

Volume 30, November-December 2018 November 2018

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,

It's November and almost time for our Holiday Luncheon in which we will celebrate Thanksgiving and the approach of Advent, also known as Christmas. In this space, I'd like to focus on Thanksgiving and the things I'm personally grateful for at this stage of life.

I have to begin with life itself and the good health God has given my wife and me to enjoy this stage without undue restrictions or limitations. They say that when you have your health, you have a lot. That's one reason I encourage my working friends not to wait too long to retire. Good health is not going to last. Enjoy it while you can. I understand many in our group endure some of the problems of aging and some are suffering great medical issues. Let's still thank God for life and His authority over it

Secondly, I'm thankful to live right here in Birmingham and for the freedoms we all enjoy. We take them for granted and only think about them on special occasions or when we are reminded by circumstances, but there is still not a better place in the world for individual liberty. We can choose our vocations, our religion, our homes, our schools, our leaders, our interests, our food and, of course, our football teams. We don't realize how many choices we have until we go to a shoe store or a supermarket. How many kinds of sandals or potato chips do we really need?

I'm thankful for retirement. We have no idea how few people work for 40 years and have inadequate savings. Southern Company was so wise to encourage us to save a part of every paycheck by offering to match a percentage of our contributions. I believe that the most powerful way to create wealth for retirement is through regular savings, compounding and tax deferral. But then to have a pension that guarantees a monthly income for life is truly rare in our present business culture. We all certainly could have saved more, but we are financially blessed to be Southern Company retirees.

I'm thankful for the southern culture we enjoy. Folks really are friendly down here. Not that there aren't good people and good neighbors everywhere, but we truly have something special. Even on Highway 280, you see acts of kindness and respect. Anything to the contrary must be by transplants. I'm joking, but it's true that our parents taught us mutual respect, manners, kindness and mercy. Let's pass it on by example.

That leads me to the thing many of us cherish — grandchildren. My pastor calls them God's reward for not killing our children. We are so blessed to have grandchildren that we get to see often, but live elsewhere. We have no weekly duties, but can travel 1, 2 or 4 hours to three cities to see them all play sports, perform, celebrate a birthday or we can just visit and help the parents.

Lastly, I'm thankful for our SCS/SNC Retirees officers, Board members and committee chairmen. It has really been rewarding to see them all work together to keep this group functioning so well.

Happy Thanksgiving! Let's be thankful - it's good medicine.

Jim Blackman

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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER SCS/SNC MEMBERS' BIRTHDAY LIST

November Birthdays:

- 2 Billy Ely
- 2 Charlotte Graham
- 2 Henry L. Langford
- 3 Rosalou Maxwell
- 5 David Hartley
- 5 Jeanne Nelson
- 5 James C. Thompson, Jr.
- 5 Joy W. White
- 6 Steven Choat
- 6 Hershel Kenneth Peterson
- 7 Nan Altizer
- 7 Emmalaura Patrick
- 7 Betty Ponder
- 7 Linda Sanders
- 9 Ronnie Green
- 10 Joseph L. Coker
- 10 Jean Guthrie
- 10 Dennis Kendrick
- 11 Charles Hickman
- 12 Robert Fucich
- 12 Terry Mitchell
- 12 Thomas Sanford
- 12 Ronald Summers
- 13 Jack Fors
- 13 Michael E. Hill
- 13 Elisha James Miller
- 14 Dora Brandt
- 15 Linda Eiserloh
- 15 Renee Gwin
- 15 Lamar Larrimore
- 16 David Lee Empfield
- 16 Teresa Jones
- 16 Larry Wallace
- 18 Sherry Baldone
- 18 Theresa Burns
- 18 Beverly Lisenby

November B'days (Continued):

- 18 Rosemary Tenney
- 19 Sharon Jones
- 19 Billy Walker
- 20 K. R. Chakravarthi
- 21 Mike Altizer
- 22 Phoebe Zandi
- 23 James Shivers
- 23 Susan Stvers
- 25 Michael Belford
- 25 Robert W. Crisler
- 26 David Mims
- 28 Noel Chambless
- 28 Tomas Greene, Jr.
- 28 Dot Lega
- 28 Tom Milton
- 29 Jerry Lee Monosky
- 29 James O'Brien
- 29 Charlsie Smith
- 30 Sherrie Pitre
- 30 Sondra Smaha

December Birthdays

- 1 Amal Barroody
- 1 Sharon Chaffin
- 1 John Edmundson
- 1 Jan Sumrall
- 2 James Alldredge Jr.
- 2 Dinah Sisson
- 3 Evelyn Mansfield
- 3 Paula Blevins-Russell
- 4 William C. Kendall
- 7 Merian Black
- 7 Betty Shivers
- 8 Eileen Dobbins
- 9 Kelly Falletta
- 9 Linda Henry
- 10 Joseph David Eiland

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December B'days (Continued

- 11 Samuel Haynes
- 11 Kathy Porteous
- 13 Dan Javorka
- 13 Jackie Walton
- 14 Doyle Crews
- 15 Harold D. Hester
- 16 Lynn Blanco
- 16 Phyllis Hurst
- 16 Ted M. McGill, Jr.
- 16 Larry Turner
- 17 James W. Exum
- 17 Edward Gibson
- 17 John Sechrist
- 18 James Bailey
- 18 Glenda Massengale
- 18 James Shepard
- 19 Patsy Evans
- 19 Bradley Long
- 20 Pat Moore
- 20 Jane Rooker
- 20 Shireen Thomas
- 20 Stephen Wells
- 21 Debbie Dulion
- 22 Doug Shelton
- 23 Richard Chastain
- 23 Dennis Franklin
- 25 Tallulah DeMarco
- 26 Peggy Byars
- 26 Melanie Crane
- 26 David Franklin
- 26 Linda Jones
- 26 Betty Headley Latta
- 26 Mary Dean Shelton
- 27 Jerry Fields
- 27 Edward Price
- 27 Mary Willis
- 27 Charlene Yates
- 28 Katherine Sechrist
- 29 John Plaxco
- 30 Lucille Belford
- 30 Sandi Boylan
- 31 Buddy Coggin
- 31 Eleanor Connor
- 31 Jack Jones
- 31 Mary King
- 31 Dave Lisenby

OBITUARIES

Dorothy Jean "Dot" Bailey, 82, of Vestavia Hills, wife of retired Southern Nuclear employee, James Allen "Jim" Bailey, passed away on Tuesday, August 14, 2018. Dot was preceded in death by her mother and father Esby and Sarah Gibbons She is survived by her husband, Jim, her son, Rusty; her sisters, Jenny Logan and Katherine Weldon; and her brother, Tom Gibbons; and numerous nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her longhaired dachshund grand dogs, Wally and Rupert. To honor Dot's memory, the family requests memorials be directed to the Greater Birmingham Humane Society (gbhs.org) or Big Oak Ranch (bigoak.org). In the comments section note in memory of Dot Bailey.

Andy Cave, 63, Port St. Joe, Florida formerly from Pinson died August 8, 2018. Andy was SCS Retiree **Jay Dorrance's** son-in-law. He is survived by his wife of 8 years Linda Dorrance Cave.

Richard Colby, Jr., 70, of Trussville passed away on June 30, 2018. He is survived by his wife, Barbara S. Colby; sons, Gregory R. (Gina) and Michael R.; grandchildren Madison, Haley, Sarah, Ella, and Hudson; brother-in-law, Robert H. Sykes Jr. (Joyce); and numerous loving cousins. He is preceded in death by his parents, Richard W. Colby Sr. and Janie V. Colby; and sister, Janie.

Jack Faulkner, (Southern Company Services), passed away on September 12. Jack is survived by his wife, Marie, his daughter Melanie Bemel, and granddaughter Madeleine Bemel and he is predeceased by his parents Jake K. and Clara Mae Faulkner.

Thomas Henry Kicker, Jr., 84, (Southern Company Services), passed away on August 19, 2018. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Sandra Bloom Kicker; his daughter, Chalice Louise Kicker; his sons, Darryl Allen Kicker, Dennis Ray Kicker, and Jacob Thomas Kicker (Elisabeth). He is also survived by five grandchildren, Allen, Amanda, Jake, Dawson, and Eli; and his brothers, William

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Burdette Kicker and Michael Bates Kicker. He is preceded in death by one son, Thomas Henry Kicker, III and one sister, Mary Jane Kicker. If desired, memorial contributions may be made to the Mission Fund at Gardendale First Baptist Church.

Fred S. Moore Jr. (Alabama Power Company) passed away on September 24, 2018. He is survived by his youngest son Kevin Manning Moore. He was preceded in death by his wife Jean Manning Moore, eldest son Fred S. Moore III, his father, Fred S. Moore, Sr. and mother Jean Manning Moore. If you wish to donate in Fred's memory donations can be made to Children's Hospital of Birmingham.

Robert Emerson "Bob" Patrick, (Southern Company Services), passed away on September 18, 2018. Bob is survived by his wife of 54 years Emma Laura Barron Patrick, his three sons Robert (Bobby) and his wife Kelly, Michael and his wife Monica, and Frank and his wife Beth, nine grandchildren Robert Patrick III, Gunnar, and Ann Kelly; MJ and Luke; Yeadon, Amelia, Colin, and Emma Patrick. He was predeceased by his parents Dorothy and Harry Patrick. The family requests memorials in his honor to Mountain Brook Baptist Church.

Thomas Clinton Shepherd passed away on Thursday, October 4, 2018. Thomas was a resident of Alabama at the time of passing. He graduated from Mississippi State University in Mechanical Engineering.

From Family and Friends

"Dear SCS/SNC Retirees,

Thank you very much for your donation in **Richard's** memory to the Building Fund at Springville First United Methodist Church. He was very excited knowing that the debt is close to being paid off. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

Barbara Colby"

HELP!!! - We need help identifying these 1948 Employees

We've received a request to identify these men in one of our pictures of SCS employees from 1948. If you know any of these men (pictured below), please let us know, or submit a comment on our web page at scsretirees.com.

One comment has already been received as follows: Man, on the left end of the front row is possibly Alton Brinson and the man in the middle of the front row is possibly K. W. Boyles. If you can confirm this or know any of the other men, please let us know. **THANKS!**





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LET'S CELEBRATE!!! IT'S TIME FOR OUR RETIREES HOLIDAY LUNCHEON! PLEASE JOIN US!!!

MEETING DETAILS:

Date: November 14th, 2018
Location: Vestavia Country Club
400 Beaumont Drive

Birmingham, AL 35216

Time: 11:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.

(Sign In/Social Hour begins at 11:00 a.m.; Seated luncheon begins at

noon.)

Entertainment will be provided by Marc Phillips (formerly in popular Birmingham hit bands *Hotel* and *Split the Dark)* playing holiday songs.

MENU

Creole Fried Turkey Breast W/Cornbread Dressing Bourbon Sweet Potato Mash Autumn Succotash Tossed Salad Chocolate Meringue and Key Lime Tarts Rolls Coffee, Tea, Water

PROGRAM DETAILS:

We will be presenting checks to selected charities. The Nominating Committee will present the 2019 slate of officers and directors.

We are delighted to offer holiday entertainment by a performer already familiar to many of you! Marc Phillips will play and sing holiday songs. A renowned musician, composer and performer, Marc is recognized for his contributions to music with the popular Birmingham hit bands *Hotel* and *Split The Dark*. Following a critical bout with throat cancer, he practices his faith serving as worship leader for two Birmingham churches.



available entitled "Pouring It Out On Me". This book can be ordered from <u>crestpublishers.co</u>, iTunes and Amazon. You can now purchase his CD "Color Me His" and his "Sounds Like Christmas" CD on iTunes and CD Baby.

Marc has a book that is now

Proverbs 3:5 - 6

You can also get both "Hotel" albums on one CD and the "Split The Dark" album, "Keep It To Yourself", on CD, all remastered directly from Marc Phillips.

http://www.marcphillipsmusic.com/marcs-music.html



Official Date: November 11 every year. In 2018, Veterans Day falls on a Sunday (as a result, it will be officially observed as a federal holiday this year on Monday, Nov. 12).

Its original name: Armistice Day. The "armistice" or agreement signed between the Allies and Germany that ended World War I called for the cessation of all hostilities to take effect at 11 a.m. on the eleventh day of the eleventh month of the year in 1918. One year later, on Nov. 11, 1919, the first Armistice Day was celebrated in the U.S.

In 1938, a Congressional act established Armistice Day an annual legal holiday. In 1945, World War II veteran Raymond Weeks first proposed the idea of expanding the holiday to one honoring veterans of all U.S. wars. In 1954, the holiday legally became known as Veterans Day. (In 1982, President

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Ronald Reagan presented Alabama resident Weeks with the Presidential Citizenship Medal in recognition of his efforts in creating Veterans Day).

In 1968, the same Congressional act that established Memorial Day moved Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October every year. That law took effect in 1971. Just four years later, in 1975, President Gerald Ford -- citing the original date's "historic and patriotic significance" -- signed a bill redesignating November 11 as Veterans Day every year.



- Halloween celebrates the Christian holiday of All Hallows Eve (followed by All Saints Day on November 1). But the Christian holiday is likely rooted in the Celtic holiday, Samhein, or a number of other pre-Christian harvest festivals.
- In Great Britain, Jack-O-Lanterns are traditionally made from turnips. The Halloween custom came to American through Irish immigrants, and since turnips weren't cheap state-side, Americans used pumpkins. Today, pumpkins are used worldwide, to the disappointment of turnip farmers everywhere.
- The Jack-O-Lantern tradition comes from another Celtic tale. Jack tricked the Devil into paying for his drink, so the Devil gave Jack a hellish ember. But crafty Jack placed the ember safely into a turnip, which he carved and carried with him to scare away any future hellish encounters.
- Pumpkin carving in bulk is a popular Guinness World Record. The proud Halloween enthusiasts of Highwood, Illinois took the record in 2011 with 30,919 simultaneously lit Jack-O-Lanterns.
- Trick or Treating has a short history. In 19th century Scotland and Ireland, there is some record of children travelling door-to-door praying for souls or performing for money or

- cakes on All Hallows Eve. The tradition is a short step from the medieval practice of souling, in which beggars went door to door on October 31 to pray for souls in return for food.
- Sugar rationing in Europe and America from WWI and WWII kept kids off candy until the late 1940s. Radio programs at the time joked that children would have to explain to adults what trick or treating was, and many adult groups opposed the practice as it encouraged extortion and begging.
- A 1951 Peanuts comic strip can be credited with the popular spread of trick or treating as we know it nationwide. So, dress up as Snoopy if you want to be historically accurate.
- Oh, and candy-makers are pretty happy about the fact that Halloween is a \$6 billion industry.



SO MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR!!!

Thanksgiving, currently celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November by federal legislation in 1941, has been an annual tradition in the United States by presidential proclamation since 1863 and by state legislation since the Founding Fathers of the United States. Historically, Thanksgiving has traditionally been a celebration of the blessings of the year, including the harvest. What Americans call the "Holiday Season" generally begins with Thanksgiving.

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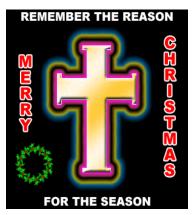
Humor – The Best Medicine! (these one liners are corny but good)

- 1. If you cross mistletoe with a duck, do you get a Christmas quaker?
- 2. You can tell Santa is a man, because no woman would ever wear the same outfit every year.
- 3. Are people who are scared of Father Christmas Claustrophobic.
- 4. Mary and Joseph had a stable relationship, didn't they?
- 5. Christmas is just like a day at the office: you do all the hard work and the fat guy in the suit gets all the credit.
- 6. The three stages of man: 1. He believes in Santa. 2. He doesn't believe in Santa. 3. He *is* Santa.
- 7. Did you hear about the dyslexic devil worshipper who sold his soul to Santa?
- 8. Are Santa's elves just a bunch of subordinate Clauses?
- 9. The best Christmas present I ever got was a broken drum you just can't beat it.
- 10. If you ate Christmas decorations would you get tinselitis?
- 11. Did you know the Christmas alphabet only has 25 letters there's Noel.
- 12. If Santa ran out of money, would he be Saint Nickel-less?









2018 Leadership

Officers

President Jim Blackmon - 205-980-9852 Vice-President: Teresa McCrillis- 912-293-4247 Treasurer: Fred Ehrensperger - 205-655-2725 Secretary: Peggy Burdeshaw - 205-608-9636

Directors

John Brandt - 205-956-0502 Walt Dean - 205-879-5775 Jack Goertz - 205-991-7766 Jim Gordy - 205-290-2186 Dennis Read - 205-879-6617

John McCoy (Ex-Officio) 205-285-4843

Committee Chairs

Arrangements: Doris Hardy - 205-426-2435

Audit: OPEN

Fellowship: Donna Johnson -205-979-1136

Jackie Imbusch - 205-991-8472

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: Amy Houston -

bchgrayton@aol.com

Website: Cary Campbell - 205-641-9137 E-mail socosncretirees@gmail.com

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

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