

# The Mississippi Engineer

Volume 1, Number 7

August 2015

## McCleese Installed as President of MES



Wes A. McCleese, P.E.

Wes A. McCleese, P.E., of Clinton, was installed as President of the Mississippi Engineering Society at the MS/AL Engineering Society Meeting in Biloxi, MS, which was held in June.

McCleese is a graduate of Mississippi State University with a B.S. in Civil Engineering, 1999 as well as an MBA in 2007.

McCleese, has been a Transportation Engineer at Gresham, Smith and Partners since 2013, is married to Melissa McCleese, and has two children, Will and Owen. He has been an active member of the Mississippi Engineering Society for many years.

## From the MES President

Another Summer Meeting at the Beau Rivage in Biloxi has come and gone, and all who went had a wonderful time. This year's meeting was a Dual-State meeting with the Alabama Society of Professional Engineers, which gave us all a chance to interact with our counterparts from across the state line. Attendees enjoyed Professional Development seminars, a meet-and-greet, a golf scramble, and a Family Fun Night. Special thanks go out to Paula Wiles and her MDOT District 6 helpers for once again organizing a phenomenal Family Fun Night event, and to Malinda Battey and her helpers for all of their work in managing the Summer Meeting. The 2015-2016 State Officers for both states were inducted at this meeting, and I, as well as the rest of our board, am honored and humbled to be serving you this year.

MES was well-represented in Seattle, WA in mid-July at the NSPE Annual Meeting. Our Regional Director, (Mississippi's own) Chris Jones led a meeting of the Southeastern Region's leadership on how to confront current challenges facing state and national organizations. Meanwhile, our State Delegate, Steve Twedt, P.E., was inducted as an NSPE Fellow. Finally, our Executive Director Malinda Battey was inducted as the 2015-2016 President of the State Societies' Executive Council within NSPE, which also gives her a seat in the NSPE Board of Directors. As you can see, our Mississippi members continue to thrive at the national level within NSPE.

*Continued on page 2*

2016 MES Winter Meeting  
February 24th-26th  
Jackson Convention Complex, Jackson, MS

## 2015-16 MES OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	Wes McCleese, P.E.
<i>President Elect</i>	Nick Altobelli, P.E.
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### *Engineer's Creed*

*As a Professional Engineer, I dedicate my professional knowledge and skill to the advancement and betterment of human welfare.*

*I pledge:*

- *To give the utmost of performance*
- *To participate in none but honest enterprise*
- *To live and work according to the laws of man and the highest standards of professional conduct*
- *To place service before profit, the honor and standing of the profession before personal advantage, and the public welfare above all other considerations*

*In humility and with need for Divine Guidance, I make this pledge.*

*Adopted by NSPE, June 1954*

*Continued "From the MES President"*

Since the central goal of MES and NSPE are to promote and protect the licensure of Professional Engineers, we will focus this year on raising the awareness of PEs within the public. This effort will be two-fold: 1) We intend to communicate as an organization more frequently with our members and our Legislature regarding issues that affect the professional engineering community, and 2) we intend to raise our public profile within our communities at large, so that "what engineers do" is not as much of a mystery to our friends and neighbors.

At the NSPE Annual Meeting, we heard stories of other states whose legislatures were all set to make changes that would adversely affect the Professional Engineering community. NSPE and the state societies serve an important role in communicating with Congress and the state Legislatures, and representing the positions of our membership when matters that would affect us are considered. Sadly, most of us don't know how or when to communicate with our elected officials regarding proposed legislation that would affect us. As the only statewide and national organization that represents all of the disciplines and practices of Professional Engineering, when we speak as one voice, MES and NSPE represents our broadest opportunity in reaching out to our legislators.

We as Professional Engineers also need to do a better job in many cases of telling others the important roles we serve in society. Our Creed calls us to dedicate our "professional knowledge and skill to the advancement and betterment of human welfare." I submit to you that this means not only within the confines of our professional employment, but also by representing the profession well to others within our communities. So go speak in front of a high school class about the work you do, offer to help a Boy Scout troop on fulfilling their Engineering merit badge requirements, or find another way to educate those within your circles of influence about the important services that PEs provide to our communities. After all, we are responsible for ensuring that another generation of Professional Engineers can follow in our footsteps and continue to competently place the public welfare above all other considerations.

## Important Dates to Remember

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
September 3, 2015	MES Executive Committee Meeting	Conference Call
October 8, 2015	MES Board of Directors Meeting	Conference Call
February 24	MES Board of Director Meeting	Jackson Convention Complex
February 24-26	MES Winter Meeting	Jackson Convention Complex
March 19, 2016	MATHCOUNTS State Competition	TBD
April 21, 2016	MES Board of Directors Meeting	Conference Call
May 7, 2016	National MATHCOUNTS Competition	Washington, DC
May 12, 2016	MES Executive Committee Meeting	Conference Call
June 15, 2016	Deadline for Chapters to Notify Headquarters of New Officers/Chapter Dues	
June 12-14, 2016	MS-AL Engineering Society Meeting	Beau Rivage, Biloxi, MS
June 22-25, 2016	NSPE Annual Meeting	Dallas, TX

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## MES Scholarships

Applications and directions on how to apply are available on the MES website at [www.msengsoc.org](http://www.msengsoc.org).



Let us say farewell to our friends who have left us during the year. They were an inspiration to the Society, to the Engineering Profession, and will be greatly missed.

We extend our deepest sympathies to their families and friends.

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