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Volume 17

Number 2

March–April 2005

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### **PREZ SEZ**

What a crowd! Over 60 members and spouses attended our first meeting of 2005. Good weather, and a good speaker (Thanks, Ed Day!) apparently is what it takes to bring us all together for socializing and learning. It was great to see everyone there, and to hear Ed Day's thoughts on what's happening in the company, and what we might expect in the future. It sounds like our company is still on the right track to keep generating kilowatts, and to keep our stock values and dividends where they should be, and apparently the company is doing the numbers the right way, too.

We're beginning to shape up our program schedule for the rest of the year. We still have a slot or two to fill, but I believe we'll have it all together at the correct time. It's not too late for you to make your ideas known to your board members.

I'd like to encourage everyone with internet access to make use of our great website. Simply point your browser to [www.scsretirees.com](http://www.scsretirees.com) and peruse the website. You can learn a lot about our organization by clicking the various links, and you can also use the website to keep in touch with the organization, and to let your board of directors know what's on your mind. It's the quickest and easiest way to find

out what's happening. You can learn what events are being planned—outside of the meetings—and sign up for them, too. Charles Hickman has done a great job with the website, and we thank him for all the effort he puts in to keep it up.

We think we have a great meeting planned for March, and we invite all of you to attend our next meeting. Our main speaker will be Tim Ritchie, CEO of the McWane Center. Tim will be speaking to us about the McWane Center, how it was built, and also a bit about the current special program and what's planned for the near future. The McWane Center isn't just for children, it's a treasure for all of us.

Also, Jean Lynch, Benefits Analyst from SoCo Human Resources. Jean won't be making a formal presentation, but she will be here to answer any questions you might have about any changes to your benefits, and explain what you might expect from changes in the law, too.

— Jack Goertz

### **MARCH PROGRAM**

As mentioned in **PREZ SEZ**, our speaker this month will be Tim Ritchie. Ritchie is a Birmingham native who returned to Birmingham in 2004, when he was named President of the McWane Center. He returned to Birmingham from Louisville, Kentucky, where he was president of Louisville Diversified Services. Prior to his time in Louisville, Ritchie was the Program Director for the James Rushton Foundation in Birmingham.

Mr Ritchie received his BA from Davidson College in North Carolina, his law Degree from Duke University, and a Masters of Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He has practiced Law in both North Carolina and Alabama.

### **The Unvarnished Truth**

*The greatest danger facing the United States is not a military lag but a slump in personal and public integrity.*

— Robert J. McCracken

**SCS OUTSIDE**  
*March-April 2005*

**BARBER MOTORSPORTS MUSEUM  
 TOUR RESCHEDULED**

If you wanted to visit Barber's Motorsports Museum last fall, but didn't want to brave the aftermath of Hurricane Ivan, you have another chance! Perhaps the weather will cooperate this time.

If you'd like a guided tour of the museum, meet in the lobby at 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 18, 2005. We've negotiated a special group rate of \$8/person (normal entry is \$10/person) for our tour. Museum personnel will be available to show us around the museum and to answer our questions.

To get to Barber Motorsports Museum, take I-20 to the Exit 140 (west Leeds exit). Take Exit 140 and turn on US 78 towards Leeds. Turn right onto Rex Lake Road, just before the Chevron Station. Go 1/2 mile and turn right onto Barber Motorsports Parkway. Follow the Parkway to the Museum.

— Jack Goertz

**BIRTHDAYS**

MARCH: 4-Rita Townsend, 5-Albert Stallings, 9-Gene Rollins, 16-James Ewings, 18-Iris Gilbert and Mary Rimel, 20-Mary Anchors and Paul Passen, 21-Scott Herron and Doyle Shaw, 22-Woody Woodruff, 23-Clyde Wood, 28-John Windhorst and 28-Richard "Cowboy" McRee.

APRIL: 8-Eugene Johnson, Sarah Ann Micklewright and Jenny Ray, 11-Henry Garrett and Susan Goertz, 13-Rhoy Swearingen, 18-Jack Goertz, 22-Bill Rowe, 25-Janet Smith, 29-Bob Davis and Billie Greenhill and 30-Joyce Ehrensperger.

— Jay Dorrance

**SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP  
 FOR 2005**

**Officers**

President	Jack Goertz 991-7766
Vice President	Buddy Coggin 785-5992
Secretary	Pat Moore 979-3353
Treasurer	Henry Garrett 853-6079

**Directors**

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

**Committee**

**Chairpersons**

Arrangements	Dora Brandt 956-0502
Audit	Wayne Walton 822-1875
Fellowship	M.C. "Brick" Brickell 595-4956
Finance	Tom Steele 836-1904
Membership	
Newsletter	Dan & Myrna Wise 942-2336
Nominating	Charles Hickman 823-4597
Program	
Sunshine	

**Want to keep up with what's happening?  
 Got a computer?  
 Visit the SCS Retiree Website  
<http://www.scsretirees.com>**

## **OBITUARIES**

### **In Memoriam**

**Evelyn Eileen Creamer**, of Birmingham passed away Sunday, January 9, 2005 following a long illness. She was a member of SCS RETIREES having retired from SCS Design and Drafting Services Department June 1, 1989. She is survived by a brother, James Creamer, Sr.; a nephew, James Creamer, Jr.; a grand niece and a grand nephew.

Graveside services for Evelyn were held at ForestHill on Tuesday, January 11 at 11 a.m.

### **Condolences**

Our sympathy is extended to SCS employee Nancy Brasher and her family in the death of her son, Nicholas, who died Tuesday, January 4, 2005. He was 19 years old.

— Jay Dorrance

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Here we are off and running into a new year with our original SCSR group and a new crop of retirees to look over. As of February 14 we had received, and deposited, a total of 169 checks in the amount of \$1914.00 and there have been another 6 or 8 come in this week. Don't have a feel just yet as to how many are new members.

There are still a good many checks that haven't come in, for whatever reason.

No final decision has been made by the Board as to the date for the picnic meeting. I'll go out on a limb and say that we will have our annual 'picnic' meeting in May for all Company retirees. Assuming that will happen, there will be a mass mailing (to all company retirees, not just SCSR members) in early May that will include a form to enroll new members. If you have already paid, please overlook the enrollment request form: It is not for you.

We will continue the mail-outs to everyone who was on the roster at the end of last year. Obviously there must be a cut-off of mailings to nonmembers; therefore, if we have our 'picnic' in May we will

discontinue mailings to those who have not paid up by the date of the picnic.

If anyone is unsure as to dues, please give me a call at 853-6079.

— Henry Garrett

## **IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

**JAMES E. EWING**

Once again the Spotlight shines on one of our members who served in the armed forces to protect our freedoms, James E. Ewing. He wrote a booklet titled "Service in the U.S.M.C.—World War II" that contains pictures and notes about his experiences. You should ask James to tell you the story about how he ended up in the Marines, rather than the Army, Navy or Air Force. After training at Parris Island, South Carolina, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and Camp Pendleton, California, he boarded a ship that took him to Guam for final training before he was sent to Iwo Jima. James was involved in battles across the island that resulted in victory on the northern shore at Kitano Point on his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday, March 16, 1945. His notes describe several encounters he and his fellow Marines had during their days and nights on the island; some were amusing, others tragic. The Iwo Jima campaign was costly in casualties, but provided an air base much closer to Japan. After the end of the war, James was sent to China to assist in the repatriation of Japanese military personnel who were stranded there.

The year 1946 was a good year; James was discharged from the Marines, returned to Alabama, met his future wife Billie Dean, enrolled at Howard College (now Samford University) and UAB, and was hired by Alabama Power Company (APC). His first assignment at APC was in the customer billing office under the direction of W. G. Shields. Other APC roles were in stores accounting supervised by David Hudson, and rates and marketing research managed by Chandler Murton. He then transferred to the power management group at Southern Services led by Robert Usry. James held a supervisory role in computer operations until his retirement after 38 years in the Southern Electric System.

**SCS OUTSIDE**  
*March-April 2005*

James and Billie were married in 1948 and will be celebrating 57 years of marriage this year. They have two sons, but no grandchildren. For many years their homes have been in the Tarrant and Roebuck areas until a recent move to a garden home in the new city of Clay. After retirement, James and Billie traveled extensively, including two trips to Hawaii and a cruise to Alaska. Other travel took them to Canada and frequent trips to Florida beaches. Long trips are not on their agenda now, but they enjoy sharing other activities together.

— Charles Hickman

**JANUARY ATTENDANCE**

We had 64 members and guests attending our January 10 meeting.

— Dora Brandt

**SCS RETIREES**  
**P.O. BOX 2625**  
**BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202**

**Next Meeting**

**When? Monday, March 14**

**Where? Inverness 42, Room 130**

**Time? 11 a.m. Board meeting**

**12 noon lunch in cafeteria**

**1 p.m. membership meeting**

Details of the April 11-12 trip to see the Dead Sea Scrolls are on the Fellowship/Recreation page of the Retiree Website.

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR**

ONE OR MORE DEDICATED SCS RETIREE MEMBERS WILLING TO PUT IN A COUPLE OF HOURS NOW AND THEN TO HELP ASSURE THEIR FELLOW MEMBERS HAVE INTERESTING, INFORMATIVE AND ENTERTAINING PROGRAMS AT THE BIMONTHLY MEETINGS. CALL JACK GOERTZ, 991-7766.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

ONE OR MORE DEDICATED SCE RETIREE MEMBERS WILLING TO SPEND TIME EVERY MONTH UPDATING SCS RETIREE MEMBERSHIP RECORDS. THIS COMMITTEE ALSO PROVIDES MAILING LABELS FOR THE BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER AND SPECIAL MAILINGS. CALL JACK GOERTZ, 991-7766.

**SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

A SMALL GROUP OF SCS RETIREE MEMBERS WILLING TO SPEND A LITTLE TIME KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH THE MEMBERSHIP AND REPORTING NEWS ABOUT THE MEMBERS IN THE BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER. CALL JACK GOERTZ, 991-7766