



Volume 18

Number 4

July–August 2006

PREZ SEZ

As I sit here writing this article it is hard to believe that the year is almost half way over. We have just completed our annual picnic and before we can turn around it will be time for our annual holiday luncheon. Speaking of the holiday luncheon, it is scheduled for Monday, November 13th at Ross Bridge. Please mark your calendars now so that you won't miss this wonderful event.

We had a great turnout for our annual luncheon at the Pelham Civic Center. Buddy Coggin reported that there were 175 members and guests in attendance to hear David Ratcliffe give an overview of the issues facing the Southern Company. David did a great job and we sincerely appreciate him taking the time to speak to us. I think this shows how important he feels that the retirees are to the Southern Company.

We had quite an array of people attending. I met some who had been retired for 20 years and some who have been retired only 2 months. Of course there were many who fell in between these dates. My thanks go out to all of you. To those with 20-plus years for helping to start this organization; to those who are new for bringing new blood into the organization to continue to help it grow and to all of us in between who help bridge the gap of time.

Jerry Vandegrift presented a report from the nominating committee to the Board of Directors at our May meeting. We will be sharing this information with you at the September meeting. Thanks to Jerry and the rest of the committee for a prompt response. There are still committee positions to be filled for the 2007 calendar year. If you have any interest in serving on any of the committees please let Jerry or me know of your interest.

Our next meeting is scheduled for July 10th at Inverness Conference Dining. Nick Santora will be the speaker and he plans to give us an update on PIMS and also share with us some information that he recently got from a seminar on retirement. Please plan to attend.

— Kerry Adams

Want to keep up with what's happening?

Got a computer?

Visit the SCS Retiree Website

<http://www.scsretirees.com>

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of this date (6/7/06) the income from dues is \$2,142.00 and income from interest is \$61.90 for a total of \$2203.90. The Credit Union statement for May has not been received yet. Expenses to date are \$95.90 for arrangements (regular), \$69.08 for arrangements (summer) and \$50.00 for memorials, leaving a balance for the year of \$1988.92.

You will remember that the company has requested in the past that the May (picnic) meeting be for all retirees and guests (not just SCSR members) and that it be at their expense. The bill for that meeting has been received and forwarded to them for payment.

— Henry Garrett

Dig the well before you are thirsty.

— Chinese Proverb

**SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP
 FOR 2006**

Officers	
President	Kerry Adams 980-7185
Vice President	Dora Brandt 956-0502
Secretary	Pat Moore 979-3353
Treasurer	Henry Garrett 853-6079
Directors	
Richard Chastain	822-8971
Dan Finney	995-9703
Bill Garner	967-5978
Jackie Imbush	991-8472
Nell King	822-7562
Joe Leamon	870-5637
Jack Goertz (ex-officio)	991-7766
Committee Chairpersons	
Arrangements	Buddy & Judy Coggin 785-5992
Audit	Wayne Walton 822-1875
Fellowship	
Finance	
Membership	
Newsletter	Dan & Myrna Wise 942-2336
Nominating	Jerry Vandegrift
Program	
Sunshine	Liz Winter 822-6142

SUNSHINE REPORT

Pat Moore is at home recuperating from her aneurysm surgery, and is progressing very well.

Bill Gaskell was in St. Vincent's Hospital for surgery on June 9. He went home June 15. The operation was a success and Bill reports that he is regaining his strength.

Tom Steele remains at his daughter's home.

Scott Herron is also at home recuperating from knee replacement surgery, and is improving.

— Liz Winter

BIRTHDAYS

JULY: 1-Frank Jones, 2-Howard Hubbard, 3-Ellien Jackson, 4-Carolyn Muglach, 5-Ann Garrett, 8-Eukie Woodall, 9-Lee Hanbein & Jim Newton, 13-Phillis Lawrence, 14-Sherry Runyans & George Russell, 16-Jim Anchors & Ken Hassell, 19-Bill Echols, 20-Dan Wise, 21-Dennis Runyans & Rose Mary Wright, 22-Jo Ann Stallings, 23-Ken Rieck, 24-Sandra Morgan, 27-Bruce Bailey & Carter Leonard, 28-Kerry Adams, 30-Mary Sisk and 31-Mary Ann Glover.

AUGUST: 3-Jim Coleman, 6-Robert Beason, 8-Donald East, 12-Jim Rooker, 14-Edward Muglach, 15-Martha McMillan, 16-Margaret Carter, 17-John Naramore & John Woodall, 18-Martha Burson, 20-Mary Anchors & Peggy Case, 25-Lee Rayburn, 27-John Carter & Jay Dorrance, 29-Charles Pugh & Ty Robin and 31-Roy Messick & Lee Wetzel.

— JayDorrance

OBITUARIES

In Memoriam:

James W. Smith, 62, of Ashville, Alabama died at his home on Monday, April 24, 2006 from a bout with cancer. He retired from the SCS Civil Department January 1, 1997. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, 3 children, 8 grandchildren, a sister and several nieces and nephews. A funeral service was

held for Mr. Smith on Thursday, April 27 at Jefferson Memorial Chapel in Trussville.

Emsley F. Cobb, 72, of Birmingham, Alabama passed away on Wednesday, May 17, 2006. He was an Auburn University graduate and served 23 years in the U.S. Navy Nuclear Submarine Force before coming to SCS. Mr. Cobb is survived by his wife, Betsy, and several other relatives. A memorial service was held on Saturday, May 20 at Saint Mary's-on-the-Highlands Church.

Margaret B. Jackman, 80, of Bessemer, Alabama died at her home on Monday, May 29, 2006 after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease. She retired on September 1, 1956 with 13 years service as a senior secretary from the Civil Department of SCS. Until recently she was a member of SCS RETIREES, having to drop out because of her illness. Mrs. Jackman is survived by George, her husband of 58 years, 2 daughters, a sister, a brother, a grandson and a great granddaughter. A funeral service for her was held Thursday, June 1 at the Currie-Jefferson Funeral Home in Hoover, Alabama with interment in Jefferson Memorial Gardens, South.

Condolences:

Sincere sympathy is extended to the family of SCS Retiree the late **Ruble Thomas** in the death of his widow, Mary Jo Bass Thomas, 81, of Birmingham, who died on Saturday, June 10, 2006. Funeral services for Mrs. Thomas were held on Wednesday, June 14 at St. Thomas Episcopal Church with entombment in Elmwood Cemetery, Birmingham, Alabama.

Also, our sympathy goes out to the family of **James William "Jim" Tiller**, 58, of Hueytown who died on Friday, May 20, 2006 after a battle with cancer. Mr. Tiller had been the Chief Pilot with the Southern Company for a number of years. He is survived by his wife, Sue, and other family members. Funeral services were held for Mr. Tiller on Wednesday, May 24 at Peoples Chapel with burial in Hillcrest Cemetery, Boaz, Alabama.

THE SPOTLIGHT SHINES ON **A. C. (JACK) GREENHILL**

A. C. Greenhill was born in Wheeler, Mississippi and became known as "Jack" in elementary school. Although he did not win a penmanship contest he entered in grade school, he believed he was destined to become a writer. His early career, however, involved jobs far removed from writing. For example, he drove a school bus and worked as a tool and die maker helper at TCI. A. C. served in the army from 1950 – 1952 as a machine gunner, a medical aide and a dental assistant with tours of service in Japan and Okinawa. After his discharge, he worked at the Fairfield wire mill and the Wenonah ore mines.

With assistance from the GI Bill and his wife Billie, who was employed at Reichhold Chemical Company, Jack entered the University of Alabama with the thought of becoming a dentist. This professional goal was not realized, but he earned a major in biology and a minor in chemistry. His desire to become a writer remained strong and led him to employment at Brown, Chrysler and Sperry in Huntsville as a technical writer. His next writing opportunity came at Litton Industries in Pascagoula where he learned about ship systems and prepared maintenance manuals for the sailors.

His Southern Company experience began at Alabama Power Company where he wrote "Extra Work Authorizations" for Plant Gaston. This challenging work involved redesign, cost, scheduling and often new contracts involving several contractors. As a result of this project, he earned the alias "Ole EWA." In 1977 Southern Company Services hired him to write Engineering Policy and Procedures manuals using a specified format. He noted that the engineers were happy when these manuals were eventually discontinued. A. C. declined an opportunity to work at Plant Farley, which he said was his worst mistake except for not sending Billie to school in his stead. He took advantage of an "early out" program and retired on March 1, 1989. Billie is

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employed full time at the U. S. Army Space & Missile Defense Command in Huntsville.

A. C. and Billie were married on December 26, 1954 and have two sons and five grandchildren. The grandchildren are active in school from high school to college. Hartselle is home for the entire family. Although Billie is still working outside the home, she continues to be a fine homemaker. In a note to me, which is a message I am sure they wish to share with all of us, Billie and A. C. quoted Psalm 118:24, which says "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

— Charles E. Hickman

A SHORT NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR

I'm sure anyone who has worked very long in an engineering field or for an engineering company has heard of a gentleman named Murphy. Yes, I am referring to that estimable spirit who stated one of the truly monumental laws of the universe. Simply put,

Mr. Murphy's fame rests on the simple statement, *if anything can happen, it will.*

I can tell you without fear of contradiction that Murphy was correct. The last issue of Outside proves it.

Just about everything that could go wrong did, in fact, go wrong—very, very wrong. Production was delayed on purpose because the picnic date was so late in the month. In and of itself, that would not have been a problem, but....

Some input was a little late. Your editor got thrown out of his groove. Mailing labels, normally provided by the company for the picnic issue, were not available and all efforts to contact our company liaison were met with silence. Then we went to press late and printing took longer than usual.

Those of you who received a copy of that newsletter were sure to notice that the printer printed on only one side of the sheet instead of the usual two .

All in all, the last issue of Outside was pretty much of a disaster. And for that I apologize. Maybe we have all the gremlins put to rest now. I hope so.

— Dan Wise

SCS RETIREES

P.O. BOX 2625

BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202

Meeting will be Monday, July 10

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Building 40

Conference Dining Room

Board meeting will be at 11 a.m.