

Southwind

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1st QUARTER 2009



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

Board of Directors

President
Lenwood Ireland

Vice-President
Robin Ireland

Secretary-Treasurer
Charlie Brown

Florida Director
Jack Heinz

Georgia Director
Lyn Johnson

North Carolina Director
Wayne Hall

South Carolina Director
Chris Raines

Virginia Director
Steve Martin

Directors at Large
Raymond K. Paden
Ric Romanoff

Affiliate Representative
Joe Wilkinson

Region 2 Director
Charles Wilson

Executive
Secretary-Treasurer
Raymond K. Paden

Change!

As newborns we are completely dependent upon others for our needs. A baby's cry alerts us to a need. It may be a cry of hunger, a cry to hug me or a cry that says "I need a diaper change." We all benefit from that change!

Depending on what side of change you find yourself, it can either be a wonderfully refreshing change or it can be a challenging change, often unpleasant. We have entered 2009 with the hopes of change.

As an organization we have sought to answer the cries sent forth by our fellow EASA members, our customers and our vendors. What do we change, how do we change and where does the change lead us? At our International conventions and Regional conferences we have been inspired by guest speakers, entertained by the talented, and educated in new technology by those who go out before us searching for innovative change in our industry.

Our organization's continued success is dependent upon each of us being willing to support it. How do we show our support? By paying our membership dues, by being willing to volunteer to serve at chapter, regional and international levels, by seeking and sharing new ideas for our industry and by attending our conventions. When we invest in our organization we have a direct effect upon our own success in our industry.

This year has started out challenging and unpleasant. I have chosen to handle it by remembering the Ultimate Supplier of our needs, by being alert for "cries of need" and committing to help where I can. At our most recent joint conference in Ocean City, I was "wonderfully refreshed" by my attendance. I encourage each of us to invest in our futures and I hope to see you at our next scheduled conference.

God Bless you, your families and your businesses!

Robin S. Ireland
Ireland Electric Company
Vice-President EASA Southeastern Chapter

Board of Directors to Meet Soon

It's time once again for the Southeastern Chapter Board of Directors to meet and consider chapter business. If you have a matter you would like them to consider, please contact the chapter office no later than March 30 in order to have your issue placed on the agenda.

The Southeastern Chapter Board of Directors has voted to present the following proposed bylaws amendment to the membership for approval or rejection:

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Chapter Bylaws be and the same are hereby amended as follows:
(Changes to the bylaws as currently written are printed in *italics*.)

(1) Article VI, Section 2 shall be amended to read as follows:

Section 2. Board Make-up

The Chapter's Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer who shall be elected by and from the Board of Directors; the immediate Past President (who served a full term) as a Director-at-Large, five State Directors elected, *except as otherwise provided herein*, by the membership in the state they will represent, one Affiliate Representative elected by the Board, and in addition such Directors-at-Large as may be elected under Section 5. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer, the International Directors from Region II and the Affiliate Representative shall be non-voting, ex-officio members of the Board.

(2) Article VI, Section 7 shall be amended to read as follows:

Section 7. Succession

No Director or Affiliate Representative shall be eligible to succeed him or her self after having served two consecutive two-year terms until an interval of one year has elapsed *except as otherwise provided herein*. This rule does not apply to the immediate Past President serving as a Director-at-Large for the administrative year immediately following the year he/she served as President.

(2) Article VI, Section 8 shall be amended to read as follows:

Section 8, Director Election

- (a) For all state director positions that will become vacant, or where the current state director has reached the end of his/her first term, not less than 120 days prior to the Annual Fall Conference meeting of the Board of Directors, the Nominating Committee shall identify candidates qualified under Section 18 of this Article and shall forward these names to the Executive Secretary/Treasurer.*
- (b) In the event that more than one candidate is found for a state directorship, not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Fall Conference meeting of the Board of Directors, the Executive Secretary/Treasurer shall prepare and present ballots to the members of record within the state where the directorship is vacant or the current state director has reached the end of his/her first term. The candidate who receives a majority of votes shall be elected to the directorship. In the event there are more than two candidates and no candidate receives a majority of votes, the candidate who receives a plurality of votes shall be elected to the directorship.*
- (c) In the event only one qualified candidate can be found for a state directorship, at the Annual Fall Conference meeting of the Board of Directors the board may, by majority vote, appoint the single qualified candidate to the directorship or leave the directorship vacant.*
- (d) In the event no qualified candidate can be found to serve where the current state director has reached the end of his/her second term and would otherwise be ineligible to serve, upon majority vote the board may ask the current state director to serve for another two-year term, a one-year term, or until his/her successor is elected or appointed.*

After long debate and consideration, the Southeastern Chapter Board of Directors has proposed the amendment on the previous page to address a problem that has become frequent and troubling in recent years. According to our chapter's bylaws, the board of directors is to be made up of three officers (the President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer) five state directors (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia) at least one Director At Large, and the Affiliate Representative and Executive Secretary/Treasurer as non-voting members. Unfortunately, it has become increasingly difficult to find qualified members of the chapter willing to serve as state directors. In cases where only one willing candidate could be found, the board has often decided to forgo the wasteful (and silly) expenditure of chapter funds to conduct an "election" with a single candidate on the ballot. (In order to be "qualified" under our bylaws, a candidate must be "willing to serve" and since write-in candidates cannot be assumed "willing to serve" they cannot be included on a valid ballot.) In other cases, the board has been forced to ask a current director to remain beyond the end of his/her term because no willing candidate could be found. Both of these courses are contrary to the letter of our bylaws, but the only other option is to allow a seat to become vacant, leaving a state unrepresented on the board.

As the board considered these problems, it also found some areas in the bylaws where it felt clarification on the process of choosing and electing directors would be helpful. To address these issues, the amendment on the previous page was drafted, and would have the following affects:

1. Establishes that director nominees are to be identified and nominated by the Nominating Committee
2. Provides that in an election of more than two candidates, if no candidate receives a majority vote the candidate who receives a plurality of votes shall be elected
3. Provides that in the event only one qualified candidate can be identified, the board may vote to appoint that candidate to serve instead of holding an election with only one candidate
4. Provides that in the event no qualified candidate for state director can be found, the board may vote to appoint (ask) the current state director to continue to serve another 2-year term, a 1-year term, or until his/her successor can be elected or appointed

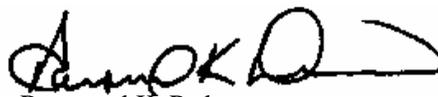
Except for numbers 1 and 2, none of these is considered ideal or preferred, but are attempts to deal with a situation that is otherwise untenable. The board would *always* prefer that elections be held with *at least* two qualified candidates. The board would *always* prefer that director candidates stand for election/reelection at the end of *every* 2-year term. The board would *always* prefer that each state be represented by a director from that state. But the board does *not* want to see any seats on the board vacant because qualified candidates cannot be found.

At this point, someone is certainly questioning why there is a shortage of "qualified" candidates when they have not been contacted by the board. What are the qualifications for state director and why haven't you been asked to serve? First of all, a director candidate must be *willing to serve*. "Serve" primarily means attending meetings of board held (usually) twice a year. Unlike EASA International, the chapter does not have the resources to fund our board's travel and lodging expenses, so our directors must be willing to pay their own way to the meetings. For this reason, the first thing we look for in a prospective candidate is attendance at chapter conferences ... at least every once in a while. Serving also means participating in the board's discussions and decision-making. You don't have to be master of politics and debate; just allow the board to benefit from your knowledge and experience. The most important qualification is *willing* and in the past we have contacted *every member* in certain states trying to find a person willing to serve, but without success. If you are willing to serve, please let us know. But in the meantime, the board asks you to consider these changes to our bylaws to help us deal with the situation as it is today.

And please remember ... unreturned ballots can no longer be counted as affirmative votes. Votes from ten-percent of our Active members must be received in order to constitute a quorum, and a two-thirds majority is required to adopt such an amendment. *Please return your ballot! Even if you choose to only vote "present" you will still help decide this important question by helping constitute a quorum.*

The ballots should be mailed to Active chapter members by May 1, 2009 and the due date for returning them will be June 15. Instructions will be included for voting by return mail, fax or email, so please be prepared to decide on this issue. We are counting on you!

Thank you for your participation in the governance of your chapter.



Raymond K. Paden
Executive Secretary/Treasurer

Name _____ Address _____
Phone # _____
Email Address _____

Please choose your preference using 1 as your first choice and 2 for your second choice.

Month of Conference:

September _____ October _____ November _____ December _____

Other: _____

Days of the week:

Thursday _____ Friday _____ Saturday _____ Sunday _____ Monday _____

OTHER: _____

Location of Conference:

Myrtle Beach, SC _____ Charlotte, NC _____ Greenville, SC _____

Other: _____

Types of Program:

Technical Training _____ Business Seminar _____ Women's Event _____

Combination Tech. & Business _____ Sight Seeing Event _____

Other: _____

Training

Most technical training require 1 ½- 2 days. To achieve the best attendance, what two days would be best for your schedule? _____

What type of training would benefit:

your company _____

your employees _____

yourself _____

Vendors & Exhibits: What days and how many would be best for your schedules?

What hours and how many do you wish the Exhibit Hall to be open and available?

Would you sponsor?

Break Out _____ Breakfast _____ Lunch _____ Dinner _____

Training Session _____ Women's Gift _____ Social Event _____

Give Aways _____

Would you volunteer to serve?

Pre-conference planning _____ On Site Assistant _____

Guest Speaker _____ Room Captain _____

Other: _____

Additional comments and suggestions: _____



**Southeastern Chapter
Electrical Apparatus Service Association**

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**The Chapter
Remembers ...**

We are sorry to announce the passing of two of our friends in EASA and the Southeastern Chapter.

Myra Rigsbee passed away on February 2. Myra was active with her husband Martin Sr. at Southern Electric Motor Company in Durham, NC.

Ed Jenkins Sr., founder of Jenkins Electric Company in Charlotte, North Carolina, passed away on February 21. Ed received the EASA Exceptional Service award in 2006.

Both were active in our chapter and loved this association. Our condolences go out to their families and loved ones during this time of loss.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN
THIS ISSUE OF SOUTHWIND!**

If you are a voting member of the Southeastern Chapter, you will soon receive a ballot to vote on several proposed amendments to the chapter bylaws. Since we no longer count unreturned ballots as affirmative votes, it is vitally important that you participate in this decision-making process. Without your involvement we cannot reach a decision on these important changes to our corporation's bylaws.

Inside this issue of Southwind you will find the text and a description of these proposed changes. Please take the time to read and consider them, then vote as you see fit when your ballot arrives.