

#### Volume 32, March - April 2019 No. 2

# 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:

Aren't you glad our taste for different experiences change over the years?

I never thought I would be a NASCAR fan. Over 30 years ago when I lived in Vidalia, Georgia a couple of my dearest friends, Lisa and Johnny, were avid NASCAR fans. They tried desperately to 'convert' me. They always wanted to discuss their favorite driver and his actions on and off the track. My answer was always, "What is so exciting about watching a bunch of cars drive around in a circle? Right?" I even went one year, to the Atlanta Motor Speedway. Talk about boring! It was hot! A wreck on the other side of the course just meant, to me, that the cars weren't running. Did I mention boring?

Well, a couple of years ago my significant other, John, took me to Talladega. As we all have learned, sometimes the timing of new experiences determines our mindset. During my next go around with racing (pun intended), John informed me that, of course, you need a headset to hear the play-byplay. Boy were my eyes opened! Listening to the drivers talk to the spotters and to the crew chiefs made this monotonous sport as entertaining as anything I'd ever seen. The driver is the one that typically gets the credit for winning at the end of a race, but his spotter deserves a lot of the credit. The spotter is the one who is standing on the very top of the grandstand and telling the driver to pass, which lane to take, and how close he is to other drivers, allowing the driver to concentrate on driving.

I know I've simplified this, but I did so to make a point. Within our lifetimes we all have either had spotters or been spotters for someone else. I can sit and reflect now on those people in my life who have provided a pathway for me to follow or led by example, oftentimes never knowing I was paying attention. At this time in my life I hope that I have also been a spotter for someone, and that my actions are worthy of being a guide for others. I believe the friends I have met in this organization are all spotters for me. Our life experiences are what make each of us unique and such a great inspiration to others. Thank you for being my spotter. And if you see me one day at Talladega, I will certainly have on my own headset.

#### **Teresa McCrillis**

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



# <u> MARCH - APRIL SCS/SNC MEMBERS' BIRTHDAY LIST</u>

#### March Birthdays:

1 Pam Carr 1 Edwin C. Polke Jr. 1 Kevin Clay Riley 2 George McCov 2 Ann White 3 David Busby 3 Pat Goodman 4 John Jansen 4 Rita Townsend 4 Rusty Williams 6 Kerry Bowers 6 Kenneth Horton 7 Linda Katz 7 Clara Pierce Posey 8 Meridee Gibson 9 Mona Sims 10 Jerald Dilge 10 Mark Kuester 10 Diane Long 11 William S. Burleson 11 Bill Nicholson 11 Mary Sue Thornburgh 12 Harry Durden, Jr. 12 Billy Goforth. Jr. 12 James Robert Schauer 12 Bruce Thomas 12 Sid Varagona 14 Shellie Fred Hollis, Jr. 15 Phillip McCullough 16 Barbara Cole 16 Robert Conrv 16 Martha Cook 17 Ronald King **18 Robert Bruce Hinshaw** 18 Patsy Schmith 19 Pat Bowman 19 Keith Wallace

#### March Birthdays (Cont'):

20 Ronnie Antone 20 Julie A. Collier 21 Frank Black 21 Perry W. Griffin 21 Rosalyn Kennedy 21 Robert M. Moore 21 Stanley Ready 23 Peggy Burdeshaw 23 Anne Campbell 23 Lionel Copeland 23 Larry White 24 Daniel Blackwood 24 John Horn 25 Thomas Langford 27 Jose Cantu 27 Barbara Etling 27 Florence Stewart 29 Amy Houston 29 Barbara Jones 29 Thomas H. Nesbit 30 Steve Logan 31 David Maxwell 31 Shannon Sampson

#### April Birthdays:

3 Mike McLeod
3 Richard Mealins
3 William Porteous, Jr.
3 Ken Turner
4 Barry Borders
4 Vicky Garner
4 Matthew D. Holt
5 Jim Cofield
5 Ramachandra Reddy
5 Jean Shaw
7 Gayas Ahmed
7 Jeanette Crane

#### April Birthdays (Cont'd):

7 Shirley Dickson 7 Terry Patko 8 Jan Dvle 8 Ken Kopecky 8 Stokely Morgan 10 Richard Federico 10 Keith Legg 10 Tony Koski 10 Kimberly G. Matthews 10 Devida Moore 11 Nancy Carr 11 Henry Garrett 11 Suzan Goertz 12 John McCoy III 12 Al Nebrig, Jr. 13 Carl Watts 15 Benny S. Butler **15 Tommy Collins** 15 Larry Farrow 17 Danny K. Burnette 17 Mary Fleck 18 Jack Goertz 18 Catherine Nick 18 Cathy Smoke **19 Dennis Jones** 19 Brenda Kyle 21 Walter Lee Appling 21 Ifti Rana 21 Judy Sanford 22 Don Irvin 22 Lou Ann Kaster 22 Deborah Riley 23 Cathy Murray 23 Billy Ray Pickens 24 William Waites 26 Rachel Adkinson 27 James Baldone 27 Robin Miner 28 Ronald Bush 28 Ken Moonev 28 Robert Stewart 29 Judith Heatherly 29 Cheryl Tanniehill 30 Joyce Ehrensperger 30 Deanna Fields 30 Bill Garner 30 Gregory Heck 30 Patricia Jarrel 30 Edward Moreland 30 Linda Stephens

#### **OBITUARIES**

Rhonda Horne Cook, age 60 of Birmingham, passed away on Monday, January 7, 2019. She was preceded in death by her parents Johnie & Lucille Horne, grandparents John William and Mary M. Horne, James Robert and Priesley S. Bailey, sister in law Ginger S. Cook and a host of aunts and uncles. She is survived by her husband Eldridge Cook, brother Ron (Janice) Horne, brother in law M. Paul Cook, niece Bethany (Chris) Miree, nephew David (Kim) Whaley, great nieces Lucy Miree and Madelyn Whaley and great nephews Christian and Grayson Whaley also a host of cousins.

Douglas Langston McCrary passed away after a short illness on January 5, 2019. He was preceded in death by his son, Mark Lynn McCrary; his mother, Daisye Langston McCrary and his father, Jewel Watson McCrary. He is survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Sara Hicks McCrary; his daughter, Laura McCrary Gasser (John); his son, Charles Douglas McCrary (Phyllis); two grandsons Douglas Lang McCrary (Lisa) and Alex Brantley McCrary (Sara Kathryn) and 5 adoring great grandchildren, Lucille Rae, Samantha Jane, Margot Leighton, Ann Brantley and Charles Langston McCrary; his siblings, Dorothy McCrary Purcell, brother, Jewel Rexford McCrary (Camille) and Mary Ellen Nunnelly (Thomas) and numerous nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

#### FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS

"The family of **Robert Emerson Patrick**, **Sr.** deeply appreciates your kind expression of love and thoughtfulness. Please express my thanks to all the retirees. Blessings on you all.

Love, Emma Laura Patrick"



# From Family and Friends (Cont'd):

"Dear SCS/SNC Retirees,

Thank you so much for your generous donation to **Friends of the Hoover Public Library.** The donation will be passed on to the Hoover Library to support programs not covered by their regular budget - Children's Reading Program, Adult Reading Program, and Southern Voices - and to sponsor cultural and literary programs for the community.

We are blessed to have a great Library in Hoover and appreciate your support of our organization.

Thank You!

Theresa Reed 2nd Vice President, Membership"

 $\star \star \star \star$ 

"Dear SCS/SNC Retirees,

Thank you for your gift to Shades Mountain Baptist Church in memory of Thomas. I am touched by your kindness.

Ruth Shepherd"

# **REMINDER** Don't forget to "Spring Forward"

# MARCH 10, 2019!!!



# 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 also 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 email address. This newsletter is **YOUR** newsletter and we truly appreciate all contributions.

Rick and Charlotte Graham dricharlo@gmail.com



Have you seen the Iron play, yet? Your last chance will be Sunday, March 31 at 3:00 at Legion Field (aka the Old Gray Lady). Tickets for our group are as follows:

Section 32 (upper level) - \$15.00 (normally \$21.00) OR Section 31 (lower level) - \$25.00

Parking is \$8 and concession stands will have gameday food and beverages. <u>Retirees please</u> plan to sit together in Sections 31 or 32. Just buy your ticket online at:

#### iron.spinzo.com/southerncompany

Ken McElroy attended the first Iron game on Sunday, February 10 (report below).





On Sunday, February 10 the

Birmingham Iron beat the Memphis Express at Legion Field 26-0. This was the Iron's first game and the debut week of the Alliance of American Football League. It was good football; not quite the NFL level, but there was lots of speed and skill on the field. The Iron's quarterback is Luis Perez and he put up a solid performance. Luis was a real Division 2 standout at Texas A&M - Commerce and was recently cut by the LA Rams. Trent Richardson, former Alabama star and NFL player, carried the ball for the Iron. His performance was so-so; he scored the first touchdown but left the ball on the ground later. Overall, the Iron looked good. Punting and kicking was solid also.

Rules vary slightly from the NFL and I really like the way the game moved along. Sixty minutes of football took less than three hours. Tickets, beer, and parking was very reasonable.

Ken McElroy

# MARCH RETIREE MEETING

MEETING DETAILS:

Date:	March 11, 2019
Location:	SCS/SNC Offices at the Colonnade
:	3535 Colonnade Parkway
	Birmingham, AL 35243
Room:	South Tower Auditorium ***
Time:	1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Program:	Keynote Speaker- Astronaut Dr.
_	Larry DeLucas
Topic:	"A Career in Science: Expect the
-	Unexpected"

\*\*\* Please note <u>we have moved our meeting</u> <u>location to the SOUTH Tower, Auditorium.</u> This should be more convenient as it is located on the same floor as the security desk where you will sign in. The cafeteria is on the floor above the auditorium.

<u>Please allow ample time to find parking and sign in</u> <u>at the **South Tower**.</u> You will be given a temporary <u>parking pass at gate</u>. The Alabama Power Company (APCO) Credit Union is on the first floor of the North Tower.

#### PROGRAM SUMMARY

We are delighted to have as Keynote Speaker Dr. Larry DeLucas who flew on the Columbia Space Shuttle as a NASA payload specialist astronaut. Dr. DeLucas will discuss some of his structural biology research projects and biotechnology inventions. He will describe how he began working with NASA performing microgravity protein crystallization experiments on the US Space Shuttle. He will also describe his experience flying in 1992 on the Columbia Space Shuttle as a NASA payload specialist astronaut. This will include a review of his selection by NASA, the required twoyear training program, the launch, landing and research performed on his 14-day mission. Dr. DeLucas' presentation will conclude with a summary of current research underway on the International Space Station and NASA's plans for a future astronaut mission to Mars.



Larry, Bio DeLucas, Bio

Dr. DeLucas is a Principal Scientist at the Aerospace Corporation. He was previously a Professor in the School of Optometry, Senior Scientist and Director of the Comprehensive Cancer Center X-ray Core Facility, and Director of the Center for Structural Biology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB). Dr. DeLucas received five degrees from UAB culminating in a Doctor of Optometry degree and a Ph.D. degree in Biochemistry. He also received honorary Doctor of Science degrees from the Ohio State University, Ferris State University, SUNY College of Optometry and the Illinois College of Optometry.

He has published more than 160 peer-reviewed research articles in various scientific journals, coauthored and edited several books on protein crystal growth and membrane proteins and is a coinventor on 43 patents involving protein crystal growth, novel biotechnologies and structure-based drug design.

DeLucas was a member of the 7-person crew of Space Shuttle Columbia for Mission "STS-50" called the United States Microgravity Laboratory-1 (USML-1) Spacelab mission. Columbia launched on June 25, 1992, returning on July 9. He traveled more than 6 million miles, completing 221 orbits of earth and logging over 331 hours in space. From 1994 to 1995, Dr. DeLucas served as the Chief Scientist for the International Space Station at NASA Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Dr. DeLucas was the Recipient of the Dean's Award for Excellence in Mentorship in the UAB Graduate School (April 2015), an Inductee as a Fellow in the National Academy of Inventors (December 2013), and Recipient of the Odessa Woolfolk Community Service Award for his outstanding community and educational outreach activities (2012). He received the honorary Alumnus Award, Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (January 28, 2010), at UAB (to recognize outstanding alumni and scholarship recipients in the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics) and in 2004 he was recognized as a Top Ten Finalist for the Entrepreneur of the Year award from the Birmingham Business Journal.

#### RETIREE LIFESTYLE SEGMENT



Our March 11 Retiree Lifestyle segment will feature a brief overview of Birmingham Legion FC League, the new professional soccer team kicking off their inaugural season March 9 (website <u>https://www.bhmlegion.com/</u>).

SCS/SNC Retirees have a special connection to star player Chandler Hoffman—the first player signed to Birmingham Legion FC. The two-time All-USL standout forward and Birmingham's native son is the son of Jon Hoffman, manager in Southern Company Services IT SNC Applications group.

As those who have children and grandchildren in youth sports can attest, reaching the professional level is a decades-long, grueling process involving the entire family in the exhilaration, discipline, and grit required. One youth league soccer parent recalled that "Even as a 10-year-old player, Chandler was exceptional, just thrilling to watch. His parents Jon and Angie were dedicated to developing his athletic skills, but more importantly to guiding his character".

Birmingham Legion FC described Chandler's soccer career and character thusly for his initial introductory appearance here:

After leading Oak Mountain High School to two state champions (2007-2008), Chandler was standout forward at UCLA from 2009-2011. Hoffman went on to have a stellar professional career, earning a bevy of club and individual honors. The Birmingham native won an MLS Cup with the LA Galaxy in 2014. He has twice been named to the USL All-League First Team (2014, 2017) and is the fastest player in modern history to tally 50 USL regular-season goals.

Legion FC president and general manager Jay Heaps, said "Chandler has played at the highest professional levels in the US. He is not only a proven winner on the field, he is a player with great character. As a captain of his current team, we expect Chandler to be a leader both on and off the field in 2019 and beyond."

The Birmingham Legion's inaugural game is Saturday March 9 at 6:00 pm at UAB's BBVA Compass Field versus Bethlehem Steel FC. Season continues through October 20, see schedule at:

https://www.bhmlegion.com/schedule-2019 .



#### Who Was Saint Patrick?

Was there really a St. Patrick? Definitely! Did he really drive the snakes out of Ireland? Probably not, since snakes weren't native to Ireland.

St. Patrick was born in Britain as Maewyn Succat. At age 16 (around AD 400), he was kidnapped from his home on the west coast and carried off to Ireland to become a slave who worked as a shepherd. After six years, he escaped; upon returning home, he received his call (in a dream) to preach the Gospel. He spent the next 15 or so years in a monastery, preparing for his missionary work. When he became a priest, his name was changed to Patricius, and eventually, Patrick. Although some Christians lived in Ireland at that time, it was Patrick who spread Christianity throughout the land and brought an organized church into existence.

#### Facts, Fun and Folklore:

Blue was the color originally associated with St. Patrick, but green is now favored.

St. Patrick's Day is the traditional day for planting peas.

Cabbage seeds are often planted today, too, and old-time farmers believed that to make them grow well, you needed to plant them while wearing your nightclothes



#### What is Easter Sunday?

Easter is the most important holiday on the Christian calendar – and has been regularly observed from the earliest days of the Church.

Easter Sunday celebrates Christ's resurrection from the dead, following crucifixion. It marks the end of Holy Week, the end of Lent, and the last day of the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday), as well as the beginning of the Easter season of the liturgical year.

#### Where Did the Word "Easter" Come From?

The origin of the word "Easter" is unclear.

It may have derived its name from the Anglo-Saxon dawn goddess Eostre, whose feast was celebrated

#### Where Did the Word Easter" Come From? (Cont'd):

each spring at about this time. Or, it may have derived from the words meaning "rising", "dawn", or "east."





# Humor – the BEST medicine!!!

Never criticize someone until you have walked a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you'll be a mile away, and you'll have their shoes.

#### And Some Random Thoughts:

I changed my car horn to gunshot sounds. People get out of the way much faster now.

I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes five years in a row.

I decided to stop calling the bathroom the "John" and renamed it the "Jim". I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.

When I was a child, I thought nap time was a punishment. Now it feels like a small vacation.

The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down; I'll remember it."



- When parking on the north side of the church, please remember to park on an angel.
- This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Jones to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.
- Let us join David and Lisa in the celebration of their wedding and bring their happiness to a conclusion.
- The beautiful flowers on the altar this morning are to celebrate the birth of David Alan Belzer, the sin of Rev. and Mrs. Julius Belzer.
- The Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 P.M. Please use the back door.
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our congregation.
- We pray that our people will jumble themselves.
- The sermon this morning: Gossip: The Speaking of Evil. The closing song: I love to tell the story.

# JUST FOR THE" PUN OF IT"!!!

# Puns for Quick Minds...

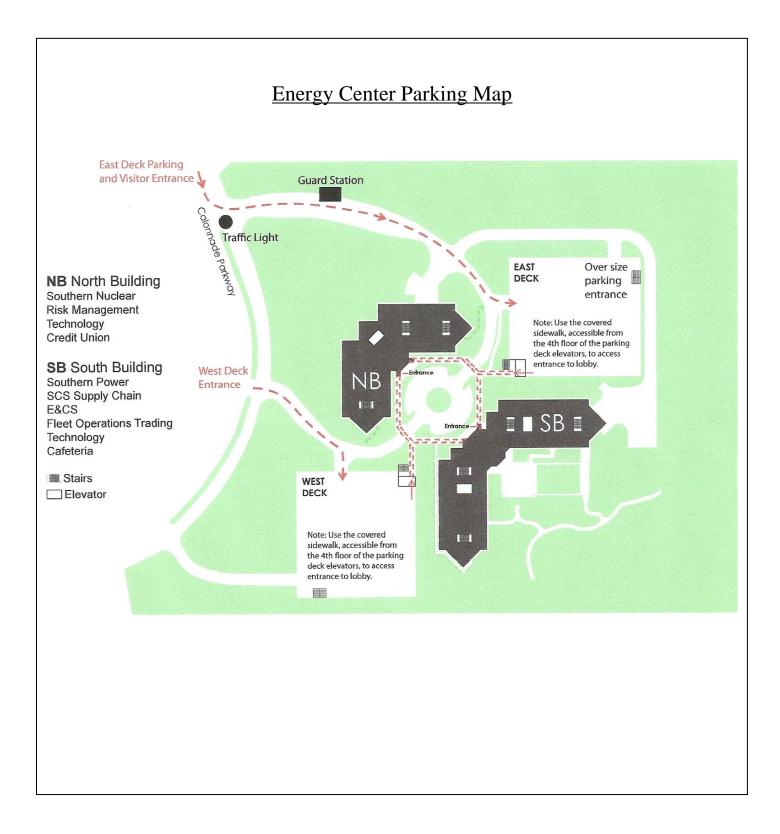
- The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
- I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
- She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.
- A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

#### Just for the "Pun of It" (Cont'd):

- No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
- A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
- A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
- Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
- A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.
- > Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
- Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: You stay here; I'll go on a head.
- I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.
- > A backward poet writes inverse.
- In a democracy it's your vote that counts. In feudalism it's your count that votes.
- A vulture boards an airplane, carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at him and says, I'm sorry, sir, only one carrion allowed per passenger.
- Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.
- Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, I've lost my electron. The other says Are you sure? The first replies, Yes, I'm positive.
- Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal? His goal: transcend dental medication.
- There was the person who sent ten puns to friends, with the hope that at least one of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.

# SCS OUTSIDE

March - April 2019



## 2018 Leadership

# Officers

President:	Teresa McCrillis- 912-293-4247
Vice-President:	Deanna McCombs - 205-915-9448
Treasurer:	Fred Ehrensperger - 205-655-2725
Secretary:	Ken McElroy – 205-907-6011

# **Directors**

Tallulah DeMarco	205-414-1790
Jack Goertz	205-991-7766
Doris Hardy	205-426-2435
Jim Gordy	205-290-2186
Charlotte Graham	205-440-7935
Rick Graham	205-807-1890
Jim Blackmon (Ex-Of	ficio) 205-980-9852

# **Committee Chairs**

Arrangements	: Sharon Venz	205-482-6836
-	Mary Romano	205-979-1486
Audit:	Dennis Read	205-879-6617
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@	<u>gmail.com</u>

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

# MEETING DETAILS:

When:	March 11, 2019
Where:	SCS/SNC Offices at the Colonnade
	3535 Colonnade Parkway
	Birmingham, AL 35242
Time:	1:00 p.m.