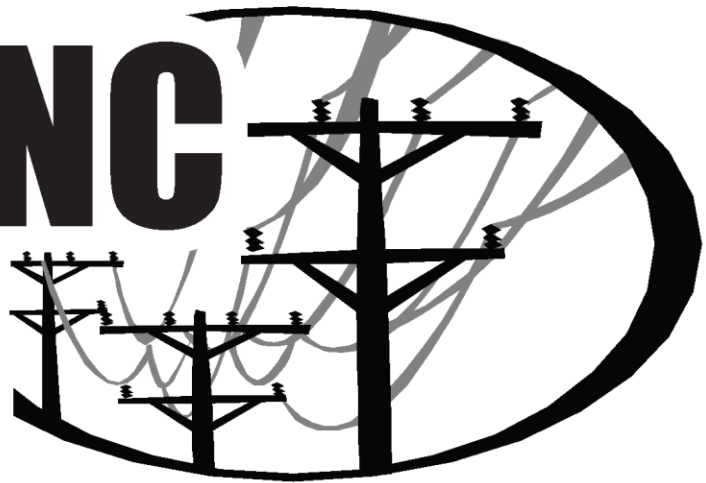


SCS/SNC OUTSIDE



Volume 32, November-December 2020 No. 6

Word from the editor:

Remember that this is your newsletter. Make sure information you have that is relevant to all gets to me to be included in the newsletter.

Prez Sez:

Hello everyone!

Well, 2020 has turned out to be quite the year. I went to the Thesaurus to look up words to describe it. I came up with unheralded, eye-opening, and “out of the blue” for starters. One thing I’ve learned, both in my career with Southern and now in retirement, is that change is inevitable. I have also learned to “go with the flow” for a much less stressful life. All that said, the board met via Zoom a couple of times over the last few days and has some plans for business going forward. Our “in-person” meetings for the year have been cancelled or postponed until such time as it is safe for us to gather again. We are following Southern Company’s policy on office presence and conference room availability for our criteria.

Officers and Board Members:

Given these unusual circumstances, the board has reviewed the Bylaws and recommends the following:

- Maintain the current roster of officers and board members for fiscal year 2021.
- Nominations and elections for new officers will be postponed until November of 2021.

As you might expect, the purpose for our voluntary group is to foster continuing fellowship and recreational

activities among the members. It is also to “further the common good and general welfare of the Greater Birmingham, Alabama Metropolitan Area communities.” With this second purpose in mind, we have had members nominate charitable organizations to receive funding from our group each year. Many of our members volunteer for local community organizations, and this has been a focus for our choice of funding in the past. The challenges of 2020 have likely increased the need for giving in the community. Therefore, the board has decided to continue charitable giving for this year according to the following:

Charitable Donations:

- Charitable donations for 2020 will be implemented in the same total amount of \$3000 as in 2019.
- Membership Nominations for the Charitable Donations will be collected via email or US Mail and are due by November 15. If you don’t have access to email, you may mail your nomination form to Fred Ehrensperger, Treasurer, 6504 Treck Circle, Birmingham, AL 35235.
- The charities to be awarded funding will be announced via email and on the website: <http://scsretirees.com>
- Funds will be distributed by the end of the year.

The Nomination form, due November 15, 2020, is attached (Page 8 of newsletter) and is also available on the website. You may scan it and return it to me via email (dmheyes@gmail.com) or you may mail a paper copy to Fred Ehrensperger, Treasurer, 6504 Treck Circle, Birmingham, AL 35235.

If there are any objections to the action plan, you may contact one of the board members or officers. As soon as it is safe to do so, we will resume our meetings in person. In the meantime, stay safe.

Deanna

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

SCS OUTSIDE
November - December, 2020



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER SCS/SNC MEMBERS' BIRTHDAY LIST

November Birthdays:

1 Shelton Morrow
1 Shelia Noland
2 Billy Ely
2 Charlotte Graham
2 Lynne Madison
2 Bobby Earl Wallace
3 Susan Evely
3 Cindy Flowers
3 Rosalou Maxwell
4 Michael W. Horton
4 Sharon Miller
4 Reese Ponder
5 Allison Lee
5 Jeanne Nelson
5 James C. Thompson, Jr.
6 Steve Choat
7 Nan Altizer
7 Betty Ponder
7 Linda Sanders
7 Joe Shelton
9 Ronnie Green
9 Ronald Lewis
10 Jean Guthrie
10 Dennis Kendrick
10 Stephen Minor
11 Charles Hickman
12 Robert Fucich
12 Thomas Sanford
12 Ronald Summers
13 Deborah Greene
14 Dora Brandt
15 Renee Gwin
15 Lamar Larrimore
16 Bruce Hunt
17 Magdaline Wilson Johnson
18 Sherry Baldone
18 Theresa Burns

November B'days (Cont'd:)

18 Dale Evely
18 Tammy Kaiser
18 Beverly Lisenby
19 Sharon Jones
19 Billy Walker
20 K. R. Chakravarthi
21 Mike Altizer
21 Bharath Chakavarthi
22 Carl Logan
22 Jan Sorge
22 Phoebe Zandi
23 Ronald D. Creel
23 Rick Holcomb
23 Dale Warren Robbins
23 James Shivers
25 Gary Daugherty
28 Noel Chambless
28 Tom Greene, Jr.
28 Dot Legg
28 Tom Milton
29 Jerry Lee Monosky
30 Sherrie Pitre
30 Martha Gail Pugh
30 Sondra Smaha
30 Celia Yates

December Birthdays:

1 Sharon Chaffin
1 John Edmundson
2 James Alldredge Jr.
2 Donald Miller
3 Joseph Lamarque
3 Paula Blevins-Russell
4 Joel Adrian Tuttle
6 Betty Shivers

SCS OUTSIDE
November - December, 2020



December B'days (Cont'd:)

- 8 Mark Stevens
- 9 Jacob Champion
- 9 Kelly Falletta
- 9 Linda Henry
- 9 James Reed
- 9 Michael H. Tew
- 10 Cheryl Pathasema
- 11 Lynda L. Bartlett
- 11 Kathy Porteous
- 13 Dan Javorka
- 13 Benjamin Pilleteri
- 13 Jackie Walton
- 14 Doyle Crews
- 14 Dean Drinkard
- 14 Laura Green
- 15 Michael A. Camp
- 16 Phyllis Hurst
- 16 Ted McGill, Jr.
- 17 Traci Brown
- 17 William Norton
- 17 Scott Shultz
- 18 James Bailey
- 18 Glenda Massengale
- 18 James Shepard
- 19 Patsy Evans
- 19 Bradley Long
- 15 Michael Camp
- 20 Pat Moore
- 20 Jane Rooker
- 20 Shireen Thomas
- 20 Stephen Wells
- 21 Debbie Dulion
- 22 Doug Shelton
- 22 Steve Wilson
- 23 Richard Chastain
- 23 Malcolm Garner
- 24 Wayne Moore
- 25 Tallulah DeMarco
- 25 Phillip W. Garrett
- 26 Peggy Byars
- 26 Melanie Crane
- 26 Mary Dean Shelton
- 27 Jerry Fields
- 27 Edward Price
- 27 Mary Willis

December B'days (Cont'd:)

- 29 Kathy Dawkins
- 29 Penny Manuel
- 29 John Plaxco
- 29 Zehra Stockli
- 30 Sandi Boylan
- 31 Buddy Coggin
- 31 Eleanor Connor
- 31 Dave Lisenby

OBITUARIES

James "Jim" Allen Shepard (SCS), 74, of Bessemer, passed away October 14, 2020.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents Charlie and Margie Shepard. He is survived by his wife Linda H. Shepard; daughter Kellie Shepard Rambin (Steven); grandson Jonathan Brown; and granddaughter Taylor Brown.

REMINDER



November 1st
Time to...



**NOVEMBER-DECEMBER
HOLIDAYS TO REMEMBER**



Pearl Harbor is a U.S. naval base near Honolulu, Hawaii, that was the scene of a devastating surprise attack by Japanese forces on **December 7**, 1941. Just before 8 a.m. on that Sunday morning, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes descended on the base, where they managed to destroy or damage nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight battleships, and over 300 airplanes. More than 2,400 Americans died in the attack, including civilians, and another 1,000 people were wounded. The day after the assault, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan.



Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on **November 11**, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1925 for an annual observance and November 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938. Unlike Memorial Day, Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.



The event that Americans commonly call the "**First Thanksgiving**" was celebrated by the Pilgrims after their first harvest in the New World in October 1621. This feast lasted three days, and was attended by 90 Native Americans and 53 Pilgrims. The New England colonists were accustomed to regularly celebrating "thanksgivings," days of prayer thanking God for blessings such as military victory or the end of a drought. Thanksgiving has been celebrated nationally on and off since 1789, with a proclamation by President George Washington after a request by Congress. President Thomas Jefferson chose not to observe the holiday, and its celebration was intermittent until President Abraham Lincoln, in 1863, proclaimed a national day of "Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens", to be celebrated on the last Thursday in November. On June 28, 1870, President Ulysses S. Grant signed into law the *Holidays Act* that made Thanksgiving a yearly appointed federal holiday in Washington D.C. On January 6, 1885, an act by Congress made Thanksgiving, and other federal holidays, a paid holiday for all federal workers throughout the United States. Under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the date was changed between 1939 and 1941 amid significant controversy. From 1942 onwards, Thanksgiving, by an act of Congress, signed into law by FDR, received a permanent observation date, the fourth Thursday in November, no longer at the discretion of the President.



Hanukkah is the Jewish Festival of Lights and it remembers the rededication of the second Jewish Temple in Jerusalem, in Israel. This happened in the 160s BCE/BC (before Jesus was born). During Hanukkah, on each of the eight nights, a candle is lit in a special menorah (candelabra) called a 'hanukkiyah'.

**NOVEMBER-DECEMBER
HOLIDAYS TO REMEMBER
(Cont'd)**



Friday, December 25

Christmas is one of the most important Christian and cultural holidays of the year, but what is the true meaning of Christmas? For Christians, the true meaning of Christmas is the celebration of the Savior, Jesus Christ.

When fall has given way to winter and snow covers the ground while lights twinkle from house to house, you know Christmas is coming. Decorated Christmas trees are everywhere you look. Presents crowd for space under the tree and families come together for a turkey feast. Christmas is one of the most important Christian and cultural holidays of the year, but what is the true meaning of Christmas? Is it the gifts? Is it the annual economic boost?

The Christmas season, especially in the West, is a mix of pre-Christian, Christian, and secular traditions. What's interesting is the etymology of the word Christmas. It literally means Christian Mass. It's a shortened form of **Christ's** Mass.

Christmas is a time of spiritual reflection on the important foundations of the Christian faith. It's also a celebration. It's when Christians celebrate God's love for the world through the birth of the Christ child: Jesus. The **Bible** tells of his birth hundreds of years before, fulfilling prophecies.



Gift-giving, mainly centered around children, has been an important part of the Christmas celebration since the holiday's rejuvenation in the early 19th century. Stores began to advertise Christmas shopping in 1820 and by the 1840s, newspapers were creating separate sections for holiday advertisements, which often featured images of the newly-popular Santa Claus. In 1841, thousands of children visited a Philadelphia shop to see a life-size Santa Claus model. It was only a matter of time before stores began to attract children, and their parents, with the lure of a peek at a "live" Santa Claus. In the early 1890s, the Salvation Army needed money to pay for the free Christmas meals they provided to needy families. They began dressing up unemployed men in Santa Claus suits and sending them into the streets of New York to solicit donations. Those familiar Salvation Army Santas have been ringing bells on the street corners of American cities ever since.



20 Surprising Origins Of Popular Sayings

- **"Let the cat out of the bag."**
Meaning to reveal a secret, "letting the cat out of the bag" finds its roots in 18th-century street fraud. Suckling pigs were often sold in bags, and a popular scheme was to replace the pig with a cat and sell it to an unwitting victim.
- **"Don't look a gift horse in the mouth."**
Horses' gums recede with age, leading to longer teeth. A common way to inspect a horse's "worth" is to check its mouth, hence the phrase. Receiving a horse as a gift and immediately inspecting its value was considered offensive, much like inquiring about the worth of a present today is rude.
- **"You're pulling my leg."**
Meaning to tease someone or jokingly lie to them, "pulling one's leg" actually has sinister origins, rooted in the criminal world of the 18th century. Street thieves would literally pull victims down by their leg in order to more easily rob them.
- **"Eating crow."**
To eat crow means to admit fault or be proved wrong after taking a strong position. The Bible lists crow as unfit for eating, and along with buzzards and rats, it was actually illegal to eat crow in the Middle Ages. As such, it was notably humiliating to consume.
- **"Break a leg."**
The term "break a leg" originates in theater. Since superstitions run rampant in the theater, it's not surprising to learn that wishing someone good luck outright is actually considered *bad luck*. Instead, it was more suitable to wish ill will on someone before a performance, since the opposite was supposed to occur.
- **"Can't hold a candle to..."**
Before electricity, workers needed a second set of hands to hold a candle for them. Holding a candle was clearly a less challenging job, so someone who isn't even qualified to provide light to a competent worker obviously wouldn't be able to perform the task himself.
- **"Hocus Pocus!"**
The magical phrase is probably comes from the Roman Catholic liturgy of the Eucharist, which contains the phrase "Hoc est corpus meum." How rude!

20 Surprise Origins (Cont'd)

- **"Dressed to the nines."**
Meaning to dress exceptionally well, there's no concrete consensus on the origin of "dressing to the nines," but the most popular theory comes from the fact that the very best suits used a full nine yards of fabric.
- **"Don't count your chickens before they're hatched."**
The short answer is that Aesop said it. He wrote of a young milkmaid balancing a pail on her head. The girl thought, *The milk in this pail will provide me with cream, which I will make into butter, which I will sell in the market, and buy a dozen eggs, which will hatch into chickens, which will lay more eggs, and soon I shall have a large poultry yard. I'll sell some of the fowls and buy myself a handsome new gown and go to the fair, and when the young fellows try to approach me, I'll toss my head and pass them by.* At that moment, the girl tossed her head and lost the pail of milk. Her mother admonished, "Do not count your chickens before they are hatched."
- **"Crocodile tears."**
"Crying crocodile tears" means to fake being upset or force tears that are inauthentic. An ancient anecdote by Photios claimed that crocodiles weep in order to lure prey, which is most likely where the idiom comes from.
- **"Close, but no cigar."**
Carnivals used to give out cigars as prizes, so almost winning would get you close to achieving a cigar, but not quite. The phrase evolved in meaning and now refers to coming close to a goal but falling short.
- **"Once in a blue moon."**
A blue moon is the second full moon in a single calendar month, and it's very rare. The phrase "once in a blue moon" is used colloquially to mean something that doesn't happen very often.
- **"Mind your p's and q's."**
In the 17th century, pubs served beer in pints and quarts. If a patron was getting unruly, the bartender might warn them to mind their p's and q's. Now the term simply means to mind your manners, drunk or not.

20 Surprise Origins (Cont'd)

- **"The kiss of death."**
"The kiss of death" marks the demise of something. Its roots rest in the Italian mafia, where someone who's been marked for death receives the metaphorical kiss prior to execution.
- **"Rule of thumb."**
The "rule of thumb" as a form of rough measurement probably comes from carpenters approximating inches with their thumbs. Another theory is that farmers used the length of a thumb to estimate how deep to plant seeds.
- **"Sleep tight!"**
Simply meaning to sleep well, the phrase "sleep tight" dates from the time when mattresses were supported by ropes. These ropes needed to be pulled tight to provide a stable mattress and a good night's rest.
- **"A square meal."**
Nobody actually knows where this idiom came from, though the Royal Navy did serve meals on square plates at one point. Another idea is more linguistic in nature: the use of "square" to mean honest and straightforward goes back to at least the 16th century, which makes sense as "square meal" refers to a healthy, hearty dinner. This one might remain a mystery.
- **"Stay on the straight and narrow."**
Today it means to generally stay out of trouble, but the original phrase is actually biblical in origin. Matthew 7:13/14 described the gates to heaven as "strait" and the way to eternal life as "narrow."
- **"Three sheets to the wind."**
Sailors had a lot of terms for being drunk and they all related to the ship. Being tipsy was "a sheet in the wind's eye" and being hammered was a full "three sheets to the wind." The sheets in question were actually the ropes that held down the sails, so if all three ropes were loose, the sails would billow about like a drunken sailor.
- **"White Elephant."**
Albino elephants were highly regarded in Southeast Asia, and they were cared for lavishly. The term "white elephant" eventually evolved to mean any valuable but burdensome possession of which its owner cannot dispose and whose cost of upkeep is out of proportion to its usefulness or worth.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

It's a PRIVILEGE and a RIGHT!



PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTION

NOVEMBER 3
VOTE 2020

SCS OUTSIDE
November - December, 2020

Nomination Form
Designated Charity for SCS Retiree Contribution

1. Name of Charitable Organization: _____

2. Address of Charitable Organization: _____

3. Contact information@ Organization: _____

Name

Email address

Telephone

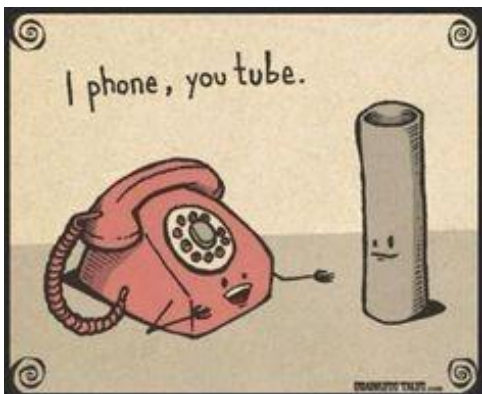
4. Mission/Work of Charitable Organization: _____

5. Nominated by: _____

6. Reasons why SCS Retiree Organization should contribute to this Organization (use additional sheet if necessary).



LAUGHTER.... THE BEST MEDICINE!!!



**It's been a bit of a strange day!
First I found a hat full of money.
Then I was chased by an angry man with a guitar...**

I HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE ACT ALL INTELLECTUAL AND TALK ABOUT MOZART WHILE THEY'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN ONE OF HIS PAINTINGS...

Confuse your doctor by putting on rubber gloves at the same time he does.

SCS OUTSIDE
November - December, 2020

**Notes from our Officers, Committee
Chairs and Board Members**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

If you know of someone that is sick and doesn't object to their information being shared, please send an email to me at the following address so that we can send them a card and include them in our prayers.

socosncretirees@gmail.com.

Additionally, we love to hear good news!

Patsy Evans,
Member Care



We would LOVE to hear from any of our retirees wishing to share with us how they are spending their time now that they have retired (vacations, volunteer work, family time, etc.), or any other items that they would like to share.

Please send your input to us at the following e-mail address. This newsletter is **YOUR** newsletter and we truly appreciate all contributions.

Rick and Charlotte Graham
dricharlo@gmail.com

2020 Leadership

Officers

President: Deanna McCombs 205-915-9448
Vice-President: Dave Lisenby 334-701-4589

Treasurer: Fred Ehrensperger **205-655-2725**
Secretary: Ken McElroy 205-907-6011

Directors

Tallulah DeMarco 205-414-1790
Charlotte Graham 205-440-7935
Rick Graham 205-807-1890
Doris Hardy **205-426-2435**
Deborah Javorka 205-305-9739
Rick Rice 205-266-6517
Teresa McCrillis (Ex-Officio) **912-293-4247**

Committee Chairs

Arrangements : Sharon Venz 205-482-6836
Mary Romano 205-979-1486
Audit: Dennis Read 205-879-6617
Fellowship: Yancey Trucks **205-969-0559**
Member Care Patsy Evans **205-991-7900**
Membership: Dora Brandt **205-956-0502**
Newsletter: Charlotte & Rick Graham
205-440-7935
Nominating: Rick Graham **205-807-1890**
Programs: Dave & Beverly Lisenby
205-701-4589
Website: Cary Campbell - **205-641-9137**
E-mail socosncretirees@gmail.com