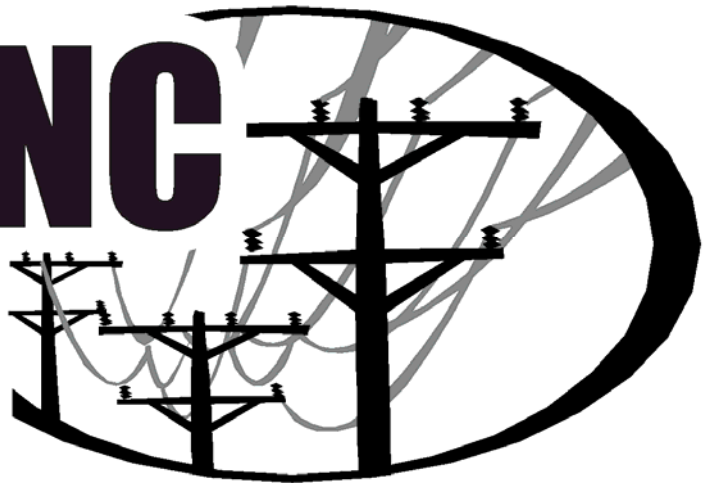


SCS/SNC OUTSIDE



Volume 25

Number 1

January – February 2013

PREZ SEZ

Calendar year 2012 for SCS/SNC Retirees was both informative and fun. We were blessed with stimulating speakers and meeting venues that gave us time to relax and socialize with our co-workers. We heard from company representatives on the state of all aspects of Southern Company. Steve Kuczynski, President and CEO of Southern Nuclear, gave us an update on SNC and Vogtle 3 & 4. Susan Story, President and CEO of SCS gave us a status of Southern Company at our May meeting at the Pelham Civic Center. Zeke Smith, EVP of Alabama Power Company, gave us a perspective on the November elections. Dennis Read, SNC retiree told us of his year mission experiences in Africa. Finally, our annual holiday luncheon at Vestavia Country Club was highlighted by an outstanding performance by the Hoover High School Jazz Band.

Many people contributed to making 2012 special. Dora Brandt spends hours keeping our membership lists accurate. Jay Dorrance juggled magnificently the complexities of our meeting arrangements. Mike Griggs assured that our financial reporting was timely and accurate. Charles Goodman volunteered to be Nominations Chairman and developed a great slate of officers for 2013;

Gray Murray will be our President and looks forward to your support for 2013.

We kick off 2013 with our first meeting on January 14 at 1 p.m. in Inverness Building 42. Pete Ivey, EVP at Southern Nuclear, will give us an update of the first nuclear construction project in the US since the 1970's at Plant Vogtle.

Have a prosperous and healthy New Year!

— Lou Long

JANUARY PROGRAM

Do you know what's hot and what's not at Plant Vogtle right now? No? Then you need to come to hear Pete Ivey on January 14.

BIRTHDAYS

January

2-Mollie Midlik & Dennis Rickertsen; 4-Denson Burnum, Jr. & Bettilew Gaskell; 5-Betty Ramsey, Frank Rutherford & Michael D. Shoemake; 6-Bob Haubein & Bernard Moore; 7-Elsie Graham & Wayne Jones; 8-Willard Brooks, Jr.; 9-Doug Boylan & Dianne Syx; 10-Sandy Watkins; 11-Paul Brashier, Rena Coleman & David L. Elmore; 12-Amal Barroody, Ginny Porteous & Peggy G. Starling; 13-Charles Crane, James Crane, Tom Massengale & Ralph Tribble, Jr.; 14-Elizabeth L. Conley & Dwight Hostetter; 16-Lois Dowdle; 17-H. Stanley Smith & Karen Sumerlin; 18-Susan Clevenger & Charlie Micklewright; 19-Don

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

<http://www.scsretirees.com>

SCS OUTSIDE

January—February 2013

Thornburgh; 24-Nelda Finney, Mary Rowe & Peter Webb; 25-John N. Davis, Mrs. Danny Huguet, Walter Stockli & Jane Webb; 26-Jesse M. Morson & Reggie Stephens; 27-Charles Craig, Gray Murray & Deborah J. Rouseff; 28-Kathy Elliott, Jackie Imbusch & Bob Smith; 29-Dan Bush; 30-Charles Goodman; 31-Claude M. Greene, Skip Kitchens & Barbara Quinn

February

1-Dan Finney & Danny Huguet; 2-Rex Walker & Shah Khan; 4-Betsy Black & Shirley East; 5-Jeann King, Paul Brown, Rosa Fisher & Dot Kachelhofer; 7-Sheree Kanellopoulos; Carla Milstead & Doyle Stevenson; 8-Wendell Kirk; 9-Henry C. Fisher, Jr., W. L. Marshall, Van McClurkin & John Quinn; 10-Judy Yance; 11-Bill Ramsey & Valerie Webster; 12-William Midlik & Donald Smaha; 13-Becky Cheatwood & Barbara Jones; 14-Mary Sue McClurkin & Charlotte Shanlever; 16-George Imbusch; 17-Sarah Raykes & Robert W. Talmadge; 18-Shari Boehme; 19-An Ngoc Nguyen; 20-James L. Ray & Myrna Wise; 21-Glenda Holsombeck & Veva Naramore; 22-Patricia K. Evans, Louis Long, Henry Vincent & Kathryn C. Wilkey; 23-Thomas Shepherd; 24-Doby Hanks; 25-Gale Dougherty & Joe Leamon; 27-Carolyn Calhoun 28-John Hargett

GETTING A RETIREE BADGE

If you would like to obtain a Southern Company retiree badge, please contact Dan Calvert or Lorean McAdoo, Inverness Building 42, Room 158. The times are from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

If you join us for our next retiree meeting, you may find it convenient to contact them after the meeting.

— Dora Brandt

Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve. Middle age is when you are forced to.

— Bill Vaughn

HOW TO CONTACT HEWITT When You Don't Remember Your Password

How does someone get to a real live person at Hewitt without knowing passwords and IDs? Here is the answer: You still must be prepared to provide the personal information necessary to identify yourself or the person you are calling for.

There are two ways.

Hewitt Direct. Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. you can call Hewitt at 1-888-435-7563. When their automated system answers, and after it asks for your ID, press *0# (star, zero, pound). Someone will answer.

HR Direct. Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. call 1-888-678-6787 and select Option 3. You will get a contact person who will transfer you to the right Hewitt benefit person.

— Dora Brandt

NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

Jay Dorrance reports that 107 members and guests made reservations for the November Holiday Luncheon, but only 99 attended.

OBITUARIES

In Memoriam

Robert E. Pigford, 81, of Homewood, Alabama died on Monday, October 22, 2012. Bob was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran with service in the Korean War. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Jo, two children, three grandchildren, a brother and a sister. He retired from SCS in April 1987. A funeral was held for Bob on Friday October 26 at the Southern Heritage Funeral Home.

Grady L. Smith, 93, of Birmingham, Alabama passed away on Monday, October 22, 2012. Grady graduated from Auburn University when it was known as API. After graduation in 1942 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering he was commissioned a 2nd Lt and saw service with an Army Engineer Battalion in Europe during WWII. Grady

**SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP
FOR 2013**

was predeceased by his wife of 53 years, Allene. He is survived by two daughters, several grandchildren, two brothers and two sisters. After Grady married Allene in 1945 he went back to API and in 1946 he earned a second degree from there in Electrical Engineering. After graduating for the second time from API Grady joined Southern Services, Inc., now Southern Company Services, as a Junior Engineer. Then after a distinguished career with the Southern Company of 37 years he retired in December 1983 as a Vice President.

A service of celebration was held for Mr. Smith on Sunday, October 28 at the Avondale UMC. A private burial was held for him for family only.

William R. Hill of Birmingham, Alabama passed away on Friday, November 2, 2012. Bill was a U.S. Army veteran having served during the Korean War. After his military duty he went to Auburn University where he earned two BS degrees, one in Electrical Engineering and another in Mechanical Engineering. Armed with double Engineering degrees, he went to work for Alabama Power and later in the Nuclear Energy Group at SCS where he worked until his retirement in 1993.

Bill was a member of IEEE, the National Nuclear Society and the Civil Air Patrol from 1957 to 2012. Mr. Hill is survived by his wife Bernice, a stepson and several cousins. A funeral service was held for him on Thursday, November 8 at Ridout's Valley Chapel in Homewood, Alabama.

William O. Holcombe, Jr., 87, of Vestavia Hills, Alabama passed away on Sunday, November 11, 2012. Bill retired from the Electrical Design Department of SCS as a Senior Project Engineer in September 1986. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Claradel, their children: Barbara, Virginia, Jim and Bobby, 8 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren.

Graveside services were held for Mr. Holcombe on Thursday morning November 15th followed by a Memorial Service that afternoon at the First Christian Church Birmingham, Alabama.

— Jay Dorrance

Officers	
President	Gray Murray 381-9818
Vice President	Keith Calhoun 987-0383
Secretary	Peggy Burdeshaw 608-9636
Treasurer	Mike Griggs 823-7950
Directors	
Ray Bailey	9883032
John Brandt	956-0502
Fred Ehrensperger	655-2725
Patsy Evans	991-7900
Linda Griggs	823-7950
Don Welliver	733-1684
Lou Long (ex-officio)	936-6765
Committee Chairs	
Arrangements	Glenda James 823-6140
Audit	Glenda James 823-6140
Fellowship	Joe Leamon 870-5637
Finance	Mike Griggs 823-7950
Member Care	Liz Winter 822-6142
Membership	Dora Brandt 956-0502
Newsletter	Dan & Myrna Wise 942-2336
Nominating	
Program	
Website	Charles Hickman 823-4597

SCS OUTSIDE

January—February 2013

MEMBER CARE

Our sympathy is extended to **Jeanne Plaxco** in the death of her sister, Faye Dick. Her services were held during the week of November 19, 2012.

Note from **Bernice Hill**:

Dear Friends, Bill and I enjoyed attending SCS/SNC Retirees events and now it won't be the same without Bill. I'm sure I'll still be with all of you at sometime in the future. Thank you for remembering Bill through your contribution to The Exceptional Foundation, and for so many of you being with me at Bill's service. It meant so much to me."

Note from family of **Grady Smith**:

Thank you for your donation to Avondale UMC, and thanks to those who came to the service and shared your stories."

I plan to begin sharing personal notes from family members of our deceased retirees with you in the newsletter. I would appreciate hearing from you if you would also be interested in reading letters from the recipients of donations made in memory of our members.

— Liz Winter

RETIREES AND LOVED ONES WHO PASSED ON DURING 2012

Retirees

Paul McCullough, Dec. 25, 2011, Ken Jones, 63, Feb. 3, 2012, Jerry Carr, 78, Feb. 12, Ivagene Quick, Feb. 16, Daniel Kremer, 59, Mar. 20, Don Jackson, 84, May 29, Herol Stone, 89, June 24, Mildred Fleming, 90, June 25, Bill Harrison, 89, July 25, George Burson, 84, Aug. 10, John Troha, 74, Aug. 26, Elbert Pittman, Sept, 13, Rod Wildman, 71, Sept. 19, Bob Pigford, 81, Oct. 22, Grady Smith, 93, Oct. 22, Bill Hill, Nov. 2 and Bill Holcombe, 87, Nov. 11.

Loved Ones

Beverly Vincent, 70, Oct. 25, 2011 Henry Vincent's wife, Allan Xanders, 65, Nov. 4, 2011 Margaret Xanders's husband, Attie Fleming, 90, Dec. 14, 2011 Mildred Fleming's husband, Ann Morgan, 78, Dec. 31, 2011 Carol Yeager's sister, Joan Matlock, 64, Jan. 4, 2012 Clem Matlock's wife, Joan Neyman's mother who died on Jan. 25, Rita Greene 65, Feb. 22 Tom Greene's wife, Charles Smith 78, Mar. 5 Charlsie's husband, Iris Gilbert, 86, Aug. 10 the late Bob Gilbert's widow and Mildred Hilley, 91, Nov. 21 the late James Hilley's widow.

— Jay Dorrance

A LITTLE OF THIS, A PINCH OF THAT

Little Things Are the Greatest Form of Relief

Adapted from an article in the Scottish Rite Journal of January/February 2008.

During an educational presentation of a recent meeting, I chose to speak from the heart rather than draw from scholarly texts or articles. I shared something with my [audience] that, with the exception of family and close friends, I had never before disclosed in public. I now share it with [you].

On July 19, 1989, United Airlines Flight 232, on its way from Denver to Chicago, lost an engine and all hydraulic systems and crashed while attempting to make an emergency landing in Sioux City, Iowa. You may recall the repeatedly broadcasted television images of a DC-10 literally cartwheeling on a runway before breaking up and bursting into flames. Through the heroic efforts of the flight crew, 185 out of 285 lives were saved. What was left of my personal luggage was retrieved from a cornfield near the Sioux City runway and was returned to me in a FedEx envelope. Only my suitcase was on the airplane; I was not.

Through a series of very fortuitous events, I changed flights just minutes before the scheduled departure time. The change happened so quickly that from the ticket counter my suitcase went onto one airplane as I went onto another. I was told that

January—February 2013

my name appears on Flight 232's passenger list, although I have never seen it myself. It wasn't until my safe arrival in Baltimore that evening that I found out about the tragedy and the fact that I was supposed to have been aboard Flight 232.

Like most people who have had such experiences, for some time I was keenly aware of and sensitive to life and its precious value; in wondering why I was still alive while so many others were gone. I reasoned and convinced myself that I had escaped because there was something that I was to do in my life that had yet to be done. I became almost obsessed with trying to determine what that "something" was. Somewhat egotistically I considered the possibilities of making a major breakthrough in my field of expertise, authoring a key publication, achieving high honors, conducting some unprecedented act of kindness, or being the shining inspiration in someone's life. I kept trying to think of BIG things, to anticipate what it was I was supposed to do, and to make plans to go about doing them.

As time passed—like so many that have had such experiences—I just comfortably slid back into my old ways. Life moved on, things changed, events happened, people entered and exited my life, but the thought of something left undone kept coming back to me. Thanks again to a series of fortunate events, I can tell you with confidence that I discovered that "something"—and my attitude today is very different than it was then.

Through the passage of time and gaining experience since July 1989, I have some to learn that there is no comfort or advantage in anticipating or planning grandiose, life-changing events—just the opposite. I can tell you that I believe that it is the little things that you and I do spontaneously, without forethought, that matter the most, and those things are more likely to become huge in the lives of others. A friendly gesture, a kind smile, a comforting word, the gentle touch of a hand, something that you say that is overheard or something that is seen by someone of whom you are unaware are the most powerful things that we are capable of. It's those small things that potentially

have the greatest positive, life-changing effects on those who might be around us.

Believe me, it's the little things that are huge!

Recall and think about those familiar words: "To soothe the unhappy, to sympathize with their misfortunes, to compassionate their miseries, and to restore peace to their troubled minds is the great aim we have in view." What truly counts are not so much the grand planned actions that we execute but simply living consistently by the values that we have been taught. Living a life without any expectation of effects on others is the greatest form of relief that we can provide. To be kind, loving, generous, and considerate without expecting any one person or event will be affected is the target that we should be aiming at. Always and everywhere seeking to follow the prescription of an [upright] lifestyle and expecting nothing in return matters the most. For those reasons, we need to strive as best we can to remember that is the image we maintain and project through our words and actions to viewers unknown to us that has the greatest impact and provides the most significant form of relief.

A quote from American humorist Even Esar, serendipitously discovered while preparing this piece, now has deep meaning for me. "We can't do much about the length of our lives, but we can do plenty about its width and depth."

— Randy Bell

Memories

I guess I have been reading more or less continuously now for some sixty-four years. Oh, there have been times of diversion from my preoccupation with the written word. Times like when I might have been concentrating on buying puppies from some man in Missouri or busy fishing but ere long I would find myself with a book immersed in what others were thinking. I concede that many of those writers were hard for me to understand but I kept trying.

One of the early stories in a school reader was about a boy who was chased up an apple tree by a

SCS OUTSIDE

January—February 2013

visit from two giants. The enterprising young fellow threw apples down alternately upon the two big fellows until they began fighting. The boy then surreptitiously climbing down and fled.

I never stuck closely to one subject or any one author but tried anything and everything. Through the years, there were exceptional short stories and essays which I clipped, copied or re-typed for a special folder I call “gems.”

There was, however, one short magazine article which has stayed with me without any effort at preservation. It was one of those stories which just reaches inside you and changes something. It was neither revelation nor dramatic experience, but just an ordinary gesture on the part of an ordinary citizen of our country. It was, though, something the reader felt in the emotions and in the heart.

I do not plagiarize, do not even remember the name of either author or title. The gist of the story was the sending of a care package to a recipient in France after Hitler’s army had been driven out. The

country was in shambles. From a list of names, the lady writer picked out a French lady’s name and sent her a package of personal items for bath and personal care, simple, but hard to find items in war-ravaged France. As a final thought she placed several packs of fruit-flavored Life Savers and a couple of candy bars, etc. in and sealed the package.

To her surprise, she soon received a letter of appreciation lavishly thanking her for each item.

“Especially,” the French lady wrote, “do we thank you for the wonderful medicine! It has helped my sore throat and has almost cured my mother’s sinusitis. We hope you will write again telling how we might obtain more of the medicine.”

The author said she pondered over what “medicine” she may have sent. Then it dawned: The Life Savers!”

— John Baty
The Groundhog,
Mentone, AL

September/October 2011

**SCS RETIREES
P.O. BOX 2625
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202**

MEETING DETAILS:

When: Monday, January 14, 2013

Where: Inverness 42, Room 130

Board meeting: 11 a.m.

Dutch Lunch: 12:00 noon

Membership Meeting: 1 p.m.