

# DEVELOPMENTS

THE MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



FALL 2008

www.medic.ms

## Officers & Directors:

### President - David P. Rumbarger

Community Development Foundation, Tupelo

### President-Elect - Larry S. Barnett

Harrison County Dev. Commission, Gulfport

### VP - Chamber Dev. - Barbara Smith

Community Development Foundation, Tupelo

### VP - Community Dev. - Christy Knapp

Oxford-Lafayette County EDF, Oxford

### VP - Economic Dev. - Chandler Russ

Tennessee Valley Authority, Starkville

### Secretary/Treasurer - Dianne Carson

Clinton Chamber, Clinton

### Immed. Past President - George Freeland

Jackson County EDF, Pascagoula

### Director - District 1 - Lyn C. Arnold

Tunica County Chamber & EDF, Tunica

### Director - District 2 - Stephen Surlis, Jr.

Union Co. Dev. Assoc., New Albany

### Director - District 3 - Sue Stidham

EDP of Montgomery Co., Winona

### Director - District 4 - David Vowell

Community Dev. Partnership, Philadelphia

### Director - District 5 - Tom Troxler

RankinFirst Economic Dev. Authority, Brandon

### Director - District 6 - Cliff Brumfield

Brookhaven-Lincoln Co. Chamber/IDF, Brookhaven

### Director - District 7 - Angeline Godwin

Area Dev. Partnership, Hattiesburg

### Director - District 8 - Jack Zink

Hancock Co. Port & Harbor Comm., Bay St. Louis

### Director - At-Large - Alecia C. Crawford

Mississippi Power Co., Meridian

### Director - At-Large - Beth Stevens

Greenwood-Leflore Co. Chamber, Greenwood

### MDA Exec. Director (ex officio) - Gray Swoope

Mississippi Dev. Authority, Jackson

### MS SEDC Director - Sandy Holifield

EDA of Jones County, Laurel

### Alt. MS SEDC Director - Lyn C. Arnold

Tunica County Chamber & EDF, Tunica

## Committee Chairpersons:

### Chamber Development - Barbara Smith

Community Dev. Foundation, Tupelo

### Communications - Elizabeth Fargason Stanga

Mississippi Dev. Authority, Jackson

### CEDA - Christy Knapp

Oxford-Lafayette Co. EDF, Oxford

### Conferences - Larry S. Barnett

Harrison County Dev. Commission, Gulfport

### Legislative - Phillip D. Hardwick

Stennis Institute, MSU, Jackson

### Membership - Elizabeth Taylor

Mississippi Dev. Authority, Jackson

### Scholarships - Joy Foy

Mississippi Development Authority, Jackson

## Staff:

**Executive Director and COO - Carol Hardwick**

**Manager, Member Services/Admin. - Chris Hinton**

## Team Mississippi - A Collaborative Partnership to Promote Mississippi

Team Mississippi is a marketing partnership between Mississippi Development Authority and its utility allies: Mississippi Power Company, Entergy Mississippi, the Electric Power Associations of Mississippi, Tennessee Valley Authority and its economic development arm, North Mississippi Industrial Development Association.

The Team has invested in a collaborative approach to marketing the state as a viable place to do business. Unlike other states, Mississippi's utilities are working together to bring business to the state. In the end, these companies compete on rates, but their primary focus is to promote Mississippi as a desirable location.

Together, the group acts as ambassadors for the entire state, as opposed to merely marketing their own regions.

"With limited marketing dollars, it is important to have partnerships like this. The trust of the group

has been great, giving us resources to market the entire state," said Gray Swoope.

Team Mississippi does not take the place of MDA's marketing efforts, nor does it replace each company's individual marketing programs.

**"The trust of the group has been great, giving us resources to market the entire state."**

"The way I see it, MDA produces several types of marketing outreach events. The first is what I call the 'play to play' type events such as CoreNet. Our partners each pay to participate and we all work together at the event to represent the state. Second, we work with Team Mississippi on events and activities targeted only through this partnership," Swoope continued. "Finally, we have MDA-only events such as last year's mission to Asia with the Governor."

Once a prospect's interest is acquired, then it is handled as any other economic development project client. MDA works with economic development professionals, the Team, Governor Barbour, the state's legislative delegation and other state and local officials, as well as the state's universities, to meet client's project needs.

## MEDC Schedules Regional Legislative Forums

The Legislative Committee is scheduling the regional legislative forums during October and November as this newsletter is going to print. The meetings will be hosted by the board member representing his or her district. Invitations will be sent to Mississippi legislators in each district.

Each regional meeting will be scheduled to last no more than an hour and a half. The primary purpose of the forum is to provide an opportunity for state senators and representatives and members of the MEDC to discuss the 2008 legislative session and to preview the 2009 session as both seek ways to improve economic development and the quality of life for all Mississippians. Often, our members know the legislators in their own towns or counties, but not in the region.

See the Calendar of Events at [www.medic.ms](http://www.medic.ms) for the date and time of the Forum in your area.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions please call Phil Hardwick at 601-354-6011 or by e-mail at [phil.hardwick@msstate.edu](mailto:phil.hardwick@msstate.edu).

## In This Issue...

### Page 2

A Letter from the President, MEDC - Individual Membership, MEDC Chamber Workshops, New Members

### Page 3

Scholarship Applications Accepted, Honorary Life Members Honored, A Heartfelt Thank You

### Page 4

MEDC Summer Conference Photos

### Page 5

Conference Photos, Members on the Move, Members Learn About Wetlands, Golf Tournament Results

### Page 6

Governor's Cup Awards

### Page 7

CEDA Winners, MEDC Elects Board

## MEDC Welcomes New Members:

### Rhonda Ash

Executive Assistant  
Marshall County Industrial Dev. Authority  
Holly Springs, MS

### Frank Bennett

Vice President/Lab Administrator  
Sage Fundraising Solutions  
Jacksonville, FL

### Chris Berryman

Project Manager  
Tennessee Valley Authority  
Beldon, MS

### Zach Butterworth

Owner  
Hesse & Butterworth, PLLC  
Bay St. Louis, MS

### Linda Carnathan

Executive Director  
Okolona Area Chamber of Commerce  
Okolona, MS

### Craig Farmer

Marketing Representative  
Earth Consulting Group, Inc.  
Madison, MS

### Rebecca Ferguson

Economic Development Project Manager  
Hancock County Port & Harbor Commission  
Bay St. Louis, MS

### Michael Goff

Executive Vice President/Managing Partner  
Wildlife Technical Services, Inc.  
Vicksburg, MS

### Calvin Harris

Board Member  
Madison County Economic Dev. Association  
Camden, MS

### Amy Heaton

Executive Director  
Holly Springs Chamber of Commerce  
Holly Springs, MS

### Ceola Jones

Manager, Incentives and Grants  
Delta Economic Development Center of  
Washington County  
Greenville, MS

### Michael Jones

Partner  
JBHM Architects, PA  
Tupelo, MS

### Sandra Lambert

Marketing Representative  
Earth Consulting Group, Inc.  
Madison, MS

### Alex Leath

Attorney  
Balch & Bingham LLP  
Birmingham, AL

### Richard McNeel

Partner  
JBHM Architects, PA  
Jackson, MS

## Letter From the President



David Rumbarger

Wow! What a summer conference to remember. It was great to be back on the Mississippi Coast again. Thanks to our hard working conference committee and the professional staff for making it smooth yet productive—and fun. We

left the coast refreshed and reinvigorated to face a national economy that is stalled without wind. How timely for our 2008 summer conference theme to be Sailing through to Excellence. In the words of Dr. Robert Schuller, “Tough times never last but tough people do,” and by my experience, MEDC members are a tough and persistent group of professionals that will succeed.

That is why I believe that you and your organization must generate the wind in today’s business climate. Through your organizations’ programs, partnerships, and projects we all must seek to push the economic rock up the hill for the good times to come. Our job at MEDC is to continue to equip our membership with vision and knowledge to inspire and lead their

communities to greater success. Our luncheon seminar series, along with the two conferences, allow both programming and networking to enlighten economic developers and chamber executives to develop bigger dreams and execute achievable strategies to move our region and state forward.

To better serve our members and to provide opportunities for others to get to know us, we will be having several events around the state. Legislative Forums are being planned in each district this fall, and we will have Chamber Workshops in the southern and northern parts of the state. Our Member-to-Member seminars will be held around the state as well.

Your attendance and participation are the very key to success and expanding your knowledge. MEDC provides the place to do business by exchanging ideas and solutions. Even the failures we experience make us and our organizations better, and therefore our communities and our state better. See you soon at one of our events!

David Rumbarger  
President/CEO, Community Development  
Foundation, Inc., Tupelo, MS

## MEDC - Individual Membership

*“Membership resides with the individual and not the employer.”*

MEDC By-Laws Article III, Section 1

*“Membership is held in the name of the individual and not in the name of the member’s organization or firm.”*

MEDC Membership Application

The Mississippi Economic Development Council is a professional association made up of individual members as is the Southern Economic Development Council and other associations to which lawyers, accountants, architects and other professionals belong. This means that members retain their individual membership, even when they leave the employment of the organization that paid their dues.

“We explain this many times during conference registration,” said Carol Hardwick, executive director. “Others who work in the same offices with MEDC members have to join in order to receive the discounted rate for members.”

Members who change jobs should be sure to update their information in the Online Directory on the MEDC website.

Elizabeth Taylor, Membership Chairman

## MEDC Regional Workshops Planned for Chambers

A special training workshop is being planned for November 18 in Collins, Mississippi, for those working with Chambers of Commerce. A similar workshop will be held in north Mississippi in April.

“We are eager to involve others who are not familiar with the excellent training MEDC offers at its summer and winter conferences. Many people who work for small chambers are not able to travel to Jackson and the coast because of restraints on their time and budgets,” said Barbara Smith, MEDC Vice President of Chamber Development.

The registration fee is \$10 for MEDC Members and \$25 for non-members.

Please watch the MEDC website, [www.medic.ms](http://www.medic.ms), for more information on this workshop, and get the word out to others in your area.

## Scholarship Applications Accepted

MEDC will be accepting applications for scholarships for tuition for these approved courses in 2009:

- New South Basic Economic Development Course (USM)
- Chamber Institute (Institute for Organization Management)
- Community Development Institute
- Economic Development Institute

Applications are in the Professional Development section of the MEDC website, [www.medc.ms](http://www.medc.ms). They must be submitted to the MEDC office no later than November 30, 2008.

## Honorary Life Members Honored

MEDC bestows the honor of Honorary Life Member to individuals in recognition of long and distinguished service in furthering economic and community development in the state of Mississippi and the aims of the Council. Two individuals received this honor this year and were recognized at the Awards Banquet.



Carol Hardwick, MEDC executive director, Alice Lusk and George Freeland, MEDC president.

**ALICE LUSK** Alice began her career in 1968 at the Mississippi Research and Development Center in Jackson, first as a research assistant, then manager, and then as a division director. During her 20 years at the R&D Center she managed the state's program of management and technical assistance to entrepreneurs, inventors, and existing business that provided business startup, management, marketing, financial and industrial engineering counseling to clients. The R&D Center merged with the Mississippi Department of Economic & Community Development in 1988 which later became the Mississippi Development Authority. Alice served as Director of the Community Development Division of MDA until her retirement in 2001, where she directed the state's program of assistance to communities including the Competitive Community Program, the Elected Officials Program, and the Mississippi Main Street Association. Her division was also responsible for administering federal and state grant programs such as CDBG and HOME.

Currently Alice lives in Jackson and in addition to spending time with her family, runs her own part-time Management Consultant firm, continuing to provide her expertise and knowledge to businesses and organizations in the community.

**HARRY A. MARTIN** Harry was selected as Chief Executive Officer of the Community Development Foundation in May 1956 and served until he "stepped down" in August 2000, refusing the use of the word "retirement". During his 44 years of service, he was responsible for the growth and development of six affiliated programs, and assisted in more than 100 plant locations and expansions and the development of five industrial parks. One of Harry's main contributions to the CDF's success is his ability to focus on "hands-on" projects. With this vision, he would bring all segments of the community into a project, and utilize the diverse skills and talents available within the region, therefore creating "community ownership" of projects and programs.

Harry has served on various state and national advisory committees, and in 1986 was appointed chairman of the governor's Long-Range Economic Development Planning Committee. In 1994, Governor Kirk Fordice presented Harry the "Harry A. Martin



Carol Hardwick, MEDC executive director, Harry A. Martin and George Freeland, MEDC president.

Award for Excellence in Economic Development" for his outstanding leadership over the course of his involvement with CDF. Harry is a past president of the Mississippi Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives which merged into MEDC in 1998, and presently serves as President Emeritus of CDF.

Harry is currently in the real estate business in Tupelo with his daughter, Janet, who owns Martin Select Properties.

## New Members (continued):

### Diana O'Toole

Program Manager  
Mississippi Development Authority  
Jackson, MS

### David Parker

Senior Vice President  
Electric Power Associations of Mississippi  
Ridgeland, MS

### Mark Rich

Owner  
Rich Perspectives, LLC  
Jackson, MS

### Andrea Rose

Community Development Director  
The Alliance  
Corinth, MS

### Wesley Stanton

Economic Developer  
Benton County  
Hickory Flat, MS

### Brad Stringer

Landscape Architect  
JBHM Architects, PA  
Jackson, MS

### Gilbert Thompson

Assistant Director  
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians  
Choctaw, MS

### Lori Tucker

Main Street Director  
Baldwyn Main Street Chamber  
Baldwyn, MS

### Bob Tyler

Director  
Yalobusha Economic Development District  
Water Valley, MS

## A Heartfelt Thank You

Dear Carol,

*This note is to thank you and MEDC for the nice recognition given me July 24th in Biloxi as an Honorary Life Member of MEDC along with the nice personal references presented and especially the recognition of Agnes my companion of 60 years.*

*She and I enjoyed very much the total awards program. We got to see many of our former associates that we haven't seen in years.*

*You and the members are responsible for the economic progress of the state and the state has come a long way since I started in 1948 . . . a worthy effort that has made for much progress.*

Thanks again,  
Harry

Harry Martin  
Tupelo, MS

## THANK YOU!

### MEDC Summer Conference Sponsors

#### Event Sponsors:

- Government Consultants, Inc.
- AT&T
- Balch & Bingham LLP
- Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens & Cannada, PLLC
- Mississippi Band Of Choctaw Indians
- Mississippi Power Company
- Southern Mississippi Planning & Development District
- Tennessee Valley Authority

#### Premier Sponsors:

- ABMB Engineers, Inc.
- Aquaterra Engineering
- Burns Cooley Dennis, Inc.
- Columbus-Lowndes Development LINK
- Community Development Foundation
- Earth Consulting Group, Inc.
- Eco-Systems, Inc.
- Enterprise for Innovative Geospatial Solutions
- Eutaw Construction Company
- Jackson County Economic Development Foundation
- JBHM Architects
- Mississippi Business Finance Corporation
- MDEQ - Brownfields Program
- MS Dept. of Environmental Quality
- Mississippi Manufacturers Association
- NovoPrint USA, Inc.
- PPM Consultants, Inc.
- RankinFirst Economic Development Authority
- Southwest Mississippi Partnership
- Waggoner Engineering, Inc.
- Watkins & Young, PLLC

#### Corporate Sponsors:

- Area Development Partnership
- AT&T
- CN Railway
- CSX Transportation
- H & M Company, Inc.
- Mississippi World Trade Center
- Neel-Schaffer, Inc.
- North Mississippi Industrial Development Authority
- Stephens, Inc.
- Tunica County Chamber & Economic Development Foundation
- White Construction Company
- Worsham Brothers, Inc.

## MEDC Summer Conference – “It was good to be back on the Mississippi Gulf Coast!”

Based on the results of our survey, attendees at the MEDC Summer Conference felt the conference was an enjoyable, enlightening experience. They cited an excellent line up of speakers, a well-organized conference, quality facility and food, and excellent networking opportunities.

Many expressed how great it was to be back on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The banquet, which recognized the Governor’s Cup and Community Economic Development Award (CEDA) recipients, was a highly acclaimed portion of the conference, as well as the Welcome Reception sponsored by Government Consultants.

Overall, the MEDC 2008 Summer Conference was an ExtraOHRdinary success!

See additional photos at [www.medic.ms](http://www.medic.ms)



Billy Smith, Trinity Yachts



Bobby Little, Miss Mississippi Christine Kozlowsky, Craig Carter



Taurus Wright, Griff Salmon



Max Hipp, Sonny Simmons



Blake Wilson, Scott Waller, Stephen Surlis



Sandy Maxwell, Sandy Holifield

## MEDC Summer Conference Activities



ExtraOHRdinary Afternoon sponsored by Southern MS PDD at the Frank Gehry-designed pods, Ohr-O'Keefe Museum



ExtraOHRdinary Afternoon at the Walter Anderson Museum



Fishing sponsored by Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians



Shrimping sponsored by Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

## Members Learn About Wetlands

The MEDC Member-to-Member Seminar Series continued in September with a presentation by Michael Goff, Vice President of Wildlife Technical Services, on "WETLANDS - The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly." Goff explained the three determinants of a wetland - soils, vegetation and hydrology (water). Hydric soils are usually gray. Even though vegetative cover is usually the first indicator of this type of soil, any land from open fields to forest land can be wetlands, if water was present for a duration of time, even if none is present at the time of determination. He noted that loblolly pines and sweetgum trees can grow in wetlands, and also, that in Mississippi, beavers create wetlands.

Goff explained the significance of understanding various regulatory codes for wetlands including the Individual Section 404 Wetlands Permit Authorization and the Isolated Wetlands Designation which is a newly-developed regulatory variance based on recent U.S. Supreme Court rulings. Other coordinating functions of the federal permit process include the Endangered Species Act, the Cultural and Historic Resources Act, environmental compliance and other protective laws.

The MEDC Member-to-Member Seminar Series will continue December 9 in Oxford, Mississippi. Watch the MEDC website, [www.medic.ms](http://www.medic.ms), for additional information.



Michael Goff and George Freeland

## MEDC Members on the Move!

### Charles E. Beasley

President/CEO  
Mississippi Enterprise for Technology, Inc.  
Stennis Space Center, MS

### Cecilia Derrington

Executive Director  
Pontotoc County Chamber of Commerce  
Pontotoc, MS

### Sidney Massey

Director  
Center for Urban Rural Interface Studies  
CREC-Mississippi State University  
Biloxi, MS

### Chance McDavid

Project Manager, Community Development  
Mississippi State Community Action Team  
Mississippi State, MS

If you are a Member on the Move or know of one, please email [carol@medc.ms](mailto:carol@medc.ms) or call 601-352-1909.



First Place Team: David Bowman, Reed Nelson, Bobby Little, and Steve Gregory

## Conference Golf Tournament

Thanks to Mississippi Power Company for sponsoring the Golf Tournament at the Preserve Golf Club.

Below is a list of all winners.

**First Place:** David Bowman, Bobby Little, Reed Nelson, Steve Gregory

**Second Place:** Ross Tucker, Jason Sims, Mitch Stennett, Julie Jordan

**Third Place:** Chandler Russ, Warren Greenlee, David Rumbarger, Frank Halbert.

**Longest Drive:** Whit Hughes

**Straightest Drive:** Jim Craig

**Closest to the Pin:**

Hole #2 - Steve Gregory

Hole #6 - Jack Zink

Hole #13 - Angie Durham

Hole #16 - Duane Bullard

## Governor's Cup / Community Economic Development Awards Reception And Banquet Sponsors:

- Applied Geo Technologies, Inc. (AGT)
- Cellular South
- Chamber Plus/Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership
- Electric Power Associations Of Mississippi
- Entergy Mississippi, Inc.
- Greater Jackson Alliance
- Harrison County Development Commission
- Merchants & Marine Bank
- Mississippi Development Authority
- Mississippi Economic Council
- Mississippi Technology Alliance
- Roy Anderson Corp
- Yates Construction/Jesco, Inc.

## Governors Cup District Winners

The other District Winners are:

### Small Business (50 or less employees)

The Daily Star, Grenada – North District Winner; nominated by Grenada County Chamber of Commerce

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park RV, Pelahatchie – Central District Winner; nominated by Town of Pelahatchie

### Big Business (51 or more employees)

ACCO Brands, Inc., Booneville – North District Winner; nominated by Prentiss County Development Association

Applied Geo Technologies of Carthage – Central District Winner; nominated by Leake County Development Association

*"It is a pleasure to honor each of these businesses with the Governor's Cup. Each company has my admiration for what they have accomplished as fine corporate citizens and savvy business leaders. I salute their ongoing commitment to Mississippi."*

*Governor Haley Barbour*

## Governor's Cup Awards

The Mississippi Development Authority, in partnership with the Office of the Governor and the Mississippi Economic Development Council (MEDC), recognizes private sector businesses that have had a significant impact within their local community through the Governor's Cup Awards. These awards, one of the highest given by the Governor, are given to honor businesses for their contributions during the past calendar year, raise the general awareness about their successful efforts, and showcase their results.

The local nominating entity for each District Winner is awarded \$1,000 for their local existing industry and

business program. An additional marketing grant is awarded if their nominee is chosen as a Statewide Winner. The amount of the grant is determined each year based on available funding. The award amount for the 2007 calendar year is \$5,000.

Two Mississippi businesses were named state winners out of the six district winners. Statewide winners were Prime Outlets of Gulfport, nominated by the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce in the small business category; and Chevron Products Company, Pascagoula Refinery, nominated by the Jackson County Economic Development Foundation in the large business category.

*Photos show Carol Hardwick, MEDC executive director, George Freeland, MEDC president, and Gray Swoope, MDA executive director presenting awards to the Governor's Cup winners:*



*Statewide Winner Small Business - Prime Outlets of Gulfport  
Kimberly Nastasi, CEO, MS Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce  
and Rhonda Roberts, Marketing Manager of Prime Outlets*



*Statewide Winner Big Business - Chevron Products Company; Jerry St. Pe',  
Board of Directors, Jackson Co. Economic Development Foundation; Steve  
Renfro and Roland Kell, Chevron Pascagoula Refinery; and Greg Cronin,  
Board of Directors, Jackson County Economic Development Foundation, Inc.*



*Small Business North District - The Daily Star, Grenada -  
Phillip Heard, Executive Director, Grenada County Chamber of  
Commerce; Brenda and Joe Lee, Publisher, Daily Star and Steve  
Gard, past president, Grenada County Chamber of Commerce.*



*Big Business North District - ACCO Brands, Inc. - Gerald  
Williams, Exec. Dir. Prentiss County Development Association,  
Vickie Chaffin, V.P. Booneville Distribution & Transportation,  
ACCO Brands, Inc. and Mark Gams, V.P., US Distribution &  
Transportation, ACCO Brands, Inc.*



*Small Business Central District - Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park  
RV, Pelahatchie - Honorable Knox Ross, Jr., Mayor, Town of  
Pelahatchie and Howard Tutt, Manager, Yogi Bear Resort.*



*Big Business Central District - Applied Geo Technologies of Carthage  
- Mike Ellis, Vice President, Leake County Development Association,  
Allen Hines, President and CEO, Applied Geo Technologies and Phyllis  
Anderson, Tribal Council, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.*

## Community Economic Development Awards

MEDC, partnering with the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) and the Southern Economic Development Council (SEDC), sponsored the Community Economic Development Awards (CEDA) for the second year to honor communities for their efforts to advance their economic and community development programs. In addition to receiving a beautiful piece of art glass specially commissioned by MEDC, they also received a \$5,000 marketing grant from MDA. Winners will go on to compete with winners from 17 other states at SEDC. Read more about these winning projects on the MEDC website at [www.medc.ms](http://www.medc.ms).

## Congratulations to all Community Economic Development Award Winners:

**Category I** - Population less than 5,000  
Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park RV Resort  
Town of Pelahatchie, MS

**Category II** - Population 5,001 - 15,000  
Noxubee Economic and Community  
Development Alliance  
Noxubee County, MS

**Category III** - Population 15,001 - 40,000  
Team Leake  
Leake County, MS

**Category IV** - Population 40,001 - 100,000  
Community Development Recruitment and  
Hospitality Program, Tupelo/Lee County, MS

## Community Economic Development Award Winners

Photos show Carol Hardwick, MEDC executive director, George Freeland, MEDC president, and Gray Swoope, MDA executive director presenting awards to the CEDA winners:



*Category I - Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park RV Resort Town of Pelahatchie, MS*

*Mayor Knox Ross, Town of Pelahatchie, and Dianna Eaton, Central MS Planning & Development District*



*Category II - Noxubee Economic and Community Development Alliance, Noxubee County, MS*

*Brian Wilson, executive director and Bill Brown, chairman of the board of the Noxubee Economic and Community Development Alliance.*



*Category III - Team Leake Leake County, MS*

*David Howell and Marcus Ellis, co-chairmen of Team Leake with Renodda Dorman, executive director of the Leake County Chamber of Commerce.*



*Category IV - Community Development Foundation Recruitment and Hospitality Program Tupelo/Lee County, MS*

*David Rumbarger, president and CEO, Community Development Foundation and Bobby Smith, president of the Lee County Board of Supervisors.*

## MEDC Elects Officers and Board Members

The following officers and directors were elected by the Mississippi Economic Development Council membership recently:  
Officers - October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2009:

**David P. Rumbarger, Tupelo**  
President

**Larry S. Barnett, Gulfport**  
President Elect

**Barbara Smith, Tupelo**  
Vice President Chamber Development

**Christy Knapp, Oxford**  
Vice President Community Development

**Chandler Russ, Starkville**  
Vice President Economic Development

**Dianne Carson, Clinton**  
Secretary / Treasurer

**George L. Freeland, Jr., Pascagoula**  
Immediate Past-President

Directors - October 1, 2008 - September 30, 2010:

**Stephen Surles, Jr., New Albany**  
District 2

**Sue Stidham, Winona**  
District 3

**David Vowell, Philadelphia**  
District 4

**Cliff Brumfield, Brookhaven**  
District 6

**Jack Zink, Bay St. Louis**  
District 8

## DEVELOPMENTS

is a quarterly publication of

MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.  
POST OFFICE BOX 3721  
JACKSON, MS 39207-3721

[WWW.MEDC.MS](http://WWW.MEDC.MS)

601-352-1909

Fax 601-352-2061



MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.  
WWW.MEDC.MS

POST OFFICE BOX 3721  
JACKSON, MS 39207-3721

PRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
JACKSON, MS  
PERMIT NO. 369

**MEDC** **DEVELOPMENTS**  
THE MISSISSIPPI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

**Calendar of Events**

- Oct. 4 – 7**     **SEDC 2008 Annual Conference - Hot Springs, VA**  
*“Energy Driven Economic Development”*
- October 8**     **MEDC Legislative Forum – District 3 - Greenwood**
- Oct. 19 – 22**   **IEDC 08 Annual Conference - Atlanta, GA**  
*“The Next Billion – Mobility, Flexibility, Agility, Livability”*
- October 27**     *“Using the Mississippi Institute for Forest Inventory (MIFI) Dynamic Report Generator Software to Estimate Wood Supply”*  
Mississippi State University, Starkville
- November 7**    **MEDC Legislative Forum – District 1**  
Northwest Mississippi Community College
- November 13**   **MEDC Legislative Forum – District 2**
- November 18**   **MEDC Regional Chamber Workshop - Collins, MS**  
*“Putting the Meat in Your Chamber Menu”*
- December 9**    **MEDC Member-to-Member Seminar Series**  
Oxford, MS

*MEDC 2009 Winter Conference*  
**“INNOVATION DESTINATION”**

**February 4 - 6, 2009**  
**Hilton Hotel, Jackson, MS**

**Feb. 4 - Economic Development Day at the Capitol; MDA Roundtables**

**Feb. 5 - 6 - Innovative topics and speakers on economic development and chamber of commerce issues**  
(details soon!)

**July 21 – 23**     **2009 MEDC Summer Conference**  
Beau Rivage, Biloxi, MS

**Learn more about these events at Calendar of Events at [www.medc.ms](http://www.medc.ms)**