



**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

Date	Time	Session	Title	Moderator	Speaker
Mon, 05/22/23	12:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Board Meeting			
	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Reception			
	7:00 PM - ??	Dinner	On Your Own		
	9:00 PM – 11:00 PM	Hospitality Suite			
Tue, 05/23/23	7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	Breakfast			
	8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	General	Opening Remarks/Nominations	Mitch Ellerbee	
	9:00 AM – 10:15 AM	General	Keynote Speaker “Archer Aviation”	Sonya Ceballos	Glen Burks/ Serra Hall
	10:15 AM – 10:45 AM	Break			
	10:45 AM – 11:30 AM	Breakout	Breakout Session #1 “Drones: New Kid on the (Airport) Block”	Tracie Kleine	Matthew Coffelt
			Breakout Session #2 “Importance of Design Documents & Your ALP”	Michael Joseph	Sonya Ceballos/ Cody Dupree
	11:30 AM – 12:15 PM	General	General Session #1 “GDOT/FAA Aviation Programs Update”	Rebecca Collins	Steve Brian/ Colette Williams /Joseph Robinson
	12:15 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch			
	1:30 PM – 2:15 PM	Breakout	Breakout Session #3 “Challenges with Airfield Markings”	Taffy Pippin	Donna Speidel
			Breakout Session #4 "A Discussion in Stormwater Pollution Prevention Planning"	Hope Macaluso	Scott Callahan
	2:15 PM – 3:00 PM	General	General Session #2 “TSA’s Risk Based Security”	Jack Mayfield	Brian Ashley
	3:00 PM – 3:30 PM	Break			
	3:30 PM – 4:15 PM	General	General Session #3 “Airport Roundtable”	Mike Mathews	
	4:15 PM – 4:30 PM	General	Voting		
4:30 PM – 5:15 PM	Breakout	Breakout Session #5 “Fuel Facility Maintenance”	Mitch Ellerbee	Perry Brothers	
		Breakout Session #6 “Pavement Preservation by Crack Treating”	Amber McCall	Mike Corvino	



**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Reception			
	7:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Dinner			
	9:00 PM – 11:00 PM	Hospitality Suite			
Wed, 05/24/23	8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Breakfast			
	9:00 AM – 9:45 AM	General	General Session #4 “Legislative Update”	Vernon Lee	
	9:45 PM – 10:15 PM	Break			
	10:15 AM – 11:00 AM	General	General Session #5 “How Airport Sponsors and Inspectors Should Team Together for Project Success”	Carol Comer	Colette Williams/ Jennifer Aulick



**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** Opening Remarks/Nominations

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 8:30-9:00am

**Title:**

**Moderator:** Mitch Ellerbee

**Speakers:** AGGAA Board Members

**Bio: Mitch Ellerbee**



Mitch came home to Thomaston in October of 1997 to become the manager of the Thomaston Upson County Airport with a background in transportation management.

He also holds a commercial multi-engine instrument pilot rating and is a partner in an A-36 Bonanza that he and his wife Anne enjoy flying.

**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** Keynote Speaker

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 9:00-10:15am

**Title:** “Archer Aviation”

**Moderator:** Sonya Ceballos

**Speakers:** Glen Burks and Serra Hall

**Description:** Join our keynote speakers to hear about Archer Aviation, their EVTOL aircraft, Midnight, and their site selection process in ultimately landing on Covington, Georgia as the new home of the one million square foot research and manufacturing facility.

**Bio: Glen Burks**



Glen Burks brings over 27 years experience to his role as the Vice President of Manufacturing at Archer since May 2021. In his role, Glen leads the company's manufacturing strategy, ensuring Archer meets its aggressive expansion plan while guaranteeing world-class quality and reliability for Archer customers. In this role Glen led the site selection process for Archer which resulted in Archer announcing Covington, Georgia as the manufacturing home for Archer Aviation.

Glen has worked in all areas of aerospace, spanning from test and development to full rate production on both commercial and military programs. He has worked on large customer platforms including the G650, Global 7500, F35, V22, and CH-47. He began his aviation career in the United States Marine Corps with roles based in the United States and Asia maintaining avionics and electrical systems on F-18 & H-1 aircraft. Prior to joining Archer, Glen served as the Vice President of Quality for Triumph Group, where he led a global team delivering complex aerostructures and assemblies for a \$3B+ aerospace portfolio. Prior to Triumph, Glen spent 16 years at Bell Flight serving in both manufacturing and quality leadership roles across multiple sites and programs. Glen is a recognized leader, passionate about leading with personal integrity, developing talent, and creating a positive and inclusive environment that inspires and motivates others.

**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA  
“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** Breakout Session #1

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 10:45-11:30am

**Title:** “Drones: New Kid on the (Airport) Block”

**Moderator:** Tracie Kleine

**Speakers:** Matthew Coffelt

**Description:** This session will explore how Uncrewed Aircraft Systems, or drones, can integrate into the airport environment safely and within FAA regulations. The session will provide airport sponsors with the knowledge and tools needed to ensure UAS operations remain lawful and safe, as well as what steps to take in the event of an operation being unsafe or unlawful. The benefits to airports that UAS provide will also be explored during the session.

**Bio: Matthew Coffelt**



Matthew Coffelt, C.M., ACE-Ops, is the first AAM & UAS Development Manager for the Georgia Department of Transportation, serving in the Intermodal Division. Matt provides strategic leadership and cultivates innovation for the GDOT UAS program, which includes a fleet of nearly thirty UAS and remote operators and conducts over 300 missions per year. Matt also spearheads the department’s research and preparation for Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) and supporting infrastructure such as vertiports.

Previously, Matt served over 15 years at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in airside and cargo operations, and project management positions. In his early career, Matt held airside operations and aircraft rescue and firefighting positions at Republic Airport in New York as well as Memphis International Airport. He

holds a bachelor’s degree in Aviation Management from Florida Tech, and is pursuing a master’s degree in Uncrewed Systems from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** Breakout Session #2

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 10:45-11:30am

**Title:** “Importance of the Design Documents & Your ALP”

**Moderator:** Michael Joseph

**Speakers:** Sonya Ceballos and Cody Dupre

**Description:** Join us in understanding the importance of the development of the plans, specifications, engineers report and Airport Layout Plan for upcoming projects and future development.

**Bio: Sonya Ceballos**



Sonya happened upon the aviation field after interviewing with Nader Bagheri in 2007. Working with him on 14 airports, she built a solid foundation of airport design and construction, later moving on to manage these airports before leading the Aviation Group in the Southeast for Alfred Benesch & Company, where she has been for the past 4 years. Sonya has worked on more than 30 airports in the state and continues to expand her aviation knowledge and expertise working for local, government and private aviation clients around the US.

Sonya acts as the current Corporate Member for the AGGAA organization where she continues to support the General Aviation Airports in the state by helping the Board organize the annual conference and acting as a resource for education and training in the field of aviation.

**Bio: Cody Dupre**



Cody Dupre has been an aviation planner for the last two years at the Georgia Department of Transportation, also holding the title of project manager for a few airports. Prior to GDOT, he was an Airside Operations Representative at Hartsfield-Jackson Airport in Atlanta, as well as a Cargo Operations representative. His aviation work experience also consists of positions held at general aviation airports around the State of Georgia.

He is a graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University with a Bachelors degree in Aeronautics and holds an ACE-OPS certification from the American Association of Airport Executives. A Georgia native and aviation enthusiast, Cody enjoys having a role in which he can help enhance airports

and communities in the great state of Georgia.



## 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA “TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”

**Class:** General Session #1

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 11:30-12:15pm

**Title:** “GDOT/FAA Aviation Programs Update”

**Moderator:** Rebecca Collins

**Speakers:** Steve Brian, Colette Edmisten Williams, Joseph Robinson

**Description:** GDOT and the FAA team will provide an update on the state and federal funding programs and provide additional updates on aviation in Georgia.

### **Bio: Steve Brian**



Steve Brian is the Aviation Program Manager for the Georgia Department of Transportation which administers the FAA Block Grant Program and the State Aviation Grant Program. Prior to joining the Department, Steve was the Airport Director in College Station, TX and Brunswick, GA (managing the Brunswick Golden Isles and the McKinnon St. Simons Island Airports). He has 42 years of experience in the aviation industry managing airports in the communities of Birmingham, AL, Binghamton, NY, and Kinston, NC. He also served in Washington, DC with the Airport Council International (ACI) working on issues affecting small airports, air service, and international route development.

Steve is a graduate of Auburn University, a certified member of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) and holds a private pilot certificate.

### **Bio: Colette Edmisten Williams**



Colette has been the Assistant Program Manager-Aviation for the Georgia Department of Transportation, Division of Intermodal, since March 2015. Georgia is a part of the FAA’s State Block Grant Program and is home to 105 public use airports. Colette manages the airport funding, FAA grants, airport contracts, and capital improvement/development program for Georgia’s 95 general aviation airports.

Prior to starting with GDOT, Colette worked in Florida for the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority, and then in Georgia for the Glynn County Airport Commission and Savannah Airport Commission. She worked in various capacities from 2002 to 2015 in airport operations, security, and management.

Colette attended Southern Illinois University (Carbondale) and obtained an associate’s in aviation flight and bachelor’s in aviation management. She followed up with a master’s in aviation safety from the University of Central Missouri. Colette holds a commercial pilot’s license with instrument and multi-engine ratings, is a past president of the Georgia Airports Association, and is an Accredited Airport Executive with the American Association of Airport Executives.



## 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA “TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”

Colette currently lives in Waverly, GA with her husband and 2 dogs. In her spare time, Colette courses with her Saluki (Sandy). Sandy holds several AKC titles as Senior Courser, CA, and BCAT, and is the 5<sup>th</sup> fastest Saluki in the USA.

### **Bio: Joseph Robinson**



Joseph Robinson is a Community Planner for the Atlanta Airports District Office. Joseph specializes in airport planning for Georgia, South Carolina, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Prior to joining the FAA, Joseph spent five years at the Georgia Department of Transportation’s Aviation Programs Office as the Georgia Aviation Planning Manager. Joseph is a 2010 graduate of Auburn University with a degree in Aviation Management. He currently resides in Marietta, Georgia with his Wife, Lauren, and two sons Beau (5) and Brooks (3).



**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA  
“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** Breakout Session #3

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 1:30-2:15pm

**Title:** “Challenges with Airfield Markings”

**Moderator:** Taffy Pippin

**Speakers:** Donna Speidel

**Description:** General Aviation airports either over or under maintain their markings. There might be a better way to determine the right time. Join us in learning out how!

**Bio: Donna Speidel**



Donna Speidel began her career in 1974 in a family pavement marking business after graduating from George Washington University in 1972.

For over 45 years, Donna has increased her knowledge about applying paint to pavement. In 1999, her focus turned to airports where she observed a significant difference in marking quality on airports relative to highways.

In 2006, Sightline was born to conduct a research project through the Innovative Pavement Research Foundation (IPRF) under a Cooperative Research Agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to write a “Best Practices Airfield Marking Handbook”. The [Airfield Marking Handbook](#) was published in September 2008, and Donna was the primary author.

Sightline serves the industry as specialty consultant intent on the improved performance of airfield markings around the world. Sightline provides training through Airfield Marking Symposiums as well as Certificate Training in accordance with ASTM E-2659 for airport staff (operators, engineers, inspectors, and applicators). Sightline also conducts marking assessments and evaluations for airport maintenance programs, quality control during marking installations, and other services.

Donna is happily married, lives in Culpeper, Virginia, and enjoys spending time with her three grown children and four grandchildren.



**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA  
“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** Breakout Session #4

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 1:30-2:15pm

**Title:** "A Discussion in Stormwater Pollution Prevention Planning"

**Moderator:** Hope Macaluso

**Speakers:** Scott Callahan

**Description:**

**Bio: Scott Callahan**

Scott Callahan is the Airfield Maintenance Supervisor for Atlanta Regional Airport-Falcon Field in Peachtree City, Georgia. He is the principal advisor to airport managers on the efficient and economical installation, maintenance and repair of airport facilities, equipment and grounds; as-well-as, routine and non-routine maintenance on airport lighting systems and periodic inspections of all paved surfaces on the airport for general condition. Additionally, he provides oversight for Falcon’s aviation fuel quality control, stormwater pollution prevention plan, spill prevention Control and countermeasure plan, and safety.

Scott is certified as an OSHA Authorized General Industry Trainer and a Certified Stormwater Inspector-Qualified Person. He holds two associate degrees in Aircraft Armament Systems Technology and Aviation Operations. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Embry-Riddle in Professional Aviation, Summa Cum Laude; and a Master of Arts degree in Military Studies, Strategic Leadership with Honors.

**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** General Session #2

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 2:15-3:00pm

**Title:** “TSA’s Risk Based Security”

**Moderator:** Jack Mayfield

**Speakers:** Alan Ashley, Benny Beach and Andre Cole

**Description:** Join TSA to hear about the following topics concerning Risk Based Security.

1. If You See Something, Say Something Video  
link: <https://www.dhs.gov/medialibrary/assets/video/37054#download-links> [dhs.gov]
2. GA SECURE Phone number and its importance.
3. What is the Transportation Security Operations Center (TSOC)
4. What to report.
5. TSA’s Layers of Security
6. Where to get TSA-DHS security signs and material.

**Bio: Alan Ashley**



Alan Ashley started with TSA in 2002

Current Title: Transportation Security Inspector (TSI)-  
Aviation-State of Georgia

5 Years in current position

Previous positions in TSA:

Explosive Detection Canine Handler (TSI-EDCH)

Behavior Detection Officer (BDO)

Training Officer (TIA)

Transportation Security Officer (TSO)

Previous employment prior to TSA:

Senior Loss Prevention Manager

Safety & Security Representative (Quill Corporation)

Lake Arrowhead Fire Department (Cherokee County)

**Bio: Benny Beach**

**Bio: Andre Cole**

**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** General Session #3

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 2:15-3:00pm

**Title:** “Airport Roundtable”

**Moderator:** Mike Mathews

**Speakers:** AGGAA Conference Attendees

**Description:** Breakout Session #5 will be an open discussion on issues that you are facing on a day to day basis as an aviation professional. Please bring questions with you that you have been struggling with and would like to discuss with other aviation professionals no matter how large or how small. The intent of this session is to be able to leave with a better understanding of your issues and concerns than when you first walked in, take that information back with you, and apply it to your airport or work place.

**Bio: Mike Mathews**



Born in Connecticut, Mike moved down to Georgia at age 7 with his parents. His love for aviation and flying began when he made trips back and forth on various types of aircraft to visit relatives back in Connecticut.

Mike started learning how to fly at age 15. He soloed at age 16 and went on to get his Private a few years later at Parks College of St Louis University. He later went on to get his Instrument Rating.

After leaving St Louis, Mike took a job at the Rome airport in operations while finishing up his degree.

Mike took a hard left turn out of aviation and worked in the accounting field for 12 years in various positions such as accounting manager for an HCA hospital and a comptroller for various industries.

After 12 years of accounting, Mike decided he wanted to get back into aviation and became an FAA certified Aircraft Dispatcher. He worked for 3 different airlines dispatching both the 737's and 727's.

After several years of dispatching, Mike returned to Rome to manage the Rome, Ga airport. He stayed there for 22 years before moving on to the Athens Ben Epps Airport. He has been in Athens almost 4 years now.

He has a wife, Regina and 2 children, Sarah and Stephen and 4 grandchildren whose ages are 8, 10, 10, and 10.

**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA  
“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** Breakout Session #5

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 4:30-5:15pm

**Title:** “Fuel Facility Maintenance”

**Moderator:** Mitch Ellerbee

**Speakers:** Dave Perry and Rick Hawthorne

**Description:** Dave and Rick will be presenting requirements and procedures at the fuel facility.

The discussion will include proactive measures along with some examples of actions needed to ensure fuel quality integrity.

**Bio: Dave Perry**



Dave has been involved in the Perry family’s fuel distribution business for over 40 years. He is the co-owner of Perry Brothers Aviation Fuels, LLC, a hard-working second- and third- generation company based in Americus, Georgia. Their customers include FBOs and aviation companies in agricultural, commercial and general aviation in the Southeastern United States.

Partnered with Phillips 66, along with unbranded fuels, the company is committed to providing the best service with only clean, high-quality fuels at competitive pricing. PBAF is equipped with over 50 AvGas and Jet A refuelers, so customers can lease their refuelers supported by partial- or full-maintenance plans.

Fascinated by airplanes and flight from a young age, Dave remembers riding his bike to a small air strip in his hometown any time he saw a plane flying over. Today he has become a pilot with multi-instrument ratings. Having grown up in the fuel business and doing nearly every job required, Dave learned fuel handling from the supplier/distributor perspective. As a seasoned pilot, he knows the importance of using top quality fuel and handling it safely. These combine to give him a unique understanding of the requirements and needs of his customers and their fuel handling facilities.

**Bio: Rick Hawthorne**



Rick Hawthorne has worked with Perry Brothers for over 25 years. He has been instrumental to the company’s success with refuelers, quality assurance, and fuel facility maintenance. Having worked with automotive fuels, he understands the additional knowledge of fuel handling processes for aircraft fuels, and the commitment to assuring that necessary procedures are followed on the ground to assure safety in the air.

During his time at PBAF, Rick has identified and worked through countless issues at many locations. He oversees refueler and equipment maintenance and service, filtration requirements & compliance and employee training.

**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Class:** Breakout Session #6

**Date:** May 23, 2023 @ 4:30-5:15pm

**Title:** “Pavement Preservation by Crack Treating”

**Moderator:** Amber McCall

**Speakers:** Mike Corvino

**Description:** The presentation on pavement preservation by treating cracks is an informative session that aims to educate agencies on the importance of pavement maintenance and how treating cracks help extend the life of the pavement.

The first topic is Mastic One, a flexible, load-bearing asphalt repair material. The presenter will explain the features and benefits of Mastic One, including its ability to accommodate thermal movement and traffic loading. The audience will be shown examples of successful Mastic One applications and will learn how it can be used for treating several different repairs.

Lastly, the audience will learn about Techcrete, a resin-based, flexible concrete repair material. The presenter will explain how Techcrete can be used to make several different repairs in PCC pavements. They will highlight the features and benefits of using Techcrete, including its durability, longevity, and ability to withstand traffic loading. Furthermore, Techcrete can extend your budget by saving slabs.

Overall, the presentation on pavement preservation by treating cracks is an engaging and informative session that will leave the audience with a better understanding of pavement maintenance and the benefits of using Mastic One and Techcrete.

**Bio: Mike Corvino**



Mike Corvino, Southeast Territory Manager for Crafcro, a company that specializes in pavement preservation solutions. I live in Atlanta, Georgia, and my role involves assisting various agencies with the implementation of crack treatment programs. My expertise helps to extend the life of pavement, allowing agencies to make the most of their budget and resources.



## 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA “TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”

**Class:** General Session #4

**Date:** May 24, 2023 @ 9:00-9:45am

**Title:** “Legislative Update”

**Moderator:** Vernon Lee

**Speakers:** Sen. Marty Harbin, Rep. Matt Hatchett, Rep. Rick Jasperse, Sen. John Kennedy, Rep. David Knight, Rep. Clay Pirkle, Sen. Blake Tillery

**Description:** The legislative session will include discussion on the budget and continued finding for Airport Aid and future legislation.

### **Bio: Sen. Marty Harbin, Government Oversight Chairman and Senate Pilots Caucus Chairman**



State Senator Marty Harbin, a Republican, was first elected to the Senate in 2014. He represents District 16 which includes Lamar, Spalding and Pike Counties and most of Fayette County. Senator Harbin is the Vice Chairman of the Government Oversight Committee. He is also a member of the Insurance and Labor, Natural Resources and the Environment, Reapportionment and Redistricting and State and Local Governmental Operations Committees.

After graduating Georgia State University in 1977 with a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration, Sen. Harbin established the Harbin Insurance Agency. He has worked diligently for more than 40 years building a successful business. From two employees to now a team of over twenty, his company serves individuals and businesses throughout the Southeastern United States providing insurance, risk management and investment services.

Senator Harbin and his wife, Debbie, have been married and living in Tyrone for more than 40 years. They have six children and 10 grandchildren. They met and were married at First Baptist Church Atlanta where Sen. Harbin was ordained as a deacon and taught Sunday School. In 1996 they moved their membership to Fayetteville First Baptist Church where he has also served as a deacon and taught Sunday School classes for over 20 years. He and Debbie actively support Southwest Christian Care, Christian Families Today, the Fayette Pregnancy Resource Center, as well as many other ministries.



## 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA “TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”

### **Bio: Rep. Matt Hatchett, House Appropriations Chairman**



Matt was born and raised in Dublin, Georgia. He is an Eagle Scout from Troop 68 and was an honor graduate of Dublin High School. He graduated from Presbyterian College with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics with an Economic Emphasis.

Matt started with Delta Air Lines, Inc. in June of 1988 as a Methods Analyst. He served later in the Stockholder Relations and Corporate Contributions department at Delta. He completed his career with Delta serving as a Procedures Planning Analyst in the Technical Operations Division. After working with Delta Air Lines, Inc. for six years in Atlanta, he returned home to start a family with his wife Kim.

After returning home to Dublin, he started Hangers Cleaners, Inc., a local dry cleaning establishment and operated it until 2010. He and his wife purchased Plum Alley, a ladies clothing store in 1997, which she presently operates. He also owned the local Bruster’s Real Ice Cream and Nathan’s Famous Hot Dogs franchise from 2001 until 2015. Matt presently works as a Director of Development and Director of Mission Enhancement with the School of Medicine for Mercer University.

He is a member of the Dublin Rotary Club and has served on the board of the Dublin/Laurens County Chamber of Commerce and as the chairman of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Laurens County, as well as the Heart of Georgia United Way.

Matt served as a Dublin City Councilman from 1999-2009, where he served on the Finance, Economic Development Committees and the Downtown Development Authority and served as the Mayor Pro Tem in 2007. He represented Dublin and Laurens County as a member of the Leadership Georgia Class of 2000.

Matt served as chairman of the Dublin/Laurens County’s month long St. Patrick’s Festival in 2002, having previously volunteered as vice chairman and president of the Order of Shillelagh. He presently assists with the St. Patrick’s Festival’s hot air balloon festival which brings hot air balloonists to Laurens County during the festival, having organized the event for several years.

Matt has served as the chairman of the Theatre Dublin Nutcracker since its inception in 2004. The performance brings professional ballet dancers and mixes them with 100+ local dancers for three performances of the Nutcracker the first weekend of December at Theatre Dublin.

Matt serves on the Advisory Board of the Citizens Bank of Laurens County.

Matt was elected to House District 150 in November 2010. He serves on the House Appropriations General Government Subcommittee and the Economic Development & Tourism, Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications, Ethics and Health & Human Services committees. He is also vice chairman of the



**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA  
“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

Rules Committee. Matt served as one of Governor Deal’s Floor Leaders from June 2011 until September 2013 when he was elected by his peers to serve as the chairman of the House Majority Caucus. In July of 2021, Hatchett was again elected by the majority caucus to serve as Majority Whip and continues in that role today.

Matt and his family are members of First United Methodist Church. He and his wife, Kim have two beautiful daughters, Emily and Camille

**Bio: Rep. Rick Jasperse, House Transportation Chairman**



Rick grew up in Kingsport Tennessee. Upon graduation from The University of Georgia’s College of Agriculture with a degree in Food Science, Rick started work as the Assistant County Agent in Bartow County in 1980. He stayed there for a few years, wisely married Marcia Rowlett, and then went to Bleckley County in South Georgia to further his experience in agriculture. Pickens County was their final stop and has been their home since 1983. Rick and Marcia live on a small farm, and over the years have grown a little bit of everything.

Rick has been very active in our community over the years. He has served on various boards and clubs. He has been on the Mountain Conservation Trust Board, Chattahoochee Technical College Board, and Appalachian Cattlemen’s Association. He was a long-time member of the Jasper Lion’s Club and now a member of the Jasper Rotary Club. He was President and game announcer of the Pickens High School Tip-Off Club. He has cooked pork and chicken BBQ for many organizations and events to raise money for charity. He coached little league baseball for years with some great parents. Rick and his family had a small landscaping business for a number of years.

Rick’s relationship with God has always been an important part of his life. Christian principles are an important part of his everyday approach to life and to making decisions. It is the basis of his enthusiasm to display a servant-leadership approach to public office just like he has in work, family, and in community activities.

Rick retired in 2009 after 29 years as a County Agent. Budget reductions at the University put a few of the older employees out to pasture. As an educator with the University of Georgia College of Agriculture and Pickens County, his role was to teach, inform, and empower folks.

Rick entered a new world of service in 2010 when he was elected to be the State Representative for what is now the 11th District, which is part of Gordon County, part of Murray County, and all of Pickens.

**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA  
“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

Rick currently serves as the Chairman of the Education Committee, Secretary of Rules, and as a member on the following House Committees: Agricultural and Consumer Affairs, Appropriations, Health & Human Services, Higher Education, Human Relations & Aging, Public Safety & Homeland Security, and Regulated Industries.

**Bio: Sen. John Kennedy, Senate President Pro-Tem**



Senator John F. Kennedy was first elected to the state Senate in 2014 to represent Crawford, Monroe, Peach and Upson counties as well as portions of Bibb and Houston counties. After serving as Governor Deal’s Floor Leader in the Senate during his freshman term, his Republican colleagues elected Senator Kennedy to serve as Caucus Chairman for the Senate Majority during the 2017-2018 legislative term.

Senator Kennedy serves as Vice-Chairman of the Banking and Financial Services Committee, as well as serving as Secretary of Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee. He is also a member of the Appropriations, Judiciary, and Reapportionment and Redistricting Committees. He is an ex -officio member of the Rules Committee.

Senator Kennedy earned a degree in Economics from Mercer University in 1987. He completed his law degree at Mercer University School of Law in 1990.

Senator Kennedy is a Partner at the Macon-based law firm of James-Bates-Brannan-Groover, LLP, and practices in the area of civil litigation, trial work, business advice and fiduciary law.

Senator Kennedy currently serves on the Executive Board of Directors for the Central Georgia Council and Boy Scouts of America.

Senator Kennedy previously served as President of the Macon Bar Association and is a member of the Board of Governors for the State Bar of Georgia.

Senator Kennedy is a Class of 2000 Graduate of Leadership Macon and a 2007 Graduate of Leadership Georgia.

In 2013, Georgia’s Speaker of the House of Representatives David Ralston appointed Senator Kennedy to serve on the Immigration Enforcement Review Board.

Senator Kennedy and his wife of 25 years, Susan, have two children, Katherine and Will. The Kennedy’s reside in Bolingbroke in Monroe County and are active members of Ingleside Baptist Church.

**2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA  
“TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”**

**Bio: Rep. David Knight, House Appropriations Higher Education sub Committee Chairman**



Representative David Knight was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives in 2004 and sworn into office in 2005. Knight proudly serves House District 130, which includes parts of Spalding, Henry and Lamar counties. He currently serves as chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education and the House Sportsman Caucus. His legislative duties also include service as a member of the Banks & Banking, Game, Fish & Parks, Higher Education, Rules, Small Business Development and Ways & Means committees.

Born in Warner Robbins, Rep. Knight moved to Griffin at an early age, where he was raised, and he has made Griffin his home. He attended both the University of Georgia and Augusta College, earning a degree in accounting. Rep. Knight has been a practicing certified public accountant for over 20 years and holds memberships in the Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Georgia Society of Certified Public Accounts. He is also a member of the Griffin Rotary Club. Rep.

Knight is happily married to the former Marie Harvey from Lamar County. They are the proud parents of John David, born in 2013, and active members of the First Baptist Church of Griffin. He is an avid hunter and fisherman and enjoys sporting clays.



## 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA “TEAM GA – WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER”

### **Bio: Rep. Clay Pirkle, House Appropriations Transportation sub Committee Chairman**



Representative Clay Pirkle was raised on the family farm in Sycamore, Georgia, where he learned the value of hard work, respect and integrity. While pursuing his Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from the Georgia Institute of Technology, Clay worked on campus during the day and at the UPS Distribution Center at night. Later, while working on his MBA in Accounting and Finance at the University of Georgia in Athens, he worked as a teaching assistant in the economics department and in the soybean lab.

Presently, Rep. Pirkle works as a farmer at Pirkle Farms where the motto is “Christianity is our business; we farm to pay the expenses.” He has also held positions as an economist with the US government, a commercial banker at a local bank and an economics instructor at Darton College.

Rep. Pirkle proudly represents the citizens of House District 155. He was elected into the Georgia House of Representative in July of 2015 and was sworn in on August 21, 2015. Rep. Pirkle is a member of the following standing House committees: Agriculture & Consumer Affairs; Appropriations; Banks & Banking; Higher Educations; Motor Vehicles; Science & Technology; and State Properties.

Clay has been married to his childhood sweetheart, Sharon, for over 30 years. They have three wonderful children, Andrew, DeAnna and Nathan. Clay is a deacon and the treasurer at his home church, has taught Sunday school for over 20 years and is president of the missions’ organization, “Less of Me More of You”. He also serves as the director of the Scott Dawson Evangelistic Association based in Birmingham, AL.

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**Bio: Sen. Blake Tillery, Senate Appropriations Chairman**



Senator Blake Tillery, a Republican, was elected to Georgia’s 19th district in 2016. Sen. Tillery represents Appling, Jeff Davis, Long, Montgomery, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Wayne, Wheeler and portions of Liberty and Tattnall counties.

Prior to his service in the Georgia Senate, Sen. Tillery was Chairman of the Toombs County Commission. He has previously served on the Heart of Georgia-Altamaha Regional Commission, Heart of Georgia Workforce Investment Board, Toombs County Boys and Girls Club Board, and cochaired the Leadership Toombs-Montgomery program.

Named as a Georgia Trend “40 Under 40” honoree in 2013, Sen. Tillery is a graduate of the Leadership Georgia class of 2015, member of the Conservative Policy Leadership Institute and a graduate of Republican Leadership for Georgia.

Sen. Tillery graduated from the University of Georgia in 2006 with a degree in International Affairs and from the University of Georgia School of Law in 2010 with a Juris Doctorate.

Sen. Tillery married Ashlee Nicole Sharer of Wayne County in 2016. He is currently the managing partner at Smith and Tillery, P.C. in Vidalia, Georgia. They reside in Vidalia.

Sen. Tillery serves as Chair of the Appropriations Committee, Vice-Chair of the State Institutions and Property Committee, and Secretary for the Judiciary Committee. He is also a member of the Assignments, Economic Development and Tourism, and Reapportionment and Redistricting Committee.



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**Class:** General Session #5

**Date:** May 24, 2023 @ 10:15-11:00am

**Title:** “How Airport Sponsors and Inspectors Should Team Together for Project Success”

**Moderator:** Carol Comer

**Speakers:** Jennifer Aulick and Colette Edmisten Williams

**Description:** Join us as we discuss how good inspections can contribute to the success of your airport projects. This session will review the roles and responsibilities of Consultants providing inspection services and the accountability a Sponsor has in overseeing the inspection for their projects. Discussion topics will also include practical inspection tools, tips on effective construction meetings, how to facilitate clear communication, and the importance of identifying issues ahead of time.

### **Bio: Jennifer Aulick**



Jennifer Aulick Etheridge is the Owner of Aulick Engineering, a woman-owned small business that provides engineering design and construction management services for transportation projects, specializing in stormwater and hydraulics, civil-site design, and airport construction management and inspection projects. Aulick Engineering has a special heart for aviation projects, with the two owners spending a major part of their careers in aviation planning and design and loving the opportunity to serve as aviation client managers. Aulick brings this experience to airport teams focusing on hydraulics, inspection, and private hangar site design, among other things. Aulick is committed to establishing and maintaining long-term trusted client and employee relationships by following their core values of being kind, resourceful, respectful, and trustworthy.

Growing up in Florida, Jennifer developed a love of the water, which inspired her career path specializing in hydraulics. Jennifer graduated from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and completed a Masters in Business Administration from University of Florida. With over 20 years in the transportation consulting industry, Jennifer’s extensive experience includes bridge hydraulics, erosion control, stormwater management, MS4 compliance, aviation design, construction management, and construction inspection. Jennifer has lead the effort for numerous airport stormwater master plans, Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs), stormwater BMP design, airport drainage, and erosion control plans. is a Professional Engineer and Level II Certified for Erosion Control in the State of Georgia. Jennifer is experienced in following the design requirements set forth in the Georgia Stormwater Management Manual, the NPDES Permits, the GDOT Drainage Manual, and the Manual for Sediment and Erosion Control in Georgia.

Jennifer also serves as a board member for ACEC Georgia and sits on the GPTQ Aviation Subcommittee. Outside of work, Jennifer is married to another small business owner, stays busy keeping up with her two little boys, and enjoys paddleboarding and Pilates.



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### Bio: Colette Edmisten Williams



Colette has been the Assistant Program Manager-Aviation for the Georgia Department of Transportation, Division of Intermodal, since March 2015. Georgia is a part of the FAA’s State Block Grant Program and is home to 105 public use airports. Colette manages the airport funding, FAA grants, airport contracts, and capital improvement/development program for Georgia’s 95 general aviation airports.

Prior to starting with GDOT, Colette worked in Florida for the Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority, and then in Georgia for the Glynn County Airport Commission and Savannah Airport Commission. She worked in various capacities from 2002 to 2015 in airport operations, security, and management.

Colette attended Southern Illinois University (Carbondale) and obtained an associate’s in aviation flight and bachelor’s in aviation management. She followed up with a master’s in aviation safety from the University of Central Missouri. Colette holds a commercial pilot’s license with instrument and multi-engine ratings, is a past president of the Georgia Airports Association, and is an Accredited Airport Executive with the American Association of Airport Executives.

Colette currently lives in Waverly, GA with her husband and 2 dogs. In her spare time, Colette courses with her Saluki (Sandy). Sandy holds several AKC titles as Senior Courser, CA, and BCAT, and is the 5<sup>th</sup> fastest Saluki in the USA.