

*Mississippi*

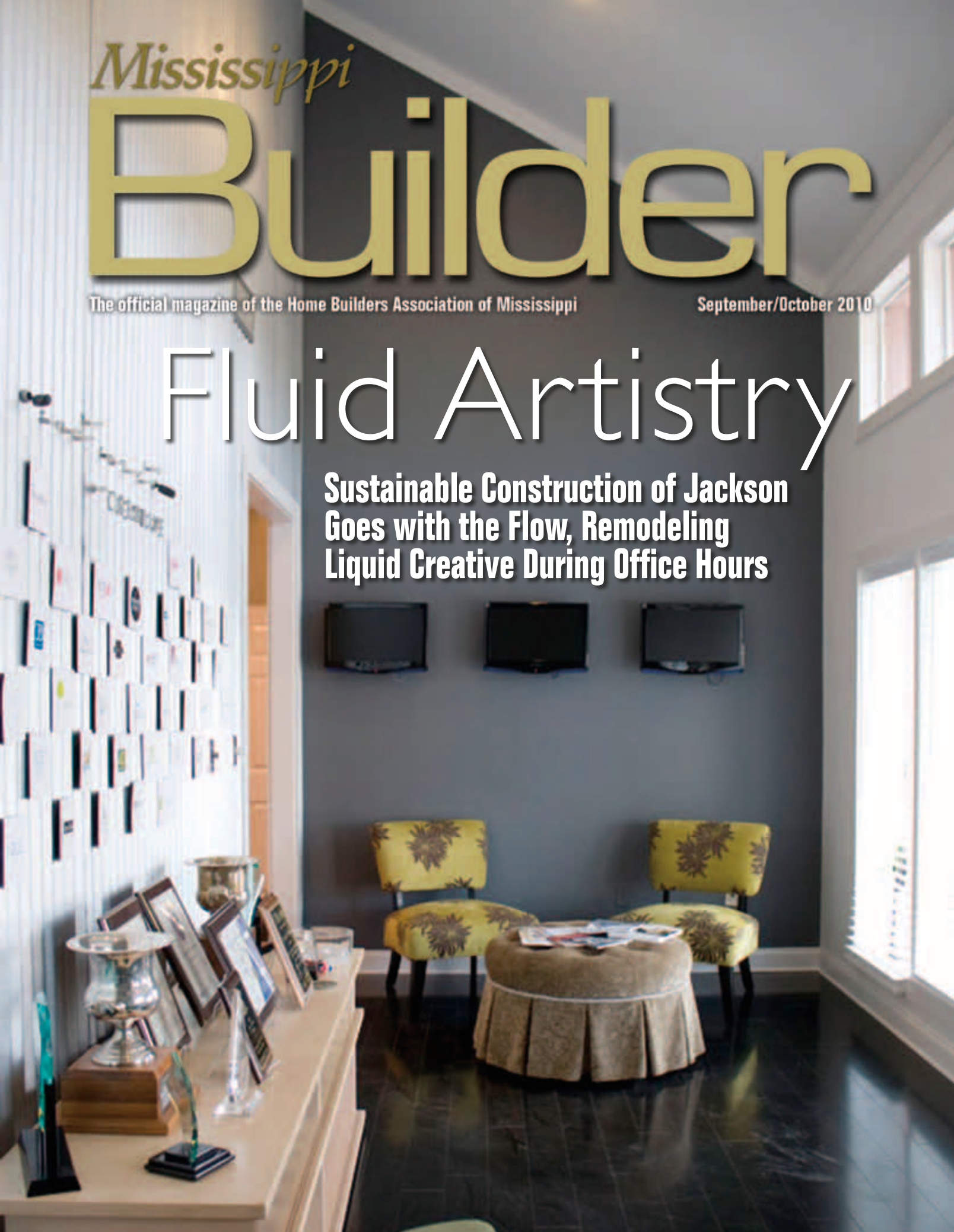
# Builder

The official magazine of the Home Builders Association of Mississippi

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## Fluid Artistry

**Sustainable Construction of Jackson  
Goes with the Flow, Remodeling  
Liquid Creative During Office Hours**





# Fluid

# Artistry

## Liquid Creative Represents Best Remodeling of a Commercial Building

For his company's successful foray into commercial remodeling, David Turner accepted the challenge to expand a growing business by increasing the square footage by more than 40 percent—without the business being closed!

As a result, the Liquid Creative project received the 2009 Best in Mississippi Remodeling of a Commercial Building award.

"Liquid Creative was a huge construction challenge for a number of reasons," said Turner, founder and owner of Sustainable Construction in Jackson, who also received 2009 Best in Mississippi awards for Best Multifamily New Construction under 50 Units for Sull'Acqua and Best Single Family New Construction Spec Home (1,800 to 2,500 square feet) for LeFleur Cottage—both located at Lost Rabbit in Madison.

The radial plan of the Liquid Creative building allowed for a central staircase—which would become the focal point—to access unused attic space.

"The first half of the remodel happened upstairs in their attic," he said. "This was a similar attic to most houses with spaghetti HVAC

*See FLUID ARTISTRY on page 7*





## FLUID ARTISTRY

(continued from page 5)

trunk lines running randomly throughout and electrical and data wiring running helter skelter. To top that off, the floor joists were 2x6, which would not support the addition."

Adding to the challenge: Turner's crew remodeled the upstairs portion of the facility in a limited work space during office hours.

"We started by building an exterior staircase and cutting a hole in the gable so I could better access the attic and send crews up without going in and out of their space downstairs all day," explained Turner. "We staged the HVAC systems shut down one at a time to tear out the trunk lines and frame in floor trusses while leaving parts of the building cooling the entire downstairs. Patience was a virtue for the workers at Liquid Creative during this process, and they had plenty to go around working with this project."

When the floor system was in place, the project "caught some wind" and moved quickly through the upstairs finish, said Turner.

"The next challenge was building the main staircase into their work zone downstairs to bring the two floors together," he said. "We did this over a weekend, and gave them immediate access to the upstairs. They moved the next week. Once a majority of the employees were working upstairs, we proceeded to destroy the main floor and remodel it. This went quickly but not cleanly or quietly. There was constant need for sawing or sheetrock dust. I'm glad we stayed friends throughout the process."

When the project was finished, architectural elements shined. The handrail and banister were derived from a unique cable-rail design for a contemporary appeal. Spatial elements—vaulted ceilings, natural light and vivid colors—contributed to the artistic design. Geometric patterns and woods of varying shades added textural qualities to the creative space.

"The end result worked great for the growing firm, though at the rate they were growing when we finished, we may need to be back next year to go out the back and cantilever over the Pearl River," joked Turner.



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