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Volume 17

Number 1

January-February 2005

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### **PREZ SEZ**

Wow! President! Who'd a thunk it could happen to me? When I retired from Southern Company Services/ IR Department in 2001, I certainly did not have the aspirations to the office of President of the SCS Retirees' Organization. I consider it an honor that our board of directors' asked me to serve a one year term, and I hope I can keep the organization going. I'm following in the shoes of some pretty darn good administrators before me, and I'll try to learn from my predecessors, and ask for assistance and guidance as I go along.

Our annual luncheon in November at the Vestavia Country Club was well attended with a nice crowd of members and guests. Our speaker was Laurie Stroud, editor/publisher of the Christian Family Magazine. Laurie gave a nice talk about how she and her husband founded the magazine, and told the crowd some of the background on some of the stories she's run in past issues. This magazine is distributed free around the Birmingham area, and she encouraged everyone to pick up a copy to peruse. Thanks to Fred Ehrensperger for arranging for Laurie to speak to our group.

I can't thank the officers and committee chairs who've agreed to work with the SCS Retirees in the coming year. Without Dora Brandt making the meeting arrangements again this year, we might have to be meeting in the parking lot! Thanks, Dora, also for all the work you did last year and the years previous.

Henry Garrett has served the SCS Retirees for years as treasurer, and has agreed to continue in this position for 2005. Help Henry out by sending in your renewal dues and any address changes as quickly as you can. The renewal forms were mailed out in early December. If you didn't receive one, contact any of the officers and we'll get you one.

Pat Moore is serving as secretary for another year. Pat has promised to keep me straight, and to keep me on track at all the meetings. I've worked with Pat in the past, when we were both employed at SCS, and I know she can do anything! Thanks, Pat!

Buddy Coggin is moving up from a director's position to serve as Vice President. I'm looking forward to working even more closely with Buddy in '05.

The rest of the directors for the 2005 year include Bill Garner, Dan Finney, Nell King, Al Mikell, Larry Wallace, Kerry Adams. Sid Vargona will be the Ex-Officio member of the board.

Wayne Walton will continue chairing the Audit committee, Dora will continue with the arrangements (as mentioned above), Dan and Myrna Wise will continue with the Newsletter, Tom Steele with the finance (and budgeting) committee and Charles Hickman will continue with the nominating committee. Thanks to all who've agreed to stay involved one more year, at least.

This leaves several vacancies for the coming year, though, and I'm asking for volunteers. Don't be afraid to throw your name in the hat and spend some time. It's a very enjoyable exercise, and the positions only take up the time you're willing to give.

Here's where we need help for 2005:

Program—Contact and arrange for speakers for our 2005 meetings.

**SCS OUTSIDE**  
*January-February 2005*

We've been presented with lots of suggestions for future speakers (beginning with the March meeting), but we need someone to coordinate the effort. Fred Ehrensperger did an outstanding job last year, and will be glad to pass on the names of potential speakers who didn't get the opportunity to talk with us in '04

**Fellowship**—Arrange for social outings for the SCS Retirees. Brick Brickell has some great ideas for a trip or two in '05, but I'm sure he can use help and other suggestions. HD Cambron of the APCo Energizers (the APC Retirees' group) is willing to work with us and coordinate some trips with the Energizers, but we need a volunteer from our group to coordinate the effort.

**Membership**—Family responsibilities have made it impossible for Gene Kachelhofer to continue in this position. We need a person with a computer to keep up with this list, working with Henry Garrett and Dan Wise (and anyone else who needs to know our members'). We need this person ASAP!

**Sunshine**—Nell King has asked to hand over the responsibilities of this committee. Nell has done an outstanding job over the past two years, keeping the Retirees informed of the coming and goings of our members, as they enter and leave the hospital, etcetera.

If you'd like to volunteer for any of these chairs, please e-mail me (goertz@mindspring.com), call me (991-7766), or see me at the January meeting. Our organization will only be as good as we all work together to make it!

See you on January 10, 2005. Our membership meeting starts at 1:00pm in room 130 of Inverness 42. Our board meeting will be the same place, same day, beginning at 11:00a.m. Come for the board meeting, go to lunch together, and come to the meeting. Our first speaker of the year will be Ed Day, SCS Executive VP.

— Jack & Susan Goertz

**Life gets more enjoyable the older you get. The hardest years in life are between ten and seventy.**

— Helen Hayes

## **JANUARY PROGRAM**

The speaker for the January meeting will be Edward Day, VI, Senior Vice President, Engineering & Construction Services, Southern Company Generation & Energy Marketing.

Ed Joined SCS in January, 1983, as an engineer in the Hatch Nuclear Support Project. In 1990 he was named Engineering Group Supervisor, Mechanical Design and in 1992 was named Assistant to the Executive Vice President-Engineering. In 1996, Ed was named Wholesale Business Development Manager for Southern Wholesale Energy and was the lead engineer on the initial power supply contracts for Plant Dahlberg. He was promoted to Director, Business Development in 1998 and to Vice President in 2001. In May, 2003, he was promoted to Senior Vice President of Engineering & Construction Services.

Ed received a Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Alabama in 1982 and an MBA from Samford University in 1991.

He is married to Laurie Baisch Day and they have three children: Sarah (11), Olivia (9) and Edward (7). His hobbies include golf and hunting.

It has been quite a while since we have had a senior executive of SCS address our group and we look forward to hearing a "state of the company" report.

— Fred Ehrensperger

**Want to keep up with what's happening?**

**Got a computer?**

**Visit the SCS Retiree Website**

<http://www.scsretirees.com>

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Way back in July the SCS Retirees Board of Directors (BOD) agreed that we would support two additional charities this year in addition to the amount that we already had budgeted for United

**SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP  
FOR 2004**

Way. Checks in the amount of \$500.00 each have been mailed this week to The Goodfellows and to the Angel Tree (SCS Foster Children Christmas Project).

At the September BOD meeting it was determined that we hold the cost to the members for the November meeting and meal to \$15.00 and that the SCS group would subsidize the balance of the Members cost and the cost of the Speakers meal. Those checks have now been mailed.

As of this date total income is \$1,712.05 and outflow stands at \$1,827.34.

Thanks to many of you, I have already begun receiving checks for 2005 dues; a total of 22 so far have come in, and most of them have been deposited (in our new SCS CU office in Trussville).

— Henry Garrett

**2004 MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCES**

***Remembering these SCS RETIREEES:***

**Tom Dowdle** ,78, died February 22; **Claire Bachofer**,64, died March 15; **Bob Gilbert** ,81, died April 27; **Helen Brothers**,65, died June 1; **Glenwood "Glen" Jones**,66, died June 22; **Frances Saia** ,79, died July 3; **William Brownlee**, 98, died August 22; **R.E."Abe" Lincoln** ,81, died August 31.

***Remembering these retired Southern Company Employees:***

**Don Ogles**,69, died April 27; **Van Peavy** ,70, died August 31.

***Remembering Our Loved Ones:***

Robert Sisk, Jr.,52, died February 6, son of SCS retiree the late **Robert Sisk, Sr.** and associate member, Mary Sisk; John Zyne ,90, died June 26, brother of SCS RETIREE **Mike Zyne**; Eleanor Kendrick Mergenthaler Pride ,93, died November 18, widow of SCS retiree **Adolf Mergenthaler**.

— Jay Dorrance

<b>Officers</b>	
President	Jack Goertz 991-7766
Vice President	Buddy Coggin 785-5992
Secretary	Pat Moore 979-3353
Treasurer	Henry Garrett 853-6079
<b>Directors</b>	
Kerry Adams	980-7185
Bill Garner	967-5978
Dan Finney	995-9703
Nell King	822-7562
Al Mikell	967-0515
Larry Wallace	491-3097
Sid Varagona (ex-officio)	942-5047
<b>Committee Chairpersons</b>	
Arrangements	Dora Brandt 956-0502
Audit	Wayne Walton 822-1875
Fellowship	M.C. "Brick" Brickell 595-4956
Finance	Tom Steele 836-1904
Membership	Gene Kachelhofer 991-8604
Newsletter	Dan & Myrna Wise 942-2336
Nominating	Charles Hickman 823-4597
Program	
Sunshine	

## **OBITUARIES**

### **Condolences**

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Eleanor Hope Kendrick Conrad Mergenthaler Pride who died Thursday, November 18, 2004, at the age of 93. She was preceded in death by her first husband SCS employee **Herman Conrad** and her second husband SCS retiree **Adolf Mergenthaler** and also her third husband Jack Pride who died August 15, 2002 at the age of 93. Graveside services were held for Mrs. Pride on Monday, November 22 at 2 p.m. at Elmwood Cemetery in Birmingham.

— Jay Dorrance

## **BIRTHDAYS**

**JANUARY:** 5-Frank Rutherford, 6-Robert Haubein, 13-Ralph Tribble, 14-Jan Ellenburg, 16-ArmourRushings, 18-Charlie Michewright, 22-Charles Hancock, 24-Mary Rowe, 28-Jackie Imbush and Norma J. Johnston.

**FEBRUARY:** 4-Bob Ellenburg, 12-Glenn Baker, 20-Myrna Wise, 21-Veva Naramore and Carl Self, 22-Henry Vincent, 23-Tom Shepherd and Frances Williams, 25-Gale Dougherty and Joseph Leamon, 27-Lera Pate and 28-John Hargett.

— Jay Dorrance

## **THE SPOTLIGHT SHINES ON JACK AND SUSAN GOERTZ**

At the beginning of a new year for SCS Retirees, it seemed appropriate to highlight our new president, Jack Goertz. Jack began his Southern Company Services career directly after receiving a master's degree in industrial engineering from Oklahoma State University. He reported to Charles McNeill in the projects planning group. This group went through many name changes over the years, and its mission migrated toward information resources. Jack, with his data processing background, became a senior systems analyst in the

client services department. His responsibilities were quite broad and included numerous aspects related to plant design, most notably Plant Hatch. Also, he taught computer courses and interacted with clients on many issues. In other words, he became a "Jack of all trades." His retirement on December 1, 2001 allowed him to spend more time on his long-term interests in bicycling and motorcycling.

As a matter of fact, he met his wife Susan at a Birmingham Bike Club event; six months later they were married. She was employed by Chicago Bridge and Iron and had been transferred to Birmingham. Susan has a civil engineering degree from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana and an environmental engineering degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Jack and Susan own Tandems, Limited and sell bicycles built for two and recumbent bicycles worldwide. Learn more about the company at their web site [www.TandemsLtd.com](http://www.TandemsLtd.com), which includes a link to Susan Says. Their love of bicycling has taken them on several trips, including 43 states in the United States, eastern and western Canada and Europe. One such venture was a ten day ride through the Alps in southern France. Jack assured me that Lance Armstrong should not be worried about his records.

Motorcycling also fits into their busy schedule. As active members of the Dixie Classic Motorcycle Club, they have motorcycled in 35 states. Jack serves as a volunteer at the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum, and he has promised to reschedule a tour for us (remember Hurricane Ivan?).

Susan was an assistant engineering project manager as the McWane Center was being designed and built. She now serves as a volunteer at the McWane Center, and you may be able to meet her at the King Tut exhibit. She also reads to students at Rocky Ridge Elementary School in an effort to getting them excited about reading. Jack maintains his Oklahoma contacts through ownership of a wheat farm about 30 miles north of Enid.

We are all looking forward to another great year at SCS Retirees through Jack's leadership.

— Charles E. Hickman

**2005 NEW OFFICERS**



**L to R: Jack Goertz, Bill Garner, Kerry Adams, Buddy Coggin, Pat Moore, Henry Garrett, Nell King**

**At the November Luncheon**



**L to R: Peggy and Clyde Howard, Glenn Brothers**

*Trust in yourself and you are doomed to disappointment; trust in your friends and they will die and leave you; trust in money and you may have it taken from you, trust in reputation and some slanderous tongue may blast it; but trust in God and you will never be confounded in time or eternity.*

D.L. Moody



**L to R: Sid Varagona, Al Mikell, Pat Moore, Jackie and Charles Hickman, Judy and Buddy Coggin**



**Dot and Gene Kachelhofer**

The man is a success who has lived well, laughed often and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who leaves the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem or a rescued soul; who never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who looked for the best in others and gave the best he had.

Robert Louis Stevenson

## **SCS OUTSIDE**

*January-February 2005*

### **HOW TO GET INTO HEAVEN**

"If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale, and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into heaven?" I asked the children in my Sunday School class. "NO!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into heaven?" Again the answer was, "NO!"

"Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children and loved my wife, would that get me into heaven?" I asked them again. Once more they all answered, "NO!"

"Well," I continued, thinking they were a good bit more theologically sophisticated than I had given them credit for, "then how can I get into heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "You gotta be dead!"

### **MOM'S METHOD WAS MAGIC**

A GOOD first impression is always important, says Mimi K. of Folsom, Louisiana.

"My mother used a clever trick to get us kids to try new foods," Mimi explains. "Whenever serving something new, like zucchini, she'd prepare just a small amount and serve it in an elegant dish.

"She'd announce, 'This is a little something special I fixed just for your father. If you would like to taste it, you may...but you don't have to.'

"Of course, we kids would all scramble for a taste. Dad was lucky to get even one bite!

"A couple weeks later, Mama would prepare the dish again in a generous quantity. When she set it out, we kids would exclaim, 'Wow! Zucchini for everyone!' From then on, it was a favorite."

— from *Taste of Home magazine*

## **SCS RETIREES**

**P.O. BOX 2625**

**BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202**

*Our next meeting will be Monday,  
January 10 in Inverness 42, Room  
130 at 1 pm.*

*Board meeting will be at 11 am.*

*You are invited to join us for lunch  
at noon in the Inverness 42 Cafeteria.*