

Volume 28 Number 2 March — April 2016

#### PREZ SEZ

Greetings to everyone. I would like to especially welcome our new members who are recent retirees from Southern Company Services and the Southern Nuclear Corporation. And a big thanks to the officers, directors, and committee chair who have agreed to serve in 2016. I'm looking forward to serving as your president in 2016.

I encourage each of you to attend our regular meetings when possible. It is a great time to reconnect with old friends and reflect on our past experiences together. You might even create some new friendships and new memories. In addition to the regular meetings, our goal each year is to plan some fellowship activities that should involve some "fun stuff." That said, we welcome suggestions for activities you think would be of interest to others in the organization. Now go ahead and mark your calendars with the dates for our scheduled meetings for 2016 listed below. Please make plans now to join us at our March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting at 1:00 p.m. in room 130 Inverness Building 42. Amy Aughtman from Southern Nuclear will be giving us an update on the Vogtle 3 & 4 project.

2016 Meeting Dates: March 14, Inverness Building 42; May 09, Pelham Civic Center; July 11, Inverness Building 42; September 12, Inverness Building 42; November 09, Vestavia Country Club.

I also want to encourage those of you who would like to be more involved, but are not sure what you can do to contribute to the organization, to consider joining the leadership team. Currently there are some committee chairs that are vacant the Programs Committee and the Fellowship Committee, to name a couple. If you would like to have a significant influence on the topics presented at our meetings, or if you enjoy planning outings for small groups, I have a position for you. Don't forget you can visit our website at <u>www.scsretirees.com</u> to get information pertaining to our organization, as well as contact information for officers, board members and committee chairs. Hope to see you at the March meeting.

John McCoy

#### **OBITUARIES**

Jeffrey Kenneth Branum passed away on December 22, 2015. Jeff was born in Greenville, Alabama, on October 7, 1957, and he spent over 30 years working for Southern Company as an engineer and project manager. His hobbies included driving fast cars, which won him the Pedal to the Metal award at the Mercedes AMG experience, and being outdoors, whether it was walking, running, climbing or shooting. He also loved cooking

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

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everything from juicy hamburgers to his awardwinning cheesecake, and he enjoyed spending time with his loved ones. A Celebration of Life service for Jeff was held on Saturday, January 2, 2016 at The Coal Yard restaurant in downtown Helena, Alabama.

**Gerald Winston Burt**, a resident of Birmingham, AL, passed away February 16, 2016 at the age of 86. He attended Beth Hallel and Chelsea Creek Community Church. He served our country in the U.S. Air Force and National Guard. He was a graduate of Ensley High School and Jefferson State Community College and he retired from Southern Company Services. Gerald was preceded in death by his wife, Faye Phillips Burt. He is survived by his niece and caregiver, Jaqueline Schillaci (Jake).. His inurnment will be at Barrancas National Cemetery in Pensacola, FL. Memorial donations can be made in his name to: God's Outreach Center, 4418 Highway 280, Harpersville, AL 35078.

William "Bill" Hinton, a resident of Birmingham, passed away at the age of 88. A graduate of Ensley High School, he served our country in the Navy during World War II. He attended the University of Alabama where he played the trumpet in the Million Dollar Band. Bill retired after 34 years with Southern Company Services where he was licensed in three states as a structural and architectural engineer. After retirement, he worked as a pilot for Alabama Air Foto. He was a founding member of the Central Park Boys and a member of Meadow Brook Baptist Church. He is survived by Peggy, his wife of 63 years, daughters Elizabeth Martin and Ginger Edwards, son-in-law John Edwards, and three grandchildren

**George O. Layman** of Pensacola, FL passed away on January 7, 2016. A native of Mobile, AL, Mr. Layman was born on March 12, 1925. He attended Murphy High School and the University of Alabama. During World War II, Mr. Layman served in the 8th Air Force as a topographic engineer and participated in the advance planning for D-Day. He joined Southern Company as a construction engineer in 1949 and retired in 1992 from Gulf Power Company, Southern Company's Florida subsidiary, as Assistant to the Vice President for Power Generation and Transmission. Mr. Layman received an award from Electric Power Research Institute in 1988 for his contribution to the electric utility industry and for advancing new technology. Mr. Layman was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Dorothy Smith. A Memorial service was held on Friday, January 15, In lieu of flowers, the family requested that memorials be made to the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind, Inc., 371 E. Jericho Turnpike, Smithtown, NY 11787 or a charity of your

Jesse Lee Martin, 76, of Birmingham, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 31, 2015. Following a private burial in New Oak Grove Cemetery in Nauvoo, a celebration of Jesse's life was be held Monday, Jan. 4, 2016, at Shades Mountain Baptist Church in in Vestavia Hills. Martin, an Auburn University graduate, retired from Southern Company Services as a manager and engineer after more than 30 years of service. He is survived by his brother, Cecil Martin, Cecil's wife Mary; and sister, Edna Faye Edwards. If you would like to honor Martin, you may choose to contribute to The Randy Kermit Adams Foundation. Checks made out to The Randy Kermit Adams Foundation may be mailed to 5149 Weatherford Drive, Birmingham, Alabama, 35242.

Sandra "Sandi" Morgan went to be with the Lord on Saturday, February 20, 2016 surrounded by her loving family. She is survived by her husband, Malcolm Morgan; one daughter, Tiffany (Brandon) Wiggins; four stepchildren, Annie Anderson, Emily Morgan, Ian (Ali) Morgan, and Chelsea (Justin) Fortescue; three grandchildren, Makayla, Katherine, and Cooper Wiggins; four step grandchildren, Jacob Comesky, Olivia Comesky, Kaitlynn Morgan, and Logan Fortescue; one sister, Ginger (David) Parker; one brother, Ellis (Kathy) Beck; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.Sandi was an Alpha Gamma Delta sorority sister at the University of Montevallo.She worked as an executive secretary for Alabama Power in Birmingham for 20 years and then as the Southern Company Fuel Services department secretary for 9 years. She retired in 2004

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Visitation was Sunday, February 21, 2016 with burial at Moncrief Cemetery.

Beth Loraine Naramore, daughter of **John Naramore**, passed away February 2, 2016 . Beth is survived by her parents John (J.D.) and Veva N. Manley Naramore and grandmother, Eunice Naramore; siblings Sheryl Ann Naramore Vanderhoeven (Piet) and Keith Alan Naramore; She also had a special mom, Patsy Rogers. Donations may be made in her name to the "Missions Fund" at Bethel Baptist Church, 8332 Moody Parkway, Odenville, AL 35120 A memorial services will be scheduled at a later date.

**Marvin Eugene "Gene" Watkins Jr.**, age 72, of Pelham, AL passed away on December 18. Gene was born in Chattanooga and raised in Highland Park. He graduated from Chattanooga Central High School in 1961 and from Chattanooga State Community College in 1970 with an associate degree in Electrical Engineering. He is survived by his wife of 52 years Sandra N. Watkins, daughter Kay Jeter, son Mark (Heather) Watkins, and grandchildren Justin Covell, Tyler Covell, Payne Watkins and Riley Watkins. Services Monday December 21 with burial at Lakeside Memorial Gardens in Chattanooga,.

Dewey O. Yeager, husband of Carolyn Langston Yeager, went to be with the Lord January 27, 2016. Dewey died peacefully of natural causes at Brookwood Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama. Dewey was born September 19, 1924 in West Blocton, Alabama to Olyis D. Yeager and Annie Mosley. He grew up in Marvel, Dogwood, and Pea Ridge communities outside of Montevallo. Dewey attended Montevallo High School and served during World War Two in the U S Naval Construction Forces (NCF), Seabees, in the Pacific Theater of Operations (PTO.. He was awarded the WWII Victory Medal; the American Area Ribbon; and the Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon. Dewey was a founding partner and a senior executive with All-South Insulation until retirement in 1984. He remained active in the Birmingham construction industry until 1999. r . He is survived by his wife Carolyn; granddaughter Tracy Hines; son-in-law Charles Hines; and cousin Don Yeager. Visitation

was Saturday, January 30, 2016 If anyone so desires, the family encourages donations to Crestway Baptist Church, 6400 Crestwood Blvd, Birmingham, AL 35212 or to Mountain Chapel UMC, 2541 Rocky Ridge Road, Birmingham, AL 35243.

#### 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 at 992-6551 between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to make an appointment. They are located in Inverness Building 42, Room 150.

If you join us for our next meeting, you may find it convenient to contact them before the meeting. — Dora Brandt

#### JANUARY ATTENDANCE

Dora Brandt reports that attendance at the January meeting was 46 members and guests.

# Never let the fear of striking out get in your way

Babe Ruth

#### *March—April 2016* SCS RETIREE LEADERSHIP FOR 2016

#### Officers President Bubbamae51@yahoo.co John McCoy m 285-4843 Vice President candeecalhoun@gmail.c Keith Calhoun om 987-0383 michealgriggs@gmail. Treasurer Mike Griggs com 823-7950 **Directors** Gerald Aultman 516-1528 Paul Brown 822-4295 John Edmundson 969-0065 991-8472 Jackie Imbusch David Strack 565-4714 Gray Murray 381-9818 **Committee Chairs** Arrangements **OPEN** Glenda James Audit 823-6140 Charitble Giving **OPEN** Fellowship **OPEN** Finance Mike Griggs 823-7950 Member Care Patsy Evans 991-7900 Membership Dora Brandt 956-0502 Newsletter Dan & Myrna Wise 942-2336 Nominating **OPEN** Program **OPEN** Website Cary Campbell 678-4725

We are only young once. That is all society can stand.

- Bob Bowen

#### BIRTHDAYS

#### March

1-Pam Carr; 2-Ann White; 3-David Busby, Jennifer Cornett & Pat Goodman; 4-Rita Townsend; 5-Jerry Lee Bush; 6-Kenneth Horton; 7-Linda Katz; 10-Mark Kuester & Diane Long; 11-Randal L. Head & Mary Sue Thornburgh; 12-Harry Durden, Jr., Billy Goforth, Jr., Karl Roy Moor, Albert P. Peyer III & Sid Varagona: 13-Kenneth Earl Wills: 14-Shellie Fred Hollis, Jr., Kerry D. Kline, James D. Russell & Carlos Westberry III; 16-Mary Ann Brechun, Samuel E. Clausell, Robert Conry & Martha Cook; 18-Charles F. Markley & Patsy Schmith; 19-Pat Bowman; 20-Robert Hardman; 21-Gerald E. Bagwell, Carol Fiedler & Robert M. Moore: 22-Brenda Norton, Tommy Ryan & Woody Woodruff; 23-Peggy Burdeshaw; & Anne Campbell; 24-Daniel Blackwood; 25-John Pounders; 26-Roger Golden & Barbara Mitchell; 28-Bernice Hill & Joe Romano; 29-Barbara Jones; 30-Steve Logan, Thomas O. Smith IV & Gene Watkins

#### April

3-Mike McLeod & William Porteous, Jr.; 5-Jim Cofield, Waldon Roy Mertz & Jean Shaw: 7-Jeanette Crane, Shirley Dickson & Charles Mathews; 8-Jan Dyle, Joseph E. Grimsley, Jr., Ken Kopecky, Ann Micklewright, Stokely Morgan & Jerry Ray; 9-William Ollinger; 10-Keith Legg, Tony Koski & Devida Moore; 11-Nancy Carr, Henry Garrett & Suzan Goertz; 12-John McCoy III & Al Nebrig, Jr.; 13-Ronald K. Campbell; 15-Barbara Orr; 16-Lewis Williams; 17-Edwin Prigmore; 18-Jack Goertz; 19-Glenda James, Dennis Jones, Clyde Kellum, Vanda Leigh Speegle & Clifton B. Thompson, Jr.; 21-Cindy Moman & Judy Sanford; 22-Richard W. Colby, Jr, Don Irvin, Lou Ann Kaster & Thermando Stephens; 26-Adolph Darnell Gavlor & Rachel Wilson; 27-James Baldone & Robin Miner; 28-Ken Mooney; 29-Judith Heatherly; 30-Joyce Ehrensperger, Bill Garner, Patricia Jarrell & Edward Moreland, Jr.

### SCS OUTSIDE March—April 2016

#### SPOTLIGHTING OUR FOUNDING MEMBERS

Editor's Note: As noted in a previous issue of Outside, 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 accomplisments. 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...

#### JACK FAULKNER

Jack has been an active member of our organization for many years. He is a native of Birmingham, AL. and he attended Birmingham-Southern College for two years before being drafted in 1952 and for two years was on active duty and was discharged as a sergeant in 1954.

Jack returned to college at the University of Alabama and graduated with a BS in mechanical engineering at age 30.

Jack was employed by Southern Electric Generating Company (SEGCO) during the construction of the plant at Wilsonville, now known as Plant Gaston. After the construction, he was associated with the start-up of its four units (1960-62) and remained associated with the SEGCO plant for nine years.

In 1967 he obtained his Professional Engineer registration for the state of Alabama.

In 1968 Jack transferred to Southern Company Operating Services Division "power pool" managed by R. O. Usry. During this time he worked on the interchange contract between the operating companies and learned to prepare the daily billing according to metered power flows as taught by Frances Monroe.

The power pool was responsible for economic dispatch of generating units based on fuel costs, heat rates and line loss, etc. For example, unexpected events affecting fuel costs and availability, like the Arab oil embargo in 1973 and a few years later the acid rain event causing major changes to burn more expensive sources of low sulfur coal.

In 1973, Jack was promoted to manager, Power Supply Department that was responsible on a 24/7 basis for coordinating and scheduling the power supply resources of the operating companies. The shift-working power supply coordinators were former employees of the operating companies, having worked in the dispatch centers and power plants. Their experience and expertise contributed greatly to the smooth operation of the Power Supply Coordination Center (PCC).

He was also responsible for scheduling power transactions (buying and selling) with the interconnected utilities, such as TVA, Duke Power and others. This also included monitoring the overall transmission grid.

Also, in 1973, the system control office made the transition from the analog computer to the new IBM digital control devices and moved from the Alabama Power building to the new SCS building on Shades Creek Parkway.

In 1985, after 17 years in the Power Pool, Jack transferred to the nuclear division of SCS and worked at the construction site of Georgia Power's Plant Vogtle until he k retired in 1986.

Jack is married to wife Marie and they have a daughter.

Jack and Marie have not travelled extensively. They became the primary caretakers of their elderly relatives:—parents, aunts and uncles. They were the only ones available to take care of them for 15 years.

In all my work what I try to say is that as human beings we are more alike than we are unalike.

— Maya Angelou

#### SCS OUTSIDE March—April 2016 A LITTLE OF THIS, A PINCH OF THAT

#### **ARE WE HAVING FUN YET?**

Every year there is an invasion of Panama City. The youthful spring breakers? That's not who I had in mind. The Magnificent Seven? These are better looking than the movie version. Girls Gone Wild? That depends on your definition of wild.

For the last sixteen years or so, seven of West End High School's finest young ladies, maybe a few years removed from their school ages, assembles in Panama City. Okay, if one must be technical, five from 1955 and two from 1956. They relax and talk and read and talk, and cook and talk, and shop and talk, and go to the beach, and, uh, perhaps we should explore that.

I'm not privy to their goings on, so I will have to script it as in a movie. You and they will have to decide if it's the gospel truth, approaching the truth, slightly fictional, or totally fictional.

In the conversation that follows, I don't dare identify these ladies, because their fictional names and characteristics might make them say that sounds like one or the other of them, and why didn't I say that about one and not about the other of them, or one of them sounds like she oughta be, but she's not, and the other is, but isn't. While on one hand I didn't clarify a situation, yet on the other I clarified it too much. For my own safety and sanity, I'll just call them unidentified lady, or UL for short.

"LIGHTS. CAMERA. ACTION."

Each day there is this guy who purposely walks past them on the beach, and here he comes. A muscular guy. The bod, he would be called in today's terms. At least three of their precious seven days had vanished before he chose this day to stop. His mother had named him Euphrates, Eu for short, because she wanted no duplication of his name. Besides, he wouldn't feel unpersonal if someone addressed him, "Hey, you."

Perhaps these ladies would like nothing better than a hands-on approach. They'll check with their husbands-at-home for permission.

"Ladies," Eu says matter of factly, "why are you seven all out here when I walk by, even though I come at a different time every day/" "Purely coincidental," UL stutters.

"Those binoculars laying beside you on the sand, what are they for?"

"We watch sea gulls," UL is trying to reassure herself.

"Those beach chairs you're occupying seem to be more occupied than they were last year."

"Now, Eu, are you saying we're getting fat?" UL "Oh, no, never," Eu laughs, "you've got more personalities than you had last years."

"Eu, that's the nicest compliment we've had all day." UL

"Nicest compliment we've had allyear." Another UL in an aside not heard by Eu.

Eu kinda flips his long flowing hair back, and there are prolonged ahs. "You have husbands?"

"We have our freedom." One UL answers for all those hitched.

That arouses Eu's interest. "How much freedom to you have?"

"How much do we need?" UL

"Ladies, if I didn't know better, I'd think you're promiscuous."

"Never." UL

"Not a tiny little bit?"

"Why, Eu, you're embarrassing us." UL

"How much do I embarrass you?" Eu grins devilishly, then smiles softly.

"Well, after all, what happens in Panama City stays in Panama City." UL

Now raise your hand if you're coming to my room tonight." Eu laughs now, mischievously.

"CUT." The director is visibly upset. "Do you think anybody believes this garabge? We need some realism in this movie. Now you script writers go home tonight and come up with something believable."

NEXT DAY—"LIGHTS. CAMERA. ACTION."

"Well, ladies, here we are on the beach today. What do you think will happen?" UL

"Yesterday I counted one hundred and twelve sea gulls." UL

"Were they different sea gulls, or did you count some of them twice?" UL

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"How should I know? They looked different to me." UL

"Yu can tell the differences between one hundred and twelve sea gulls?" UL

What do you want me to do, take pictures of *them?" UL* 

"No, just make sure you're counting different sea gulls." UL

"It makes a difference whether I count the same sea gulls or different ones?" UL

"Oh, hush all of you; here he comes." UL

"What's everybody getting so escited about? The guy must be a hundred and fifty years old." UL

"He's still the youngest guy we've seen on the beach all week." UL

"CUT. PRINT. Excellent. Now that is realism." The director picks up his chair and walks off into the sunset..

I'd like to thank the ladies from the school we all affectionately call WEHS for allowing me to participate in their movie script. Some live beyond West End now. Judy Parsons Todd in Charlotte, North Carolina. Billy Jean Ross Moore in Pensacola, Florida. Judy Cowan Nunnally and Sue Ramage Sanford in Atlanta. Kay Newham Davis in Jacksom, Mississippi. From their Birmingham homes, Ann Ratliff Dailey and Joan Bentley Miller are close enough to visit West End High, if it were still there.

This has not passed these ladies by. They've grabbed it, and are wringing out every delightful, delicate, deliberate minute in it. Youth, I honestly don't know why you think you've got a corner on the fun market.

> — Bob Nelson Senior Living, July 2010

## ODDS AND ENDS

#### Ninety percent of Mount Rushmore...

...was carved by dynamite. Workers surely had a blast as they removed 450,000 tone of granite to create the South Dakota landmark, which turns 75 this year. (Details were drilled and chiseled by hand.) But the final product turned out differently than planned. "The original thought was to depict Old West legends like Wild Bill Hickok, Lewis and Clark, and American Indian leader Red Cloud," says Jay Vogt, Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society. But sculptor Gutzon Borglum vetoed that idea to push for the presidential angle. Another change. The figures were to be carved from head to waist, but the work was declared finished in 1941 after funding dried up. You could say they were caught between a rock and a hard place.

> <u>Southwest</u> magazine, February 2016, p. 33

#### The World's Worst Puns

Publisher Bennett Cerf used to refer to the pun as the lowest form of humor in the English language. Here are some that help to show why he made that statement.

Much has been written about helping plants to grow by playing music or singing to them. Success has now been reported by a man who has been experimenting with obscene fern calls.

At a local popular racket club, ou have to book well ahead if you want to reserve a tennis court. One tennis enthusiast was so concerned about not losing his booking that he left early from his wife's funeral. It was a case of putting the court before the hearse.

One night a breeze came up while an orchestra was giving an open-air rendition of Schubert's Ninth Symphony. During the intermission, most of the musicians spent their time tying down down their music to their music stands. The bass players, however, went to a nearby lounge for a few drinks. When the conductor returned to the podium, he was dismayed to find in the last half of the Ninth the scores were and the basses were loaded.

My greatest contribution to humor came when I taught my pet lizard to walk on its hind legs. It was the world's first stand-up chameleon.

— John S. Crosbie, 1982

#### Life Lesson

Many of the things I've done in my life have basically been self-taught. I think we, as the

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Muppets, broke new ground because we approached puppetry from a different angle. I had never worked with puppets when I was a kid, and even when I began on television I really didn't know what I was doing. I'm sure that this was a good thing, because I learned as I tackled each problem. I think if you study—if you learn too much of what others have done—you may tend to take the same direction as everybody else.

> — Jim Henson Spirit, September 2013

#### **Odd Election Results**

Barack Obama failed to win elections in Brazil despite eight candidates having adopted that name. Six candidates named Bin Laden also lost. Candidates are allowed to register under assumed names, which many use to attract attention, such as those this year named after animals, vehicles, kitchen utensils, U.S. presidents, and infamous world leaders. London's *Daily Telegraph* reported that more than 200 hopefuls renamed themselves after the country's popular president, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, among them President Lula, Ambulance Lula, Radio Lula, Singer Lula, Hairdresser Lula, and Here Comes Lula.

Running under his own name, 73-year-old mayoral candidate Jair Vieira claimed victory in Dom Cavalcanti, even though he received the same number of votes as the incumbent mayor. Under Brazil's election laws, a tie goes to the oldest candidate—bad news for Vieira's 42-year-old opponent.

> Strange Tales, Weird News From Around the Globe, November 15, 2008

#### **Memory Exercise**

At my father-in-law's 35<sup>th</sup> high-school reunion, the photographer was trying to get everyone to smile simultaneously. All her efforts failed. "Say 'sex'!" she pleaded as a last resort.

"Sex!" the group dutifully chimed in. Exasperated, the photographer lowered her camera. "Can't you at least say it like you *remember* it?" she asked.

> — Dindy Robinson, <u>Reader's Digest</u>, May 1988

### RETIREES P.O. BOX 2625 BIRMINGHAM, AL 35202

MEETING DETAILS: When: Monday March 14, 2016 Where: Inverness 42, Room 130 Board meeting: 11 a.m. Dutch Lunch: 12:00 noon General Meeting:1 p.m.