



Volume 20

Number 1

January–February 2008

PREZ SEZ

ANOTHER YEAR!! Where did the time go? The older we get, the faster times goes and for our group, that means time goes pretty fast. This is my last letter as President, and a good time to reflect on what has happened since my first letter a year ago.

A retiree organization exists mostly to promote and maintain friendships among the people we worked and associated with and for that, we have had a successful year. It has certainly been a good year for me because I enjoy being with you so much.

Now a new president is starting a new year working with a dedicated group of people who help to make this organization function. Let's all support them so that next year at this time he can also say, "WE HAVE HAD A GOOD YEAR!"

— Nell Larson

**Want to keep up with what's happening?
Got a computer?**

Visit the SCS Retiree Website
<http://www.scsretirees.com>

JANUARY PROGRAM

Dr. Charles D. Amsler, a biology professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, will be the speaker at our Monday, January 14, 2008 meeting. Chuck and his wife Margaret have been honored with the naming of an island in Antarctica by the United States Board on Geographic names. This joint naming is in recognition of their career contributions in Antarctic marine biology.

His presentation will include a general description of living and working at two of the United States Antarctic Program bases and will highlight the local flora and fauna at each. Topics will include things you can see above the surface of the water such as penguins and seals as well as observations of the animals and plants that live on the sea floor.

Dr. Amsler has completed 11 expeditions to Antarctica, seven to Palmer Station and four to McMurdo Station. He has completed more than 370 research scuba dives in Antarctica, including 15 at Amsler Island. He will be returning to Antarctica in mid-February for another four months to study the chemical ecology of marine algae and invertebrates.

He has published numerous papers and serves on prestigious boards. I believe we will have a great program, and I look forward to seeing you in the new year of 2008.

— Charles E. Hickman

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY: 1-Gladys Bailey, 2-Mollie Midlik, 3-Nell Herron & Bill Holmes, 4-Bettilew Gaskell, 5-Betty Ramsey & Frank Rutherford, 6-Robert Haubein & Bernard Moore, 7-Elsie Graham, 8-Willard Brooks, 11-Paul Brashier & Rena Coleman, 13-Charles & James Crane & Ralph Tribble, 14-Janus Ellenburg, 16-Lois Dowdle & Armour Rushings, 17-Jimmie Tribble, 18-Gaye Aultman & Charlie Micklewright, 19-Donald Thornburgh, 22-Charles Hancock, 24-Nelda Finney & Mary Rowe, 25-Barbara Wallace, 27-Gray Murray, 28-Jackie

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Imbusch, Norma Jean Johnston & Robert H. Smith, 30-Cheryl Lowery and 31-Barbara Quinn.

FEBRUARY: 1-Jack Blackwood, Dan Finney & Tom Nunnally, 2-Rex Walker, 4-Shirley East, 5-Sulin Chiou, 6-Dot Kachelhofer, 8-Wendell Kirk, 9-Dennis Cole, W.L. Marshall & John Quinn, 11-Bill Hill, Bill Ramsey & Valerie Webster, 12-Glenn Baker, Bill Midlik & Donald Smaha, 16-George Imbusch, 20-Myrna Wise, 21-Veva Naramore & Henry Vincent, 23-Tom Shepherd & Frances Williamson, 24-Doby Hanks & Carolyn Smith, 25-Gale Dougherty & Joe Leamon, 27-Lera Pate and 28-John Hargett.

— Jay Dorrance

POMPEII: THE EXHIBIT
Special presentation
January 7, 2008

If you haven't been to the Pompeii Exhibit at the Birmingham Museum of Art, or even if you have, you'll enjoy this special presentation by Susan Goertz, an ambassador for the Birmingham Museum of Art. (Susan is the wife of SCS Retiree Jack Goertz).

Susan will present an informative talk and slide show, adding details about the exhibit at BMA, and sharing some slides and other information about Pompeii, the eruption, and the exhibit. She'll be glad to answer any questions you may have about the exhibit.

Listening to Susan's talk, you'll have a greater appreciation of the exhibit and for the excavation of the site in Pompeii. It's truly an awesome exhibit!

The presentation will be Monday, January 7, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 310 of Inverness 42 (this is the conference room where we normally meet). This is NOT our regular bimonthly meeting and there will be no business meeting on the 7th. It is a special presentation in conjunction with the SCS-Retirees' trip to the Art Museum on January 10. All who are interested in the Pompeii exhibit and who would like to learn more about it are invited to attend. (Not just those who are going with Joe Leamon's group tour).

Come early, meet for lunch in the cafeteria if you'd like. This is also another opportunity for more socializing!

— Jack Goertz

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of December 4, 2007, the income from dues is \$2,790.00 and income from interest is \$195.61. Income from members for the November meeting was \$2,300.00 and the cost of that meeting was \$3,111.80. Total income is now \$5,285.61 and expenses to date are \$4,747.71 leaving a net gain for the year at \$537.90. All bills are paid and still to be received are interest from our APCO CU account for November and December.

— Henry Garrett

MEMBER CARE REPORT

Vickie Imbusch, daughter-in-law of **Jackie Imbusch**, will be going to North Carolina this week to receive a special medication for treatment of her cancer. She will be returning on Thursday.

Jack Wintter is still under the care of Hospice. Elizabeth is encouraged because Jack is still eating. She appreciates the concern exhibited by SCS Retirees.

Howard Hubbard was able to attend church recently.

A note was received from Bettilew Gaskell thanking us for the memorial for Bill.

— Liz Winter

I thank God that I live in a country where dreams can come true, where failure sometimes is the first step to success and where success is only another form of failure if we forget what our priorities should be.

— Harry Lloyd

**SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP
FOR 2008**

OBITUARIES

In Memoriam

James M. Witt, Jr., 64, of Birmingham, Alabama, died Wednesday, October 24, 2007. He retired from the SCS Instruments and Controls Department. A memorial service was held for Mr. Witt on Saturday, October 27 at the Chapel of Briarwood Presbyterian Church. He is survived by his wife, Jan, a son and two daughters.

W. Neal Stanfield, 60, of Pelham, Alabama, died Monday, October 29, 2007. He retired from Nuclear Plant Support in 1997. Funeral services for Mr. Stanfield were held at Southern Heritage Funeral Home in Pelham on Thursday afternoon, November 1. He is survived by two daughters, his mother and other family members.

Bill T. Gaskell, 84, of Homewood, Alabama, died Thursday, November 15, 2007. He retired as manager of the SCS Mechanical Design Department with 37 years of service. A funeral service was held for Mr. Gaskell at the Trinity United Methodist Church, Homewood on Monday afternoon November 19. He is survived by his wife, Bettilew, their three children, twelve grandchildren and nine great grandchildren,

Jack H. Jackle, 86, of Birmingham, Alabama, died Thanksgiving Day in Sumter, SC (11/22/07) while visiting family. He retired from the QA Department in 1986 with 16 years of service. A funeral service was held for Mr. Jackle on Friday afternoon November 30 at the St. Stephens Episcopal Church, Cahaba Heights, Alabama. He is survived by two daughters, four grandsons and six great grandchildren.

Adrian G. Maze, 65, of Birmingham, Alabama, passed away on Monday, December 3, 2007. He retired in 2000 from the Inspection Testing Engineering Department of Southern Nuclear Operating Company. Funeral Services were held for Mr. Maze on Thursday morning December 6 in the chapel of the Gardendale (Ala) Funeral Home. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, three children and six grandchildren.

Officers	
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Vice President	Dora Brandt 956-0502
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Treasurer	Henry Garrett 853-6079
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Nell Larson (ex-officio)	822-7562
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Audit	Wayne Walton 822-1875
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Newsletter	Dan & Myrna Wise 942-2336
Nominating	Bob Hart 8228492
Program	Jack Goertz 991-7766
Website	Charles Hickman 823-4597

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Condolences

Our sincere sympathy goes out to Joyce and SCS Retiree Fred Ehrensperger in the death of their grandson, Steven Earl Ehrensperger, 20, of Argo, who died as the result of an auto accident on Thursday, November 29, 2007. In addition to his grandparents he is survived by his parents, David and Brenda Ehrensperger and a sister. Funeral Services were held for Steven on Monday morning December 3 at Ridout's Trussville (Ala) Chapel.

REMEMBRANCES

Retirees, Lest We Forget

Dr. Donald Parrish, 53, December 30, 2006; Robert Sox, 64, January 7; Donnie Young, 56, January 16; Bob Higginbotham, 86, February 7; Mack Pate, 86, February 14; Michael Lee, 56, February 14; Herman Lord, 85, March 7; Dick Walker, 77, April 30; Jane Kloman, 60, May 8; Jim Rimel, 86, May 11; Bill Dormady, 67, May 22; Charles Wilson, 80, July 18; David Willis, 59, July 26; LeMar Russell, 76, August 20; Ovelene Parrish, 75, September 7; James Witt, 64, October 24; Neal Stanfield, 60, October 29; Bill Gaskell, 84, November 15; Jack Jackle, 86, November 22 and Adrian Maze, 65, December 3.

Loved Ones, May We Always Remember

Winifred Pimm, 98, January 4, mother of SCS Retiree Valerie Webster; Dolores Lilly Hulsey, 86, January 12, wife of former SCS president the late Clyde Lilly; Bill Wright, 78, April 18, husband of SCS Retiree Rosemary Wright; Ed Steele, 86, April 20, husband of SCS Retiree Joyce Steele; Margaret Ragland, 89, June 20, mother of SCS Retiree Doug Ragland; Nancy McLaughlin, 56, July 16, daughter of Mary Elizabeth and SCS Retiree the late Jim Rimel; John Vandegrift, 42, September 29, son of Dean and SCS Retiree Jerry Vandegrift and Steve Ehrensperger, 20, November 29, grandson of Joyce and SCS Retiree Fred Ehrensperger.

— Jay Dorrance

Every man regards his own life as the New Year's Eve of time. — Jean Paul Richter

THE SPOTLIGHT SHINES

on

JOHN E. GARLINGTON

The John Garlington family has a long history with the Southern Company; father had an entire career with Alabama Power Company (APC), brother works for APC in Montgomery and John had numerous Southern Company assignments throughout his career. But first things first.

John was born in Birmingham and his early education was in Homewood and Tuscaloosa. He was a co-op student with Boeing in Huntsville (Apollo V program) and Gulf Power Company while attending Auburn University, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering. After graduation, John worked at the APC Barry steam plant for two years and then went to Zion, Illinois in 1973 for a year of nuclear training. This training led to a career primarily related to nuclear engineering.

The first several years were spent at the Farley nuclear plant, where John was employed in the quality assurance area while the plant was under construction. During this time, he obtained a senior reactor operator's license. After a one year position with Western Electric in Atlanta, John returned to Farley and rose to the position of engineering department supervisor. In 1985, he moved to Birmingham as the Farley engineering and licensing superintendent. After the formation of Southern Nuclear Company (SNC), John had assignments in Birmingham and at Farley related to conducting studies to determine the best structure for nuclear support. He was instrumental in consolidating the SCS nuclear engineering with SNC and restructuring the SNC corporate organization. John was named SNC vice president of engineering in 2002 and served in that role until his retirement in 2006.

The best thing that ever happened to John was to find his "mail order bride" Anna Bryan. He described his "ideal girl" to a girl friend of his Auburn roommate. She arranged a blind date based on his description. As the saying goes, the rest is history. Anna and John have one daughter, two sons and five grandchildren all of whom live in the

Birmingham area. The couple live on a minifarm in Alabaster and enjoy family gatherings in a cabin on Smith Lake.

John is active in his local church as a teacher and an ordained deacon. Also, he has made several church building trips to the Mississippi coast after Hurricane Katrina. In addition, he serves on the board of directors of The King's Ranch and Hannah Homes. John enjoys motorcycle riding, fishing and backpacking. Together, Anna and John enjoy traveling in their motor home with trips since retirement to New England and to California. Once again, we have discovered an SCS retiree who had an outstanding career and who is now enjoying retirement.

— Charles E. Hickman

NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

Jay Dorrance reports that 112 members and guests attended the annual meeting luncheon.

THE CHRISTMAS I GOT MY BICYCLE

This is an excerpt from "Stallworth Stories" in the December 2007 Senior Living.

[Christmas 1936] I didn't know how to ride a bicycle, but I took it out in the road in front of our house. The street stretched down to the west....

I didn't tell anyone I didn't know how to ride. With exquisite bravado, I mounted the bicycle just like I knew what I was doing.

I started off down the street. Wobbly, wobbly, veering to the left, swerving to the right. I wobbled myself down that street, and then I got the idea—I would go into the little alley [next to my father's office] and show Dad how good I could ride.

As I turned into the alley, Mr. Fox—L.S. Fox—came out of the post office at the head of the alley. He was reading a letter, and he had his spectacles low on his nose. He didn't notice the kid wobbling toward him on a bike.

I wanted to put on the brakes, but I didn't know how. I was so intent on learning how to ride, that I didn't know how to stop it.

It was in slow motion. I headed for the alley, but Mr. Fox, reading his letter, was in the way. I wanted to stop, but I didn't know how.

I ran straight between his legs. Up into the air went Mr. Fox, the letter, his glasses, me, and the bicycle. Sitting on the ground, holding his glasses, he looked at me and shook his head.

For him, I guess it was the Christmas that Stallworth kid rode right between his legs, for goodness sake, why aren't kids more careful?

For me, even with Mr. Fox's disapproving stare, it was ... the happiest Christmas. I had my bike.

— Clarke Stallworth

BACK THEN

Again, excerpted from an article by Hoyt Harwell in the December 2007 Senior Living.

Celebration of the [Christmas] season for our family didn't really begin until Christmas morning. That's because daddy was a Baptist preacher and was tied up until Christmas with Advent services at church.

So the week between Christmas Day and Yew Year's Day was the time of our celebration. Daddy took that week off, helped us with jigsaw puzzles, played games with us and made it a family affair.

Christmas week brought us to New Year's Eve and a form of torture for children" the "Watch Night Service" thought up by somebody at Baptist headquarters in Nashville.

The idea was for churches to have a New Year's Eve service to try to counteract the "sinful" attractions of other places and celebrations.

So, there would be hymn singing, testimonies and Bible readings from 7 p.m. until midnight.

Now, THAT will try the patience of a child, although my recollection is that I never was able to stay awake until midnight. Sleepiness overcame the discomfort of those hard pews.

— Hoyt Harwell

SCS OUTSIDE

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CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

And a third excerpt from the December 2007 issue of Senior Living.

I had a baby doll with a blue bonnet, which I later swapped for a pair of skates during the war. I also had a new red bicycle I loved; no five speed here.

One of the best play activities that kept me occupied for hours was a dollhouse I made out of a cardboard box. I cut out windows on the sides of the cardboard box. Then I cut pictures of curtains out of the Sears and Roebuck catalogs and pasted them on the windows. I cut out doors that would swing out and made play furniture out of the leftover cardboard. I finished decorating by pasting rugs cut from magazines on the floor.

The people who lived in my dollhouse were paper dolls, bought at the store and cut out with scissors. I cut costumes for them from a catalog or

magazine. These paper dolls had lots of clothes and each had a catalog to store their wardrobe in.

And what about that clay head that I filled with water to watch and see when the seeds I placed on his head would sprout green hair? I carried the clay head to school and it did indeed sprout green hair.

Hopscotch was a favorite game I played with girls my age. All the girls carried a stubby piece of chalk and her favorite “piece” to play the game on the spur of the moment. We played during recess or waiting for the school bell to ring. My best “piece” was a blue piece of broken glass from a Milk of Magnesia bottle.

Ah, how I loved the old game of Monopoly. Sunday afternoons were the best spent with my friend Jane, playing the game. Almost every Sunday after church we went to her house or my house. The game never ended, even after playing hours of buying real estate on the board. Of course, during the game we talked “girl talk.” No TV here!

— Jean Butterworth

SCS RETIREES

P.O. BOX 2625

BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202

***Our next meeting will be Monday,
January 14 in Inverness 42, Room
310 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.***