

Southwind

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Association of
Electric Motor Repair Shops
for Co-operative
Self-Improvement

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Robin Ireland

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Executive
Secretary-Treasurer
Raymond K. Paden

Meeting Planner
Brenda Cole

SCANDAL ROCKS SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER

By Chapter President Ray Paden

Ladies and gentlemen of the Southeastern Chapter, friends and associates, it is with a very heavy heart that I sit today to write these words. We live in a day and time marked by scandals that have shaken our society from its very foundations all the way up to the highest halls of power in this nation, and now it seems that our own Southeastern Chapter has been touched by this dark phenomenon as well. I have been active in this organization for almost eleven years, and in that time I have come to love the Electrical Apparatus Service Association, and especially this chapter. It grieves me deeply, therefore, to have to reveal the disturbing and alarming facts that have come to my attention.

About five years ago I was asked to serve on the chapter Board as a state director and then as an officer of the chapter. Soon after that I learned that our chapter President was sleeping with the Georgia State Director. Within a year that state director began sleeping with our EASA International Director for Region 2. I was shocked by these goings-on, but then I learned that our chapter's Vice President was (until recently) sleeping with the chapter's Virginia State Director, and is now sleeping with the chapter Secretary/Treasurer (not to be confused with the chapter *Executive* Secretary-Treasurer, which is me.)

This is a shocking state of affairs! Our chapter's Georgia State Director, Bill Cole is indeed married to chapter past-president and current International Region 2 Director Brenda Cole. And chapter Vice President Lenwood Ireland is married to chapter Secretary/Treasurer Robin Ireland who was previously our chapter's Virginia State Director. If these couples weren't married—to each other—I guess it wouldn't be all that scandalous and I wouldn't feel the need to mention it (you hear about *that* sort of thing all the time) but the scandal, of course, is that the Southeastern Chapter must call upon the same member firms, the same people, *the same families* to serve over and over, year after year.

In the last Southwind I pointed out that our chapter, although generally healthy, is suffering from a serious lack of participation. It is a minority of our members who attend conferences and even fewer who volunteer to serve the chapter, but this is not unusual these days in EASA. It is a problem with which every chapter and the entire organization now struggles. Why is this true?

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Maybe members do not see the full value of participation. My father's company was a member for many years before I ever became "involved" in EASA. I saw the newsletters come in the mail and occasionally wondered what went on, but year after year we just paid our dues and allowed others to participate. It wasn't that we did not *value* our membership in the Electrical Apparatus Service Association—the plaque on the wall proved that we did—it was just that the full value our membership could offer us was a mystery. I can still hear my old dad bark when I asked him why he never went to EASA meetings: "All they do is a bunch of drinkin' and dancin' at those things." Well, I finally went myself and I learned that they do much more than drink and dance, and that the value EASA offered to our company went far beyond a logo on our letterhead and engineering help every now and then. If you do not see that value, I ask you to get involved and see if you do not find it.

The Southeastern Chapter needs you. It is time for us to elect new Florida and Georgia State Directors, and a new Chapter Secretary/Treasurer must be chosen from the board. If your firm is an Active member of EASA, the only qualifications you need are:

- A willingness to serve
- A willingness to show up at our chapter meetings and at the Board of Directors meeting
- A willingness to share your ideas and opinions with the Board and to give them the benefit of your judgment

Stop the scandals!

Call the chapter office *today* to volunteer and get involved in your chapter now.

Southeastern Chapter Board of Directors to Meet Soon!

Yes, it is time for the board to meet once again, in conjunction with the annual Fall Conference to be held at the beautiful King and Prince Beach & Golf Resort on St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Do you have any business that should come before the board? If so, please contact the chapter office right away so that your matter can be added to the agenda.

2007 Fall Conference Information is in the Mail NOW

Are you still receiving communications from the chapter via "snail mail"? If so, your paper registration package should have arrived a few days ago. To avoid disappointment, *please don't drag your feet!*

Of course, if you have signed up to receive communications from the chapter electronically, you received *your* conference information more than a week before everyone else. You enjoyed your head-start on everyone else, you saved money with "early-bird" discounts, and you saved your chapter almost two dollars. That really adds up!

If you haven't signed up for electronic communication from the chapter, please do so today. You can also download registration information forms and more at www.easasoutheast.org/2007FC.



King and Prince Beach & Golf Resort

201 Arnold Road
St. Simons Island, GA 31522
(800) 342-0212

Two room options are available:
Ocean View - \$140 per night and
Resort View - \$130 per night.

Reserve early to get your preference, and ask for the EASA rates.

Hotel cut-off date is September 10

After this date, or when our block is sold out, rooms will be reserved at these rates "as available."

Years of Service Awards

The following Southeastern Chapter members are eligible for awards honoring their years of service in the electrical apparatus repair industry. We will be happy and proud to present these awards to their representatives at the 2007 Fall Conference.

100 Years of Service

Wow! Can you believe it? One hundred years, a full century of service!

Armature Winding Company	Charlotte, NC
Jenkins Electric Company Inc.	Charlotte, NC

80 Years of Service

Electro Mechanical South Inc.	Sarasota, FL
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75 Years of Service

Caddell Electric Company	Norfolk, VA
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60 Years of Service

Bob Dean Supply Inc.	Fort Myers, FL
Dillon Electric Service	Dillon, SC
Industrial Electric Co. of GA	Atlanta, GA

50 Years of Service

Electric Motors of Palm Beach	West Palm Beach, FL
Indian River Armature Inc.	Fort Pierce, FL
Mooreville Electric Motor Service	Mooreville, NC

40 Years of Service

A&A Electric Motor and Repair	Aiken, SC
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25 Years of Service

Mader Electric Motors	North Fort Myers, FL
Stewart's Electric Motor Works	Orlando, FL
United Engineering Services Ltd	Couva, Trinidad
Wayne Electric Motor & Pump	Delray Beach, FL
Franklyn & Errol Elec Motor Rewinding	San Fernando
Coastal Service & Supply	Largo, FL
Evangelista Electric Motor of Arecibo	Arecibo, PR

Do you know of another chapter member that is eligible for a years of service award, but is not listed here? How about an individual who has passed a milestone of years of service to our industry in 2007? Please contact the chapter office so that we can honor them also.

Hey!

Mind Your Own Business!

The Southeastern Chapter's Annual Business Meeting will be held at 2:00 PM on Friday, October 12. This is *your* business meeting, and I hope that you will be there when we consider the following:

- The annual financial report
- The annual membership report
- Any proposals that may have arisen from the roundtable discussions
- Proposals to address the governance of the chapter *vis-à-vis* the lack of member participation. This might include proposals to amend our bylaws to do the following:
 - (a) Extend the terms of office for directors and officers
 - (b) Allow Affiliate Members (vendors) to serve as state directors and/or officers of the chapter
 - (c) Allow for the appointment of directors as opposed to holding elections
 - (d) Allow states to remain unrepresented on the board if no willing candidate for that state can be found

Historically, attendance at chapter business meetings has been disappointing. We want and need you to participate in this organization, to contribute your time, your experience, your judgment and your opinions. *This is your chapter and your organization!* Get involved and exercise your right to play a part in its governance now, or you will eventually lose that right.

International Chairman George Stratton and Secretary David Griffin (visiting all the way from Texas and the United Kingdom, respectively) will join us for this meeting, and Chairman Stratton will address the assembly. I hope that they will depart with a good impression of the Southeastern Chapter and its members. Please make sure that you are present and ready to *mind your own business*.



Southeastern Chapter
Electrical Apparatus Service Association
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Southeastern Chapter to Honor Past Chapter and International President E. Steve Darby at 2007 Fall Conference

The Southeastern Chapter lost a friend this year when past Chapter and EASA International President E. Steve Darby passed away January 6. Steve was very active in the organization and dedicated to its welfare, and we wish to honor him by holding the 2007 Fall Conference “President’s Reception” in his memory. Please plan to attend.



E. Steve Darby
1937 – 2007