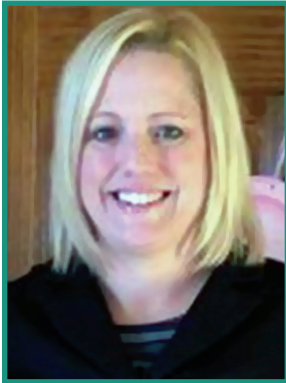


A Message From Your President, Aimee Brown



Greetings Mississippi ACTE members. I hope that your new year is off to a great start. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of several upcoming dates. First, I encourage you to make plans to attend the ACTE Region IV Conference in New Orleans, LA on April 10 – 12, 2014. Since the conference is close to home,

we are hoping to see several Mississippi ACTE members in attendance. The ACTE Region IV conference is an excellent opportunity to network with other career and technical educators within our region. Also, Mississippi ACTE will be conducting five district meetings during the months March and April. Please check the website for information regarding your district meeting. I would like to encourage everyone to try to attend the district meetings to discuss important topics related to career and technical education. If you have suggestions for topics to discuss at the district meetings, please contact your district president that is listed on the website.

Our Mississippi ACTE Summer Conference will be held on July 28 and 29 at the Clyde Muse Center at Hinds Community College – Pearl Rankin Campus. Please mark your calendar and make plans to join us for our summer conference. I would like to thank the Mississippi Department of Education and the Research and Curriculum Unit for helping to plan our summer conference. Please consider sending in nominations for Mississippi ACTE awards. I know there are several deserving teachers, students, and programs who deserve to be recognized for their dedication to career and technical education. Please check the Mississippi ACTE website for award information and deadlines.

It is an honor for me to serve as your president this year and if there is ever anything I can do to help you, please let me know. I hope everyone has a great second semester and I look forward to seeing you at future Mississippi ACTE events. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to career and technical education.

Greetings From Your Executive Director, Linda Bath

On behalf of Mississippi ACTE, I want to thank all of you for showing your support for career and technical education by being a member of ACTE. I challenge you to encourage co-workers at your schools who are not members to join. Since July 1, 2013, we have added 95 new members and have gained 50 former members whose memberships had lapsed.

We had 23 Mississippi members attend the VISION 13 in Las Vegas in December. The Region IV Conference will be in New Orleans April 10-12. This is the closest regional conference to us, and I hope many of you will attend. You can go to www.lacte.org to pull up the brochure for the conference agenda and hotel accommodations.

If I can be of assistance to any of you, please contact me at edofmsacte@aol.com or phone me at 601.857.5763. I hope to see all of you in July!

CTE Organizations “Pack the Pick-Up”

The Alcorn Career and Technology Center’s seven career and technical organizations sponsored a canned food drive as part of the school’s National Red Ribbon Week celebration. Wednesday, October 30th, was deemed “Pack the Red Pick-Up Day.” The students’ goal was to pack the bed of the school’s red pick-up truck with canned food to be donated to the A.M.E.N. Food Pantry of Corinth. That goal was met and exceeded, thanks to the generosity of students, their families, school staff

and community members. A total of 1,700 canned and non perishable food items were collected to help meet needs in Alcorn County. The seven career and technical organizations sponsoring the drive were: Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Future Educators Association (FEA), Future Farmers of America (FFA), Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), SkillsUSA, and Technology Student Association (TSA).



Pictured, along with Alcorn School Superintendent, Gina Rogers Smith, are several of the ACTC students which assisted with the food drive and ACTC director, Richard Turner.

4-H Robotics Competition

Submitted by: Billy Carroll



Congratulations to Chris Smith and Yazmine Carter! Chris and Yazmine represented the Moss Point STEM Team in the 4-H Robotics Competition at the state fair in Jackson, MS on 10/12/13. Chris and Yazmine were awarded a blue ribbon for their robotic puppy! Only the top entries in each category are awarded a blue ribbon. Great job Chris and Yazmine!

Culinary Arts Classes Use Skills Learned for a Fund Raiser

The Culinary Arts Classes at the Choctaw County Career and Technology Center conducted a “Gift in a Jar” fundraiser. Each jar contained ingredients needed to make one of five varieties of cookies. Numerous skills learned in class were involved in this activity. First, the students had to convert the ingredients needed for one jar of cookie mix to enough ingredients to fill more than 100 jars. Next, using their teamwork skills, the students set up an assembly line measuring ingredients and filling the jars. Finished jars were decorated and labeled. Students were successful in their fundraising effort and funds will go toward purchasing supplies for the culinary arts lab.



Mrs. James instructs students as they measure ingredients. (left to right) Breana Montgomery, Tyler Lizana, Andrew White, Belinda Windom



Sami Reed, Ashley Murphy, Terrell Evans, Hannah Staton, Kaylin Trombley



“Gift in a Jar”

February Declared Career and Technical Education Month in Alcorn County

Submitted by: Jennifer Koon

The Alcorn County Board of Supervisors recently proclaimed February 1-28, 2014, as Career and Technical Education Month in Alcorn County, MS. Mr. Lowell Hinton, President of the Alcorn County Board of Supervisors and Mr. Bobby Marolt, Chancery Clerk, visited the Alcorn Career and Technology Center and signed the proclamation before a group of students representing each of the twelve CTE programs offered at the school.

Students and faculty at the Alcorn Career and Technology Center will join others across the nation during the month of February to celebrate national Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month. During the 2014 CTE Month, the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE) encourages everyone to explore and learn the amazing accomplishments, achievements and contributions of career and technical education (CTE) professionals, students and alumni with the theme “Celebrate CTE Superheroes.” CTE Month provides CTE programs across the country an opportunity to demonstrate how CTE educates students to be college- and career- ready and prepares them for high-wage, high-demand career fields.

Among the special activities scheduled at the Alcorn Career and Technology Center for CTE Month are tours for area ninth graders of the center’s CTE programs, tours of the CTE programs at Northeast Mississippi Community College for the center’s second year students, and a Nontraditional Student Day. “The activities planned over the next month will illustrate the rigor and relevance CTE courses offer our students,” said Richard Turner, director of the school. “By partnering with the business community, CTE programs are investing in students’ lives with the latest technology and skills that will prepare them to become successful employees as well as future leaders.”

CTE is a major part of the solution to myriad national economic and workforce problems, such as high school dropout rates, a weakened economy, global competitiveness and massive layoffs. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, nearly one-third of the fastest growing occupations will require an associate’s degree or a postsecondary vocational certificate. At a time when job opportunity is so critical, CTE programs in every community are ensuring students are adequately equipped with the skills to successfully enter the workforce.



Pictured at the signing of the Career and Technical Education Month Proclamation are: (seated) Bobby Marolt, Alcorn County Chancery Clerk and Clerk to the Alcorn Board of Supervisors; Lowell Hinton, President of the Alcorn County Board of Supervisors; Richard Turner, Director of the Alcorn Career and Technology Center. Standing (l-r) Amanda Dildy – Agriculture and Natural Resources; England Lemons – Polymer Science; Liz Buncik – Career Pathway Experience and Health Sciences; Kaitlyn Crum – Health Sciences; Chandler Downs – Construction; Trevor McAfee – Agriculture Power and Machinery; William Shadburn – Business Fundamentals/Marketing; Justin Bain – Automotive Service Technology; Conner Smith – Digital Media Technology; Matthew Turner – Teacher Academy; Dakota Chase – Manufacturing Fundamentals/Metal Fabrication; and Daniel Ozbirn – Information Technology.

2013 Mississippi High School Craft Instructor of the Year

The faculty and staff at the Alcorn Career and Technology Center are pleased to announce that one of our own, has been selected as the Mississippi High School Craft Instructor of the Year for 2013! Mr. Fred Jackson, ACTC's Construction I and II Instructor, represented our school and district well when he received the award and cash prize at the Mississippi Associated Builders and Contractors Merit Awards Banquet held at the Jackson Country Club on November 1, 2013. Mr. Jackson was nominated for this award by Mike Barkett, State President of the Mississippi Construction Education Foundation and Lane Bell, North Mississippi Area Director of the Mississippi Construction Education Foundation.

In Mr. Jackson's award notification letter, Mr. Herb Ward, Director of Safety and Workforce Development for MABC stated, "Your commitment to personal improvement has exemplified your excellence as an instructor. Your ability to adapt new and innovative learning strategies to connect the personal lives of students to the material being taught is one of the key characteristics in being selected as High School Craft Instructor of the Year. By assisting students in finding position in

which they can begin a skilled career path, you have shown a passion for the improvement of your students that will last a lifetime. Congratulations on being recognized as the best in Mississippi Construction Education for 2013."

Mr. Jackson has been employed at the Alcorn Career and Technology Center as a Construction Instructor since 2010. Prior to that, he also served the district as Kossuth Middle School Principal and Kossuth Elementary School Assistant Principal. In addition to his work at the Alcorn Career and Technology Center, Mr. Jackson has the rewarding job of teaching GED night classes at the Alcorn Correctional Facility and assists inmates in achieving their GEDs.

Mr. Jackson serves as a SkillsUSA Advisor at ACTC and is a member of the Mississippi Association of Career and Technical Education.

The Mississippi Construction Education Foundation (MCEF), which sponsors this award, is the leader in construction training in Mississippi. The non-profit foundation was formed by a coalition of construction trade association to administer a construction school-to work program and provide training opportunities to the industry

throughout the state. MCEF has more than two hundred apprentices enrolled in the programs as well as working with individual company training programs and more than 4,500 in high school and career and technical education centers.

The Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), Inc. is a national, non-profit construction trade association. It is the only association of its kind that unites and serves all building trades. The Mississippi Chapter was granted its charter in 1973 at the request of contractors in the state that agreed with the Merit Shop Philosophy which ABC promotes. ABC is the fastest growing commercial construction trade association in America, operating through almost 24,000 nationwide member firms. The Mississippi Chapter of ABC is the largest trade association of its kind in the state, and the largest ABC chapter in the nation.



Pictured above (l-r) are Mike Barkett, State President of the Mississippi Construction Education Foundation, presenting the 2013 High School Craft Instructor of the Year Award to Fred Jackson, ACTC Construction Instructor.



TECH Teacher Academy Instructor Recertified

TECH Teacher Academy Instructor, Mrs. Barbara Dunn, M.Ed., IC3 pictured with her national teaching boards certificate with the TECH Director, Mrs. Marybeth Lowrey, Ed.S., at The Oxford-Lafayette School of Applied Technology in January 2014. This is the second time Mrs. Dunn has recertified for her national teaching boards. Mrs. Dunn has over 28 years of teaching and plans to retire at the end of this school year. She does an outstanding job and was named our teacher of the year last school year. We wish Mrs. Dunn the best in the life journey ahead of her and appreciate all the years of her life given to educate our students.

Nontraditional Students at Choctaw County Career and Technology Center

There are many nontraditional students enrolled at Choctaw County Career and Technology Center this year. The instructors at CCCTC welcome these students into their classes, and the students normally perform very well. This is due in part to the fact that the career/technical courses offer them the first step into a career of their own choosing. Students who are surrounded by a school environment supportive of nontraditional career choices are much more likely to participate and succeed in nontraditional career areas. Both Choctaw County High School and French Camp Academy students are eligible for participation in courses at CCCTC. Pictured below are some of the nontraditional students busy learning at CCCTC.



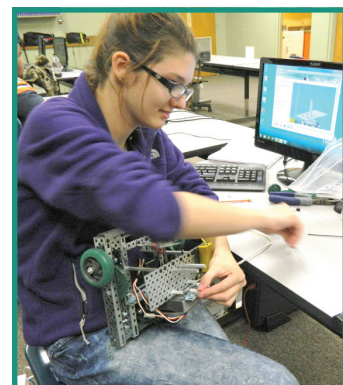
Culinary Arts students Tyler Lizana and Andrew White



Construction: Carpentry student Caylin Smith



Health Sciences student Dalton Peacock



Engineering student Brittany Wade

Health Science Students Give Back

In December 2013, with the aid of Health Science Instructor Sandi Allen and Baptist Hospice Social Worker Paula Manzke, The Tech's Health Science classes filled Christmas stockings with wonderful gifts to give to Baptist Hospice clients.



Left to right: Mallory Cox, Mrs. Sandi Allen, Lizzie Gardner, Lauren Dickinson, Paula Manzke, Maggie Cordell, Katie Love, Kiana Webb, and Sasha Briggs.

Once Again... MS ACTE Brings Home The Award

For the past 14 years, MS ACTE has been recognized as a Quality Association Standards recipient. This is the highest honor the association can achieve.

The award was presented at the State Association Breakfast in Las Vegas at the ACTE VISION 13 Conference. Twenty-two states were presented this award. The states in Region IV who received this award were Mississippi and Oklahoma.



Building a Go-Kart



*Austin Williams – second year
Agriculture Machinery student*



*(left to right) Tyler Woodson – first year
Agriculture Machinery student and
Tyler Cook – second year Agriculture
Machinery student*



*(left to right) Brady Clay and Travis Mize
– first year Engineering students*

The Choctaw County Career and Technology Center Robotics and Engineering class along with the Agriculture Power and Machinery Operations class are working on an integrated activity that benefits both programs. The two classes are working on constructing a Go Kart that will eventually help with recruiting and give community recognition to the technology center's student organizations. The Agriculture Power and Machinery Operations class has been working on building the chassis, fabricating the body and are installing the motor. The Robotics and Engineering classes are working to design and install the clutching system, drive train and the electrical components that will incorporate a system of switches for engine ignition. Once the Go-Kart is in working order, the engineering class will put the final touches on it by painting and decorating it with school colors and student organization logos. This Project has helped the students in both classes by challenging them to put many different aspects of their curriculum together along with group work that is dependant on the correlation of design and ideas.



Corn Hole Bowl Champions 2013

The 2nd year students at Leake Tech recently competed in the Corn Hole Bowl. Students accumulated points for their team by answering questions from their CTE curriculum to go to the corn hole.

Engineering Students Go to CAVS

Leake Tech engineering students recently visited the Mississippi State University Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems (CAVS) in Canton Mississippi.

Students were introduced to college and military recruiters and they had the opportunity to ask questions about future studies and careers in the engineering field.



CTC students learn about careers associated with engineering at CAVS.

Tammie Brewer Selected as ACTE Marketing Education Division Vice-President



Tammie Brewer

Submitted by Tammie Brewer

Congratulations to Tammie Brewer for being selected to be the 2014-2016 National ACTE Marketing Education Division Vice-President. She is currently the Mississippi DECA/Congregiate DECA State Coordinator who works at the Department of Education, Office of Student Organizations. Tammie is also an adjunct post-secondary online instructor for Principle of Marketing, Marketing Management, and Merchandising Math Mississippi Virtual Community College / Hinds Community College. She also assists with teacher education for the RCU. Tammie has assisted the RCU serving on four business/marketing curriculum writing teams. She was a Secondary Instructor for Marketing Management Technology at the Pearl/Rankin Career and Technical Center as well as Madison County Schools. She has a bachelor of science degree as well as a master of education degree from Mississippi State University. She completed the

applied associates science degree in distribution marketing technology at Hinds Community College in Raymond

Tammie has been highly involved in ACTE at the national level serving on the national awards committee. She is also involved at the regional level as she is serving her second term as the Mississippi representative on the Region IV awards committee. She has served on regional level in the legislative committee as well as the legislative fund committee. She was chosen as the Region IV Outstanding Teacher in Community Service as well as the Region IV Outstanding New Teacher. She has also presented at two different Region IV conferences.

On the local level of ACTE, Tammie has served as Mississippi president, vice-president and past president. She also served as the District IV President. She has also served on many committees on the Mississippi ACTE Board of Directors. She is currently on the Mississippi Association of Marketing Educator's board of directors. She has served as president, past-president, president-elect and as District I vice-president.

Tammie is an Honorary DECA Life member and a lifetime member of the DECA Alumni Division. She has served in DECA as a judge, participant, advisor and now state advisor.

Congratulations, Achieve 100% Winners

Congratulations to the following schools for receiving the Achieve 100% Award for the 2013-14 school year:

Choctaw County Career and Technical Center
Covington County Vocational Technical Complex
David Williams, Jr. Career and Technical Center
Hancock County Career Technical Center
Lawrence County Technology and Career Center
Madison Career and Technical Center
Newton Career Center
Petal High School Career and Technical Education Center

This award is presented to schools whose administrators, teachers, and counselors are all members of ACTE. Not only are they presented with a framed certificate at the Mississippi Summer Conference, but they are listed on the national ACTE web site. Their names are also listed in an issue of the Techniques magazine.

In order to qualify for this award, all staff must be a member of ACTE by November 30, 2013. I hope your school's name can be added to this impressive list next year!

Students Learn While Exploring

from the *Daily Corinthian*
Friday, February 7, 2014



Staff photo by Steve Beavers

Rachel Winters (left) and Cameran Newcomb conduct an experiment in Polymer Science class.

BY STEVE BEAVERS

sbeavers@dailycorinthian.com

Explore and learn.

Students who attend Alcorn Career and Technology Center do it everyday.

The spotlight is on the ACTC in February as it celebrates national Career and Technical Education Month.

“The activities planned over the month will illustrate the rigor and relevance CTE courses offer our students,” said ACTC Director Richard Turner.

Alcorn County Board of Supervisors got the celebration started by proclaiming February as Career and Technical Education Month in Alcorn County. Board president Lowell Hinton and Chancery Clerk Bobby Marolt visited the center and signed the proclamation before a group of students representing the 12 CTE programs offered at the school.

“By partnering with the business community, CTE programs are investing in students’ lives with the latest technology and skills which will prepare them to become successful employees as well as future leaders,” said Turner.

Courses such as Agriculture and Natural Resources, Agriculture Power & Machinery, Automotive Service Technology, Business Fundamentals Marketing, Career Pathway Experience, Construction, Digital Media Technology, Health Sciences, Information Technology, Manufacturing Fundamentals Metal Fabrication, Polymer Science and Teacher Academy are all offered at the ACTC.

“The Alcorn Career and Technology Center provides opportunities students would not have otherwise,” said Polymer Science instructor Stephanie Parsons. “Students gain skills in the workplace and postsecondary education at the ACTC.”

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, nearly one-third of the fastest growing occupations will require an associate’s degree or a postsecondary vocational certificate. At a time when job opportunity is so critical, CTE programs in every community are ensuring students are adequately equipped with the skills to successfully enter the workforce.

CTE is also a major part of the solution to myriad national economic and workforce problems, such as high school dropout rates, a weakened economy, global competitiveness and massive layoffs.

The mission of the local career and technology center is to prepare students to be creative, productive, lifelong learners with marketable skills which can be adapted to the changing world of modern technology.

Along with giving students at Alcorn Central, Biggersville, Corinth and Kossuth high schools opportunities to reach their greatest potential, the

ACTC also offers the community the chance to continue learning through the offering of adult night classes.

“CTE is all about cuttingedge preparation for college and careers,” said Jennifer Koon, Alcorn CTE Counselor. “Unfortunately, it is all too often overlooked in its impact on students and its ability to aid in economic prosperity for our communities and our nation. For this reason, I am so thankful to the Alcorn Board of Supervisors, Mayor Tommy Irwin, and various other community leaders who recognize, value, and support the strides being made in the 17 CTE programs offered in the Alcorn School District.”

“Celebrate CTE Superheroes” is the theme being used during the month of activities. Some of the special activities planned at the Alcorn Career and Technology Center for CTE Month include: tours for area ninth graders of the center’s CTE programs, tours of the CTE programs at Northeast Mississippi Community College for the center’s second year students and a Nontraditional Student Day.

Association for Career and Technical Education is the nation’s largest not-for-profit education association dedicated to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for successful careers.

Founded in 1926, ACTE has more than 25,000 members including teachers, counselors and administrators at the middle school, high school and postsecondary levels.

(For more information about course offerings at the Alcorn Career and Technology Center, call 286-7727.)

MS ACTE Receives National Recognition

Submitted by Linda Bath

The national office has developed three new awards to promote ACTE membership. Mississippi was awarded one of these. A trophy for the Highest Membership Retention Percentage in the 2012-13 fiscal year was presented to Mississippi at the State Association Breakfast in Las Vegas. This is quite an honor, and my thanks to all of you who helped Mississippi receive this distinction by continuing to join the Association.

ACTE is the largest national educational organization dedicated to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for careers. The national staff and lobbyists work for ACTE advising Congress of the importance of career/technical education.

