



ELECTRIC CITIES *Connected*

ECA Hosts Strategic Planning Meeting in Montgomery



Strategic Planning Meeting speaker, Brent Peinhardt, President of Vantage Associates

In addition to Electric Cities of Alabama’s (ECA) Legislative Meet & Greet Reception scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, 2011, ECA will conduct a Strategic Planning Meeting the following morning, Wednesday, March 30, 2011, at the Montgomery Renaissance Hotel and Spa for ECA’s regular electric cities members.

Principal and President of Vantage Associates in Birmingham, Ala., Brent Peinhardt, will be the featured speaker at the Strategic Planning Meeting. Peinhardt has a BS in Marketing along with an MBA degree from the University of Alabama. He is a professional facilitator and process consultant with experience in both planning and execution. Peinhardt has worked with companies on strategy since he began his

consulting career as a junior consultant at Vantage Consulting Group in 1980. Throughout his 30 years as a management consultant, Peinhardt has become recognized for his expertise in planning, performance management, marketing and sales.

ECA has a block of hotel rooms reserved at the Montgomery Renaissance Hotel and Spa. To reserve your room, please call the hotel at (800) 266-9432 and mention the “Electric Cities of Alabama” group block or go online to <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ElectricCitiesofAL> and enter in “Elcelca” for the discounted rate of \$129.00 a night. Below is a Schedule of Events for the Meet & Greet Reception as well as the Strategic Planning Meeting.

IN THIS ISSUE

ECA Hosts Strategic Planning Meeting.....	1
Congressional Member Spotlight: Mo Brooks.....	2-3
E&O Conference Moves to Ross Bridge.....	3
ECA Trivia Grid.....	3
Happenings on Goat Hill.....	4
Calendar of Events.....	5

Schedule of Events

Board of Directors Meeting & Legislative Meet & Greet Reception March 29, 2011 – RSA Plaza Terrace

2:00 P.M.	Board of Directors Meeting, Legislative and Ethics Briefings
5:30-7:00 P.M.	Legislative Meet & Greet Reception

Electric Cities Strategic Planning Meeting March 30, 2011 – Montgomery Renaissance Hotel and Spa

7:00-8:00 A.M.	Continental Breakfast
8:00-11:30 A.M.	Strategic Planning Meeting
11:30-1:30 P.M.	Working Lunch and Closing Remarks

Congressional Member Spotlight: Mo Brooks



Congressman Mo Brooks (AL-R, 5th)

Electric Cities of Alabama will feature a monthly spotlight on Alabama's Congressional Delegation to help its members learn more about the Alabama Congressional Members and their views on legislation. This month's spotlight is Congressman Mo Brooks.

Congressman Mo Brooks was elected by Alabama's Fifth Congressional District on November 2, 2010, to proudly serve the people of North Alabama in the U.S. House of Representatives. Brooks was selected to serve on three committees including Armed Services, Homeland Security, and Science, Space and Technology Committees. He is the Chairman of the Science, Space and Technology subcommittee on Research and Science Education.

In 1954, Brooks was born in Charleston, S.C., and moved to Huntsville, Ala. when he was just nine years old. He graduated from Duke University with a double major in political science and economics and from the University of Alabama Law School in 1978.

After graduation, Brooks worked as a prosecutor in the Tuscaloosa District Attorney's office and moved back to Huntsville where he served as a law clerk for presiding Circuit Court Judge John David Snodgrass. In 1982, Brooks was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives and was reelected in 1983, 1986, and 1990. While in the legislature, Brooks was elected Republican House Caucus Chairman three times, and was ranked number one (out of 140 legislators) by the Alabama Taxpayers' Defense Fund in the fight to protect family incomes from higher taxes. He was also ranked in the top 20 percent by Alabama Alliance of Business & Industry on pro-jobs, tort reform, and free enterprise issues, and was recognized as one of the legislature's most effective legislators by *Alabama Magazine*.

In 1991, Brooks was appointed Madison County District Attorney and ran for the Madison County Commission in 1996. He was reelected to the Commission in 2000, 2004, and 2008. During every year except when he was serving as a prosecutor or court clerk, Brooks held a second job in private practice. In 1995-1996, Brooks was appointed Special Assistant Attorney General for then Attorney General Jeff Sessions and from 1996-2002, was appointed Special Assistant Attorney General for then Attorney General Bill Pryor.

Brooks married his college sweetheart, Martha Jenkins, in 1976, and they are proud parents of four children.

What are your thoughts on Cap-and-Trade? I strongly oppose Cap and Trade. It's a red herring in the debate over energy and a front for higher taxes, higher costs for consumers, and losses for American businesses. It's a job-killing measure that will inflict heavy losses on already struggling businesses and manufacturers. The solution to providing new energy is free enterprise, innovation, and reduced regulations. Cap and Trade is not a solution to a problem, but part of the same problem. These new taxes would cripple the very industry they purport to help.

Do you feel Cap-and-Trade legislation will be a focus of the 112th Congress? Cap and Trade is dead in the 112th Congress. It is not on the Republican agenda. We're about creating jobs, not killing jobs. Cap and Trade forces utility companies to raise their rates, harming hundreds of thousands of Alabama households and employers.

What was the best part of your swearing-in ceremony? The best part of the swearing-in ceremony was having my family with me for such a special moment. Martha and I especially enjoyed the company during the reception in my office too – having so many people from the district up here with us was the highlight. We saw neighbors from 20 or 30 years ago who had traveled from other states to be with us.

continued on next page...

Congressional Member Spotlight: Mo Brooks (continued)

How are you adjusting to life in our Nation's Capitol? I live a few blocks from the office and love walking to work in the mornings. As I walk, I see the Capitol Dome and the House buildings with the U.S. flag snapping in the wind. It's inspiring, and a reminder of what an honor it is to be here during these challenging times. With skyrocketing deficits, crushing debt, and out of control spending, we have to make significant changes, or face a future where our children don't enjoy the same liberties and quality of life that we have been blessed with.

What would you like Electric Cities of Alabama members to know about you? That I'd like to hear from the members in the fifth district. Electrical generation capacity is critical to Alabama's economy and future. Local power companies literally keep the lights on for our citizens. I fully support the Tennessee Valley Authority's plans to build the Bellefonte Nuclear Generating Station to full capacity, providing more affordable energy and jobs to the region.

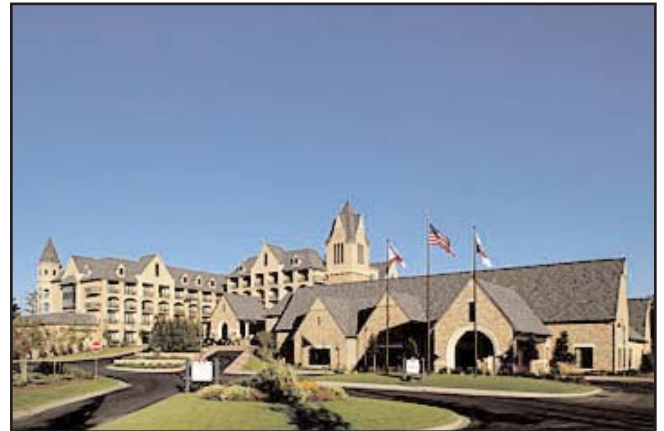
The most critical issue facing our country right now is the

unsustainable nature of the deficit, and the grave threat it is to our nation. The success of our economy, our businesses, and our entire commerce system depends on reducing that debt. I strongly believe that one of the most effective things government can do to aid commerce and get this country economically back on its feet is to get out of the way of businesses. Free enterprise helped build this country into a great nation, and we must encourage free enterprise by reducing taxes and excessive regulatory burdens on businesses.

E&O Conference Moves to Ross Bridge

The tenth annual Electric Cities of Alabama (ECA) Engineering and Operations Conference is moving to the Ross Bridge Golf Resort and Spa in Birmingham, Ala. Ross Bridge is one of Birmingham's finest hotels offering the third-longest golf course in the world. It features a Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail course highlighted by amazing views of the surrounding foothills.

This year's conference will be held October 19-21, 2011, and will offer outstanding training opportunities, social events and a chance to interact with ECA's associate members.



ECA Trivia Grid

What is the one state that does not have a single public power utility?

A. Alaska

B. New Mexico

C. Hawaii

D. Maine

Be the first to email the correct answer to Andrea Salvador at asalvador@electriccities.org and win a \$25.00 gift card. Good Luck!



Happenings on Goat Hill



January 25, 2011 - Governor Robert Bentley signs an executive order creating the Alabama Commission on Improving State Government, which is tasked with reducing government spending with minimal or no reduction in state services.

January 26, 2011 - Governor Robert Bentley appoints former Agriculture Commissioner Ron Sparks to head the Alabama Rural Development Office.

February 4, 2011 - Governor Bentley appoints Lt. Governor Kay Ivey to serve as the head of the newly-created Alabama Commission on Improving State Government.

February 10, 2011 - Governor Robert Bentley joins 27 other Republican governors in sending a letter to President Obama asking him to direct the U.S. Department of Justice to push for an expedited appeals process for the pending lawsuits challenging the healthcare program passed by Congress.

February 19, 2011 - Former Alabama State Senator Bill Armistead of Columbiana is elected the new chairman of the Alabama Republican Party.



IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Not registered for the Washington, D.C. Legislative Conference?
It's not too late!

Please log on to www.electriccities.org to download a copy of the registration form and fax or email back to the Electric Cities of Alabama office. ECA has meetings scheduled with the entire Alabama Congressional Delegation, you don't want to miss out on this opportunity to make a difference on behalf of the community and the industry.

This event is in conjunction with the American Public Power Association (APPA) Legislative Rally. To attend any APPA functions, you must also register directly with APPA. Visit their website at www.appanet.org for additional information.



Calendar
2011

ECA

February 28 - March 3, 2011

Washington Legislative Conference (in conjunction with APPA Rally)
The Mayflower Hotel
Washington, D.C.

March 29, 2011

Board of Directors Meeting
Montgomery Legislative Briefing & Appreciation Reception
RSA Plaza Terrace
Montgomery, AL

March 30, 2011

Strategic Planning Meeting
Montgomery Renaissance Hotel & Spa
Montgomery, AL

July 10, 2011

Annual Business Meeting (Board of Directors)
Perdido Beach Resort
Orange Beach, AL

July 10 - 12, 2011

Annual Meeting and Governmental Affairs Conference
Perdido Beach Resort
Orange Beach, AL

October 19 - 21, 2011

Engineering & Operations Conference
Ross Bridge Hotel & Spa
Birmingham, AL

October 21, 2011

Board of Directors Meeting
Ross Bridge Hotel & Spa
Birmingham, AL

THE INFORMATION SOURCE OF THE ELECTRIC CITIES OF ALABAMA

P.O. Box 1550
Montgomery, AL 36102-1550

804 South Perry St., Suite 200
Montgomery, AL 36104

Phone: 334-954-3221
Fax: 334-954-3223
www.electriccities.org

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.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: JONATHAN HAND - JHAND@ELECTRICCITIES.ORG
COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING ASSISTANT: ANDREA SALVADOR - ASALVADOR@ELECTRICCITIES.ORG

2011 Legislative Rally

FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 3 ■ MAYFLOWER HOTEL ■ WASHINGTON, D.C.

Featuring three in-depth pre-Rally seminars on February 28:

- Financial Regulatory Reform: How the Frank/Dodd Act Affects Public Power
- Grassroots Advocacy
- New Environmental Regulations and the Implications for the Electric Power Sector

Register today at www.APPALegislativeRally.org.

APPA Academy
Where Power and Knowledge Meet