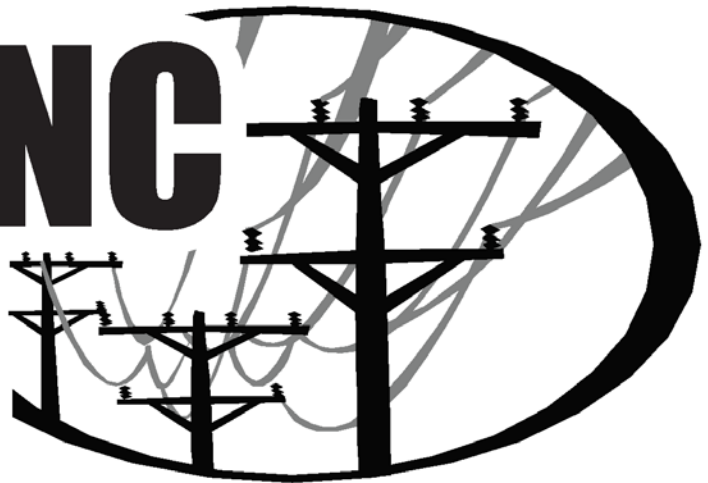


SCS/SNC OUTSIDE



Volume 21

Number 3

May – June 2009

PREZ SEZ

Thank goodness it's finally Spring. I always look forward to this time of year as a period of renewal and recommitment.

As our 2009 membership drive comes to a close we have approximately 264 folks who have renewed or joined, but we still have 85 past members who have not yet renewed. If you are not sure if you have renewed, you can call Dora Brandt, our Membership Chair to determine your status.

Your membership in the SCS/SNC Retirees organization provides you the opportunity to see your fellow retirees at our bimonthly meetings as well as get updates on active members via e-mail or phone, and through our fellowship events throughout the year.

Our March speaker was **Lauren Whitt**, the Alabama Power Wellness Coordinator, who is responsible for the Alabama Power Southern Life Style Health and Wellness program. She provided a very interesting talk about Senior wellness and stress reduction.

Our Spring Luncheon, open to all SCS/SNC Retirees, is scheduled for Monday, **May 11** at the Pelham Civic Complex with **Jim Miller, Jr.**,

President of Southern Nuclear, as our featured speaker.

By now you should have received the invitation to the Spring luncheon and I encourage you to send your reservation form back to Jay Dorrance.

Charles Hickman, our Web Committee chair, has completely redone our SCS/SNC Web site that includes all information about our organization. This is very well done and I encourage you to take a look at it: <http://www.scsretirees.com/>

I look forward to seeing you all at the May 11 meeting.

— John Brandt

MAY PROGRAM

As is our routine, the annual meeting for all SCS/SNC retirees will get underway in late morning registration and social time, followed by a tasty meal and an interesting program. As John stated above, Jim Miller is our featured speaker. His message is sure to be of interest to all of us. For more details, find the invitation page elsewhere in this newsletter.

MEMBER CARE REPORT

Our sympathy is extended to several families recently. Please see the listing in Jay's column.

SCS OUTSIDE

May - June 2009

Get well soon wishes are extended to Warren Glover. Warren had heart surgery (3 bypasses) this week in Huntsville Hospital. Mary Ann said he is doing very well. They will be in Huntsville for an extended period as Warren is recuperating.

Please let me know when you or your family has good news or you wish the membership to remember you during difficult times.

I would like to remind the membership that Calling Post is used only when a member, spouse, child, parents, or sibling passes away. If this policy is changed by the Board of Directors in the future, I will inform the membership.

Also, please remember to notify me when your email or phone number changes. I have had numerous messages returned to me recently because of faulty or outdated e-mail addresses. I will try to notify you when this occurs. And if you do not wish to receive e-mail notices from Member Care, please let me know.

— Liz Winter

Want to keep up with what's happening?

Got a computer?

Visit the SCS Retiree Website

<http://www.scsretirees.com>

BIRTHDAYS

May: 1-Barbara Mohon, 3-Ann Damsgard & Dick Locke, 4-Kennith Burr, Jim Corbitt & Norma Young, 5-Bob Armstrong, Dick Conry & Carol Purcell, 6-K.C. Shelburne, Dominick Viruleg & Betty Windhorst, 7-Don Mansfield, 9-Malcolm Morgan, Bill Ruff, Bob Walker & Dale Wyatt, 10-David Bass & Wandra Wyatt, 11-Edmon Poole, 12-Avis Higginbotham & Cynthia Horton, 13-Judith Irvin & Mary Sue Ludwig, 14-Bill Lee, 15-Elaine Chambers & Dean Koch, 16-Betty Mikell & Charlotte Shanlever, 17-Rachel Hubbard, Margaret O'Brien & Ed Williamson, 18-Bob Hart, 19-Linda Griggs, Louise Sensabaugh & Hugh Williamson, 20-Betty Bradshaw, 21-Loraine Messick & Roy

Shanlever, 22-Corinne Hart, 23-Eugene Byars, 25-Farook Chandiwalla, Don Graham & Bill Guthrie, 26-Sam Bowman & Betty Mikell, 27-Harold Jones & Helen Robin, 29-Joe Katz, 30-Larry Mathews and 31-Earl Parson.

June: 1-Diane Adams & Tony Niemzak, 3-Warren Glover & Joyce Hickman, 4-Bill Newman, 5-Mary Morgan & Ethel Rushing, 6-Mary Ward, 7-Joel Connor, John Davis Eunice Draper, Peggy Howard & Angie Walker, 8-John Brandt, 9-Jim Newton, 10-Edna Wright, 11-Catherine Bailey & Jerry Smith, 12-John Adrian, Mary Dougherty & Houston Welch, 13-Malek Barroody, 14-Ann Batum, Bill Coughlin, John Thies & Bob Winter, 15-Glenn Brothers, 16-Mike Burns & Peggy Hinton, 17-Clyde Howard, Mary Lou Johnston, Ron Meade & Brooke Mehaffey, 18-Willie Bonds & Pat Moore, 19-Melvin Evans, 20-Sara Jo Blackwood, Dewana Green, James Killingsworth, Nell King Larson & Wayne Walton, 21-James Hartin & John Heatherly, 22-Ray Bailey, Betty Jackson & Beverly Vincent, 23-Jane Hawkins, Joyce Steele & Jackie Woodard, 24-Carol Taylor, 26-Nancy Adrian, Jeri Corbitt & Glendean Swearingen, 27-Gary Chambers, Kate Newman & Doug Wiles, 28-Mike Griggs & Ivagene Quick, 29-Judy Coggin, Betty Danford & Cheryl Locke and 30-Gayle Busby, Bipin Patel & Karen Hubbard.

— Jay Dorrance

OBITUARIES

In Memoriam

Armour Lewis Rushing, Sr., 89, of Birmingham, Alabama died Wednesday morning, February 25, 2009.

He retired on March 1, 1985, from the SCS power supply department as the senior power supply coordinator. Mr. Rushing spent 20 years with Alabama Power Company before coming over to SCS where he served for the next 18 years for a total of 38 years of dedicated service to the Southern Company. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ethel, one son, two daughters and a number

**SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP
FOR 2009**

of grandchildren and great grandchildren. Mr. Rushing's funeral and interment was from Southern Heritage Funeral Home in Pelham, Alabama, on Friday, February 27.

Roy H. Messick, 79, of Birmingham, Alabama passed away on Wednesday, April 1, 2009. He retired in 1987 from the SCS hydro department as a senior designer with 11 years of service. Roy is survived by his wife of 58 years, Lorraine, two sons, four daughters, ten grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

A funeral mass was held for Roy at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church on Friday, April 3, followed by interment in Jefferson Memorial Cemetery in Trussville, Alabama.

Condolences

Our heart felt sympathy is extended to Dewey and SCS Retiree **Carol Yeager** and their family in the death of Dewey's daughter and Carol's step daughter Sylvia Yeager Hines, 61, who died on Friday, April 3, 2009. She was preceded in death by her mother, SCS Retiree Kathleen Yeager. In addition to her father, Dewey Yeager and stepmother Carol Williams Yeager, Mrs. Hines is survived by a husband, Charles Hines, and a daughter. A funeral service for Sylvia was held on Tuesday, April 7 at the funeral home chapel followed by burial in the Maple Hill Cemetery, Huntsville, Alabama.

Our sympathy is extended to George and SCS Retiree **Jackie Imbusch** in the death of their daughter in law Vickie Imbusch, 42, who passed away on Wednesday, April 8, 2009. Vickie is survived by her husband of 18 years, David Imbusch, their three children, her mother and other relatives. A funeral service was held for Vickie at noon on Saturday, April 11, at Southern Heritage Chapel, Pelham, Alabama with a 3 p.m. graveside service at Alabama Heritage Cemetery in Montgomery, Alabama.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of SCS Retiree the late **James T. Cornelison** in the death

Continued on page 4

Officers	
President	John Brandt 956-0502
Vice President	Carol Yeager 822-5506
Secretary	Pat Moore 979-3353
Treasurer	Henry Garrett 853-6079
Directors	
Buddy Coggin	785-5992
Jim Coleman	991-7403
Charles Goodman	823-5187
Don Irvin	491-3841
Jim Rooker	287-3210
Don Smaha	823-0173
Richard Chastain (ex-officio)	822-8971
Committee Chairs	
Arrangements	Jay Dorrance 663-2828
Audit	Mike Griggs 823-7950
Fellowship	Joe Leamon 870-5637
Finance	Henry Garrett 823-6079
Member Care	Liz Winter 822-6142
Membership	Dora Brandt 956-0502
Newsletter	Dan & Myrna Wise 942-2336
Nominating	Fred Ehrensperger 655-2725
Program	Open
Website	Charles Hickman 823-4597

SCS OUTSIDE

May - June 2009

of his widow Laura S. Cornelison, of Morris, Alabama, who passed away on Sunday, April 12, 2009 at the age of 73. Funeral services were held for Laura on Wednesday afternoon April 15 at Robuck Chapel, Birmingham, Alabama. She was a member of Mt. Vernon UMC, Gardendale, Alabama.

— Jay Dorrance

THE SPOTLIGHT shines on PATSY A. EVANS

Patsy Evans, one of our newest retirees, was born in Birmingham and attended Ensley High School. Her Southern Company Services career began in June 1971 as a key punch operator. After holding various positions, she was promoted to client services analyst and then to client systems analyst. Her work was primarily related to the mainframe computer, with an emphasis on security.

For the last 15 years of her 37 year Southern Company Services career, she was an analyst at the help desk located at the downtown office of Alabama Power Company. She retired in March 2009.

Among her many interests are traveling, working around her house and staying involved with friends. Her most meaningful trip was to Guam with her dad and son Mark. Her father was a World War II veteran, and they were guests of the Guam Governor. Another memorable trip was to the Vatican in 2000, which included a personal tour by Monsignor, now Archbishop, Joseph Marino. Patsy described many other trips, including Italy (four times), Sicily and Greece. She and a traveling companion, Joyce Studinka, have been to Spain, Northern Africa and Gibraltar, among other places. She is now planning a trip to Canada; Vancouver, Victoria and Whistler.

Dancing is one of her favorite hobbies; good exercise both physically and mentally she says. Patsy belongs to a couple of dance clubs, the Magic City Boppers and the Birmingham Shaggers. You

will have to ask her what these dances are. She was involved in tap dancing until, alas, her teacher quit.

Patsy has a son, Mark Carroll, who is an electrical engineer living in Atlanta and working for Southern Company Services at Georgia Power Company. Henry Garrett was instrumental in getting scholarships for Mark, who is a UAB graduate. A stepson, Rusty Evans, lives in Ragland and works for Honda. A grandson, Brooks Evans, is 14. She was married to Gil Evans, who passed away in 2006, for 25 years. She has been active at Hunter Street Baptist Church for many years, including teaching an adult Sunday school class.

— Charles E. Hickman

STUFF FROM HERE AND THERE

Big Al and the Lost Paws

It was a beautiful Saturday afternoon in the South. The Alabama-LSU game at Legion Field in Birmingham was about to begin. This was 1985 or 1986. The usual fanfare was expected. Big Al and the Crimson Tide cheerleaders would run out ahead of the Alabama football team and crash through the paper banner. The crowd would roar!

There was a big problem. Big Al, the University of Alabama mascot, alias Danny Butterworth, had left his Big Al "paws" (or whatever you would call an elephant's appendages) at home, drying on the clothes rack in the basement. What was he going to do? First Danny talked to the cheerleader sponsor, and it was a no-deal to appear not in full costume (well, he knew that).

Danny always changed into his Big Al Suit in the Birmingham Police station at the stadium. A policeman standing nearby overheard his dilemma and asked him, "Where do you live?" Danny replied, "Hoover." The policeman then asked Danny for his address and then proceeded to call the Hoover police. The arrangement that was worked out was that Hoover Police would come to the house and pick up the "paws."

Standing in the tunnel by the stadium phone, Danny called home. "Mom, I left my paws at home." My response was, "I can't get there in time with all the traffic." Danny replied, "The Hoover Police are on the way to get them."

I ran downstairs and snatched the two paws off the clothes rack in the basement and in almost no time the doorbell was ringing. There stood a handsome Hoover policeman on my porch. I handed him the paws and said, "I bet you hadn't done this before."

With a big smile and without a word he turned and walked to his patrol car. Standing there, I watched him back out of the driveway and I was startled to hear the patrol car siren as he drove off toward Legion Field.

The Hoover policeman met the Birmingham police at some point and the paws were handed over. In no time at all Danny heard the siren as the Birmingham police car pulled into the stadium. The paws were given to Danny and he dressed into the Big Al suit. Big Al trotted onto the sidelines, waving his paws, at the end of the first quarter.

The Big Al suit comes in six pieces: the two paws, two feet, the body and the head/trunk, which had a bicycle helmet attached to secure the wearer's head. Danny would always lose at least 20 pounds each season because he got so hot wearing the costume. The previous Friday night he had attended a pep rally in Tuscaloosa and arrived home in Hoover bringing the suit, which was soaked with sweat. This was the reason he hung the suit in the basement to air out.

The Big Al costume was made at the Walt Disney Studios in Florida, and saw a lot of wear and tear. I found myself mending the suit frequently. The year after Danny graduated from Alabama, his friend, Joe Sims, tried out and was selected as Big Al.

Joe's mom, Brenda, found the suit in such disrepair that she made a new Big Al suit. You can see the Big Al head/trunk that Danny wore in the late 1980s in the Bear Bryant Museum in Tuscaloosa. It is perched on the shoulders of the Big Al suit that Brenda Sims made.

Danny had such a great time the three years he was Big Al. Big Al is a member of the cheerleading squad, and he had to try out for the position using an original skit before a panel of judges.

He enjoyed associating with Coach Ray Perkins and his staff, the Alabama football team, the cheerleading squad and the fans. Danny was fortunate to attend as Big Al at the Kick Off Classic in New York, the Aloha Bowl in Hawaii, the Sun Bowl in El Pasos, Texas, and the Richo Japan Bowl in Tokyo, Japan. Some of the great football players during that time were Mike Shula, Bobby Humphrey, Van Tiffin and Cornelius Bennett.

So much for "Lost Paws." Roll Tide!

— Jean Butterworth
Senior Living,
November 2007

Consider the Sequoia

The giant sequoias of California are conifers, or evergreens, of the *taxodiaceae*, or redwood, family, and they are members of the *gigantean*, or big tree species. Some of the extraordinarily large trees are over 300 feet tall, and, in bulk, they are the largest of all trees. The greatest have a circumference of over 100 feet, a diameter in the 30-foot range, and branches starting at about 130 feet above the ground with a diameter of over 6 feet. These giant trees have an estimated total weight of about 2000 tons with foliage alone weighing over 150 tons.

Native to the westerly slope of the Sierra Nevada, the giant sequoias grow at altitudes of 5000 to 8000 feet. Commonly referred to as the oldest of living things, some sequoias have been estimated, based on ring counts, to be over 3000 years old.

Sequoias do not stand alone. They could not. Their roots are shallow, and there is no central taproot to give them stability. But they grow in groves consisting of as few as 4 and as many as 3500 mature trees. In these groves, their roots intertwine in such a way that they support each other. For centuries their interdependence has

SCS OUTSIDE

May - June 2009

enabled them to stand tall and magnificent despite the violent forces of nature.

John Donne, English poet and clergyman (1572–1631), wrote, “No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.” We do not stand alone. Like the giant sequoias, we are interdependent and must live in communities of mutual support. Gregarious by nature, we desire fellowship and reach out to others to satisfy those needs.

— W. Howard Coop
Scottish Rite Journal,
April 2004

Bee Lessons

Bee Life

Bees live naturally in the wild or are artificially kept by beekeepers. Simply put, we put a box over them and let them do their thing. Either way, they

devote their lives to the hive. That’s the miracle of bees—complete subjugation of the individual for the group.

Lesson: It’s satisfying to work for the greater good.

Shivering

Bees provide heat by shivering. By moving body muscles, energy radiates out. And by huddling close together, this energy is turned into heat. Even bees at the outer surface of the cluster have enough warmth to survive.

Lesson: Shiver and stay warm.

— Howard Scott
Bee Lessons,
Professional Press,
Chapel Hill, NC, 2002

An optimist is the human personification of Spring.

— Susan J. Bissonette

SCS RETIREES

P.O. BOX 2625

BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202

MEETING DETAILS:

When: Monday, May 11, 2009

***Where: Pelham Civic Center
Pelham, Alabama***

Board meeting at 11 a.m.

General Meeting

***Registration and Social Time:
11 a.m.***

Lunch Served: 12 Noon

Program following lunch