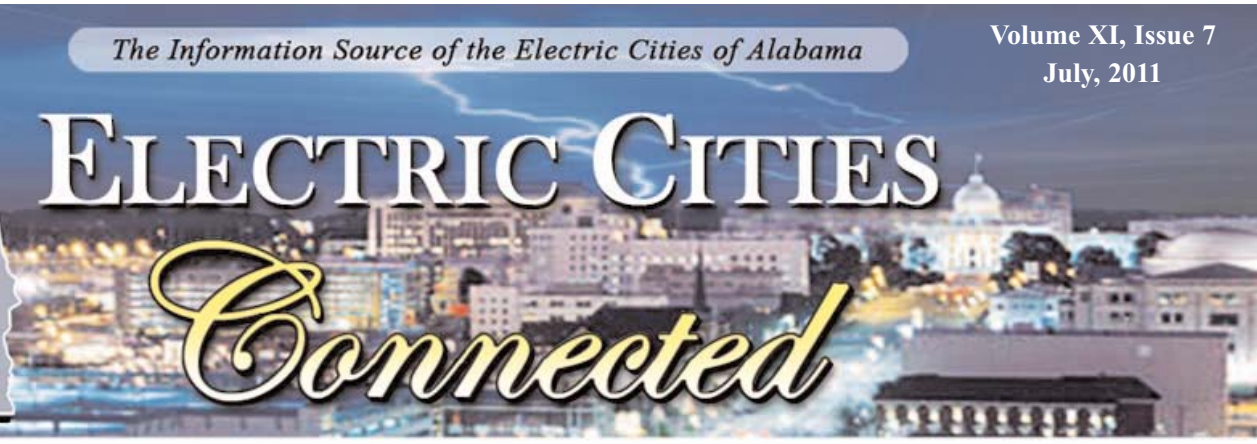
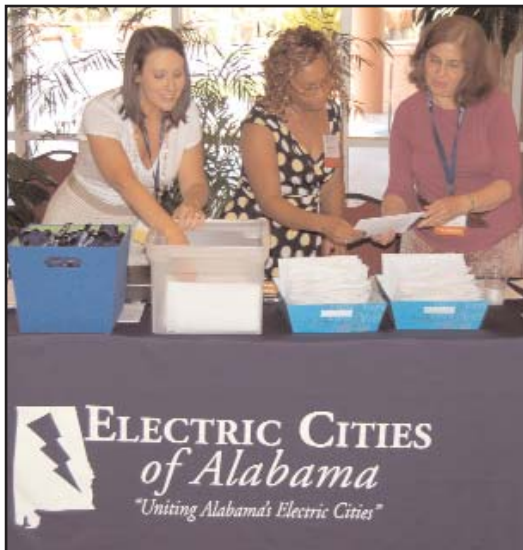


ELECTRIC CITIES *Connected*



Annual Meeting & Governmental Affairs Conference Highlights



Electric Cities of Alabama's (ECA) 11th Annual Meeting and Governmental Affairs Conference offered a variety of educational programs, networking opportunities, fellowship and entertainment for the entire family. More than 300 people from across the state of Alabama and surrounding areas gathered in Orange Beach, AL, July 10-12, for the 2011 conference.

This year's featured speakers included Bob Balzar, Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) VP of Energy Efficiency and Demand Response, who presented TVA's Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Program Update; Fred Clark, Alabama Municipal Electric Authority's President and CEO, who touched on the Impacts of EPA Actions; Kay Ivey, Alabama Lieutenant Governor, who addressed the State of the State; Alabama State Representatives Alan Boothe and

Kerry Rich, who participated in a roundtable discussion; Ken Smith, Alabama League of Municipalities' Executive Director, who outlined a Municipal Legislative Update; Wendell Cauley, Electric Cities of Alabama's Legal Counsel, who gave an Electric Legislative Update; and Brent Peinhardt, Principal and President of Vantage Associates, who held a Strategic Planning Meeting for ECA's utility members.

ECA proudly honored the 2011 awards recipients including United States Congressman Jo Bonner, who received the Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding support and assistance rendered to ECA; Senator Trip Pittman and Representative Kerry Rich, who were honored for their outstanding legislative contributions and continuous support to ECA; Ronnie Boles of Huntsville, who received Alabama's Public Service Award for his outstanding dedication to ECA; and Perry Roquemore, who received Alabama's Heritage Award for his many years of dedicated service.

This year's conference would not have been possible without the support from all of our sponsors. ECA thanks everyone who sponsored this year's event!

2011 Annual Meeting Sponsors:
Alabama League of Municipalities, AMEA, Atlantic Engineering Group, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, Central Service Association, Florida Transformer, Inc., Osmose Utilities Services, Inc. and TVA.



ECA Executive Director Jon Hand presents the 2011 Distinguished Service Award to United States Congressman Jo Bonner

ECA's registration desk at the 11th Annual Meeting and Governmental Affairs Conference

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2011 ECA Annual Meeting Photos



ECA's Annual Golf Outing, 1st Place:
Jim McArthur, Brenda Smith, Ken Smith,
Mark Kight



ECA's Annual Golf Outing, 2nd Place:
Scott Short, Wayne Fuller, Brandon
Stephens, David Horton



ECA's Annual Golf Outing, 3rd Place:
John Adams, Tyne Heartsill, Brad Colburn,
Mike Dugger



ECA's Annual Fish Outing:
Fishermen from Annie Girl pose with their catches of the day, including 1st place
winner, Karon Dugger (middle right), who caught a 13.7 lb fish



ECA's Annual Fish Outing:
Fishermen aboard the Aquastar. Winners
included Roy Hamilton who tied for 1st
place with a 13.7 lb fish and Fred Clark
who won 2nd place with an 8 lb fish



ECA's Annual Fish
Outing:
Fishermen aboard
Annie Girl
waiting to depart



ECA's Annual Fish
Outing:
Wayland Young
(right) poses with
his catch of the day

2011 ECA Annual Meeting Photos



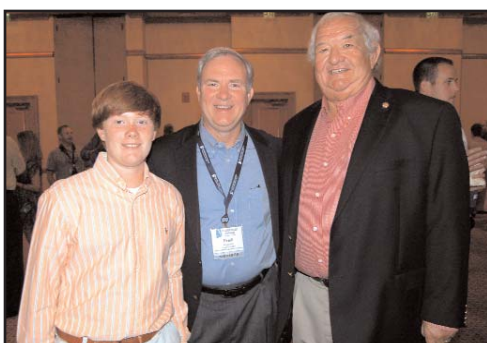
Alabama Lieutenant Governor Kay Ivey speaks during ECA's general sessions



Representatives Alan Boothe (left) and Kerry Rich (right) during the political roundtable discussions



Senator Trip Pittman speaks after being honored at ECA's Annual Dinner



Congressional Member Spotlight: Mike Rogers



Congressman Mike Rogers (AL-R, 3rd)

Electric Cities of Alabama features 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 Mike Rogers.

Mike Rogers, 52, was sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives in January 2003 and represents eastern Alabama's Third Congressional District.

A fifth generation resident of eastern Alabama, Mike graduated from Saks High School and earned both his undergraduate degree in Political Science and Masters of Public Administration at Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama.

At 28 years old, Mike became the youngest person and first Republican to join the Calhoun County Commission. While serving on the Commission and working for the United Way, Mike enrolled at

the Birmingham School of Law along with his wife, Beth, and upon graduating with honors began a general law practice in Anniston. Three years later he started his own firm, which grew to become Anniston's largest.

Mike says he considers himself most blessed to be the father of Emily (age 16), Evan (age 15) and Elliot (age 12), and to be married to his wife Beth for over 25 years. He and his family reside in the Saks community and attend Saks Baptist Church. In 1994, Mike began his service in the Alabama House of Representatives, and became House Minority Leader in 1998 during his second term.

Mike is Chairman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation Security, and serves as a senior member on the House Armed Services Committee. His top priorities include strengthening eastern Alabama's vital military facilities, advocating the state's agriculture interests, and helping grow the state's economy to provide new opportunities for jobs and development.

What do you feel is the greatest obstacle in Congress?

We have a deeply divided government. The make-up reflects the evenly divided perspectives of most Americans. Working with a Democratic controlled Senate, Republican House and Democratic President presents big obstacles.

ECA appreciates your position against Cap and Trade legislation as well as your position against the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regulation of greenhouse gas emissions. Do you feel Congress will limit EPA's ability to use the Clean Air Act to regulate greenhouse gas emissions during this Congress?

On April 7th, with my strong support, the House passed HR 910, the Energy Tax Protection Act of 2011. This legislation would prohibit the administrator of the EPA from promulgating any regulations or taking any actions to consider the emission of greenhouse gases to address climate change. In addition the bill would remove many regulations put into effect by the Clean Air Act, including the mandatory reporting of greenhouse gasses. I feel strongly that the EPA cannot increase regulations and create lower energy prices or more jobs. The EPA has ballooned to a size which is unsustainable and seems to have a primary focus of bullying states and businesses.

What has changed the most during your tenure in Congress?

When the Republicans lost the majority in 2006, many senior Republican members left Congress. Their absence along with my time in Congress has made me one of the most senior members on the committees I serve on.

continued on page 5

Congressional Member Spotlight: Rogers (Continued)

What does the future look like for domestic energy production?

The House has proposed and passed many pieces of legislation which would open many new sources for energy exploration. I understand the importance of coal to our economy and have opposed many of the new regulations put on an industry that has constantly been reducing their environmental footprint.

Do you believe Congress will reach a solution regarding the debt ceiling crisis before the August 2, 2011, debt default deadline?

Some sort of agreement looks more likely than not, although the details are not yet clear.

What would you like Electric Cities of Alabama members to know about you?

In Congress, we are often dealing with weighty and complex issues, but my number one priority since I took office in 2003 has not changed. Making sure that I represent the interests of the people of eastern Alabama through my office and especially with constituent services is my top priority. I urge any of your membership to contact me if my office can ever be of assistance.

ECA Members Make Local News

Opelika Light and Power along with Osmose Utility Services, Inc. made the local news earlier this month. Opelika Light and Power wanted to make customers aware that an Osmose Utility Service data technician would be collecting information from residents. See article below from WRBL CBS News 3 in Opelika.

Opelika Light and Power wants you to know if you see or hear this man at your house, don't be alarmed.

His name is Barry Broome and he is a data technician with Osmose Utility Service.

"My job is to visit each pole and meter to take a GPS and video clip," says Broome.

He will be doing that for each customer from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Opelika Light and Power say the technician should only be at your house for a matter of a few minutes. If you have any questions, you are asked to call them or the Opelika Police Department.

Captain Alan Elkins with Opelika Police says there has only been one other time where they received concerned calls about unannounced house visits.

Elkins says representatives with the census were not wearing their names badges.

"The only complaints we've had in the last year with suspicious vehicles is when the people were taking the census reports," says Elkins.

Opelika Light and Power says Broome will be the only one collecting the data. He will be driving a marked car and wearing a badge.

"The meter may be on the back of the house, and there might be a fence and a gate, and I'll enter in through the gate and visit the meter and some people are just curious as to what I'm doing," says Broome.

Micah Peckham with Opelika Light and Power says the data they collect will be used to update their system.

"What we're doing is a full fledged inventory to gather what we do actually have out here in the field," says Peckham.

Called an Outage Management System with mapping now all online, the new system will help with storm restoration after afternoon thunderstorms knock out power.

"People may not be home when the powers out, but we can have it restored without an actual phone call coming in and letting us know their powers out," Peckham says.

Peckham says for those who might be uncomfortable with Broome's visit, to call them. Peckham says they will send out a representative to tag along.

If you aren't sure who the workmen are, you can either call the Opelika Light & Power Department at 334-705-5570 to see if the utility crews are working in your neighborhood that day, or you can call the Opelika Police Department at 334-705-5200 and ask them to check it out for you.

Article courtesy of Sarah Panko, Digital Journalist for the WRBL news team

Reid Open to Voting on Balanced Budget Amendment



From left: Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, Majority Whip Dick Durbin, Democratic Conference Secretary Patty Murray and Democratic Conference Vice Chairman Charles Schumer conduct a news conference July 27 in the Capitol to criticize Speaker John Boehner's deficit reduction proposal. Photo courtesy of Bill Clark, Roll Call Staff.

By Steven T. Dennis and Humberto Sanchez
Roll Call Staff
July 29, 2011

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) said he would be open to allowing a vote on a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution and other compromises if Republicans are willing to cut a deal taking a debt default off of the table through 2012.

"If people want a vote on that, fine," Reid said of the balanced budget amendment Friday.

But the House plan's short-term increase and requirement for the actual passage of an amendment to the Constitution — not just a vote —

are poison pills in the Senate, Democrats said.

"It's really time they legislate," Reid said.

Reid's No. 3 lieutenant, Conference Vice Chairman Charles Schumer (N.Y.), said the GOP bill would "guarantee" a default because the amendment would never pass the Senate, and Majority Whip Dick Durbin ripped the GOP plan for turning the Constitution into a "bargaining chip."

"I wish Robert Byrd were still here," he said, referencing the late West Virginia Democrat who was known as the "dean of the Senate" and a self-taught constitutional scholar.

Reid, meanwhile, repeated his call on Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) to meet with him and help find a solution later today.

"I'm confident he will," Reid said.

Democrats said they are heading toward a 1 a.m. vote Sunday on their own plan if a bipartisan deal isn't reached later today.

Reid said he was open to adding McConnell's fallback language to Reid's own deficit reduction plan. McConnell's Plan B proposal would allow President Barack Obama to raise the debt limit in three stages over the next 17 months, but Congress could block that by passing a resolution of disapproval and possibly overcoming any presidential veto.

Senior Democratic leadership aides said the Reid bill now includes additional savings from mandatory programs. Aides said the plan now would cut \$2.5 trillion from the

deficit over 10 years. Democrats initially said the package would cut \$2.7 trillion from the deficit, but the Congressional Budget Office scored it as \$2.2 trillion.

Reid also showed a willingness to consider triggers that would force Congressional action on a deficit reduction plan. Both Reid's proposal and Boehner's plan would create such a committee, but Reid said he would be open to allowing other Senators, such as the bipartisan "gang of six," to force their proposals to the floor if that panel deadlocks.

But Reid said Republicans haven't yet been willing to come to the table.

"I'm happy to look at different alternatives," he said.

Other Democrats also suggested including trigger mechanisms Friday, including Obama, Senate Budget Chairman Kent Conrad (N.D.) and Durbin.

Durbin and Conrad — both members of the gang of six — said any trigger would have to inflict pain for both parties if the joint committee fails to devise a deficit reduction package. That means a trigger could not just target more spending cuts, and Obama said any enforcement mechanism would have to be "smart and balanced."

Conrad said a trigger is being developed that would include spending cuts and tax increases.

"We spent a lot of time on it, but we will just have to see," Conrad said. "We have not had a chance to share it broadly on their side."

ECA Classifieds



Scottsboro, AL, Electric Power Board (SEPB) Electrical Engineer

The Scottsboro, AL, Electric Power Board (SEPB) seeks an electrical engineer for its distribution system. Candidate must have knowledge of engine generator plants, as Scottsboro EPB has a 10-megawatt Caterpillar generation plant. Candidate should also have a four-year degree in electrical engineering and at least five years' experience with an electric utility. A professional engineer (PE) license is preferred. Scottsboro EPB's system consists of 265 miles of 13-kv distribution and 23 miles of 46-kv sub transmission lines. Scottsboro EPB has been a TVA power distributor since 1939, has annual revenues of \$35 million and serves 8,500 electric, 5,500 cable TV, 3,500 Internet and 2,200 telephone customers. To apply or obtain more information, contact James B. Sandlin, P.O. Box 550, Scottsboro, AL 35768, (256) 912-0001, www.sepb.net.

ECA Trivia Grid

In 1660, inventor Otto von Guericke invented the first known machine to produce electricity. What type of basic electricity did his machine produce?

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



Last month's winner was David Horton with Riviera Utilities. He answered "lightning" was the natural phenomena that Benjamin Franklin discovered in 1752. Congratulations David!



Attention all vendors and sponsors: This year's Engineering and Operations Conference will offer a number of new sponsorship opportunities. If you are interested in sponsoring an event at this year's conference, contact the ECA office at (334) 954-3221 for more information.



Calendar
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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

July 8, 2012
Annual Business Meeting
(Board of Directors)
Perdido Beach Resort
Orange Beach, AL

July 8 - 10, 2012
Annual Meeting and
Governmental Affairs
Conference
Perdido Beach Resort
Orange Beach, AL

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Oct. 19-21, 2011
Ross Bridge, Birmingham, AL



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Registration Materials will be mailed in early fall.