

# THE *Gephart*™ CURRENT



FALL 2019

Southland Casino Racing



Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort Expansion



Hyatt Centric Hotel at One Beale



## Gaming & Hospitality Lands Three New Projects

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**Greg Heinsch**

*Vice President & Principal*

## Letter From Leadership

I am pleased to be writing for this issue of *The Gephart Current* highlighting our recent Gaming & Hospitality project awards. Having personally led this market for Gephart from 1995 to 2010, I take special pride in seeing our team embarking on three great projects: Southland Casino Racing in West Memphis, AR; Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort Expansion in Cherokee, NC; and the Hyatt Centric Hotel at One Beale in Memphis, TN.

My father took Gephart into the Gaming & Hospitality market in the early 1990's with the Grand Casino Mille Lacs Hotel in northern Minnesota. That project began a long relationship with Lyle Berman and Grand Casinos, Inc. that took us to Tunica, MS in 1995 to build what was then the world's largest dockside casino and was the beginning of our Mid-South office. Since that time, we've been a part of over 25 significant Gaming & Hospitality projects that have taken us from Minnesota and Mississippi to Arkansas, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Texas, California, Michigan, Indiana, Maryland and now North Carolina. And today, a major casino resort project runs upwards of \$25,000,000 or more in size.

One of the great things about having Gaming & Hospitality be a core market for Gephart is the exposure it gives us to work with the latest and greatest in areas such as technology, security and surveillance, decorative lighting and lighting control, and the unique "wow feature" attractions. We see and learn something new on every project that adds to the knowledge and experience we bring to the next job.

And because this is a national market, we've developed some great relationships with developers, architects, engineers, general contractors, local electrical partners and other national subcontractors along the way. Our demonstrated ability to go on the road and utilize established relationships – or forge new ones in the area – has made us one of the top tier Gaming & Hospitality electrical contractors in the country.

Thanks again for spending some time with our newsletter and have a wonderful fall season!

*Gaming & Hospitality Lands Three New Projects*

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### **Southland Casino Racing - West Memphis, AR**

Gephart was selected as the design-assist electrical contractor for this expansion that includes a large, state-of-the-art gaming floor addition, an expanded parking lot and site improvements, a new parking garage, multiple restaurant venues, and a 22-story hotel tower with 300 guestrooms. The hotel tower will feature a color-changing façade which will be visible from downtown Memphis across the Mississippi River. This award builds upon our 25-year relationship with Roy Anderson Corp. (a Tutor Perini Company) and our 20-year relationship with SOSH Architects.

### **Harrah's Cherokee Casino Resort Expansion - Cherokee, NC**

Gephart was recently awarded this casino expansion featuring a 20-story, 725-room high-rise hotel tower, and approximately 200,000 SF of convention space. The 660,000 SF expansion is expected to be completed in April 2021. This is the first major project with The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company; a major player in the hospitality market. We are also excited to build our relationship with The Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation who operate one of the most successful casino resort properties in the country.

### **Hyatt Centric Hotel at One Beale - Memphis, TN**

Gephart is working with Flintco Construction Company as the electrical contractor for this 227-room, 4-star hotel located on the iconic Beale Street in Memphis, TN. This property features a rooftop lounge overlooking the Mississippi River, over 15,000 SF of conference room space, a fitness center, ground floor lobby with a restaurant, bar, and an outdoor courtyard with a swimming pool and entertainment stage. Construction began in September 2019 and is scheduled to be completed in November of 2020.



# Gephart is Growing

Gephart is pleased to welcome the following new hires to our Midwest and Mid-South offices!



**Robert Barriger**  
Senior Preconstruction Manager



**Tom Fox**  
Senior Project Manager



**Cory Hilk**  
Superintendent



**Elliot Kim**  
Project Manager



**Jason Penland**  
Project Manager



**Philip Stanfield**  
Assistant Project Manager



**Prince Tebbs**  
BIM Coordinator



Abigail Cook and Jarret Joyner have joined our Mid-South offices as interns. Both are students at the University of Memphis Herff College of Engineering and will be on site at some of our major projects this fall. Go Tigers!

# Safety Milestone Achievement

At Gephart, safety is our number one priority and we are proud to have recently surpassed 1.5 Million Hours of No Lost Time. This milestone could not have been possible without the exceptional efforts of our field staff and Safety Committee working together towards this goal.

Our Safety Program – *The Road to Zero Injuries* – is developed and managed by our Safety Committee and facilitates free and honest communication from the field staff to address all the needs of our employees and to continue improving this crucial aspect of our business.

Highlights of our program include:

- On Site Daily Pre-Task Planning Sessions
- On Site Weekly Toolbox Talks
- On Site Safety Meetings
- Proper PPE
- Safety Newsletter
- Aerial Lift Operation Certification
- OSHA 10 Training (Foreman & Above)
- First Aid/CPR Certifications (Foreman & Above)
- NFPA 70E Arc Flash Hazard Compliance (Foreman & Above)

**Congratulations to all on this milestone achievement!**



# Employee Spotlight

Congratulations to Dena Edmiston on her appointment to the SPMS-Twin Cities Board of Directors as Secretary/Treasurer!

The Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS) is a national association directed toward marketing in the architecture, engineering and construction industry.



*"I'm excited to serve in this important position and to continue the mission of SMPS to deliver high-quality programming and resources to the Twin Cities chapter!"*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO GEPHART'S 2019 Q1 AND Q2 STAR AWARDS RECIPIENTS!

Robert Barriger - Sr. Preconstruction Manager

Dena Edmiston - Marketing Specialist

Casey Ehrenberg - Project Manager

Drew Herman - Director of Gaming & Hospitality

Elizabeth Key - Project Manager

Carlos Moore - Estimator

Andrew Vander Meulen - Project Manager

