

HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF JACKSON

THE METRO

SUMMER 2026 VOL. 23 ISSUE 2

PEOPLE EDITION

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FOUNDER OF
PEARL RIVER GLASS

**DESTINATION
FOR DESIGN**
THE STONE SOURCE
IN MADISON

**MORE THAN
INSURANCE**
HBA EZ BUILD

**PEARL
RIVER GLASS**
A LEGACY IN
LIGHT AND GLASS

2026 HBAJ OFFICERS



CHIP HUTCHISON

President
Kirkland Development
601-982-7381
chutchison@kirklandprop.com



NICK GULLETTE

Vice President
MS Homes
601-506-2502
mshomesllc@yahoo.com



KEVIN LOFTON

Secretary/Treasurer
Silver Creek Construction
601-540-6712
kevinlofton@att.net



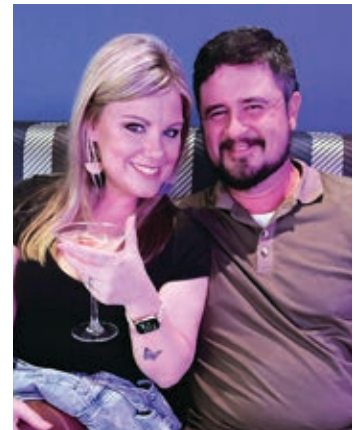
MATT MCDONALD

Associate Vice President
MMC Materials
601-499-0556
mmcdonald@mmcmaterials.com



J.R. CROWELL

Builder Vice President
Steady Home Maintenance
601-500-5040
jrcrowell@steadyhomemaintenance.com



CHRIS ALLEN

Past President
CA Construction
601-497-4147
caconstructionms@gmail.com

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.



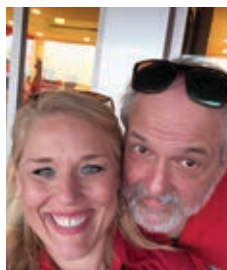
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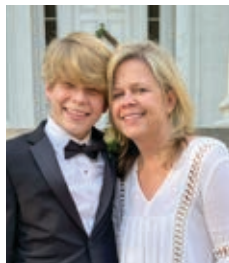
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Vacationing in St. John, US Virgin Islands

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Meet the Team



VICKY BRATTON
– Executive Officer

If there's a little bit of everything happening at HBAJ, chances are Vicky is involved. She works closely with the President, Officers, Board of Directors, committees, and staff to keep the Association moving forward. From managing the budget and financial reports to advocating for the residential building industry, supporting members, and helping develop future leadership, she keeps the big picture—and the day-to-day details—on track.



LAUREN ODOM
– Membership & Social Media Coordinator

Lauren is often the first friendly face or voice new members encounter. She helps grow the Association by recruiting prospective members, welcoming new ones, reconnecting with those whose memberships have lapsed, coordinating with NAHB, and supporting the Membership Committee. She also keeps our social media channels active, helping members stay informed and connected.



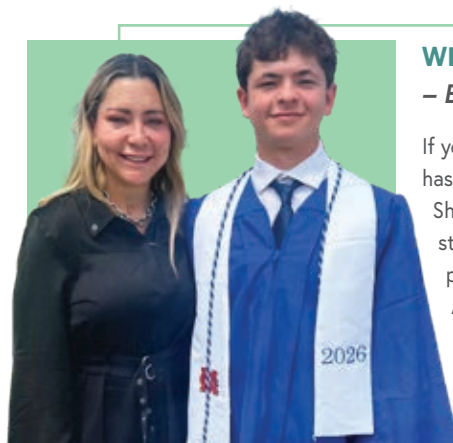
CATHY MCMILLAN
– Permit Service Coordinator

Cathy keeps a close eye on what's being built across our area. She works with local city and county offices to collect new residential construction data, manages permit information and data entry, oversees subscription services, and produces the weekly permit reports that builders, suppliers, and industry professionals rely on.



KATHLEEN HETHERINGTON
– Graphic Designer & Photographer

Kathleen is the creative force behind HBAJ's visual identity. From designing event promotions and publications to photographing our activities throughout the year, she keeps the Association looking its best. She also manages our three websites and creates the graphics that help tell the HBAJ story every day.



WENDY WAY
– Events & Marketing Director

If you're attending an HBAJ event, Wendy has probably been planning it for months. She coordinates member events from start to finish, works with members to promote their businesses through Association programs, and makes sure every event is welcoming, organized, and memorable. She's always looking for new ways to keep members engaged and involved.



Vicky: "Coffee-powered. Always planning the next project."

Wendy: "If there's a name tag, a timeline, or a tablecloth—it probably has Wendy's fingerprints on it."

Lauren: "Connecting people is her specialty."

Cathy: "The numbers expert who keeps the industry informed."

Kathleen: "The creative eye behind everything you see."

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WEARING A LOT OF HATS

at Kirkland and HBAJ

Chip Hutchison -
2026 HBAJ President



Then, there are the home inspection reports.

"Trying to decide which items on a home inspection report I'm responsible for is just part of the job," he says with a laugh. Much of his week is spent on the phone with subcontractors, coordinating schedules and solving problems, often while driving from one job site to another. Those sites aren't always just around the corner, either. Keeping multiple projects moving means plenty of time on the road and plenty of conversations happening along the way.

Communication is also a big part of the job. He works closely with real estate agents and decorators throughout the week, discussing everything from change orders to installation schedules. Their role is invaluable in keeping clients informed and making sure expectations are met throughout the building process.

At Kirkland Development, Kirkland Properties and Kirkland Real Estate, there is always something happening—and apparently, always another hat to put on. "I wear a lot of different hats at Kirkland," he says. "I'm blessed to be surrounded by great leadership and coworkers who help me every week."

That same willingness to stay involved, communicate and keep things moving is something he brings to his leadership role with the Home Builders Association of Jackson. As HBAJ President this year, he represents an industry where relationships, teamwork and reliability matter just as much as the homes being built.

For someone whose workdays are filled with schedules, job sites, subcontractors, clients and the occasional unexpected inspection item, leadership may seem like just one more responsibility to add to the list. But perhaps that's exactly what makes him well suited for the role.

He understands that successful building—and a successful association—doesn't happen with one person working alone. It takes a team of people showing up, communicating, solving problems and doing their part to keep everything moving forward. And judging by his calendar, he'll have plenty of opportunities to practice what he preaches.



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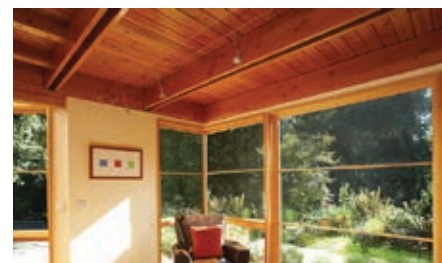
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1946	Floyd R. Kimbrough	1988	Bert Green
1947	Grady Himes	1989	Jimmy Sheppard
1948-50	Floyd R. Kimbrough	1990	Ricky Wilkinson
1951	Woodrow E. Cole	1991	Paul Bass
1952	Emmett J. Williams	1992	Thomas M. Harkins Jr.
1953	James C. Maloney	1993	J. Parker Sartain
1954	Al Major	1994	Jim Carney
1955	JW Underwood	1995	Charles Porter
1956	H.O. Parker	1996	Eddie Duran
1957	George Cain Jr.	1997	Tom Underwood
1958	Wylie Richards	1998	Lamar Gates
1959	James M. Crisler	1999	Irvin Ellard
1960	Jack K. Mann	2000	Terry Hughes
1961	Hugh I. Scott	2001	Wade Quin
1962	Joe S. Harris	2002	George Edwards
1963	JC Gibson	2003	John Price
1964	Thomas Kelly	2004	John Travis
1965	Joe E. Carter	2005	Tom Perry
1966	RS McLaurin	2006	Scott Shoemaker
1967	Lloyd "Bulldog" Burton	2007	Frank Pucylowski
1968	Bennie Kirkland	2008	David Smith
1969	Woodrow W. Bailey	2009	Marc Martin Jr.
1970	GT Himes	2010	Dee Dentin
1971	Bill Purviance	2011	Wade Quin
1972	JB McGehee	2012	Paul Graham
1973	JC Brewer	2013	Nick Thomas
1974	George B. Gilmore	2014	Jeff Salmons
1975	Ralph McDaniel	2015	Steven Smith
1976	Albert D. Moore	2016	Todd Seymour
1977	Harold L. Hitt	2017	Carl Sandberg
1978	Hollis Shoemaker	2018	Shane McLendon
1979	Norman Holbrook	2019	DeFord Walker
1980	Robert E. Stewart	2020	John Michael Rainey
1981	Bill J. Smith	2021	Bruce Kirkland
1982	Ben McMillon Jr.	2022	Brent Clark
1983	James Jensen	2023	Kevin Troyer
1984	Fred Griffin	2024	Gary Lyles
1985	JC Brewer	2025	Chris Allen
1986	Gordon Oates		
1987	Craig Langston		

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In Memoriam

Gone but not forgotten : Burlon Crocker



Burlon Crocker dedicated his career—and much of his retirement—to strengthening Mississippi's housing industry and the people who built it. After a successful career with Mississippi Valley Gas, which later became Atmos Energy, Burlon retired but never truly stepped away from serving the industry he loved.

A member of the Home Builders Association of Jackson since about 1993, Burlon was a steadfast supporter of the local, state, and national associations throughout his career in marketing with the gas company. His passion for the building industry extended far beyond his professional

responsibilities. Following retirement, he joined a dedicated group of industry leaders to help establish the Mississippi Housing Institute and played an instrumental role in developing the Certified Professional Builder designation. He continued to serve at the Mississippi Housing Institute for several years, helping educate and elevate the professionalism of builders across the state.

Even after embracing permanent retirement and moving to his beloved hunting camp, Burlon never lost his connection to the Association. He would occasionally stop by the HBAJ office, eager to catch up, check in on

the industry, and visit with friends who had become like family over the years.

On June 10 of this year, the housing industry lost one of its quiet champions. Burlon's unwavering commitment, generous spirit, and countless contributions helped shape a stronger Association and a better industry for future generations. His legacy will continue to live on through the organizations he helped build, the programs he helped create, and the many lives he touched along the way. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered with gratitude and respect.



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A LEGACY IN

LIGHT & GLASS



For nearly 50 years, Andy Young has been turning glass into something far more than a building material. Through Pearl River Glass Studio, a small dream that began in a one-car garage has grown into one of the region's most respected centers for stained-glass artistry, restoration and innovation.

Fresh out of LSU in 1975 with a degree in landscape architecture, Young could have followed a more traditional career path. Instead, he chose to pursue his fascination with glass and founded Pearl River Glass Studio in downtown Jackson. Just a year later, the studio moved to Jackson's Midtown Arts District, where it remains today.

Over the decades, Pearl River Glass has evolved alongside the art itself. Young has built the studio around a balance of time-honored craftsmanship and modern technology, allowing his team to tackle everything from traditional leaded-glass windows to contemporary works of art. The studio has restored historic stained glass at notable Mississippi landmarks, including the Mississippi State Capitol, Holy Trinity

Episcopal Church in Vicksburg and the Governor's Office. In the studio, century-old techniques can exist alongside water-jet cutting and computer-controlled kilns—proving that preserving an art form doesn't mean leaving it in the past.



That same philosophy is now finding its way into residential construction. Young recently re-joined the Home Builders Association of Jackson, reconnecting Pearl River Glass with the local building community. For builders, his studio offers an opportunity to move beyond the predictable and create something truly distinctive. A custom stained-glass feature can become the artistic signature of a home—a unique entryway, window, transom or interior element designed specifically for the space. In a market where many homes can begin to feel a little "vanilla," a thought-





For Young, glass is ultimately about storytelling. Light changes it. Color brings it to life. And careful craftsmanship gives it permanence. As Pearl River Glass enters its next chapter, the goal remains much the same as it was in that one-car garage in 1975: to explore what is possible, create something meaningful and bring a little more art into the places where people live.



fully designed piece of glass can give a home character, personality and a story of its own.

Young's approach is anything but one-dimensional. Painting, writing, music and gardening are all part of his creative life, and each offers another way of looking at shape, col-



or, texture and composition. That curiosity has helped shape Pearl River Glass into a studio where traditional craftsmanship and new technology work side by side.



A VAN BUILT FOR THE JOB

For Kevin Troyer, owner of Arrow Remodeling, a work van is more than just a way to get from one job to another—it's part of the job itself. Troyer customized his Ford van to fit the unique demands of his work, creating dedicated compartments for plumbing, electrical, general tools and all the odds and ends that can come in handy when tackling a project. Whether he's remodeling a home, handling maintenance for a large commercial client or helping a homeowner with a repair, he knows exactly where to find what he needs.

That kind of practical creativity is a big part of Troyer's approach to his business. His work often means walking into a job without knowing exactly what he'll encounter, so having a well-organized Ford mobile

workshop saves time and keeps things moving. Rather than settling for a standard setup, he designed the van around the way he actually works—making it a personalized, efficient tool of the trade.

This summer, Troyer also had a little help—and a chance to pass along some of that hands-on knowledge. His nephew worked alongside him, learning the remodeling and maintenance business firsthand. The two are pictured in front of Troyer's custom Ford van, which seems like the perfect backdrop: a workspace designed by a tradesman who knows that sometimes the best solutions are the ones you build yourself.



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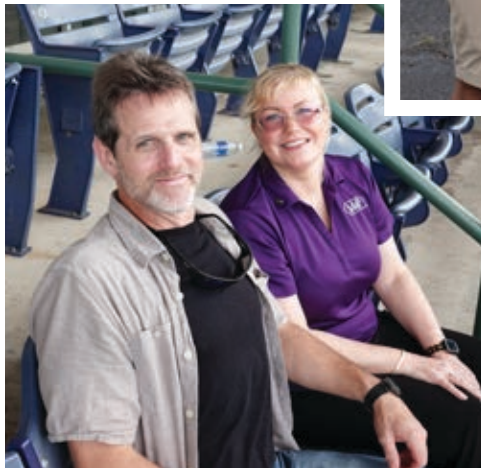
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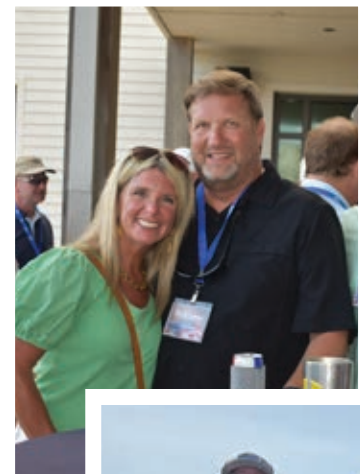
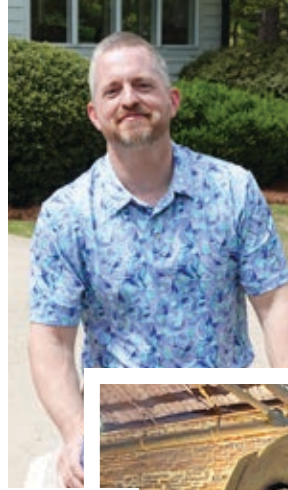




2026 EVENTS









MORE THAN INSURANCE

WHY BUILDERS RISK COVERAGE MATTERS



HELMUT MUNDT



DALE CATALINOTTO



TINA PETRICH



LAURA BLUST

Every construction project begins with a carefully thought-out plan, but even the best-planned jobs can face unexpected setbacks. Fire, theft, vandalism, or severe weather can quickly turn into costly delays, making Builders Risk insurance an important tool for protecting both the project and the builder.

That's the philosophy behind HBA EZ Build, a Builders Risk insurance program developed specifically with home builders in mind. Designed to be straightforward and flexible, the program offers several coverage options—including single-project, reporting form, and blanket policies—allowing builders to choose the approach that best fits the way they do business.

One feature many builders appreciate is that the policy is written in the builder's name. That means builders maintain control over the coverage throughout the construction process, with the ability to adjust limits,

request extensions if schedules change, and manage projects as they evolve. If a covered loss occurs, the claim payment goes directly to the builder, helping keep the project moving forward.

The program also reflects the values of the Home Builders Association. HBA EZ Build believes that HBA Builders are Better Builders—professionals who invest in their industry by supporting stronger building codes, safer construction practices, and thriving communities through active involvement in their local and state associations.

Behind the program is an experienced team dedicated to serving builders. Helmut Mundt, one of the program's developers, has more than 30 years of insurance experience and has helped expand HBA EZ Build into 15 states, including Mississippi. Alongside him, Dale Catalinotto, Tina Petrich, and Laura Blust provide the day-to-day

expertise and customer support that builders depend on. For HBA members, the program also includes exclusive member rates and an easy-to-use online portal that simplifies estimating projects, managing multiple policies, and making updates throughout construction.

As local builder Bruce Kirkland of Kirkland Development shares, "Their website makes it easy to estimate a project, make a change to a project and manage coverages of multiple projects going on at the same time. Helmut is a great supporter of our local HBA, and we're happy to have been customers for several years."

Like every successful build, protecting a project starts with a solid foundation. Having the right Builders Risk coverage in place allows builders to stay focused on what they do best—building quality homes for Mississippi families.



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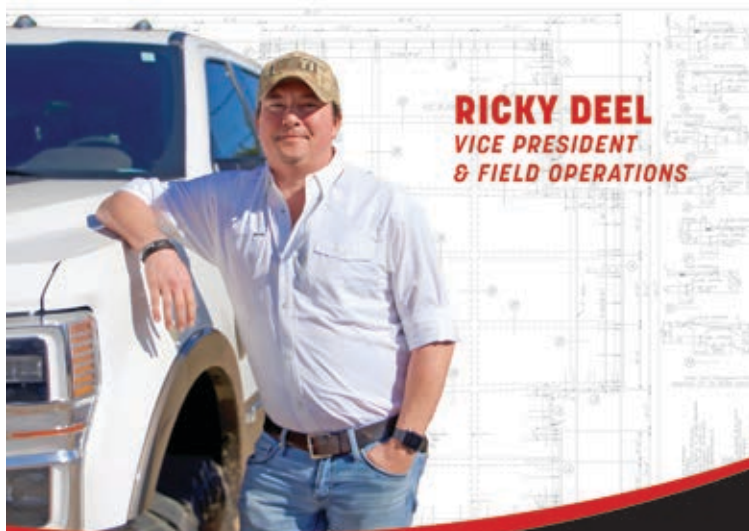


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A New Destination for Design

THE STONE SOURCE OPENS IN MADISON



When builders and homeowners walk into The Stone Source's new Madison showroom, they're not just stepping into another tile and countertop store. They're stepping into a space designed to spark ideas, solve problems, and make the selection process a whole lot easier.



After serving Central Mississippi for more than 50 years, The Stone Source has built its reputation by evolving with the industry while staying true to one simple philosophy: offer outstanding products, stay ahead of design trends and never compromise on

customer service. That commitment has helped the company become a trusted resource for generations of builders, designers and homeowners—and it's the driving force behind the opening of its beautiful new Madison location.

The Madison showroom joins the company's Brandon location, giving customers two impressive spaces filled with everything from today's most sought-after looks to timeless finishes that never go out of style. Whether you're selecting materials for a custom home, a remodel or a single room refresh, the experience is designed to feel inspiring rather than overwhelming.

What truly sets The Stone Source apart is that the process doesn't end in the showroom. With its state-of-the-art countertop fabrication facility, the company manages every step of the project in-house—from material selection to fabrication and installation. That hands-on approach gives builders confidence, keeps projects moving and ensures quality from start to finish.

As for what's trending? Quartzite continues to steal the spotlight. Its natural beauty, durability and one-of-a-kind character have made it a favorite among homeowners looking for something truly special. Large-format tile is another trend that's

transforming homes across Mississippi. Beyond the traditional 12-by-24-inch tile, more customers are choosing dramatic 24-by-48-inch formats that create clean lines, fewer grout joints and a sophisticated, contemporary feel.

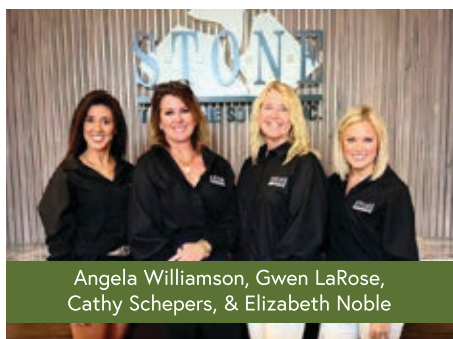
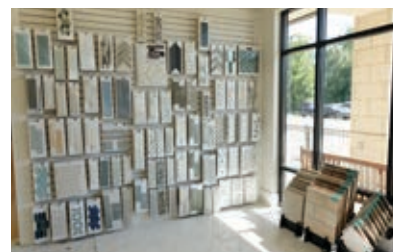
Of course, beautiful products are only part of the story. Ask anyone who has worked with The Stone Source, and they'll likely mention the people first. The company's experienced designers, sales professionals and project managers bring decades of combined knowledge to every project. Whether helping a family narrow down hundreds of selections or working alongside a builder to keep a project on schedule, the team is known for making the process smooth, enjoyable and personal.

For members of the Home Builders Association of Jackson, that's exactly what makes The Stone Source such a valuable partner. Their knowledgeable staff understands the pace of residential construction, offers competitive pricing, maintains a strong inventory of in-stock tile and countertop materials, and works alongside builders to help bring each client's vision to life.

The new Madison showroom is more than an expansion—it's another chapter in a company that has spent five decades growing with the industry and the

communities it serves. It's a place where ideas take shape, trends meet timeless design and customers discover why The Stone Source has remained The Only Source for so many builders and homeowners.

The Brandon showroom is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., while the Madison showroom welcomes visitors Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Walk-ins are always welcome, although appointments are encouraged to provide each customer with dedicated, one-on-one service.



Angela Williamson, Gwen LaRose, Cathy Schepers, & Elizabeth Noble

MOVING PEOPLE & DOING IT THE RIGHT WAY



Shelby Taylor, Two Men and a Truck

For Shelby Taylor, marketing representative for TWO MEN AND A TRUCK, moving is about a lot more than boxes and trucks. It's about people. Shelby, who represents the company through the Home Builders Association of Jackson and serves on the Home Show Committee, knows firsthand how important relationships are — and she brings that same energy and personality to everything she does.

At TWO MEN AND A TRUCK, one philosophy guides the team every day: The Grandma Rule — "Treat every customer like you would want your Grandma to be treated." It's a simple idea, but

one that has helped the company build trust and a strong presence in the community after nearly 30 years in business.

And they're not standing still. The company is continually looking for ways to reinvent itself, including the launch of TWO MEN AND A JUNK TRUCK, a new service that brings the same customer-focused values and resources to junk removal.

That focus on people is especially important in an industry where employees are invited into a customer's personal space during what can often be a stressful time. TWO MEN AND A TRUCK's long-tenured,

cross-functional staff brings empathy to the job, understanding that a great moving experience is about much more than simply getting from Point A to Point B.

For local builders and fellow HBA members, Shelby says the goal is simple: don't add another item to the punch list. TWO MEN AND A TRUCK wants to be a dependable community partner, helping make the final stages of buying, selling and moving into a home as smooth as possible. And with Shelby involved, you can bet there will be plenty of smiles and personality along the way.



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BRING *Good People* TO THE TABLE

J.R. CROWELL - STEADY HOME MAINTENANCE - 2026 BUILDER VICE PRESIDENT



For one HBA member who is leading the way in membership recruitment this year, recruiting isn't really about making a sales pitch. It's about finding good people and inviting them to be part of something bigger.

"As I've gotten more involved with the local association and the state association, I've gained a new perspective on what the association does for our industry," he says.

"For the association to continue to do good for our industry, we need good people doing good things in their respective businesses."

That philosophy has become his approach to recruiting. When he sees someone doing great work in the home building and

remodeling industry—even if they aren't currently doing business together—he reaches out. His message is simple: "Hey, I've seen you crushing it. There is a whole association out there fighting every day for the homebuilding industry in our area and our state. We need people who are doing a great job in the industry to come alongside us and make things happen."

Sure, there are business opportunities that come with membership, but he believes the bigger benefit is being surrounded by people who are invested in the industry. "It takes a village to keep our industry headed in the right direction," he says. "And we want them in the village."

For him, membership recruitment is really about building that village—one good person at a time.



J.R. Crowell and Emily Clayton, EXIT Realty Collective



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LONG-STANDING COMMITMENT:

Billy Ray Named to MS Housing Industry Hall of Fame



Some people join an association. Others become part of its story.

For Billy Ray, involvement in the home building industry has never been about simply showing up. For more than a decade, he has invested his time, energy and leadership in the Home Builders Association of Jackson, the Home Builders Association of Mississippi and the National Association of Home Builders. In June 2026, that commitment was recognized when Ray

was inducted into the Mississippi Home Builders Hall of Fame during the Home Builders Association of Mississippi's annual convention.

Currently serving as Construction Products Manager for MMC Materials in Madison, Ray has built a career around relationships, service and a genuine belief in the importance of the home building industry. His association journey began at the local level with HBAJ, where he served on the Board of Directors and quickly became an active participant in committees and association activities.

His leadership continued to grow. Ray was elevated to Associate Vice President of HBAJ and was honored as the association's Associate of the Year. From there, he moved into leadership at the state level, serving on the HBAM Board of Directors and as Associate Vice President. He was also recognized as HBAM's Associate of the Year.

But Ray's service didn't stop at state lines.

During his time with HBAM, he chaired the BuildPAC committee and served on the Board of Directors for the Mississippi Housing Institute. When his career took him across the country, he continued his commitment to the industry, becoming involved with both local and state home builder associations in South Carolina.

That consistency—staying involved no matter where his career took him—also carried into his work with NAHB.

Over the years, Ray has served at the national level, building relationships and advocating for an industry he believes is critical to communities across the country. After returning to Mississippi, his dedication was recognized once again when he was nominated and named a finalist for NAHB Associate of the Year.

And now, he's back where his association journey began.

Beginning in 2026, Ray returned to the HBAJ Board of Directors for a three-year term, continuing the local involvement that has been such an important part of his professional life.

For Ray, the Mississippi Home Builders Hall of Fame honor represents much more than a career accomplishment. It reflects years of showing up, stepping into leadership and believing in the mission of the associations he serves.

He believes in HBAJ. He believes in HBAM. And he believes

in NAHB. Most importantly, he has spent more than a decade putting that belief into action.

The Hall of Fame honor is a fitting recognition for a builder-industry advocate whose influence has reached from the local level to the national stage—and whose commitment to the home building industry continues today.

