



# SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF STEEL FABRICATORS CONVENTION



PONTE VEDRA INN & CLUB  
PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FLORIDA  
JUNE 3-6, 2010



# Southern Association of Steel Fabricators, Inc.

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To: All SASF Members

Reference: Ponte Vedra Convention

It's that time of year when we turn our thoughts to Ponte Vedra Beach and our annual joint meeting with VCSSFA. As all of you know, the dates for this year are June 3<sup>rd</sup> thru June 6<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for room reservations is May 1<sup>st</sup>, so please make your plans now.

Enclosed are registration forms and meeting schedules. Please get your forms back to me as soon as possible, but no later than May 24<sup>th</sup>. We have booked Bill Bates as our feature speaker on Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> and his bio is printed on the back page and spouses are certainly welcome to his presentation and any of our other meetings.

I look forward to seeing each of you in Ponte Vedra Beach. If you have any questions or need help registering, please call at 404-766-1632 (ext. 23) or e-mail me at [vernon@ahqi.com](mailto:vernon@ahqi.com).

Sincerely,

Vernon Thomas  
Executive Director  
SASF



# 2010 SASF Convention Schedule



## Thursday, June 3

9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon ..... Board of Directors Meeting  
 12:00 Noon ..... Lunch on your own  
 1:00 ..... Golf (limited tee times available)  
 3:30 - 6:00 PM ..... Keg Time on the Beach (room 161)  
 7:00 - 8:30 PM ..... Surfside Cocktail Party  
 8:30 - 11:00 PM ..... Dinner & Dance

## Friday, June 4

7:00 - 8:30 AM ..... Breakfast on your own  
 8:30 - 8:45 AM ..... Opening Remarks  
 8:45 - 9:45 AM ..... Keynote speaker: Bill Bates  
 9:45 - 10:00 AM ..... Break  
 9:45 AM ..... Ladies Putting Contest  
 10:00 - 10:30 AM ..... Bill Bates (continued)  
 10:30 - 11:00 AM ..... AISC Report  
 1:00 PM ..... Golf Tournament  
 6:30 - 12:00 AM ..... Banquet

## Saturday, June 5

7:00 - 8:30 AM ..... Breakfast on your own  
 8:30 - 8:45 ..... Opening Remarks  
 8:45 - 9:45 AM ..... Herman Fussell of Shapiro, Fussell, Wedge, Smotherman & Martin  
 will be speaking on ***“Collecting Money in Hard Times”***  
 9:45 - 10:00 AM ..... Break  
 10:00 - 11:00 AM ..... Angela Stephens & David Ratterman from Stites & Harbison  
 will be speaking on ***“Selling Green Steel”***  
 11:00 - 11:30 AM ..... Steel Supplier Reports/Industry Discussions  
 2:00 - 4:00 PM ..... Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament  
 1:00 PM ..... Golf (limited tee times available)  
 3:00 PM ..... Keg Time, Louisiana Crawfish Boil  
 3:30 PM ..... Volley Ball  
 7:30 PM ..... Dinner on your own

## Sunday, June 6

7:00 - 10:00 AM ..... Breakfast on your own  
 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon ..... Departure

**Please note that the dress for the Thursday Surfside Cocktail Party will be casual. Dress for the Friday Banquet will be coat and tie.**



Our Feature Speaker for our Friday morning session will be  
***Bill Bates***

One of the NFL's true success stories, Bill Bates has overcome the odds his entire career, starting in 1983 when he made the Dallas Cowboys as a long shot free agent rookie. Bill immediately became a visible figure on the field with his ferocious special teams play. It was Bill's notoriety that helped propel the NFL into adding a spot on Pro Bowl teams for Special Teams coverage players. In 1984 he became the first NFC player so honored.

Bill was a very visible member of the Dallas nickel defense at the middle linebacker position. His last minute interception at Chicago's Soldier Field preserved Dallas' 17-13 win in the team's triumphant return to the play-offs after a six year absence, and will surely go down as one of the big plays in the re-building of the Dallas Cowboys.

Prior to the 1990 season, Jimmy Johnson tabbed Bill as the Cowboy's Special Team Captain. When Barry Switzer took over as coach in 1994, he made sure Bill's role would remain the same; Bill held the position during Coach Switzer's entire five-year tenure. Bill, along with Ed "Too Tall" Jones, share the NFL record of playing 15

years for the Dallas Cowboy's Football Club.

During his tenure with the Cowboys, Bill has been the recipient of numerous recognitions and awards. He was a perennial selection for the All-Madden Team. Along with being on the Madden/Summeral "ALL DALLAS COWBOY TEAM," in 1999 Bill was inducted into the Madden Hall of Fame. Starting with six years playing for legendary coach Tom Landry, Bill was an inspirational team leader and he exemplified the qualities of perseverance and dedication every time he stepped onto the field.

In 1995 the fans and his teammates presented Bill with the "Unsung Hero" Award, which is given to one player from each NFL team. He has also been the recipient of the Dallas All Sports Association Courage Award. After the 1993 season, Bill was selected by his teammates to receive the Ed Block Courage Award for successfully overcoming a disabling knee injury that prematurely ended his 1992 season. He was also named the winner of the Bob Lilly Award four years in a row, from 1990-1994. This annual award is selected by a vote of the fans and goes to the Cowboy player who displays leadership and character on and off the field.

In 1997, Dallas Cowboys Special Teams Captain, Bill Bates, finished his fifteenth successful season with the NFL. A member of the 1992, 1993, and 1995 Super Bowl Champions team Bill is a longtime favorite of Cowboys fans.

In 1998, Bill successfully moved into his new career as coach for the Cowboys. For two years, Bill was an assistant Special Teams and Nickel Back coach with the team, and in 2000, he was promoted to the Cowboy's Secondary Coach. After 21 years with the Dallas Cowboys, Bill became Special Teams Coach of the Jacksonville Jaguars from 2003-2004.

Prior to the NFL, Bill was a four year starting safety at Tennessee. He was named second-team All-Southern Conference his junior and senior seasons. In 2004 he was awarded a position on the 100-Year All Tennessee Team. Bill developed a reputation as the Volunteer's hardest hitter and surest tackler. He intercepted nine passes and recovered six fumbles during his college career.

William Fredrick Bates was born and raised in Knoxville, TN, where he starred in football, basketball, and as a sprinter on the track team at Farragut High School. He was All-State in football and basketball.

Bill and his wife, Denise, met in college, married in 1985, and have five children: triplets Graham, Hunter and Brianna, Tanner and Dillon. In 2003, the Bates family moved from Dallas to Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

Bill and Denise have devoted countless hours to various charitable and civic organizations, including United Way, Children's Medical Center, Scottish Rite Hospital, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Campus Crusade, and Young Life.

The Bates family is very involved in their church and local community organizations in Florida. Bill is a partner in a temperature controlled shoulder pad company, custom home business, and video streaming sports network company. He is also the Special Teams coach for the Ponte Vedra High School football team.