



**ELECTRIC  
CITIES**

*Connected*

# ECA HEADS TO WASHINGTON FOR ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Electric Cities has scheduled its Washington Legislative Conference in conjunction with the APPA Legislative Rally, scheduled for February 23-26 in Washington, D.C.

The conference hotel is the Renaissance Mayflower Hotel. While the APPA room block has been filled, reservations can be made by calling The St. Gregory or The Churchill hotels. Please be sure to mention the American Public Power Association (APPA) when making hotel reservations to receive the special Legislative Rally rates.

An Electric Cities registration form as well as a tentative schedule has been e-mailed to all Board of Directors. If you need an additional form please email Jennifer Hancock at [jhancock@electriccities.org](mailto:jhancock@electriccities.org) or you can download a form from the Electric Cities Web site.

If you plan to attend any APPA functions you must also register directly with APPA. Forms and additional information are available at [www.APPAnet.org](http://www.APPAnet.org). Come join us in Washington!

## ECA MEMBERS ATTENDING

- Utility Managers
- Mayors
- City Council Members
- Utility Board Members
- Key Utility Staff

## PLANS ON THE HILL

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

**5:30-7:00 P.M.:** APPA Welcoming Reception  
The Renaissance Mayflower Hotel

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

**4:00-5:00 P.M.:** ECA Legislative Briefing  
The Renaissance Mayflower Hotel

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

**7:30-9:00 A.M.:** APPA Rally Breakfast  
**10:00 A.M.:** Senator Jeff Sessions  
**11:30 P.M.:** Senator Richard Shelby  
**12:00 P.M.:** Congressman Parker Griffith  
**2:00 P.M.:** Congressman Mike Rogers  
**3:00 P.M.:** Congressman Jo Bonner  
**4:00 P.M.:** Congressman Robert Aderholt  
**7:00 P.M.:** ECA Dinner at Sam & Harry's

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

**10:00 A.M.:** Congressman Bobby Bright  
**10:45 A.M.:** Congressman Spencer Bachus  
**11:30 A.M.:** Congressman Artur Davis

*We will be finished no later than Noon!*

# BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS CRUCIAL FOR PUBLIC POWER SYSTEMS

With the 111th Congress and the Alabama Legislature now in full session, Electric Cities will be hard at work building relationships with lawmakers who will be key to our mission. However, would it surprise you to know that you have far more influence with your particular representative and senator than Electric Cities? It's true.

Your elected representatives are extremely sensitive to how your customers, employees, and you view their efforts to advocate on your behalf. A phone call, email, letter, and, especially, a personal visit from you carries much more weight than you might think.

Here are a few of the many reasons for you to become

involved in the Electric Cities Legislative Rally in Washington and the Legislative Briefing on March 24.

Your customers and governing board expect you to do everything necessary to keep their electric rates as low as possible. No one knows your challenges, issues, or can tell your utility's story better than you. Lawmakers are far less likely to vote for a policy, program or tax that adversely affects your customers if they have to look you in the eye before they do it. And, Electric Cities of Alabama is and will only be as strong and effective as you make it.

Please make your plans now to join us for the upcoming legislative briefing and reception March 24.

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## Montgomery Legislative Briefing & Appreciation Reception March 24th

The Electric Cities of Alabama Appreciation Reception for the Alabama Legislature, Constitutional Officers and the Judiciary is scheduled for March 24, 2009, on the sixth floor of the RSA Plaza Building on Washington Avenue, in downtown Montgomery.

The Alabama Legislature convened the 2009 Regular Session on Tuesday, February 3.

**Electric Cities utility managers, mayors, city council and utility board members are encouraged to attend this event.**

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2:00 P.M.: Board of Directors Meeting  
4:00 P.M.: Legislative Briefing  
5:30 P.M.-7:00 P.M.: Appreciation Reception

### HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Renaissance Montgomery Marriott for the evening of March 24 for those of you that have to travel far.

To reserve a room in this block, please contact the hotel directly at (334) 269-5055. Reservation deadline is February 24. Please be sure to mention you are with the Electric Cities of Alabama group (ECA). You may also register online at [www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com).

Please make every effort to participate in these important activities, as we communicate with members of the Alabama Legislature.

Registration forms will be mailed in mid February to all board members and legislative council members.

# WELCOME BACK ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

As of February 10, the following associate members have renewed their associate membership in Electric Cities of Alabama for the 2009 year.

## **CORPORATE**

Asplundh  
Atwell & Gent, P.A.  
C.H. Guernsey & Company  
Central Service Association  
dataVoice International  
Four Star Freightliner, Inc.  
4-Way Electric  
Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, Inc.  
Gresco Utility Supply  
NationWide Utility Poles & Supply, Inc.  
Osrose Utilities Services, Inc.  
Petty Line Construction Company  
ProCore Solutions  
Service Electric Company  
Terex Utilities  
Utility Support Systems  
Whitehead & Associates

## **INDIVIDUAL**

Todd Blocker, Utility Equipment Services  
Wayne Bodie, Florida Transformer, Inc.  
Ted Brasfield, Brasfield Sales, Inc.  
Michael Crim, East Bay Electric Co., LLC  
Steve Hafner, Tri-State Utility Products, Inc.  
Fred Holladay, Charles W. Ashby Company  
Zack Kellis, Kellis Vegetation  
Charles Loewenthal, J.M. Test Systems  
Tom Maloney, Southeastern Reprographics  
Sam Mooney, The Okonite Company  
O.C. Paynter, United Power Services, Inc.  
J.H. Stewart, Jr., Stewart Engineering, Inc.  
Bill Roberts, Stuart C. Irby Company  
Stuart Smith, AQ2 Technologies  
Joe Thornton, Utility Specialists  
Robert Young, The Frazer Lanier Company

If you have not renewed your membership for 2009 please do so before March 13, 2009 to avoid any disruption in your member benefits. We look forward to working with you again!

## **2009 ENERGY PACKAGE INTRODUCED**

The Joint Legislative Committee on Energy wasted little time in moving its package of bills through the legislative process. Ten of the 16 pieces of legislation (14 bills and two resolutions) were introduced on the first day of the 2009 regular session.

The co-chairs of the committee, Senator Wendell Mitchell of Luverne and Montgomery Representative Greg Wren, met recently with key industry executives, interested business representatives and citizens to gather support for the package and to head off any opposition that may arise. Nearly all of the bills and resolutions were introduced last year; all but two of the

bills died on the last day of the 2008 regular session. The only bill that received final passage and signed into law was a bill that provided incentives for the future generation of alternative energy. Electric Cities of Alabama helped draft that bill.

House Speaker Seth Hammett of Andalusia and Lt. Governor Jim Folsom, Jr. have promised to make the energy package a priority for their respective houses. In fact, Speaker Hammett has vowed to make the energy bills the second group of bills to be considered. The House must first take up "Sunset" bills - those that deal with specific state boards and committees.

*Uniting  
Alabama's  
Electric  
Cities*

**THE MONTHLY INFORMATION SOURCE OF  
THE ELECTRIC CITIES OF ALABAMA**

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*Calendar  
2009*

**ECA**

**February 23-26, 2009**

Washington Legislative Conference  
(In conjunction with APPA Rally)  
*The Mayflower Hotel*  
Washington, DC

**March 24, 2009**

Board of Director's Meeting and  
Montgomery Legislative Briefing &  
Appreciation Reception  
*RSA Plaza Terrace*  
Montgomery, AL

**July 6-8, 2009**

Annual Meeting  
*Perdido Beach Resort*  
Orange Beach, AL

**July 8, 2009**

Annual Business Meeting  
*Perdido Beach Resort*  
Orange Beach, AL

**September 9-11, 2009**

E&O Conference  
*Marriott Grandview Hotel*  
Birmingham, AL

**September 11, 2009**

Board of Director's Meeting  
*Marriott Grandview Hotel*  
Birmingham, AL

**December 11, 2009**

Board of Director's Meeting  
*Wynfrey Hotel*  
Birmingham, AL

THE ELECTRIC CITIES OF ALABAMA IS A  
COALITION OF THE STATE'S MUNICIPALLY OWNED AND OPERATED ELECTRIC  
SYSTEMS. ALABAMA'S ELECTRIC CITIES SERVE APPROXIMATELY ONE MILLION  
CONSUMERS IN 36 CITIES THROUGHOUT ALABAMA.

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**ATTENTION  
ECA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**MARCH 24, 2009 AT 2:00 P.M.**

**RSA PLAZA TERRACE IN MONTGOMERY**

**THIS BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD IN  
CONJUNCTION WITH THE LEGISLATIVE  
BRIEFING & APPRECIATION RECEPTION.**