



**SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP
FOR 2003**

Volume 15 Number 4
July - August 2003

PREZ SEZ

Hi, everyone. Hope you all are doing well. It was really good to see everyone at our indoor picnic. I still have trouble thinking of it as a picnic when you have nice comfortable tables and chairs and air conditioning instead of blankets for tables and ants to combat. We had a good crowd, but I think it was a little smaller than we've had the last couple of years. I think we had about the same number of reservations, but we had more no-shows than in the recent past.

Most everyone seemed to enjoy the old pictures of the engineering groups that were given to us by the K.W. Boyles family after the passing of Elizabeth Boyles a few months back. It goes without saying that it was good to see some of the coworkers we so rarely see.

Dora did her usual good job in arranging for the meeting place, the meal and all the other details necessary for everything to go smoothly and for these things, we sincerely thank her.

I'm looking forward to our July meeting. We will be back at our usual meeting place at Inverness.

— Warren Glover

Officers	
President	Warren Glover 822-5753
Vice President	Brooks Young 833-7310
Secretary	Pat Moore 979-3353
Treasurer	Henry Garrett 853-6079
Directors	
Buddy Coggin	785-5992
Don Jackson	680-9125
Elliene Jackson	680-9125
J.D.Narramore	629-7075
Sid Varagona	942-5047
Carol Williams Yeager	822-5506
Charles Hickman (ex-officio)	823-4597
Committee Chairpersons	
Arrangements	Dora Brandt 956-0502
Audit	George Burson 681-7882
Fellowship	
Finance	Tom Steele 836-1904
Membership	Gene Kachelhofer 991-8604
Newsletter	Dan & Myrna Wise 942-2336
Nominating	Jerry Vandegrif 967-3672
Program	Jay Dorrance 663-2828
Sunshine	Nell King 822-7562

Picnic attendance was 158 members, spouses and guests.

JULY PROGRAM

I've Got a Secret Service Agent

The program for the July 14th meeting will feature former U.S. Secret Service Agent Terry Oden who will draw on his 24 years of experience for his remarks.

During his time in the Secret Service significant assignments included Protective Detail for Mrs. John F. Kennedy (Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy Onasis) 1964 - 66 and the LBJ White House Detail from 1966 to 1970. Other assignments included 4 years as Special Agent in Charge of International Operations based in Paris, France. He was Attaché at the American embassies in Germany, UK, Belgium, Denmark, Austria and France.

Some of his other duties were Security Coordinator at the 1984 Democrat National Convention as well as the Birmingham City Stages 1991 - 95. He was one of the first 25 Sky Marshalls in 1970.

At the present time Mr. Oden is owner of Security Resources & Solutions, LLC, an independent nonaffiliated security consulting firm specializing in risk assessment security surveys and audits, developing security plans and procedures, designing closed circuit television and management systems.

Terry is a protection professional certified by the American Society for Industrial Security and will present a very timely and interesting program, one you will not want to miss.

— Jay Dorrance

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

Our total income is \$2,336.58, which includes \$2,274.00 from dues, \$44.58 from interest and \$18.00 from a donation from a member.

Our total expenses to date are \$385.14, which includes \$112.30 for regular arrangements, \$178.90 for arrangements for the picnic meeting, \$5.00 for contingences, \$63.94 for the Program Committee and, lastly, \$25.00 for the Sunshine Committee.

The bill for the food at the July meeting was budgeted to and paid by the Company (many thanks to Southern Company Services).

This leaves a balance of \$1,951.44 for the rest of the year.

— Henry Garrett

OUR VERY LATEST RETIREE MEMBERS - WELCOME !!

Sue Hassell - Retired from SNC in 1995.

Kerry Adams - Retired from SCS Engineering in 2001.

Noel Chambless - Retired from SCS Energy Marketing and Trading in 2000.

Frank Rutherford - Retired in 1998 from SCS Engineering.

Albert Stallings - Retired in 1989 from SCS Electrical Design.

Donald E. Mansfield - Retired in 2002 from SNC - Farley Project.

— Gene and Dot Kachelhoffer

PROGRAMS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR

September 8 Inverness, Room 130, Building 42

W.C. Gibbson - Former Chief of Police of Irondale
November 12 (Wednesday) Vestavia Country Club

Ken Jackson - "A Word, A Smile, Hold That Thought"

January 12, 2004, in honor of the invention of the airplane our own Wayne Walton will bring us "The History of Flight".

SCS RETIREES WEB SITE

This article is an invitation to visit the SCS Retirees web site at <http://www.scsretirees.com>. The purposes of this web site are to provide access to current information about our activities, to

maintain information related to the operations of the organization, and to obtain contacts and articles about issues of interest to our members. The links on the site allow you to have access to the leadership of the organization each year, i.e., names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses. The newsletter, SCS Outside, will be posted, and up to date information from the Sunshine and Program Committees will be available. Direct links to organizations such as The Southern Company and the Social Security Administration are provided.

It is my hope that the web site will become a source of valuable information for all SCS retirees. However, to ensure that the web site is useful to you requires that you visit the site and send me your ideas about topics you wish to have covered. I look forward to serving as a webmaster this year and invite your feedback. Contact me by telephone at 205-823-4597 or email at hickmanc@bellsouth.net.

— Charles E. Hickman

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE REPORT

Gene Kachelhoffer has been spending time attending to his mother, who has been sick. We hope by the time you receive this newsletter she will be back in good health.

Dan Wise fell in his driveway breaking a bone under his eye, had a concussion, and was confined to bed rest a few days. Even though this is serious, we know you can't keep a good man like Dan down for long. *Ed. Note – The injuries were all things that are healing quite well. DEW*

If at any time you have reports of illness or death, please call me at 822-7562 or email mnokk@aol.com so that we can keep our members informed.

— Nell King

BIRTHDAYS

Age is a matter of feeling - not of years!

For July: 2 - Howard Hubbard, 3 - Elliene Jackson, 5 - Ann Garrett, 14 - George Russell, 16 - Jim Anchors and Ken Hassell, 19 - Bill Echols, 20 - Dan

Wise, 21 - Rosemary Wright, 23 - Ken Rieck and 30 - Mary Sisk.

For August: 15 - Martha McMillan, 16 - Margaret Carter, 17 - John Naramore, 18 - Martha Burson, 27 - Johnny Carter and Jay Dorrance and 31 - Roy Messick.

OBITUARIES

In Memoriam

Phillip T. Busby 60, of Mt. Olive, Alabama, died on Saturday May 3, 2003. Mr. Busby was a member of the Gardendale First Baptist Church, The Gardendale Rotary Club and the Birmingham Bridge Club. He was active in the Jefferson County Republican Party. He retired from SCS on October 1, 2000, with 33 years of service. He was a member of SCS RETIREES.

Mr. Busby is survived by his wife of 35 years, Norma Henson Busby; a son, Greg (Leia) Busby and a grandchild MaKenna Busby all of Mt. Olive, one brother Michael Busby of Pelham and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held at Rideout's Chapel in Gardendale, May 7, 2003, at 11 a.m. with burial in Memory Gardens.

Condolences

We, in SCS Retirees wish to express our most sincere sympathy to retiree Peggy Case and her family in the death of Peggy's mother, Lois Garrison Brown of Birmingham who passed away on Sunday May 11, 2003. She was born in Walker County in 1910, and would have been 93 in September. Mrs. Brown was survived by her daughter, Peggy Case of Birmingham, and a son, David (Kathy) Brown of Hueytown; two grandchildren and one great grandchild; a sister, Blanche Card, as well as several nieces and nephews.

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A visitation was held Wednesday, May 14 at Elmwood Chapel followed by a graveside service at 2 p.m. at Elmwood Cemetery.

Our deepest and most sincere sympathy is extended to Southern Company retiree Ed Addison and his family in the death of Mr. Addison's wife, Mrs. Bennie Addison, of Highlands, North Carolina, who died in an Ashville hospital on Saturday May 18, 2003. It seems that she and Ed were eating lunch on Friday when she got a piece of food lodged in her throat. She died the next day after all that could be done was done. She was 71.

Mrs. Addison is survived by her husband, Ed and three children; Craig, Pensacola; Scott, Dallas, Georgia, a small town west of Atlanta and Joy Addison Graves, Atlanta.

The funeral was held on Wednesday, May 21st in Walterboro, South Carolina, and burial was in Mr. Addison's hometown, Cottageville, South Carolina.

We also extend our sincere sympathy to SCS Retiree William Herbert "Herb" Thrasher, Sr. and his family in the death of his mother Clara B. Thrasher who died Tuesday, June 17, 2003 at the age of 93 (born October 29, 1909). She was a member of the South Highland Baptist Church in Bessemer. Survivors: Rev. Herbert Thrasher (Lois) of Woodstock, Ralph Thrasher (Linda) of Pell City and Gene Thrasher (Shirley) of Concord, a daughter-in-law, 8 grandchildren, 12 great and 3 great great grandchildren. A fourth son, James, preceded her in death, as did her husband Paul.

Funeral services were held Thursday, June 19, at Brown Service Chapel with her son, Rev. Herbert Thrasher presiding. Burial was in the Bucksville Cemetery.

— Jay Dorrance

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Within the past couple of months, we have received at our house two solicitations for information (and money) that look very official, but

are actually from private concerns. Things like this always pique my interest, so I set about finding out more about these two organizations.

The first of the two organizations is the ***Traditional Values Coalition***, which used a return address of Hagerstown, Maryland. The letter, addressed to Myrna, bore the salutation "Dear Christian Friend." The letter accompanied a 6-page survey and a 1-page solicitation for money to help cover the cost of preparing and processing the survey.

The whole package looked very professional. They had gone to the trouble of identifying our correct voting district so that they could remind us who our U.S. Representative is. However, I took the time to inquire through the Wise Giving Alliance Web site maintained by the Council of Better Business Bureaus. Here is what they have on record for this organization.

First, the addresses on file for the Coalition are in Anaheim, California, and Washington, DC, not Hagerstown, Maryland. Second, the CBBB reports, "Despite written BBB Wise Giving Alliance requests in the past year, this organization has not provided current information about its finances, programs and governance.

"Traditional Values Coalition is tax exempt under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions and membership dues *are not deductible as charitable donations for federal income tax purposes.*

The second solicitation came from an organization calling itself the ***National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare***. They are headquartered in Washington, DC. Again, the CBBB Wise Giving Alliance reports that their stated purpose is "to protect, preserve, promote and ensure the financial security, health and well being of current and future generations of maturing Americans." They were incorporated in 1982 and also do business under their primary name as a PAC and as a sister organization called ***Setting Priorities for Retirement Years (SPRY) Foundation***.

Because the national committee is a PAC and not a charity, contributions *are not deductible from federal income taxes.*

The BBB's comments on this organization are as follows: "The committee advocates and lobbies Congress on issues of concern for older Americans and others interested in Federal entitlement programs. In addition, through its magazine *Secure Retirement* and other mailings, the Committee organizes and encourages its membership to communicate their views to their Senators and Representatives."

There is more, but it runs along the same vein. BBB does note, however, that approximately 48% (\$9,330,000) of the Committee's program services are carried out in conjunction with fund raising appeals. Fund raising and membership development costs were 23% of related contributions and membership dues last year.

On the surface, this organization appears to your editor to parallel much of the AARP agenda, but spends considerably more on fund raising activities.

I present this information solely to keep you informed of solicitations that appear to offer potential for scams or pseudo-scams. If you are interested in knowing more about either of these organizations, contact the Better Business Bureau.

ADVICE FROM GRANDPA

Whether a man winds up with the nest egg or a goose egg depends a lot on the kind of chick he marries.

Trouble in marriage often starts when a man gets so busy earnin' his salt that he forgets his sugar.

Too many couples marry for better or for worse, but not for good.

When a man marries a woman, they become one; but the trouble starts when they try to decide which one.

If a man has enough "horse sense" to treat his wife like a thoroughbred, she will never be an old nag.

Judgin' from the specimens they pick for husbands,

it's no wonder that brides often blush.

On anniversaries the wise husband always forgets the past...but never the present.

A foolish husband remarks to his wife, "Honey, you stick to the washin', ironin', cookin', and scrubbin'. No wife of mine is gonna work!"

The bonds of matrimony are a good investment only when the interest is kept up.

Many girls like to marry a military man—he can cook, sew, make bed, and is in good health...and he's already used to taking orders.

Grandpappy and his wife were discussin' their 50th wedding anniversary when she said, "Shall I kill a chicken tonight?" "Naw," said Grandpappy. "Why blame a bird for somethin' that happened 50 years ago?"

— From the Internet

COMPASSION

Compassion, in action, would transform our nation and the world

Adapted from an article in Scottish Rite Journal, June 2002 edition

As early as 520 BCE the Old Testament prophet Zechariah criticized people who observe religious formalities and prescribed rituals but are not truly religious because they fail to exercise compassion. In a telling verse (7:9), Zechariah writes, "Execute true judgement, and show mercy and compassion, every man to his brother."

Have we changed much in the millennia since Zechariah? One could argue that the majority of people today still formally observe their faith tradition, but do not live in its true spirit of love and compassion. Witness the recent terrorist attacks on America and the ongoing crises of the Middle East. The English word *compassion* is derived from Latin and means "with suffering." Yet few today truly

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feel the suffering of others, help share their burdens, and love each other as brothers.

Compassion leads us out of our shell of self-complacency and into the harsh reality of everyday life to stand beside another person who hurts. It makes us vulnerable by forcing us out of our comfortable worship centers, where most religion seems confined, and into the real world where we can offer a cup of water to those who thirst, bind up the wounds of the injured, bring love and kindness in a hostile environment, and reflect the grace of God to everyone we encounter.

Compassion, as the Bible consistently teaches, is at the heart of true religion. Thankfully, however, there are many people who still care, who do have compassion, and who often volunteer their time, energy, and resources to help others. Can we say with appropriate pride that we are such a person? The religious tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and

Truth urge us to care and to express the divine within us through compassion for all humankind. This genuine compassion requires us to do more than merely feel another's pain; it requires our assistance, our helping those in need. Compassion can be best taught by example. And if compassion became the norm in our new 21st century, today's rampant violence, so often based on prejudice and aimed toward those who differ from us, would become a phenomenon of the past. Compassion, in action, would transform our nation and the world. Together, we can "show mercy and compassion every man to his brother" and make ourselves a partner in that epic transformation.

— James C. Bryant

The impersonal hand of government can never replace the helping hand of a neighbor.

— Hubert H. Humphrey

SCS RETIREES

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