



CHRIS ALLEN

President

CA Construction

601-497-4147

caconstructionms@gmail.com



CHIP HUTCHISON

Vice President

Kirkland Development

601-982-7381

chutchison@kirklandprop.com



NICK GULLETTE Secretary/Treasurer MS Homes 601-506-2502 mshomesllc@yahoo.com





KEVIN LOFTON
Builder Vice President
Silver Creek Construction
601-540-6712
kevinlofton@att.net



KEVIN STRINGER
Associate Vice President
Trustmark
601-605-6809
kstringer@trustmark.com



GARY LYLES

Past President

Lyles Signature Homes

601-992-6851

lylesconstruction@att.net

# You can get involved too!

HBAJ is always looking for enthusiastic members to serve on our committees. If you would like to serve on a committee, please contact HBAJ at (601) 362-6501.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - CHRIS ALLEN

Vice President - CHIP HUTCHISON

Secretary/Treasurer - NICK GULLETTE

Allison Impastato
Anthony Thompson
Bobby Rayburn
Bryan Nesbit
Bruce Kirkland
Chris Bond
Chris Smith
Eddie Duran

Emily Clayton
Harrison Bounds
J.D. Carroll
J.D. Chisolm
Joel Harris
John Granger
John Michael Rainey
J.R. Crowell

Builder Vice President – KEVIN LOFTON

Associate Vice President – KEVIN STRINGER

Immediate Past President – GARY LYLES

Mandy Gardner
Mark Chamblee
Marvin Freeman
Matt McDonald
Michael Jacobs
Monica Saulters
Rachel Williams
Scott Shoemaker

Stanley Phillips Tim McNair Tripp Spruill Wade Quin Watt Whatley



Whether it's heating your water, warming your home or helping you cook for family and friends, natural gas is the smart energy choice that saves you both time and money. It's also safer, more efficient and better for the environment than other traditional energy resources. So spend less energy powering your dream home — and more energy enjoying it. *Choose natural gas*.



# HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF JACKSON















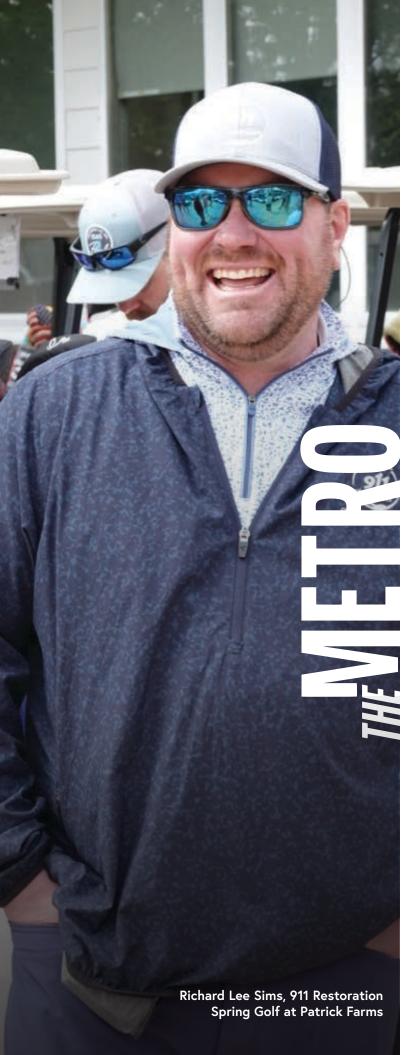












5	A Message	From	Our	President	_	Chris	Allen
,	A Message	1 10111	Oui	1 163IGEIIL	_	CHILIS	VIII CII

- 8 Q&R with 911 Restoration
- 9 Key Connections
- 11 St. Jude Dream Home Update
- 12 Construction Roundtable
- 13 Sporting Clay
- 14 New Member Spotlight: Koala Insulation
- 16 Jambalaya Cook Off and Bourbon Tasting
- 17 Home Builders of MS Best in MS
- 18 Carson Law Group Article
- 19 Top Golf Tournament
- 20 The Home Show at Clyde Muse Center
- 23 Spring Golf Outing
- 26 Thomas/Reeves Drawdown Crawfish Boil

#### **HBAJ STAFF**

Executive Officer	Vicky Bratton
Director of Marketing   Events	Wendy Way
Graphic Designer   Photographer Kathleen	Hetherington
Permit Service Coordinator	athy McMillan
Membership Coordinatorl	-auren Wright

#### ON THE COVER

Chris Allen, CA Construction J.D. Carroll, JDC Contracting Nick Gullette, MS Homes Ben Lindsey, MMC Materials



## HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF JACKSON

195 Charmant Drive, Ridgeland, MS 39157 601.362.6501 | hbajackson.com

### A MESSAGE FROM

# DUR PRESIDENT



Chris Allen
2025 HBAJ President,
CA Construction

As we move through the early part of the year, I would like to take a moment to thank each and every one of our members for making this year's kickoff such a success. Your enthusiasm, engagement, and commitment to the mission of our association have set a positive tone for what promises to be a productive and impactful year ahead.

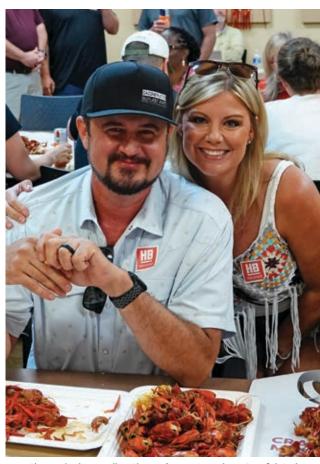
We are especially grateful for the noticeable increase in participation across our events, meetings, and initiatives. Whether it's through attending networking gatherings, participating in our events, or volunteering your time, your involvement has not gone unnoticed. The energy and dedication from our members continue to be the driving force behind the success of our association and the strength of the residential construction industry in the metro area.

A special welcome goes out to all of our new members who have recently joined the association. Your decision to be part of this organization not only strengthens our collective voice but also brings fresh ideas and perspectives that help us grow and adapt. We are excited

to see your participation in our events and look forward to the relationships and collaborations that will develop as a result. Many of you have fully bought into the association and I am thankful for it. Remember you get out of this association what you put into it and from what I can see our new members will be getting a lot from our association.

We encourage all of our members — both new and long-standing — to continue to spread the word about the Home Builders Association of Jackson. By inviting others in the industry to join and take part in our mission, we can continue to build momentum and offer even more valuable resources, connections, and opportunities for everyone involved.

Thank you again for your support and commitment to our association. Together, we will continue to advocate for our industry, support one another's success, and make a positive impact on the residential construction industry. Here's to a great year ahead — we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and welcoming even more new faces into our growing family.



Chris and Whitney Allen, Thomas/Reeves Drawdown Crawfish Boil



Chris Allen, Spring Golf Event at Patrick Farms



# Life's Just Better with Brick



Homes made of Cherokee Brick are built on a foundation of incredible beauty and durability. With hundreds of brick styles to choose from, we've been an American-owned, southern tradition for five familyowned generations.

Before you build your dreamhome, check out our dream material.

### Cherokee Brick

3250 Waterville Road | Macon, GA 31206 | 478.781.6800 | cherokeebrick.com







### 1) What is your company philosophy and how has that made you successful in this market?

Our philosophy is simple: respond quickly, work with integrity, and treat every property like it's our own. In an industry built around emergency response, we know time is everything — but so is trust. We've built our reputation by being transparent with our customers, delivering high-quality restoration work, and maintaining strong communication from start to finish.

 What's new with your company?
 Describe your showroom/office/service and why your customers love it.

We recently upgraded some of our equipment and even purchased a new "Cool Machine" Monster Vac 23 HP. This machine removes insulation, recycles wall spray, cleans up a home after water/fire/mold damage, and removes unwanted pests from attics. Our office is centrally located, and while we don't have a showroom per se, our service is mobile — we bring the solutions directly to your home or job site. Customers appreciate our 24/7 availability, professional crew, and the fact that we work directly with

insurance companies to make things easier during a stressful time.

### 3) What are the hottest products builders/customers are buying right now?

While we're not selling physical products, the most in-demand services right now are mold remediation (especially post-flood) and structural drying. Builders are also increasingly asking for pre-treatment mold protection in high-moisture builds or after framing delays. Advanced drying equipment like desiccant dehumidifiers and thermal imaging inspections are game-changers for catching hidden damage.

### 4) What are your customers saying about you? Why are they buying from you?

Our customers consistently tell us they value our fast response time, honesty, and professionalism. Many mention how stressful their situation was — whether it was a flooded home/commercial

building or fire damage — and how we helped bring peace of mind. They buy from us because we're reliable, experienced, and we handle the tough parts of the process, including insurance paperwork.

### 5) Describe your staff, their job responsibilities and their strengths.

Our team is IICRC-certified and trained to handle water, fire, and mold damage safely and thoroughly. We're known for being thorough, compassionate, and responsive.

#### 6) What do you want builders to know about you?

We're not just an emergency response company — we're a reliable partner for builders. Whether you're dealing with job site water damage, need mold prevention during construction, or require quick turnaround before closing, we're here to help. We know how valuable your time and reputation are, and we'll work hard to protect both.



Water Damage Restoration

SPEED MEETING FOR BUSINESSES

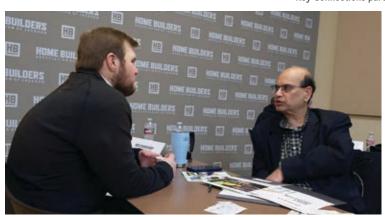
On January 14, builder and associate companies participated in our Key Connections event, which is an exclusive event scheduled for January and August 2025. It's a great way to connect and conduct business with others.

**ATMOS** energy

Pro**Source**®



Key Connections participants - January 2025



Moe Chowdhury, Monticello Construction & Real Estate, LLC



Gary Lyles, Lyles Signature Homes



Jade Reese, Luxe Homes (Left)



Allen Key, AGK Investments and Allison Impastato, PriorityOne



Nick Gullette, MS Homes and Allen Key, AGK Investments



Wes and Caden Starnes, Starnes Construction (Left) Shari Kelly, Magnolia Lighting (Top Right)



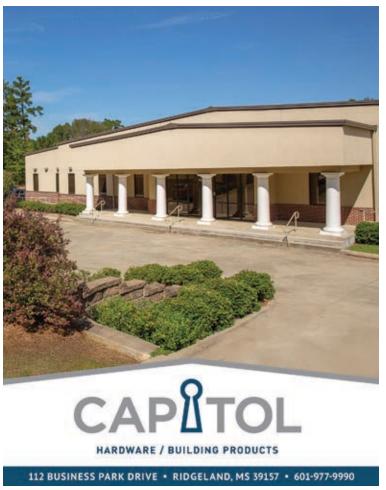


PROSOURCEWHOLESALE.COM/JACKSON

601.956.3090

6370 COLE ROAD RIDGELAND, MS





Site check for the 2025 St.
Jude Home at 166 Bristol
Crossing shows the home
project is on schedule for the
projected time frame and within
budget! Great job to Brent Clark
and the Clark Builders team. If
you haven't driven through Bristol
Crossing neighborhood, it's super
convenient off Lakeland Drive or
Hugh Ward Boulevard in Rankin
County.

Clark Construction partnered with the St. Jude Dream Home Giveaway in 2024 and continues to support St. Jude for the 2025 home. Tickets will go on sale May 15. Anyone can buy a \$100 ticket or tickets for a chance to win this home in Bristol Crossing. Stjude.org/give/dream-home/ jackson.html.

The winner will be drawn in August!

Thanks, Clark Builders, Ulist Realty, and all HBAJ supplier members for your time, talent and resources to provide this huge funding opportunity for St. Jude.















February's Construction Round Table was held at Mama Hamil's in Madison. A huge crowd was there for a 5 man Builder Panel. What a great interactive event!



























Mark Dungan pulled off another great day for our member shooters on February 13. It's a great way to network with fellow members, but also to work on your shooting skills. Lots of company teams invite their builders to join their team and spend the afternoon on the shooting field with lunch, networking and hitting those orange targets. A big thank you to our sponsors and all that attended!



Delta Industries Team Overall Best Shooter - Kevin Lloyd (Third in Row)



PriorityOne Bank Team



MMC Materials Team



Restoration 1 Team



Jon Derouen and Lee Davis



ProChemical Soil Stabilization Team



Paul Davis Restoration Team



Community Bank Team



Sherwin Williams Team



BankPlus Team



























# NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: KOALA INSULATION

oala Insulation of Jackson has quickly become a trusted name in the region's construction and home improvement industries. Known for their focus on quality of service and reliability, the company has earned exclusively five-star reviews from homeowners satisfied with strong results and fair prices. Koala has developed strong builder partnerships by prioritizing builder success and delivering high-quality outcomes.

They focus on doing the job right the first time, treating each project with the same level of care and attention they would provide in their own homes or commercial buildings. This commitment to quality and integrity has made them a go-to resource for builders, homeowners, and contractors across central Mississippi.

Among Koala's top-performing products, spray foam insulation is growing in popularity as the affordability of materials has recently increased. Koala's builder partners take pride in providing this premium product to homeowners at a reasonable price, ensuring satisfaction with its long-term lifespan. Homeowners have been pleased with the benefits to temperature regulation and reductions in energy bills.

Another favorite is the solar-powered attic fan. These models outperform more traditional options, like whirlybirds and ridge vents, by generating active ventilation that moves air continuously while the sun is out, rather than relying on wind or convection. Builders appreciate these fans for their simplicity and impact, and homeowners love the immediate comfort they provide and the tax credits that come along with them.

Koala is currently experiencing a period of exciting growth. The company recently expanded into a larger facility on North Flowood Drive, a move that has allowed for increased storage capacity and improved operational efficiency. Koala is excited to directly pass on the benefits of this expansion to its customers with even more competitive pricing on all products.

Customer feedback consistently highlights Koala's dependability, attention to detail, and commitment to doing the job right. Builders and homeowners alike remark on the company's responsiveness and the professionalism of its crews. It's not uncommon to hear stories of customers referring friends, family, and neighbors after experiencing the Koala difference.

Koala's strength comes from the knowledgeable and service-oriented team behind it. Owner Beau Brady uses his real estate and entrepreneurship experience to focus the business on meeting customers' greatest needs. Joe Day serves as Koala's Operations Manager, bringing an analytical mindset and attention to detail from his engineering background that translates seamlessly into the insulation industry. His technical expertise enhances the precision and efficiency of project planning, material selection, and quality control, non-negotiables for delivering high-performance insulation solutions. Over Sales, Drake Davis pairs his hands-on industry knowledge with a genuine, relationship-driven approach to drive customer success on each individual project. Their combined strengths reflect the company's core values of professionalism, reliability, and care. The team is focused on creating the right solution for each builder and homeowner tailored to their specific needs.

For builders looking for a dependable insulation partner, Koala Insulation of Jackson offers a unique combination of technical expertise, product quality, and customer-first service. They understand the demands of fast-paced construction timelines and work hard to keep projects on track and on budget. Continually pushing to lower material costs and improve install times, Koala fights to ensure the best outcomes for their builder partners.

With a growing footprint, an expanding range of services, and a strong reputation in the community, Koala Insulation continues to raise the bar in the insulation industry—not just by what they install, but by how they serve.



# Where It All Comes Together

### Discover a new way to shop for your project.

Ferguson Home has the bath, kitchen and lighting products you need to bring your vision to life. Whether you're refreshing the look of a single room or building a new home, our experts are here to help every step of the way, from product selection through delivery. Start your project or find your local showroom at **fergusonhome.com**.

**JACKSON** 

**#FERGUSON** HOME

# JAMBALAYA Cook Off & Bourbon Pasting



1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE

J.D. and Tass Carroll



Kim Jent and James Swanner



MS Granite Specialist Team



Jimmie Lyles Flooring Team



Kerry and Susan Brashear (Kathryn's Restaurant), Brandy Martin, and Terry Reeves

HBAJ Member teams competed for Best Jambalaya at the new office of MS Smart Homes in Ridgeland. Shane McLendon used his skills to also bring a first time bourbon tasting from member company Cocktailz. This was a great event to kick off the year in January.

















Beau Brady, Joey Hull, Ben Bailey, and Wendy Way



Alan Wall and Jake Manning



Tony Bahou and Emily Clayton



Brad Benton and Andy Barksdale



Chris White, Carrie Oakes, and Clark Powers



Mark Chamblee and Carl Sandberg



Martha Dunlap, and Bill Singletary



J.R. Crowell and Craig Hobbs





#### **About the Front Cover**

Home Builders Association of Jackson members steal the show for Remodeler, Associate and Builder of the Year at Home Builders of MS Best in MS event! Congratulations go to J.D.

Carroll/JDC Contracting, Ben Lindsey/MMC Materials and Nick Gullette/MS Homes & MS Developers for earning awards of excellence not only at their local association but also for the state of MS! Home Builders Association of Mississippi hosted the Best in Mississippi Awards dinner banquet in March and HBAJ Builder members were awarded for their excellence in building:

- David Turner, David Turner Companies, Kempkes Residence, Custom New Construction 6,000 sf+
- Chris Allen, CA Construction, Beech Residence, Single Family Remodel Renovation Kitchen



Brad Baggett, HBA of Hattiesburg and Chris Allen



J.D. Carroll and Carl Harris, NAHB Officer

- Chris Allen, CA Construction, Holder Residence, Single Family Remodel Renovation Bath
- David Turner, David Turner Companies, Belhaven Town Center, Commercial Development
- JonMark Jordan, Portico Homes, Pocahontas Custom, Outdoor Space



The Gullette Family



Carl Harris and Ben Lindsey

# What Does the Building Code Require for DIRT WORK?

#### **DAVID HUMPHREYS**

Carson Law Group, PLLC

With Yazoo Clay predominate in our area, this question comes up a lot in my residential construction practice. Home Builders should know the answer, because Mississippi's New Home Warranty Act requires a builder to warrant a new home foundation, including its supporting dirt work, for six years against major structural defects due to the builder's noncompliance with building standards, including applicable Building Code.

So, what does the Building Code require for foundation dirt work? Let's start with the general before getting to the more specific.

Section R401.2 of the International Residential Code, 2015 (IRC 2015) requires that, "fill soils that support footings and foundations shall be *designed, installed* and *tested* in accordance with accepted engineering practices." These three requirements are seemingly easy to meet, but, in my experience with local construction practices, often aren't.

Taking them one at a time, "designed (in accordance with accepted engineering practices)" means the foundation dirt work should be designed by a foundation engineer. This may sound complicated, and potentially expensive, but doesn't necessarily have to be. Again, in my experience, most local geotechnical and structural engineers recommend installation of a minimum 7-foot blanket of firm natural silty clays or select fill soils compacted to at least 95% of the standard Proctor maximum dry density. I've heard this so often that it appears to be a "safe harbor" design for dirt pads in Central Mississippi. Accordingly, one potential strategy to meet the "design" requirement of R401.2 is to require your foundation designer to include the "7-foot blanket" as a dirt work specification on your engineer-stamped foundation plans.

R401.2's second requirement that foundation dirt work be "installed" in accordance with accepted engineering practices obviously means that the dirt work needs to be installed in accordance with the above-described engineer-stamped design. This is where builders need to "trust but verify"

their dirt work subcontractor's work. This obviously begins by providing the dirt work subcontractor a copy of the foundation plan, including the dirt work specifications. The builder should also require compliance with the foundation plan in its subcontract with its dirt work subcontractor, and require that such compliance be supported by the subcontractor's insurance-backed indemnities. Finally, there are several safeguards available to home builders to verify that dirt work is installed according to the design, which leads to the third and final requirement of R401.2...

"Tested," in accordance with accepted engineering practices, requires that builders confirm, by testing, the dirt work is installed according to the design. I am certainly no expert on geotechnical testing services available to home builders, but there are several geotechnical and structural engineers in the area who are. Most home builders are familiar with compaction testing during installation of dirt pads, as city and county inspectors often require it. Here, I would caution that the foundation designer's dirt work specifications may require compaction testing at certain maximum "lift" depths. I often see requirements that maximum 8" or 9" lifts be installed and tested for compaction. This means that you can't install 7 or 8 feet of fill and test it only 2, 3, or 4 times. The math doesn't work!

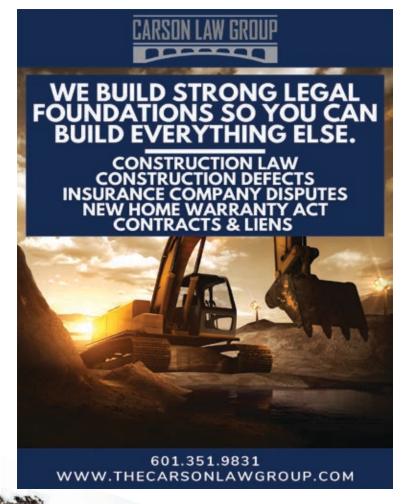
There are other tests available to confirm compliance with the foundation plan's dirt work specifications, including post-construction, as-built testing that utilizes soil borings. This is an area that likely warrants extra expense on third-party confirmation of the dirt work subcontractor's work, because it is the builder who provides the six-year warranty. The home buyer may also welcome a little extra cost for the peace of mind it provides.

Moving on to more specific Building Code requirements for foundation dirt work, R.401.4.1 (IRC 2015) requires the assumption of "a load-bearing pressure of 1,500 pounds per square foot," when existing soil types include "[c]lay, sandy, silty clay, clayey silt, silt and sandy siltclay (CL, ML, MH and CH)," and no "complete geotechnical

evaluation" is performed prior to construction. R401.4.2, in turn, requires removal of compressible top and subsoils "to a depth and width sufficient to ensure stable moisture content in each active zone..." To meet these Code requirements, standard industry practice in this area is, again, to install a minimum 7-foot blanket of firm natural silty clays or compacted select fill soils, and compaction of the fill to insure a minimum allowable soil bearing pressure of 2,000 psf. Accordingly, the "7-foot blanket" safe harbor design appears to again be your friend.

Returning to the six-year warranty required under Mississippi's New Home Warranty Act, builders warrant against major structural defects in new homes due to noncompliance with building standards. "Building standards" are defined as "the standards contained in the building code,... together with any additional performance standards, if

any, which the builder may undertake to be in compliance." Accordingly, by following the steps outlined aboveincluding the "7-foot blanket" design in foundation plans and confirming dirt pad installation according to the design—provides a builder a defense to New Home Warranty Act claims, even in cases of major structural failure. If the builder meets the above Code requirements and installs the dirt according to the required design, there arguably is no "major structural defects due to noncompliance with the building standards," because the building standards were followed. Furthermore, including the design on the foundation plan and requiring the subcontractor indemnity obligations described above can allow a builder to shift any subsequent liability for foundation failure to the foundation designer and dirt work subcontractor who actually perform the design and installation.



## TOP GOLF TOURNAMENT

New facility - new event for HBAJ! Ten bays of six golfers participated in a Top Golf event. Lots of members we haven't seen in a while, and members coming to spectate, had a great time at this first time event.



84 Lumber Team

MMC Materials Team and guests



PriorityOne Team



Lavallee Electrical Team



Bill Singletary and Joel Harr



Carl and Emily Sandberg, Andy Barksdale, Mandy Gardner, and Nick Gullette



Anthony Thompson and Matt McDonald



John Granger, Brent Clark, Hunter Matherne, & Wilson Eatherly



Ferguson Bath, Kitchen, and Lighting Gallery



Kevin Stringer, Joel Harris, Scott Shoemaker, Steve Rimmer, Kristi Bradley, and Bill Singletary







TOPGOLF











The Home Show was held March 1 & 2 at the Clyde Muse Center in Pearl. The best vendors showcased their products and services to attendees of the show. These photos show awards given for booth presentation, and participants of the show.









Comfortech



Lane Allen, Patio Solutions



Midsouth Crawl Space



Susan Hogue, Stages MS Magazine



Charles Tucker, Energy Insulation Solutions



Wes and Caden Starnes, Starnes Construction



Lakeside Moulding



Clayton Doss, Bath Fitter



Cowboy Maloney's



Chris Allen and Michael Jacobs



MS Smart Homes



**Rolling Suds** 



Harrison Bounds and Cole White, Tri-County Roofing



Elizabeth Stephenson, Cutco Cutlery

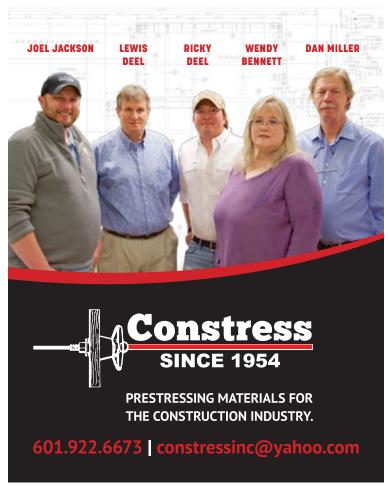


Sarah Carr and Meagan Magee, Carr Magee Interiors















Insul Pro Plus Team - Dennis Thompson, Chip Thomas, Jerry & Mark Eubank

Are you able to tell our golfers withstood a high of 40 degrees that day? It was cold, but what a great time we had - a full field and lots of fellowship.



Double Concrete Placement Team - Anthony Thompson, Brett Murray, Watt Whatley, & Carter



Broadhead Building Supplies Team Jacob Weldon, Jaron Priest, Michael Weldon, and John Manning



Brady Badon, 84 Lumber Team



Chip Thomas presenting award for Mark Eubank, Insul Pro Plus Team



Alex Sluder and Alex Pope, Ferguson



Billy Ray and Rachel Williams



Lavallee Electrical Team





Old South Brick Team - Tony Parker, Mickey Parker, Terry Williams, and Randy Robertson



PriorityOne Bank Team



Todd Seymour, Irvan Ellard, Barry Woodward, & Bill Singletary

# GOLERKEY CLUB MEMBERS

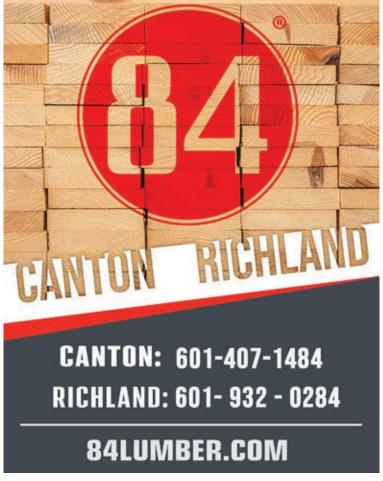
- 84 Lumber
- ABC Block and Brick
- Atmos Energy
- BankFirst
- BankPlus
- Beacon Building Supply
- Builder's Specialties
- Cadence Bank
- Capitol Building Products
- Cherokee Brick
- Citizens National Bank

- Climate Masters
- Constress
- Cowboy Maloney's Electric City
- Elcon Electrical Contractors
- Exit New Door Realty
- Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery
- FirstBank
- First Commercial Bank
- H.D. Lang & Associates
- Interior/Exterior Building Products
- Leo's Painting

- MMC Materials
- Miller Lumber
- Old South Brick & Supply
- PriorityOne Bank
- ProSource Wholesale
- Southern Bath & Kitchen
- Trustmark National Bank

If you are interested in being a 2025 Gold Key Sponsor contact Wendy Way at wendy@hbajackson.com or 601-362-6501







### F. Russell Brabec (601) 427 - 0021 rbrabec@jcalawfirm.com

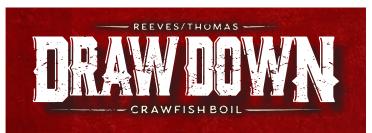
Specializing in home builder and supplier company issues including:

Defect Claims • Liens/Payments • Contracts
Insurance and Insurance-Related Claims

Home Builders Association of Jackson member since 2004.

970 Ebenezer Blvd. Madison, MS 39110

Free background information available upon request.



HBAJ's signature member event partners the Draw Down reverse raffle with a crawfish boil, which is held every year in the Spring. Lots of prizes! The \$6,000 winner was David Lingle and the \$1,000 winner was Bill Singletary. Thank you to our sponsors and to everyone who attended!



Scott Shoemaker, Bryan Nesbit, Alan Wall, and Leigh Jones



Networking!



Koala Insulation and BankPlus



Adam Phillips and J.D. Carroll



Magnolia Lighting



Bill Singletary and Chris Allen



Cross Country Mortgage



Victoria Logan and Family



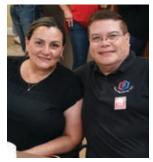
Ryan Carr, Mandy Gardner, and Barry Stokes



Heather and David Dilmore



Tim McNair and Lauren Wright



Carmen and Leo Roa



Harrison Bounds and J.R. Crowell



Chip and Jill Hutchison with their dog Mae Mae































**Clays Against Cancer** 

### BENEFIT FOR MALLORY DUNGAN RICHARD

\$400 per 4-Man Team: June 5th, 2025





195 Charmant Drive | Ridgeland, MS 39157

PRESORTED STANDARD U. S. POSTAGE PAID JACKSON, MS PERMIT NO. 693

### COWBOY'S KITCHENS

by Cowboy Maloney's www.cowboyskitchens.com



To schedule an appointment or request a quote, visit us at:

1107 Highland Colony Pkwy The Township Ridgeland, MS 39157 601-707-5378

or visit your local





