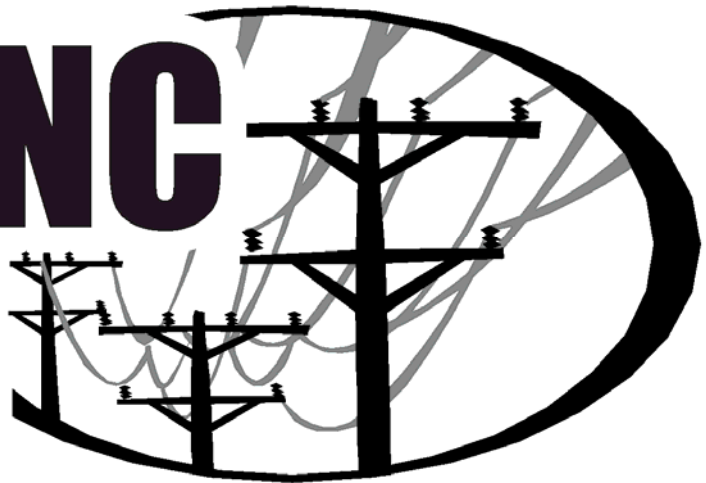


SCS/SNC OUTSIDE



Volume 25

Number 2

March — April 2013

PREZ SEZ

As a new year has dawned, I want to wish each of you the best of health and rich blessings this year. I am honored to serve you this year as President. In doing so, I am mindful and thankful for the example set by a long line of leaders of the SCS/SNC Retiree Organization, dating back to its founding in 1987 (making this our 27th year). It was interesting looking back over the officers and directors of the organization from its founding to the present (available on the website under Operations Manual). Many of these fine men and women are no longer with us, but for me there are many memories of them as mentors to me during my 33 years with the Company. We are recognizing in this newsletter the charter members of the organization from 1978 who are still active (amazing). The success and growth of the organization is a tribute to them and their vision of what the organization represents as shown by the fact that the purpose of the organization has not changed significantly since its inception. You will find this purpose elsewhere in this newsletter, exactly as it appears in our Articles of Incorporation from 1987. Note that these center around three primary areas (social/recreational, communication, and charitable). Since inception, the organization

has experienced great growth including welcoming our sister company Southern Nuclear to our organization, many retirees of which have ably served in leadership positions, including my predecessor Lou Long.

In order to fulfill our purpose and mission, we need **YOU** to be involved and support the organization by your attendance as you are able. All you need is to come with a smile on your face and a desire to renew old acquaintances and make new ones. I promise you it will pay dividends in your social life, emotional well-being, and knowledge base, as it has in mine.

We had fairly good attendance at our January meeting considering the bad weather. It would be great to fill or overflow the room completely. The program by Pete Ivey was excellent as he updated us on the change in Southern Company's energy mix and the status and challenges of building the first nuclear plant in decades. Did you know that Southern Company fuel mix has changed drastically to 44% natural gas with a similar drastic drop in coal? I knew it was higher but had no idea it was that high! He showed pictures of a dramatically smaller, simpler and different looking nuclear island in the new plant and updated us on steps the company has taken to mitigate risks. He also recognized that the reason for Southern Company's reputation as such a great company is the foundation of solid, dedicated, talented and hardworking former employees as represented by members of our organization. AMEN to that! As you may recall, Susan Story made a similar statement last year.

Want to keep up with what's happening? Got a computer? Visit the SCS Retiree Website.
<http://www.scsretirees.com>

SCS OUTSIDE

March—April 2013

In an effort to communicate both company informational updates and other timely items of interest to our membership, our program chairman Keith Calhoun has arranged for an expert in the Elder Care field to come in March as you will see elsewhere in the newsletter. I am sure each of you could benefit from this presentation and discussion. There will also be a question and answer period. Additionally, Lou Long has arranged for our chairman and CEO, Tom Fanning, to be the guest speaker for our spring luncheon (May 13 at Pelham Civic Center) which again shows the value the company places on their former employees. Come join us as we have a time of fellowship and communication!

— Gray Murray

MEMBER CARE REPORT

Our sympathy is extended to the family of **Albert Ray Stallings**, who passed away February 2 at home. A celebration of life service was held on Tuesday, February 5 at Briarwood Presbyterian Chapel. Also sympathy is extended to the family of **William Ray Moody, Jr.**, who passed away on February 6. Visitation and graveside services were held at Currie Jefferson Funeral Home on February 8.

Warren Glover spent about eight days in the hospital due to complications with a virus. He is now recovering at home.

Note from Claradel Holcombe:

Dear SCS/SNC Retirees, Thank you so much for your gift to First Christian Church in my beloved husband's memory. Bill loved his church and would be so appreciative of your contribution. He enjoyed his years at Southern Company Services and also enjoyed his work there. My family and I are so grateful for your gift.

— Liz Winter

You grow up the day you have your first real laugh—at yourself.

— Ethel Barrymore

SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP FOR 2013

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

JANUARY ATTENDANCE

Glenda James reports that attendance at the January retirees meeting was 44.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Contacting Hewitt When You Don't Know Your Password or ID number

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.

Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET
Call Hewitt 1-888-435-7563 - when they answer and after they ask for your ID key in *0# (star, zero, pound). Someone will answer

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

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 150.

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

— Dora Brandt

BIRTHDAYS

March

3-David Busby, Pat Goodman & Virginia S. Zane; 4-Phillip Wayne Popwell, Rita Townsend & Dennis N. Wilson; 7-Lina Katz, 10-Diane Long & Joyce Neher; 11-Mrs. Stephen Ashworth, Bill Nicholson & Mary Sue Thornburgh; 12-Billy R. Goforth, Jr., George Knight & Sid Varagona; 13-Mary Sue Ludwig & Linda Meier; 14-James D. Russell; 15-Rick Parisot; 16-Martha Cook & James Ewing; 18-

Paul Walker; 19-Pat Bowman, John Meier & Georgette E. Wise; 21-Robert M. Moore & Doyle Shaw; 22-Woody Woodruff; 23-Peggy Burdeshaw & Anne Campbell; 24-Daniel Blackwood; 26-Roger L. Golden, Tommy Greer & Mrs. Ronald Mitchell; 28-Bernice Hill; 29-Barbara Jones; 30-Gene Watkins

April

1-Joel Neuman & Shirley Rutherford; 2-Carl W. Bailey, Paula F. Crowe & Gene A. Limbaugh; 3-R. Mahal Khan, Mrs. Dean Koch & William Porteous, Jr.; 4-Vicky Garner & Bruce Gilliland; 5-Jim Cofield & Jean Shaw; 6-T. W. Swafford; 7-Jeanette Crane; 8-Lodema Evans; 8-Carolyn Gilliland, Eugene Johnston, Ken Kopecky, Ann Micklewright, 8-Stokely Morgan, Jerry Ray & Alice Sani; 9-William Ollinger; 10-Tony Koski & Keith Legg; 11-Nancy Carr, Henry Garrett & Suzan Goertz; 12-John McCoy III; 14-Ken Damsgard; 15-Barbara Orr; 16-Robert Milstead & Lewis Williams; 18-Jack Goertz; 19-Roger A. Hayes, Glenda James & Clyde Kellum III; 20-David Lee Smith; 21-Judy Sanford; 22-Richard W. Colby, Jr., Don Irvin, Lou Ann Kaster & William Rowe; 23-Mrs. Elbert Pittman, Jr.; 24-Joe James; 26-Joan Neyman; 27-James Baldone, Michael Hardaway & Robin Miner; 28-Ken Mooney; 29-Judith Heatherly; 30-Joyce Ehrensperger, Bill Garner & Patricia Jarrell

— Dora Brandt

A MILESTONE

How many times in the history of this organization have we had a member hit the century mark? None that I know of, and I've been a member since 1994. If there were any before that, maybe one of our longer-term members will supply the details for a future issue.

Be that as it may, we *do* have a current member who reaches the magic number 100 this year. Yes, on March 22, Richard "Woody" Woodruff attains something very few of us ever will. And you'll remember we featured Woody and his work on Village Creek a few issues back (Vol. 22, No. 2,

SCS OUTSIDE

March—April 2013

May-June 2010). And the best news of all is that we will all have an opportunity to give Woody our best wishes when we see him at the May open meeting.

SPOTLIGHTING OUR FOUNDING MEMBERS

Editor's Note: As noted below some of the members of the retiree Class of 1986 got together and formed the nucleus of this retiree organization. It is our intention to bring to your attention these pioneers, their histories, and their accomplishments. For the record, here are the individuals from that 1986 membership roster who are still with us today.

Sam Bowman, Angie Campisi, Margaret Carter, Bill Coughlin, Jay Dorrance, Jack Faulkner, Henry Garrett, John Hargett, Samuel R. Hart, James Hartin, William Hinton, William R. Lambert Jr. (1984) Alfred T. Mikell, Grace Miller Prigmore, Tony Niemzak, John Plaxco, William Rowe, George Russell, Jr., Jack Townsend Jerry Vandegrift, Henry Vincent, Billy J. Walker Robert C. Walker, James O. Welch, and Richard Woodruff (1978).

This month we have in the spotlight...

Henry Garrett

When Henry retired in 1986 he was the Quality Control Engineer in the Mechanical Design Department.

Henry was one of the original twelve members that formed the incorporation of the retirees organization after their 1986 retirement from Southern Company Services.

He has been very active in the leadership of the organization, including:

Vice President in 1987

Director in 1988 and 1989

President in 1999

Treasurer from 2000 through 2010

Since his retirement he and his wife Ann, have been very busy doing work at their home and been involved in many church activities. They have taken a number of overseas trips with groups from their area and their church. They have also visited many places in the United States—Yellowstone,

Badlands, Cajun Country-New Orleans, Texas, Carolinas' Adirondacks. They also visited, Great Britain, Canadian Rockies, Hawaii, Austria, Holland, and Nova Scotia.

Henry and Ann have three children: a daughter living in Birmingham, and two sons, one in Huntsville, AL, and one in Winston-Salem, NC.

— Dora Brandt

OBITUARIES

In Memoriam

Bill M. Guthrie, 79, of Mountain Brook, Alabama died Wednesday morning, December 12, 2012. Bill began his career with the Southern Company as a co-op student and 47 years later having served in management and executive positions in operations and engineering at Alabama and Gulf Power Companies. He retired from Southern Company Services in June 1998 as President of the Fossil/Hydro Group. Bill graduated from Auburn University in 1957 with a BS Degree in Electrical Engineering and he served as a Reserve Commissioned officer, ultimately a Captain in the U.S. Army. Bill is survived by his wife of 55 years, Jean, a daughter, two grandchildren, two brothers and a sister in law.

A memorial service was held for Mr. Guthrie at 2 p.m. on Friday, December 14, at the Mountain Brook Baptist Church after a private graveside service earlier that same day at the Southern Heritage Cemetery in Pelham, Alabama.

Albert "Al" Stallings, 80, of Vestavia Hills, Alabama passed away at home on Saturday, February 2, 2013. Al spent most of his childhood in Balboa, (PCZ) Panama, graduating from Balboa High School in 1950. After high school he attended Wheaton College until drafted into the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After his tour of duty he attended Auburn University, graduating in 1957 with a BS degree in Electrical Engineering. Al worked for several other companies for the next 17 years before coming to SCS in 1974 where he spent the next 15 years, retiring in 1989. Al is survived by

DEFINITELY ON TARGET

hie wife of 53 years, Jo Ann, four children, twelve grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Live Service was held for Mr. Stallings on Tuesday afternoon, February 5 in the chapel of Briarwood Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, Alabama.

Evelyn Marie Borden, 74, of Forestdale, Alabama went to be with her Lord on Tuesday, February 5, 2013. Evelyn enjoyed a long career as a church secretary and eventually retired from Southern Nuclear in 2002 as an executive secretary with 17 years of service to the Southern Company. She is survived by a son, Dr. Allen Borden of Hoover, AL, a daughter, Kim Frederick of McCalla, AL, four grandchildren, four sisters and a brother.

Funeral services for Mrs. Borden were held at the Crestview Funeral Home on Friday afternoon, February 8 with burial in the Crestview Memorial Gardens.

William Ray Moody, Jr., 55, of Hueytown, Alabama passed away at his home on Wednesday, February 6, 2013. Bill graduated from Jones Valley High School and UAB School of Engineering. He retired from the SCS Quality Assurance Department with 31 years of service. Bill is survived by his daughters, Ashly Moody and Kristin Moody, a grandson, a sister and a brother. A graveside service was held for Mr. Moody Friday afternoon, February 8 in Jefferson Memorial Gardens, South, Hoover, Alabama.

Condolences

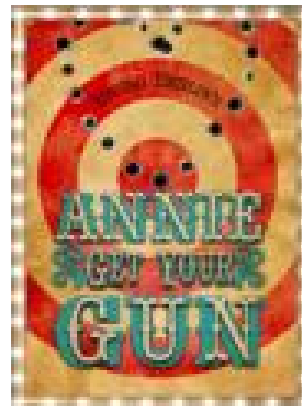
We offer our most sincere sympathy to the family of SCS Retiree **Roy Gable** of Leeds, Alabama in the death of his wife, Linda H. Gable, 68, who died on Sunday, January 27, 2013.

We offer our deep sympathy to Alabama Power Retiree and long time employee of SCS (Mailroom Manager) Ed Nesmith of Trussville, Alabama in the death of his wife, Rebecca "Becky" Nesmith, 62, who went to be with her Lord and Savior on Monday, February 4, 2013.

— Jay Dorrance

Bad laws are the worst sort of tyranny.

— Edmund Burke



ANNIE GET YOUR GUN

June 23rd

12:30 - Vestavia Country Club

2:30 - Virginia Samford Theatre

The VST hits the bull's-eye this season with Irving Berlin's famous Broadway musical Annie Get Your Gun. This Wild West show-within-a-show tells the ageless love story of Annie Oakley, the sharpest sharpshooter, and Frank Butler, the heartthrob of Buffalo Bill's traveling show.

Hum along to unforgettable tunes like "There's No Business Like Show Business," "I Got the Sun in the Morning" and "Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better" as we celebrate one of Broadway's most enduring triumphs.

Note that we have 24 seats in the newly refurbished Center section with new wider seats and higher back rest. We will meet at the **Vestavia Country Club** (arranged for us by Nell and Al Larson) at **12:30 pm for a luncheon buffet** including salad bar, entrees with vegetables, great selection of desserts, and coffee and tea.

Make reservations with your check, **\$55 per person** by the **5/24/13 dead line**. This includes the luncheon and performance.

Check should be payable to SCS Retirees (*NO refunds please*) and mailed to:

Joe Leamon
404 Yorkshire Dr.
Homewood, AL 35209

SCS OUTSIDE

March—April 2013

A LITTLE OF THIS, A PINCH OF THAT

SMOKE JUMPER MEMORIES

Idaho

It was getting close to midnight, all the night shift crews were on the line, and I was ready for some sleep. The Salmon river of Idaho was rushing by about 20 feet from my bedroll, with the sound of water splashing and swirling among the boulders in the stream and along the rocky bank. The canyon was full of smoke, so the stars were not visible. Usually they looked like you could reach out and touch them, since there were no lights or smog, but now there is a large forest fire burning on the steep slopes and ridges above the river. Lightning from a severe storm had started numerous fires several days ago, and some of them had burned together into one large fire.

Someone came into camp and called my name. It was a “Division Boss,” as they were called then.

“Jim, we need to change plans. Look here.”

As he spoke he spread a map out on the ground by me and shone his headlamp light on it.

“See this deep ravine. The fire is backing down into it. We planned on putting a line about half way down and below it tonight so we could hold it in the morning. Now the crew assigned there has just come out and the crew boss says they won’t go back in. According to him they have worked into an area where there are lots of rattlesnakes.”

The Division Boss laughed, then showed me an alternative plan. I promptly agreed with it, and he left, to go back and move the crew to another location.

One Big Snake

Sitting by the river I remembered hiking into fire camp three nights before. I was on the main Salmon River trail and moving fast in the dark when I stepped right on a very large snake. Feeling his body convulse under my boot, I sprouted wings and landed several feet away. Shining my headlamp back on the snake, it looked at first like a big rattlesnake. But closer exam showed it to be a huge bull snake, coiled and ready to defend itself. My

heart returned to normal, I wished Mr. Bull Snake a “Good Night,” and went on down the river trail. (Those of you not familiar with the western bull snake need to know they are mighty good to have around as rodent hunters, etc.)

Colorado

We were in Colorado in June, and had seen several forest fires. Right after we left, the terrible, devastating fire started at Colorado Springs. Most of my career in the Forest Service was involved with fire, from the first assignment as a Smokejumper (parachuting firefighter) out of Missoula, Montana, to my final position as Director of Aviation and Fire Management for the Southern Region (Arizona and New Mexico) of the US Forest Service. The sight of smoke, numerous news items, great controversy and discussion over who is at fault, use of aircraft, and the unusual weather conditions brought back many memories, including the night on the Salmon River.

The Good Old Days

In the “old days,” night shifts for fire fighting crews were the rule rather than the exception. There was good reason for such assignments. Nighttime temperatures are generally lower, humidity is generally much higher, and wind velocity is usually less. Consequently, fire behavior and intensity are less violent and more receptive to suppression efforts. In recent years there are fewer night shifts and fires have escaped initial attack activities, to become conflagrations when they could have (possibly) been suppressed by night shift crews. Safety is always a primary consideration in fire fighting, both day and night. Safety was always cited as a reason to not use fire crews on night shift, and certainly the rattlesnake incident on the Salmon River was a good example, and one where “discretion was the better part of valor.” However, safety for night crews had a better record than safety for day crews.

Mount Shasta

One hot day another Smokejumper and I jumped on a fire close to Mt. Shasta in northern California. There was a small clearing in the midst of some

very tall trees, and with great effort we both landed in the clearing. Vine-covered brush was about 20 feet tall in the clearing and we made a soft landing. Our equipment was dropped in the same clearing, and after gathering it all up we had a short hike to the fire. The fire was small but hot. We worked hard, and by midnight had a fire line around it, and had mopped up some of the largest fuel, so there was no danger of sparks going across the line. We hiked back to where our parachute canopies were tangled in the brush, rolled up in them, and caught a couple of hours of sleep.

At first dawn we were back on the fire, continuing mop up, then stopped and ate some rations. About then several loggers walked up. They had been sent to finish putting the fire completely out, and to show us the best way to get back to a man road. As we were packing our canopies and jump suits, one of them casually remarked he hoped we were not allergic to poison oak as that was what the vines were where we had been thrashing around.

We hoisted our 90 pound packs and started walking. By that evening we were at a Ranger Station in Weaverville, California, and big water blisters were coming out on my arms and legs. We found poison oak to be a major safety problem in the coastal areas, but fortunately I had not inhaled smoke from burning poison oak.

Montana

A fire was burning in the high glaciated country of the Upper Bitterroot in southwestern Montana. A crew of eight was dropped to suppress it. The fire was at high elevation, on a hot day, and we were let out the door at minimum altitude, as the landing area was very small, and there was less wind to blow us off course if we went out low.

After the canopy opened I was in the air just one minute, and then hit the ground hard. We put a line around the fire, then started looking for the source or cause of the fire so we could fill out a fire report. This is standard procedure. It was obviously started by lightning, and we found a big, partially dead tree which had been struck. At the base of the tree was a very large mule deer buck, which was lying as he

was when lightning struck the tree, started the fire, and killed him.

Alaska

Fighting wildfire in Alaska presents other challenges. Many of the fire suppression assignments there are on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land. In 1969 I was on a wildfire north of the village of Ruby and south of the Arctic Circle. The standard BLM fire pack at the time included boots, rations, and most important, mosquito netting and a sheet of heavy black plastic. Even during the short time the sun was down, it never got very dark, so the black plastic was for a dark shelter, so a person could get some sleep. The mosquito netting was supplemented by cases of cans of "OFF," which was standard equipment. It's difficult to describe the ferocity of the clouds of mosquitoes in the northland.

Driving with another firefighter to a wildfire in grasslands, we were startled when lightning hit a hillside right in front of us and immediately a fast-moving grassfire started. By the time I called the dispatcher to report the new fire, we had grabbed our tools, crossed the fence and attacked the fire. It was a quarter of an acre in size and growing. It was finally suppressed by an engine with water and 20 firefighters, including a rancher's family.

Lifetime friendships are formed among firefighters. Going to a wildfire was often like a family reunion, renewing old friendships and meeting new friends. A fire might be in Montana, Alaska, Missouri, South Carolina or California, but the people would often be the same. Now many of these old friends are gone. I miss them, and the fire camps, the long hikes, and the stories of other times and places.

— Jim Hickman
Senior Living

REDNECK GAMES

Location: East Dublin, Georgia

Background: The only rules for tourists: If you don't like rednecks, stay home. "Some folks would prefer we didn't have this celebration of being

SCS OUTSIDE

March—April 2013

redneck,” says East Dublin mayor George Goruto, “but they don’t have to come down here. I mean, man, I wouldn’t go to an opera!”

Don’t Miss: The Mudpit Belly Flop, the Hubcap Hurl, Bobbing for Pigs’ Feet, and the Armpit Serenade—a talent competition in which “pimpily-faced prepubescents stick one hand up their T-shirts, flap the other arm and perform flatulent renditions of classics like “Old MacDonald” and “Green Acres.” First prize? A crumpled Bud can.

—Uncle John’s All-Purpose
Extra Strength Bathroom Reader,
13th edition, Bathroom Readers’ Press,
Ashland, Oregon

OOPSIE

One evening my husband’s golfing buddy drove his secretary home after she had imbibed a little too much at an office reception. Although this was an

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

MEETING DETAILS:

When: Monday, March 11, 2013

Where: Inverness 42, Room 130

Board meeting: 11 a.m.

Dutch Lunch: 12:00 noon

Membership Meeting: 1 p.m.

innocent gesture, he decided not to mention it to his wife, who tended to get jealous easily.

Later that night my husband’s friend and his wife were driving to a restaurant. Suddenly he looked down and spotted a high-heel shoe half hidden under the passenger seat. Not wanting to be conspicuous, he waited until his wife was looking out her window before he scooped up the shoe and tossed it out of the car. With a sigh of relief, he pulled into the restaurant parking lot. That’s when he noticed his wife squirming around in her seat. “Honey,” she asked, “have you seen my other shoe?”

— Joan Feldman
Reader’s Digest,
February 1992

Friendship is a single soul dwelling in two bodies.

— Aristotle