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Volume 17

Number 6

November-December 2005

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### PREZ SEZ

Our September meeting was one of the largest of the year. A beautiful early fall day, coupled with a long time since we'd last met, and a good trio of speakers—all worked to make it a nice meeting. Thanks for all who came. I always enjoy talking with my friends and fellow former co-workers. We are family, and family is forever!

While our system dodged a bullet with Hurricane Dennis in July, we weren't so lucky with Katrina and Rita in September. Our friends and co-workers in southwestern Alabama and southern Mississippi took a beating, and our thoughts and prayers are with them as they strive to rebuild their lives, homes, and businesses while helping our System (and our neighboring systems) recover from the devastation. And I'm not overlooking the folks from Louisiana. We've all seen the horrific pictures from New Orleans and surrounding towns, of the hurricane and of the flood damage there. While not part of our Southern System, the devastation in Louisiana and Texas were far worse than what Southern suffered this year. When you have the opportunity to help any of these folks, please do so, if you can.

Our last meeting of the year is upon us. On November 14, our Annual Holiday luncheon and election of officers for the 2006 calendar year will be at the beautiful, new Ross Bridge Resort. The board decided that, if we wanted to see this beautiful place, there's no better time than the present. We hope you'll be able to join us for a nice meal, an interesting presentation, and the election of officers.

Speaking of the election of officers, the nominating committee has selected a very talented slate for the coming year. I hope that you will support these fine individuals next year as you have the current board of directors. You've certainly made my job an enjoyable one! And I'm looking forward to moving to that most coveted of all positions, "PAST PRESIDENT"

Thank you all, and I look forward to seeing you at Ross Bridge on November 14.

— Jack Goertz

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

**Got a computer?**

**Visit the SCS Retiree Website**

<http://www.scsretirees.com>

### SUNSHINE REPORT

**Tom Steele** is still undergoing cancer treatments, but is feeling very well at this time. His next treatment is scheduled in approximately 2 1/2 months.

**Liz Winter** has completed her radiation treatments, and is doing well.

**Mary Anchors** has progressed very well, and is now at home. She is still having therapy several days a week. (Note: Don Anchors swapped houses with his parents. **Jim & Mary** are now at Don's home in Vestavia Hills.)

**Mike Griffith** is in Brookwood Hospital undergoing treatment for a bleeding ulcer.

— Liz Winter

**SCS OUTSIDE**

November-December 2005

**SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP  
FOR 2005**

**BIRTHDAYS**

**NOVEMBER:** 1-Ozen Batum, 4-Elizabeth Wintter, 7-Emma Laura Patrick, 8-Betty Hendricks, 9-Grady Smith, 10-Jean Guthrie, 11-Noel Chambless, 13-George Burson, 14-Frank Brewer, 23-Mildred Fleming and 24-Tommy Sanford.

**DECEMBER:** 3-Attie Fleming & Bill Holcombe, 9-Jackson Wintter, 13-Betty Allen, 18-Mac Pate, 20-Linda Rooker, 26-Jack Townsend, 29-John Plaxco, 30-Jack Greenhill, Jr. and 31-Buddy Coggin.

— Jay Dorrance

**OBITUARY**

**Condolences**

Sincere sympathy is extended to SCS RETIREE **Charles Hancock** and his family in the death of Charles's wife Dorothy Hancock, 79, of Vestavia Hills, Alabama who died on Sunday, October 9, 2005.

Mrs. Hancock was a member of the First United Methodist Church for 57 years. She is survived by her husband, Charles, Sr.; three sons, Charles, Jr. (Chuck), Alan and Randy; ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, October 12 at 2 p.m. at Ridout's Valley Chapel followed by burial in Currie-Jefferson Memorial Gardens.

— Jay Dorrance

**THE SPOTLIGHT SHINES ON  
DONALD W. JACKSON, SR.**

Practices and beliefs attributed to ancient cultures link a superstitious fear of Fridays and the number 13. However, we believe, as did other ancient cultures, that the number 13 is lucky for all of us because Don Jackson was born on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 1928. Don grew up in Woodlawn and

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<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	

**SOUTHERN NUCLEAR AND SCS RETIREES  
HOLIDAY LUNCHEON ANNUAL MEETING**

**Renaissance Ross Bridge Golf Resort**

**Directions to Ross Bridge: I-459 to Exit 10 (Hwy 150, Hoover/Bessemer) Turn onto Hwy 150 towards Bessemer. Go 1.6 miles to Ross Bridge Parkway Turn Right and go 4 miles to Grand Avenue on left. Grand Avenue will take you past the Welcome Center and straight into resort.**

**Monday, November 14, 2005  
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**Meeting Agenda**

**11:00 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.**

**Sign in / Holiday Luncheon Social Hour**

**11:00 – 11:30 a. m.**

**Board of Directors meeting**

**12 Noon**

**Seated Luncheon will be served**

**Menu:**

**Brocks's Salad (mixed Greens with Pine nuts, Tomatoes, Goat Cheese, Sliced Red Onion), Assorted Rolls, Herb Stuffed Chicken Breast (stuffed with Bell Peppers and Herbed Cheese Served with Seared Gnocchi and Spicy Tomato Sauce) and Molten Chocolate Cake**

**12:40 p.m.**

**Program: Dr. Marvin Copes  
Columnist with the Shelby County Reporter**

**1:15 p.m.**

**Business Meeting / Election and Installation of 2006 Officers**

**1:30 p.m.**

**Door Prizes and Adjournment**

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**RESERVATION FORM**

**Monday, November 14, 2005**

**Holiday Luncheon Annual Meeting, Ross Bridge Golf Resort**

**PRICE: \$20 PER PERSON / \$40 PER COUPLE**

**Retiree Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_**

**Make check payable to SCS Retirees and mail to Dora Brandt at 1616 Heritage Place, Irondale, AL 35210 on or before November 7. Cancellation no later than Nov. 9, by calling Dora Brandt at 956-0502. After that date, no exceptions, except in case of family emergency. Please note this is a firm reservation.**

## **SCS OUTSIDE**

*November-December 2005*

### **Don Jackson *Continued***

West End, attended West End High School, played left guard on the football team and graduated as valedictorian of his class in 1946.

Don joined the Navy and entered the submarine service aboard the USS Pomfret. He still has a great attraction to submarines (ask Elliene about a tour of the USS Drum in Mobile). After the Navy service, thanks to the G. I. Bill, he received a BSEE degree from Alabama Polytechnic Institute. After graduation Don received his commission in the Army Reserves and attained the rank of major before his discharge.

Don has an interesting engineering career. He began in New Orleans with the telephone company and then Celetex, where he became an honorary Cajun. He was a registered engineer in Louisiana and Alabama. He moved to Alaska and worked for RCA at the radar early warning station at Clear Site. He then returned to Birmingham to assist his brother with the family business, Jackson Electric. Employment at Rust Engineering had more than professional satisfaction; he met his future wife, Elliene, while they were working in Scottsboro, Alabama. They were married in 1970, but Rust Engineering had a policy that married couples could not work together. Southern Services to the rescue! Don began work as an engineer in the special projects section led by Abe Lincoln. He later transferred to Jim Stevenson's cost engineering department as a senior project cost engineer and retired in 1986. After retirement, he returned to Rust Engineering for five years and also contracted to ABB and SCS in nuclear departments.

Most of our retirees never become "couch potatoes." After Don finally decided to give up engineering work for pay, he started driving the Clay Senior Center van and delivering Meals on Wheels. When Elliene retired in 1997 from the Plant Hatch project, they bought a motor home and hit the road touring the United States. The major highlight of these tours was driving the Alcan Highway to Alaska. Of course, four grandsons and deacon duties at his church, Huffman Baptist, can keep one off of the couch.

Don and Elliene had two children, Don Jackson II and Amy. Since Elliene had two boys when they married, Don went from bachelorhood to a father of four in two years. Although Don is proud of all the children, Amy has pleased him by receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and a Master of Arts degree in engineering and technical management and becoming a plant manager at TW Fittings. His son, Don, is a senior programmer at Blue Cross Blue Shield.

So, you see that many people have been blessed by Don through the years in spite of that Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> beginning.

— Charles E. Hickman

### **SEPTEMBER MEETING ATTENDANCE**

Attendance at the September meeting was 42 members and guests.

— Dora Brandt

### **SCAM PREVENTION: AN ATTORNEY'S ADVICE**

Read this and make a copy for your files in case you need to refer to it someday. Maybe we should all take some of his advice!

A corporate attorney sent the following out to the employees in his company:  
The next time you order checks have only your initials (instead of first name) and last name put on them. If someone takes your check book they will not know if you sign your checks with just your initials or your first name but your bank will know how you sign your checks.

When you are writing checks to pay on your credit card accounts, DO NOT put the complete account number on the "For" line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number and anyone who might be handling your check as it passes through all the check processing channels won't have access to it.

Put your work phone number on your checks instead of your home phone. If you have a PO Box, use that instead of your home address. Never have your Social Security number printed on your checks (DUH!) you can add it if it is necessary. But if you have it printed, anyone can get it.

Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine, do both sides of each license, credit card, etc. You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. I also carry a photocopy of my passport when I travel either here or abroad.

We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed on us in stealing a name, address, Social Security number, credit cards, etc. Unfortunately I, an attorney, have firsthand knowledge because my wallet was stolen last month. Within a week, the thief(s) ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information online, and more.

But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know: We have been told we should cancel our credit cards immediately. But the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them easily.

File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where it was stolen, this proves to credit providers you were diligent, and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

But here's what is perhaps most important: (I never even thought to do this).

Call the three national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name.

The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. By the time I was advised to do this, almost

two weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done.

There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them in their tracks. The numbers are:

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285

Experian (formerly TRW): 1-888-397-3742

Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289

Social Security Administration (fraud line): 1-800-269-0271

— Contributed by Margaret Carter

## **VETERANS DAY**

Three years ago, as I listened to a "Remembrance Day" program from Canada, I heard recordings of Winston Churchill, reports radioed from the front lines, and the memories of World War II veterans. I was moved to tears.

I was just a boy during that war. To my friends and me, it was largely an adventure, but I remember the quiet pride and the sadness in the eyes of the mothers who hung a gold star in their window. I wondered if my mom might be next and my big brother gone.

The wars, great and small, were legion this past century. My dad lost his leg in the Phillipines in 1913. Then came World War I, the "war to end all wars," where an entire generation died in the trenches. One of my uncles, who lied about his age, was the first and youngest soldier from Oregon to die in that war, at the battle of Chateau Thierry. Only 20 years passed before another generation went to war to stave off aggression by Hitler, Mussolini and Tojo. We had hardly buried the dead and recovered from the shock of the realities of nuclear annihilation when East and West went at it again in Korea. Even though the fighting finally stopped by mutual agreement, the confrontation still goes on. Then came Vietnam. Since then, "little"

## **SCS OUTSIDE**

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wars have continued all over the world, like brushfires in the California hills, consuming human and material resources.

On September 11, 2001, we saw the tragedy of the attack on the World Trade Center and its aftermath. Then we watched another war in Afghanistan, which has been swallowing up armies since the time of Alexander the Great, followed by a war with Iraq which, despite declared victory, still goes on. Afghanistan and Korea are heating up again, and we are staring at the specter of yet another major war in the Middle East.

Let us give pause in remembrance of those who died, often alone and forgotten, victims of booby traps and mines, sniper fire or disease and infection, whose resting place is unmarked.

Let us give pause in remembrance for those whose lives ended abruptly on September 11 and for those who continue to die by war and terrorism.

Let us give pause and reflect so that we might carry out our lives in such a way that love and tolerance might overbalance hatred and bigotry in the scales of life and that the dream of peace might become a reality.

If so, those we remember this Veterans Day will not have died in vain.

— Stephen M. Osborn  
*Scottish Rite Journal*  
November 2003

There are four kinds of people: Those who know not, and know not that they know not. These are the foolish; avoid them. Those who know not, and know they know not. These are the simple and should be instructed. Those who know, and know not that they know. These are asleep; wake them. Those who know, and know they know. These are the wise; listen to them.

— Arab Philosopher

## **SCS RETIREES**

**P.O. BOX 2625**

**BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202**

***Our next meeting will be Monday,  
November 14 at Ross Bridge at 11 a.m.***

***Board meeting will be at 11 a.m.***