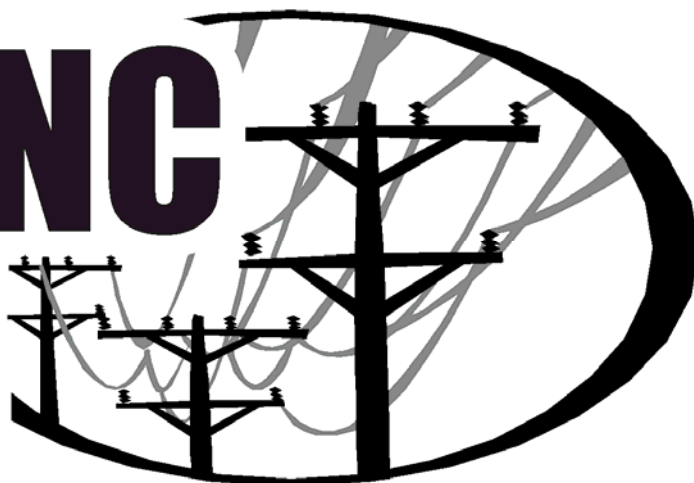


SCS/SNC OUTSIDE



Volume 21

Number 6

November–December 2009

MEMBER CARE REPORT

The only news we have to report this issue is good. **Don Smaha** is much better. His ankle is fine now, and his knee is healing nicely. He does have a slight limp without the knee brace, but no longer is using it since his knee pain has subsided. We hope to see him at our next meeting.

Please remember to give me a call or e-mail if you have news to report on your family or some other retiree family.

— Liz Winter

PREZ SEZ

Our upcoming retirees meeting on Wednesday, November 11, is one of the major events of our year—the Holiday Luncheon and Annual Meeting. We will elect our new officers at the meeting. Our featured entertainment will be Jerry Ryan. Jerry is a member of Three on a String who has a solo act that I have been told by several of our members is very entertaining.

The meeting will be at the Vestavia Hills Country Club, beginning at 11 a.m., with registration and Social Hour, followed by lunch at noon. Reservations must be received not later than November 5. A copy of the reservation information is attached to this newsletter.

Our January meeting will be on Monday, January 11, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. at Inverness Building 42, Room 130. This meeting will feature a presentation on Southern Company's research in to the impact of Electric Vehicles on the Southern Electric System. The presenters will be Bryan Coley, SCS Research Engineer specializing in Electric Transportation and Cedric Daniels Marketing Electric Transportation Product Manager.

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

— John Brandt

BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER: 2-William Kline, 4-Elizabeth Wintter, 5-Jackson Eastis, 7-Emma Laura Patrick & Betty Ponder, 8-Carol Devore & Mary Betty Hendricks, 9-Ronnie Green & Grady Smith, 10-Arthur Draper & Jean Guthrie, 11-Ozen Batum, Noel Chambless, Charles Hickman & Nancy Parsons, 12-Angie Campisi, Dot Cole & Tommy Sanford 13-George Burson & Norman McNeill, 14-Dora Brandt & Frank Brewer, 16-Sara Thompson & Larry Wallace, 18-Theresa Burns, 19-B. J. Walker & Margaret Williams, 20-Rodney Shu, 21-Dale Fulmer, 22-Robert Akridge & Ernestine Craig, 23-Mildred Hire Fleming, 27-Jerry Fields, 28-Don Duckworth & Dot Legg, 29-John Evans, James O'Brien & Charlsie Smith and 30-Mary Nunnally, Gail Pugh, Sharony Ruft & Sandra Smaha.

Want to keep up with what's happening? Got a computer? Visit the SCS Retiree Website.

<http://www.scsretirees.com>

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DECEMBER: 1-Amal Barroody, 3-Attie Fleming, Bill Holcombe, Evelyn Mansfield, & Robert Preston, 4-Lou Payne, 5-Sandra Morgan, 6-Bettie Brickell, 7-Phyllis Mathews, 8-Al Larson, 9-Linda Henry, 12-Jerry Nichols, 13-Betty Allen, Jerry Sappington, Carolyn Spears & Jackie Walton, 14-William Drinker, 18-James Bailey & Glenda Massengale, 20-Jane Rooker, 22-Lee Nie & Douglas Shelton, 23-Richard Chastain & Malcomb Garner, 24-Bobby Rouse, 25-Glenda Maxwell, 26-Melanie Crane, Betty Latta, Jack Townsend & Lewis Ward, 27-Ed Price, 29-Arthur Johnson & John Plaxco, 30-Jack Greenhill, Jr., William Lambert & James Maughn and 31-Buddy Coggin, Eleanor Connor, Sonia Garnem, Jack Jones & Bill Latta.

— Jay Dorrance

OBITUARIES

In Memoriam

Kenneth M. Rieck, 83, of Fultondale, Alabama died on Sunday, September 20, 2009. He retired from the SCS Mechanical Design Department as a senior engineer on September 1, 1986, with 11 years of service. He was preceded in death by his wife, Darlene. He is survived by a brother, a sister and a nephew.

A Memorial service was held for Mr. Rieck at the First Baptist Church of Fultondale on Tuesday evening, September 22.

James H. Miller, Jr., 86, of Atlanta, Georgia died on Tuesday, October 6, 2009. He was a retired executive of the Southern Company having served as Executive VP of Alabama Power Co. until 1975 and as President of Georgia Power Co. until his retirement in 1987. He was a WWII and Korean War Navy veteran, retiring from the Naval Reserve in 1982 with the rank of Captain. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Juliet, two daughters, two sons, a brother, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A funeral mass was held for Mr. Miller in Atlanta at the Cathedral of Christ the King on

Friday afternoon, October 9. A private interment followed.

A separate celebration of his life was held in Birmingham at the Mountain Brook Club on Sunday evening, October 11.

Nathaniel T. Dickey, 76, of Birmingham died on Monday, October 19, 2009. He retired as a Project Manager in 1990 from SCS Hydro Projects with 34 years of service. He is survived by two daughters, a sister and other relatives.

Visitation was held for Mr. Dickey from 9 to 10 Friday morning October 23 at the Southern Heritage Funeral Home followed by graveside services in the Southern Heritage Cemetery in Pelham, Alabama.

Condolences

Our sympathy is extended to SCS Retiree **Michael Zyne**, his brother Joseph and sister Mary in the death of their sister Rose Zyne, 97, of Birmingham, Alabama who passed away Sunday, September 27, 2009. She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Anne Zyne and one brother, John. She is survived by her remaining two brothers and a sister.

A funeral service was held for Rose on Wednesday, September 30 at St. Elias Maronite Catholic Church with burial in Elmwood Cemetery Birmingham, Alabama.

We express our deepest sympathy to SCS Retiree **George Russell** and his family in the death of George's mother, Clara Nell Russell, 98, who died on Thursday, October 8, 2009. Interment was in a Savannah, Georgia, cemetery.

— Jay Dorrance

ATTENDANCE

Jay Dorrance reports that the attendance at the September membership meeting was 55 members and guests.

An optimist thinks this is the best of all possible worlds. A pessimist fears the same may be true.

— Doug Larson

**SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP
FOR 2009**

A LITTLE OF THIS, A PINCH OF THAT

Officers	
President	John Brandt 956-0502
Vice President	Carol Yeager 822-5506
Secretary	
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

Car Thieves Have Their Ways

Seems that car thieves have found a clever way to steal your car or truck without any effort at all. The car thieves peer through the windshield of your car or truck, write down the VIN from the label on the dash, go to the local car dealership and request a duplicate key based on the VIN. [*ed. note: this does not work with ALL vehicles, just most of them.*]

Upon calling a friend at Chrysler and pretending I had lost my keys, they told me to just bring in the VIN and they would cut me one on the spot, and I could order a keyless device if I wanted one.

The car dealer's parts department will make a duplicate key from the VIN and collect payment from the thief, who will then return to your car. He doesn't have to break in, do any damage to the vehicle, or draw attention to himself. All he has to do is walk up to your car, insert the key and off goes your car for a joy ride or to a chop shop.

You don't believe it? It IS just that easy.

To prevent this happening to you, simply cover the VIN metal label plate located on the dashboard. By law, you cannot remove the VIN plate, but you can cover it so it can't be read through the windshield by a car thief.

[*ed. note: Ordinances may vary from city to city or county to county. And the maker of your vehicle may have taken steps to prevent this problem. You might want to inquire.*]

— Senior Living,
February 2005

The Witches Cauldron

Eye of newt, and toe of frog,
Wool of bat, and tongue of dog,
Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting,
Lizard's leg, and owlet's wing.

For a charm of powerful trouble
Like a hell-broth boil and babble.

Double, double, toil and trouble,
Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.

— William Shakespeare

SCS OUTSIDE

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Witches have had a long history with Halloween. Legends tell of witches gathering twice a year when the seasons changed—on April 30, the eve of May Day, and the evening of October 31, All Hallows Eve.

The witches would gather on these nights, arriving on broomsticks, to celebrate a party hosted by the devil. Superstitions told of witches casting spells on unsuspecting people, transforming themselves into different forms and causing other magical mischief.

It was said that to meet a witch you had to put your clothes on wrong side out and you had to walk backwards on Halloween night. Then at midnight you would see a witch.

When the early settlers came to America, they brought along their belief in witches. In America the legends of witches spread and mixed with the beliefs of others—the Native Americans who also believed in witches, and then later with the black magic beliefs of the African slaves.

The black cat has long been associated with witches. Many superstitions have evolved about cats. It was believed that witches could change into cats. Some people also believed that cats were the spirits of the dead.

One of the best known superstitions is that of the black cat. If a black cat was to cross your path, you would have to turn around and go back because many people believe if you continued, bad luck would strike you.

— The Holiday Spot/Witches
Quoted in *Senior Living*,
October 2009

The Monumental Task

Since the beginning each generation has fought nature. Now, in the life-span of a single generation, we must turn around 180 degrees and become the protector of nature.

— Jacques-Yves Cousteau

SCS RETIREES

P.O. BOX 2625

BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202

MEETING DETAILS:

Event: Annual Holiday Luncheon

When: Wednesday, November 11, 2009

Where: Vestavia Hills Country Club

Details are contained in the invitation page elsewhere in this newsletter.