a \$500.00 scholarship check.

Ashley is presently attending Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead, Mississippi. The award is given each year from the Mississippi Association of Vocational Educational Special Needs Personnel to any desiring high school student who attends a vocational school, and decides to continue their education at a junior college or a trade school in career and technical education. There is an application and requirement process the students must meet before they are selected. Featured in this picture are left to right: Kirby Love-Director of the Greenwood Vocational-Technical Center, Ashley Martin, recipient of the scholarship check, Loretta Tidwell 2007-2008 President of MAVESNP, and Edna Nelson, Student Services Coordinator of Greenwood Vocational Technical Center.

ACTE Region IV Conference

The Region IV Conference will be held in Hot Springs, Arkansas, April 16-18, 2009. Make plans now to attend. You can go to our web site: Mississippiacte.com to download the registration form and tentative agenda. Click on the Conferences button, then click on 2009 Region IV Registration to print the form.

Mississippi
ACTE

District III MS ACTE Fall Meeting



Submitted by Napoleon Jones

President Napoleon Jones called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

After a period of networking, Bill Norcross, immediate past president of District III, gave the invocation. The invocation was followed by a delicious meal prepared and served by Lake Tiak O'Khata personnel.

Tammie Brewer, President of MS ACTE, was the program presenter. She began her presentation with a motivation piece entitled "Carrot, Egg or Coffee Bean." It challenged the group to become cognizant of how we handle adversity. Her presentation focused on Leadership. She shared many quotes from national and world leaders and encouraged us to continue being leaders and to bring the leadership qualities out of others. After the presentation, she gave an overview of MS ACTE and the awards available.

Afterward, the president introduced Linda Bath, Executive Director of MS ACTE. She discussed membership and gave a comparison of last year's membership to this year's membership. Also, she encouraged the members to get more involved in the state and national work. Finally, she gave important dates and asked the members to visit the web site to get additional dates and schedules.

MS ACTE District II Meeting

Submitted by Jack Treloar

District II Meeting was held on October 6, 2008, in the Carroll Cafeteria on the Goodman Campus of Holmes Community College. The meal for the meeting was provided by HCC and the guest speaker was Dr. Glen Boyce, President of Holmes Community College. Dr. Boyce spoke on the importance of career and technical education. He emphasized that secondary and post-secondary should work together for the common good of both. He also challenged the group to not settle for anything less than the best for their students and to raise the bar on their teaching standards.

Linda Bath addressed the group and gave an ACTE update and encouraged anyone who was not a member to become one.



In his closing remarks, Jack Treloar reinforced the challenge made by Dr. Boyce.

There were 29 members and guests present at the meeting.

Wynelia Cherry

*Scooba Reunion Center Inc., President, and
East Mississippi Community College, TRIO Student Support Services, Director*

After graduating from high school, Wynelia Cherry went to work at a factory. Six weeks on an assembly line was enough. It was then she realized getting a higher education was the only path to a better life.



Cherry earned her associate's degree and nine years later was the first in her family to earn a college degree. Her major was business education. Cherry has continued her schooling and is now pursuing an educational doctorate degree in higher education leadership.

Cherry, who is full of surprises,

was selected as one of 50 participants from Mississippi to attend the ST-120 Space Shuttle launch October 23, 2007, at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida.

"The toughest business decision I've made is accepting the position of Student Support Services Director at East Central Mississippi Community College. Although I'd worked with students since 1982, nothing could have prepared me for this position serving 160 first-generation, low-income and disabled students and supervising three adults and three student workers. I came into this

position with a positive attitude and immediately signed up for workshops to help me in this position. I met with my employees and we worked as a team. This was when I developed my thesis that in order to do good, you have to do well."

"Maybe the toughest challenge is still ahead of me," said Cherry. "One thing is for sure---I've never encountered a decision connected with my professional life that I've ever regretted. I've changed my profession four times, my cars several times, and I haven't found any of those decisions difficult. I always know there is a workable solution."

Watkins Named ACTE Student of the Year and Scholarship Recipient



At the 82nd Annual Mississippi Association for Career and Technology Education Spring Meeting, Hannah Watkins was named Mississippi's Outstanding Secondary Career and Technical Student. Miss Watkins was also named the 2008 secondary scholarship recipient at the Annual Summer Conference. Hannah is a two-year Business and Computer Technology completer at the Forest-Scott County Career & Technology Center. She was nominated for these honors by her BCT instructor, Debbie Burnham.

A graduate of Sebastopol High School, Hannah was the recipient of numerous academic awards including valedictorian and STAR student of her senior class. She also served as the senior class president, drum major of the band, and baseball statistician. In addition to her classroom achievements, Hannah was also the county, district, and state Farm Bureau Talent Contest Winner for 2007.

Miss Watkins is currently a freshman at East Central Community College majoring in drafting and design. She is a member of the Centralettes dance line, ECCC players, Phi Beta Lambda, and was selected as a freshman homecoming maid. Hannah is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Danny Watkins.

Madison Career and Technical Center Instructor Jim Walker *Recipient of 2008 MMA Award for Excellence in Vocational Education*

Jim Walker, Technology Applications instructor with the Madison Career and Technical Center, is the recipient of the 2008 Mississippi Manufacturers Association (MMA) Award for Excellence in Vocational Education. Walker has taught in the Madison County program for 14 years.

Walker was named the 2008 MMA vocational educational award recipient largely because of his involvement in the creation of the Student Technology Exchange Program (S.T.E.P.) in partnership with Nissan North America in Canton. Walker, who worked for three years as a pre-employment trainer for the auto assembly plant, saw an opportunity for students to learn and receive hands-on training with technology used during the manufacturing process at Nissan. S.T.E.P. is now in its fourth year and includes students from the Technology Applications programs at the vocational centers in the Madison, Leake, Canton and Jackson school districts.

Walker stated, "My understanding of some of the technology I teach in the classroom has been heightened due to my seeing it in real manufacturing settings. It makes it easier for students as it provides a bridge to their future education in technology related areas and the careers that they will eventually choose.

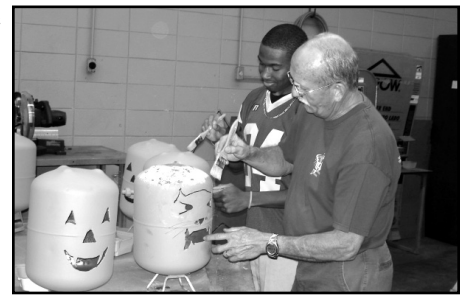
Knowing what employers want in the workers of today, particularly in business, industry and manufacturing, I believe is important and needs to be taught to the students of today, particularly those who will seek careers in business, industry and manufacturing," he said.



Laurel Vocational Center Brings Fall Fun to the Classroom



Mr. Ralph James's Industrial Maintenance students had the opportunity to show off their skills and creativity this fall. They made Jack-O-Lanterns out of used Freon tanks. Mr. James used the opportunity to make learning fun for his students and to give them a chance to practice different skills on one project.



The students were given the tasks of painting the tanks "pumpkin orange" and then creating whatever kind of face they wanted on their tanks/pumpkins by cutting out the metal. Some students went with the traditional smiling Jack-O-Lantern face with triangular eyes; others decided to break away from tradition and added ears and hair (made out of bolts) to theirs. Also, the students thought that a light inside of each pumpkin would be a nice finishing touch.

Everyone really enjoyed making the Jack-O-Lanterns. They were able to be creative and practice their skills. They decided to use their creations as a fundraiser as well. The Jack-O-Lanterns were sold for \$15 each.



Technology Applications Students Begin M3 Module Certification

During September, fourteen Technology Applications students from Leake Tech tested their skills in Basic Electrical Circuits and Introduction to Hand and Power Tools at East Central Community College's Integrated Technologies Training Center located on the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Advanced TecParc. ECCC staff assisted the students in accessing the program and conducting the assessments. The M3 Credential is supported by the WAEM Modern Multi-skill Manufacturing (M3) Certification program which connects to WAEM's Amatrol Anytime Anywhere training system. These are online, virtual training modules developed by Amatrol for some of America's top modern manufacturing companies.



"It is unbelievable what this (WAEM) program provides for students," said Cynthia Blackstock, Technology Applications Instructor at Leake County Career & Technical Center in Carthage, Mississippi. Students can access the WAEM program website through the ITTS Center and schools don't have to worry about paying for software, computer upgrades, licenses, etc. The WAEM program has taken care of this for students and teachers. "The Amatrol software," stated Blackstock "simulates STEM activities with mathematics and physics. It offers hands-on activities that mirror physics textbooks, current lab manuals, and algebra equations."



"Students with this certification qualify for multi-disciplines within the industrial work environment giving them a competitive edge during the hiring process. Industries recognize this credential and work with work force development in this training," said Blackstock. "Companies don't have to start at ground zero with an employee who has this certification," she added. "The M3 Credential can really pay off for a student."

"I love this training," said Clyde Tate, a high school senior currently pursuing a Production Level M3 Certification through ECCC. "I enjoy working with the tools and the electricity. It is a good learning experience. I am learning so much more, things I didn't even know about." An honor roll student, Tate has been selected to participate in the Nissan STEP Program for high school students. He hopes to study computer engineering at Mississippi State University next year.

Download back issues of the *Reporter*
at the Mississippi ACTE web site.
www.mississippiacte.com

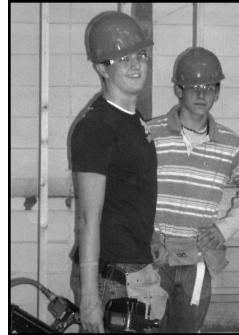


Biloxi High Career Technology Carpentry Students Construct A New Culinary Arts Kitchen

Biloxi High Career Technology students use their carpentry skills to lend a hand in the construction of the new culinary arts kitchen. Students use the skills that they have mastered to assist the maintenance department in renovating the former welding shop into a culinary arts kitchen. The Culinary Arts program is a new program at Biloxi High School.



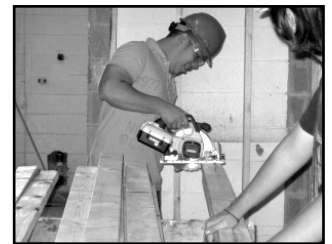
Building Trades I class



*R. Young and
C. Manning,
5th & 6th
period class*



*Mr. Pickich, teaching
measuring & layouts to
his 2nd year students.*



*G. Lee and J. Nguyen,
Building Trades II*

MS ACTE CALENDAR 2008-2009

October 15, 2008

Fall Board Meeting
*Hinds Community College/
Rankin Campus; 10:00 a.m.*

December 3-6, 2008

National ACTE Conference
Charlotte, North Carolina

January 22, 2009

Board Meeting
(Location TBA)

January 22, 2009

Legislative Coffee
*8:00-9:30 a.m.
Rotunda, State Capitol*

January 22, 2009

Legislative Reception
*5:30 – 7:30 p.m.; Mississippi
Cattleman's Association Building*

January 30, 2009

Deadline for Outstanding Student
Award and Outstanding
MS ACTE Education Award
applications to be submitted

January 30, 2009

Deadline 2nd VP candidate
application to be submitted

March 9-11, 2009

ACTE National Policy Seminar
*Crystal Gateway Marriott
Arlington, VA*

March 16, 2009

Spring Meeting
*Continental Breakfast; 8:30-9:00 a.m.
Meeting; 9:00 a.m.
Hinds Community College
Rankin Campus
George Wynne Building, Multi-
Purpose Room*

April 16-18, 2009

Region IV Conference
*Embassy Suites Hotels
Hot Springs, Arkansas*

May 17, 2009

Deadline committee
nominations from divisions

June 1, 2009

Deadline for Student Scholarship
Award; Outstanding Program Award
and Outstanding Alumnus Award

July 28-July 31, 2009

Summer Conference '09
*Hinds Community College
Raymond Campus*

Mississippi
ACTE



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