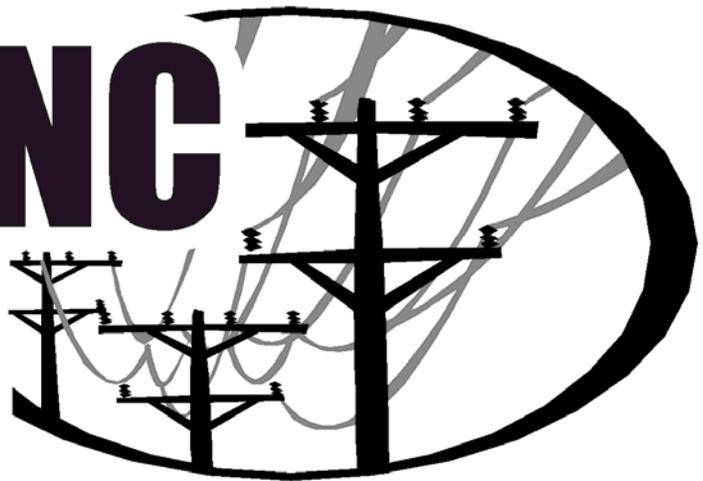


# SCS/SNC OUTSIDE



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Version 29 Issue 3      July – August 2017

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## Words of wisdom from the wise:

A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity.  
An optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.

Winston Churchill

To succeed in life, you need three things:

1. A wishbone
2. A backbone
3. A funnybone

Reba McEntire

Truer words were never spoken.

## Word from the editor:

Producing this newsletter is more difficult than I thought it would be. Getting input, filtering it and knowing what retirees need to know is the first hurdle. Production actually is the easy part. This is my third newsletter. I hope I am able to do this for a long time.

As I have said before, I need your inputs. I'm just the messenger. I am your humble servant. I don't make the news. I just report what you send in. Make it be what you want it to be.

My wife, Gaye, is the proof reader. I think she is doing a good job, but if you see anything wrong, see her. If you want anything added, see me.

## A LITTLE OF THIS, A PINCH OF THAT

Good friends help you find important things when you have lost them: your smile, your hope, and your courage.

Doe Zantamata

**Laughter is the best Medicine; it's internal jogging.**

## Prez Sez

Greetings everyone, we had a great turnout for our spring luncheon. The last time Tom Fanning spoke to our group was at our 2013 spring luncheon. There were over 200 members and guests in attendance at the 2013 luncheon and again this year we had over 200 in attendance. The big difference this year is that Tom wasn't able to attend. We actually began contacting Tom's office back in October, 2016, to get on his calendar and we were able to get a commitment in February of this year for Tom to speak at our luncheon. But as fate would have it, just days before the luncheon, urgent business would require his attendance in Washington DC on the same day. Thankfully, Kim Greene, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Southern Company, agreed to fill in for Tom and did a wonderful job. I hope you enjoyed her update on the business of the company as much as I did. Kim shared with us, among other things, the status of some of the major, high-profile projects that have been getting attention in the news. Kim's position with the company made her a perfect choice, given that she is definitely close to the everyday activities surrounding those projects. And she was able to explain the circumstances surrounding Tom's absence in connection with the Vogtle project.

Switching to another aspect of the luncheon, the food, in my opinion, was good, what I ate of it. But I understand some of you had a bad experience with getting your food served to you and it was quite obvious, given the late activity with the servers bringing in food during Kim's talk. Quite frankly, although we had no control or expectation

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

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that this would be an issue, I was a little embarrassed by what transpired, but Kim didn't seem to let it get her off track from what she had to say. Dora Brandt has shared our concerns with both the caterer and the civic complex personnel regarding the service issues. Also please remember to thank John and Dora Brandt for the tremendous amount of work that they took on to make this luncheon the success it was, despite the caterer's snafu.

Again I hope each of you are doing well and enjoying the summer weather, yeah summer finally arrived. As I said before, if you do get outside much, remember that the sun can be brutal. Be smart and stay hydrated if you are out much. I sure wish my beans, peas, and tomatoes grew just as well in the cool months as they do in the summer.

Our next meeting will be at 1:00pm on July 10 in the Horizons Conference Room, Room 130, Building 42 Inverness. James Lowery will be making a presentation entitled Historic Birmingham Mineral Railroad – Past and Present. Jim is retired from UAB and is in charge of a project pertaining to the Historic Birmingham Mineral Railroad (BMRR). Come join us and learn of the history of the BMRR and its ties to Birmingham's iron industry history. The presentation will include maps and photographs of the era and should prove to be an interesting piece of Birmingham's history. Hope to see many of you July 10th in Inverness.

-John McCoy

**July and August 2017**  
**SCS/SNC Members**  
**Birthday List**

July

- 1 Ping Hsu
- 1 Frank C. Jones
- 2 Sonia Garnem
- 3 Albert Burford
- 4 Mohinder Ghuman

- 5 Ann Garrett
- 6 Dorothy Bailey
- 6 Kathy Rickertsen
- 7 Jeffery Davis
- 7 Michael Roy Glasgow
- 8 Ella Burr
- 8 Robin Dyle
- 8 Jeanne Plaxco
- 8 Sidney K. Walker
- 9 Lee Haubein
- 9 Thomas Arthur Higgins
- 9 Richard Hovey
- 9 Rhonda Powell
- 9 Marvin D. Salter
- 11 Elaine Chambless
- 12 Stephen Weldon
- 13 Doris Hardy
- 13 Gerri Monosky
- 13 Larry Posey
- 14 Sandra McCoy
- 14 Sherry Runyans
- 14 George Russell, Jr.
- 15 Chris Anderson
- 15 Peggy Brashier
- 17 Linda R. Tortorici
- 18 Jack Faulkner
- 18 Virgil Wilkerson
- 20 Paula Hairston
- 20 Daniel Wise
- 21 Dennis Runyans
- 22 Daryl Cook
- 22 Farrokh Ghoreishi
- 23 Loretta Adkins
- 23 Theresa Reed
- 24 David Adams
- 24 Sandra Morgan
- 25 Gerald Aultman
- 27 Carter Leonard
- 28 Kerry Adams
- 29 Ricky W. Cox
- 30 Pam Ely
- 30 John Garlington
- 30 Mary Koski
- 31 Annette Dean
- 31 Mary Ann Glover

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31 Susan Lefoy

August

1 Ruth Shepherd  
1 Margaret Xanders  
2 Robert H. Jackson  
2 Hubert Pair  
3 Jim Coleman  
3 Barbara Harris  
3 Stephen Kimble  
3 Randall Kyle  
3 Karen Maze  
4 Willard Payne  
4 Jerry Wilson  
5 James W. Dailey  
6 Robert Beason  
6 Paul Blankenship  
6 Barbara Colby  
6 Judy Martin  
7 Andy Patko  
8 Joyce Amick  
8 Donald East  
8 Thomas Harris, Jr.  
10 Jim Gordy  
10 Jean Horton  
11 Janie Thornton  
12 Deborah Javorka  
12 Jim Rooker  
12 Allen N. White  
13 Fouzia Ahmed  
13 Alice Lawrence  
13 Arthur Lawrence  
13 Phyllis Lawrence  
13 Nancy Mooney  
13 Thomas K. Smith  
13 Robert Whatley  
14 Sara Justice  
14 Jack Redd  
16 Margaret Carter  
16 Harold J. Hall  
17 Danny Archer  
17 John Naramore  
19 Nancy Moore  
20 Peggy Case  
20 Don Welliver

21 Janet Nebrig  
22 John Bruno  
22 Geoff Huddleston  
22 Gina Kitchens  
23 Jon Edward Hornbuckle  
24 Lana Thompson  
25 Lee Rayburn  
26 Gloria Love  
26 Lamar Sumerlin  
27 Richard Lloyd Dennis  
27 Jay Dorrance  
27 Anne Fucich  
27 James Jarrell  
28 Forrest S. Brazzell  
29 Paul Biziak  
29 Lisa Golden  
29 Charles David Pugh  
29 Ty Robin, Jr.  
30 Mary Romano  
31 Charles Bidy  
31 Fran Goforth

## **Obituaries**

### **Wife of Tony Niemzak Lee Cornelius Niemzak**

Ollie Lee Cornelius Niemzak, 91, of Birmingham, Alabama passed away May 26, 2017. Lee was born in Birmingham and was the only daughter of the late Oliver Zion and Minnie Lee Cornelius. Lee graduated from Woodlawn High School in 1944. She graduated from the University of Alabama in 1950 and was an avid Alabama fan. She later obtained a teaching certificate from Samford University. While she spent most of her years as a loving homemaker, she was also a home agent with the extension service and a teacher in the Birmingham Public School System. She was a dedicated member of Huffman Baptist Church for 62 years. Lee dearly loved her family and cherished the time she spent with them. She was a devoted wife and an inspiration and supportive guide to all her children and grandchildren. She is survived by Anthony Joseph Niemzak her husband of 65 years; her daughter Janice Lee Cotton (James) and her son Michael Anthony Niemzak (Beverly); five grandchildren, Mallory Johnson (Brett), Anthony Niemzak, Tiffany Bencko (Greg), Nicole Grigsby (Tim), and Kathryn Cotton; and three great grandchildren. Lee is predeceased by her son Kenneth Edward Niemzak.

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**Mr. William Larry Orr** of Birmingham, AL passed away on June 18, 2017. He graduated from Hewitt-Trussville High School and the University of Alabama. He earned a degree in Aerospace Engineering and went to work at Boeing Aircraft in Huntsville, AL. He later went to work as a Civil Engineer at Southern Company Services in Birmingham, where he worked until his retirement. Mr. Orr was laid to rest at Jefferson Memorial Gardens East in Trussville, AL following the service.

**Son of Grady Luster**

**Ryan Lee Luster** age 45, of Alabaster, passed away on Friday, June 9, 2017. He was a graduate of UAB and employed by the Southern Company for 25 years. He is survived by his wife of 9 years, Soonju Luster; his son, David Luster; parents, Grady and Janice Luster; brother, Paul Luster; sister, Christie Brooks (Jeff); grandmother, Aline Luster; two nephews, one niece, aunts, uncles and a host of friends. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 2 PM in the chapel at Currie-Jefferson funeral home in Hoover.

**MEMBER CARE**

If you know of any member who is sick or has a death in his or her family that you would like to share, please contact Patsy at (205) 991-7900. We also like to hear good news!

**The program for the July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting**

Birmingham Mineral Railroad (BMRR), will be by James Lowery, he will show maps and photographs from its steam engine era, will describe where it ran in the Birmingham area and where the former roadbed can still be seen, and will describe the BMRR Signs Project that is installing historic signs showing where the BMRR was located.

A summary of the presentation is as follows: People drive, walk, and bicycle every day in areas where the historic Birmingham Mineral Railroad (BMRR) ran throughout the Birmingham and surrounding areas without ever being aware that the BMRR was located in those places. Birmingham's

iron industry history is an important part of its overall history, and the BMRR was a significant part of that iron industry history. The network of rail lines that constituted the BMRR and its various branches transported the raw materials from the mines and quarries to the furnaces, coke from the coke ovens to the furnaces, and products from the various facilities to major rail lines that connected to points across the Birmingham area and beyond. In addition to the BMRR's primary purpose as a Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company industrial railroad, L&N also provided regular passenger service on several of the major BMRR branches.

If the lengths of all 31 branches of the BMRR are added together, the BMRR was 253 miles long, which is the distance from Birmingham to Mobile! If the many sidings and spurs to the mines and facilities are added to that, the length would be well over 300 miles. This was a major railroad!

Jim is retired from UAB and in charge of a project to install signs at various locations around Birmingham where the Birmingham Mineral Railroad ran so that people will become more aware of that part of the area's history. The signs are for educational purposes and are intended to raise awareness with the general public of the importance of the railroad in the development of Birmingham.

The Birmingham Mineral Railroad transported raw materials from the mines and quarries to the furnaces, coke from the coke ovens to the furnaces, pig-iron from the furnaces to the various processing furnaces and products from those facilities to major rail lines.

The Birmingham Mineral Railroad made possible the economic development that enabled Birmingham to become the iron industry giant that it was during the late 1800's and early to middle 1900's.

The total length of the Birmingham Mineral Railroad mainline tracks with all its 31 branches was 253 miles.

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**RETIREE LEADERSHIP**  
**For 2017**

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

**MEETING DETAILS:**

**When: Monday, July 10, 2017**  
**Where: Horizons Conference Room 130**  
**Inverness 42**  
**Board Meeting: 11 a.m. Dutch Lunch: Noon**  
**Building 42 Cafeteria**  
**General Meeting Presentation: 1 p.m.**

***Officers***

*President OPEN*

*Vice President OPEN*

*Treasurer Fred*

*Ehrensperger 655-2725*

*Secretary Peggy*

*Burdeshaw 608-9636*

***Directors***

*Gerald Aultman 516-1528*

*John Brandt 956-0502*

*Walt Dean 879-5775*

*Jackie Imbusch 991-8472*

*Dennis Read 879-6617*

*David Strack 565-4714*

*John McCoy (ex-officio)*  
*285-4843*

***Committee Chairs***

*Audit Glenda James*  
*240-2458*

***Fellowship OPEN***

*Member Care Patsy*  
*Evans 991-7900*

*Membership Dora*  
*Brandt 956-0502*

*Newsletter Gerald*  
*Aultman 516-1528*

***Nominating OPEN***

***Program OPEN***

*Website Cary Campbell*  
*641-9137*