

Volume 32, May - June 2019

No. 3

#### 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:**

April Showers bring May Flowers! What do May Flowers bring???

Can you believe it, it is already May! Where has time gone? Hopefully all of you are so 'over' tax season and ready for Cinco De Mayo. I was looking at a calendar for the Month of May and was surprised at all the important dates in May. The 5<sup>th</sup> of May is a relatively minor holiday in Mexico celebrating the date the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War. Cinco de Mayo in the United States has evolved into a commemoration of Mexican culture and heritage. So Happy Cinco De Mayo everyone!

May 12<sup>th</sup> is Mother's Day. Have you ever googled Mother's Day? Interesting, it was created by a lady named, Anna Jarvis in honor of her mother. Once it was officially recognized by Congress in 1911, Anna was so resentful of the commercialization of the holiday that in 1925 she was arrested for disturbing the peace. So, in honor of Anna Jarvis, send a personal note to that special Mother in your life,

whether it be your mother, the mother of your children or the mother of your grandchildren.

May 15<sup>th</sup> is National Chocolate Chip day. Need I say more?

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, we pay tribute to the men and women of the Armed Forces by celebrating National Armed Forces Day. The first official Armed Forces Day was celebrated in 1950 with over 10,000 veterans and troops in Washington, D.C. It wasn't made a national holiday until 1961. Take the time to thank a veteran for their service on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

National Wine day is May 25th, again need I say more?

We celebrate Memorial Day on May 27<sup>th</sup>. We honor the people who have died while serving in the United States Armed forces. I have had the privilege of visiting the Normandy American Cemetery in France ten years ago and a couple of years ago, I also visited Arlington National Cemetery. If you've never had the opportunity to visit either one, I suggest you put it on your bucket list. I'm not sure how you walk away from either and think of Memorial Day as just another holiday. Every day our lives are made better because of the sacrifices of those who came before us.

So back to the beginning. What do May flowers bring? Pilgrims, of course!

Happy May. Hope to see you all at our May luncheon.

Teresa



## MAY - JUNE SCS/SNC MEMBERS' BIRTHDAY LIST

## **May Birthdays:**

- 2 Michael Eidson
- 3 Patricia Phillips
- 3 Randy Pike
- 3 Jane Tingle
- 4 Bill Burmeister
- 4 Kenneth Burr
- 4 Jim Corbitt
- 4 Norma Young
- 5 Charles Lee Vest
- 5 Karen Vest
- 6 Jeffrey A. Morrow
- 7 Jo Benson
- 7 Donald Mansfield
- 7 Cary Martin
- 8 Rhonda McGill
- 9 John Adkins
- 9 Dale Wyatt
- 10 Clarence A. Rice
- 10 Wandra Wyatt
- 11 George Lacey
- 11 Mary Knobeloch
- 11 Rosanne Powers
- 12 Thomas Austin
- 12 Donna Folker
- 12 Faye Patterson
- 13 Rick Graham
- 13 Judy Irvin
- 13 Mary Sue Ludwig
- 13 Robert Markham
- 14 Rickv Allen Jr.
- 14 Victor Doss
- 15 Elaine Chambers
- 15 Douglas Farris
- 15 John Morrow
- 16 Dianne McCoy
- 16 Cindy Patton
- 17 Margaret O'Brien
- 17 Gary Vincent

## May Birthdays (Cont'd):

- 18 Glen Lippincott
- 19 Linda Griggs
- 19 Judy King
- 21 Sam Morris
- 21 George Hairston III
- 21 Debbie Rice
- 21 Roy Shanlever
- 23 Gene Byars
- 23 Marvin Leon Noland
- 24 Charles Kyle Brown
- 24 Felisa Hsu
- 24 Leighton H. Mays
- 24 Pam McCleod
- 26 Sam Bowman
- 27 Helen Robin
- 27 Stephen B. Smith
- 27 Patsy Wall
- 28 Steve Leonard
- 29 Joe Katz, Jr.
- 30 Jim Black
- 30 Marcia Edmundson
- 30 Tonya B. Hipps
- 30 Robin Posev
- 31 Bob Gilbert

#### June Birthdays:

- 1 Diane Adams
- 1 Karen Edwards
- 1 Rebecca Harris
- 1 Janice Luster
- 3 Warren Glover
- 3 Theda Griffith
- 3 Joyce Hickman
- 3 Wayne H. Roper
- 4 William Newman
- 4 Bobby Williams
- 6 Cary Campbell

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

- 6 Linda Shepard
- 6 Walter Henry Sims
- 7 Alvin Joel Connor
- 7 Peggy Howard
- 8 John Brandt
- 8 Duane Brock
- 9 Jakki Herrin
- 9 Jim Newton
- 10 Michael Nelson
- 10 Preston Willis
- 10 Deborah L. Wright
- 11 Catherine Heinzerling
- 11 Jerry Smith
- 11 Carrie Woodard
- 12 John Adrian
- 12 Mary Dougherty
- 12 Candace Rayfield
- 13 Mitch Amick
- 13 Malek Barroody
- 14 Anna Garlington
- 14 William Marlar
- 14 Mary Murphree
- 14 John Thies
- 14 Bob Winter
- 15 Miriam Durden
- 16 Mike Burns
- 16 Jose Espada
- 16 Alvin Harris
- 16 Beverly Robinson
- 17 Adel Alapour
- 17 Ronald Bryan
- 17 Margaret Morris
- 17 Melinda Moslev
- 17 Joe Powell
- 17 Alice Wells
- 19 Joseph Mau
- 20 Charles F. Barefield
- 20 Keith Calhoun
- 20 Diane Cocherell
- 20 Nell Larson
- 20 Glenda Sanders
- 20 Wayne Walton
- 21 George Edwards
- 21 John Heatherly
- 21 Charley Long
- 21 Dan Summers
- 21 Lakshmi Reddy
- 22 Ray Bailey
- 23 Keith Fowler

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

- 23 Jack Woodward
- 24 Clarence Fleck
- 24 Frank Segars
- 25 Richard Patton
- 25 Julie Polke
- 26 Nancy Adrian
- 26 Mickie Bryan
- 26 Jeri Corbitt
- 26 Donald Mooney
- 27 Gary Chambers
- 27 Kate Newman
- 28 Ron G. Cocherell
- 29 Judy Coggin
- 29 Janet Thompson
- 30 Susan Burmeister
- 30 Gayle Busby
- 30 Ken Fondren
- 30 Marty Turnage

#### **OBITUARIES**

Robert Earl "Bob" Dunn, age 92, died peacefully at his home in Birmingham after a long illness on Monday, February 25. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur Earl and Minnie Lee Nix Dunn and his wife of 50 years, Anne Williams Dunn. He is survived by three children, all of Birmingham: Robert L. Dunn, Paul Dunn (Mimi), and Ginny Dunn Curtis (Scott) and four grandchildren: Mitchell Curtis; Emily, Hunter, and Livy Dunn. The family suggests that in lieu of flowers any memorials be made to the charity of your choice.

John Whit Hargett, age 88, of Birmingham, AL, passed away on March 2. He was preceded in death by his wife Lillie Mae, his father, mother, three brothers and two sisters. He is survived by two daughters, Cheryl Mason Macomber of Huntsville and Norma Jean Bascovsky of Oakdale, PA; three grandchildren Amanda Brooks, John and Sharon Bascovsky, three great-grandchildren Danielle Blake, Nicholas Goodbread and Jessica Bascovsky, and sister Carol Burns of Clearwater, FL.

#### Obituaries (Cont'd):

Richard Jerome McRee, age 91, native and lifelong resident of the Birmingham, AL, passed away Sunday, February 24, 2019. Richard was predeceased by his parents, James Fred McRee, Sr. and Mary Cleveland Anderson McRee. Survivors include Richard's wife, Mary Sue; two daughters, Vickie McRee Rutherford (Bruce) of Douglasville, GA and Leigh Ann Corvin (Bruce) of Clay, AL; one son, Kent McRee (Laura) of Frisco, TX; and grandchildren, Kimberly Texidor (Manuel) of Conroe, TX, Kristie Hamby (Josh) of Apex, NC, and Nathan Corvin of Clay; great-grandchildren, Olivia, Isaac, and Aaron Texidor all three of Conroe, and Luke Hamby of Apex.

James E. O'Brien, (SCS Telecommunications) passed away on February 9. Memorials can be sent to Crestway Baptist Church, 6400 Crestwood Boulevard, Birmingham, AL 35212.

#### FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS

"Thank you for your contribution in the amount of \$1,000. Because of your love, prayers and financial support of this ministry, we are able to reach the world for Christ thru music, the arts and outreach. The ministry offers assistance to senior citizens as well as families with children."

Daniel Cason, KIDS Ministry





## The Birmingham Iron

Sadly, the Alliance of American Football (AAF) folded and the Birmingham Iron and the other seven teams suspended football operations after lasting just eight weeks! This is the fifth or sixth time a professional football team has failed in Birmingham. Reasons for the abrupt ending are not completely clear but may be related to a standoff with the NFL Players' Association about allowing active NFL players (and/or practice squad players) into the league. The AAF never intended to compete with the NFL and tied at least some of its viability to be a developmental league. This shutdown is very unfortunate......

## <u>BUT</u>

We still have our professional soccer club!!



## The Birmingham Legion

As we heard in our last meeting, this club began its first professional season on March 10, 2019. The Legion competes in the United Soccer League Championship, the second division of American Soccer. The USL has been around for a few years and has 36 teams - hopefully the Birmingham franchise will be here for a while.

#### YOU REALLY MISSED IT.....

.... if you weren't at our March meeting.

Our Keynote Speaker at our March 11 Retiree Meeting featured Dr. Larry DeLucas. Dr. DeLucas flew on the Columbia Space Shuttle as a NASA payload specialist astronaut. Dr. DeLucas discussed some of his structural biology research projects and biotechnology inventions. He described how he began working with NASA performing microgravity protein crystallization experiments on the US Space Shuttle. He also described his experience flying in 1992 on the Columbia Space Shuttle as a NASA payload specialist astronaut, including a review of his selection by NASA, the required two-year training program, the launch, landing and research performed on his 14-day mission. Dr. DeLucas' presentation concluded with a summary of current research underway on the International Space Station and NASA's plans for a future astronaut mission to Mars.

Below are photos from Dr. Larry DeLucas' presentation. In the first photo, his sister Cindy Deitsch (a project manager with SCS) is standing to his left. He stayed to talk and answer questions with the group until all had a chance to speak with him. What an outstanding program and speaker!!









#### **MAY RETIREE MEETING**

#### **MEETING DETAILS:**

**Date**: May 13, 2019

**Location:** The Club, atop Red Mountain

In the Ballroom. 1 Robert S. Smith Drive Homewood, AL 35209

#### SCHEDULE:

10:45 - 11:45 a.m. Check-in (outside The

Club's Ballroom (ice-water

social time)

11:45 – 12:00 p.m. Luncheon seating

**12:00 – 12:45 p.m.** Luncheon (greetings/

Invocation/pledge)

**12:45 – 1:45 p.m.** Featured Speaker - Tom

Fanning, Chairman, President, and CEO –

Southern Co. Please come

prepared with your

**<u>questions.</u>** (See Page 7 for Mr. Fanning's complete bio.)

1:45 - 2:00 p.m. Door Prizes

**2:00 p.m**. Meeting Adjourns

#### MENU:

Baby Lettuces Salad; Chicken Piccata, Parmesan breaded Chicken Breast over Angel Hair Pasta with Asparagus, French Green Beans and Carrots; your choice of Lemon Chess Pie or Vanilla Crème Brûlée.

#### PROGRAM SUMMARY:

Don't miss this opportunity to hear directly from the top. We are delighted to have Tom Fanning give the Southern Company Executive Update - a presentation on the latest happenings within Southern Company and our industry. Tom is Chairman, President and CEO Southern Company. Many say that Tom is one of the best speakers

they have ever heard: energetic, witty, engaging, entertaining, and informative.

Retirees and their guests will fellowship over a delicious meal in a beautiful setting overlooking the city. As noted in the invitations, reservations are required and must be received by Dora Brandt, with your reservation fee, per person by Tuesday April 30. Any questions call Dora at 205-956-0502, or email Dora at brandtd@bellsouth.net Cancellations accepted up to May 3 by calling Dora.



#### **Southern Company Executive Update**

From leading the nation's new nuclear initiative with two state-of-the-art units in Georgia, adding more than 4,000 megawatts of renewable energy since 2012, and exploring beyond-the-meter customer solutions through PowerSecure and a partnership with Silicon Valley's Bloom Energy, the Southern Company system is the only U.S. energy provider investing in an all-of-the-above approach to America's energy future.

Southern Company is developing the full portfolio of energy resources (nuclear, 21st century coal, natural gas, renewables and energy efficiency), embracing innovative solutions for the benefit of customers and communities and continuing to focus on the fundamentals of providing clean, safe, reliable, affordable energy.

In an online post, Tom notes: "Friday, March 22, marked a significant milestone at the Alvin W. Vogtle Electric Generating Plant near Waynesboro, Georgia. That day I was joined at the Vogtle 3 & 4 nuclear expansion project by U.S. Energy Secretary Rick Perry, Georgia Governor Brian Kemp, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, Georgia Power chairman, president and CEO Paul Bowers, North America's Building Trades Unions president Sean McGarvey, hundreds of workers and special guests to witness the placement of the top of the containment vessel for Unit 3. This accomplishment signifies that all modules and large components have been placed inside the unit." He notes that "significant progress continues at the site, with the project now approximately 75 percent complete.

# Thomas A. (Tom) Fanning

Chairman, President and CEO • Southern Company

Thomas A. (Tom) Fanning is chairman, president and chief executive officer of Southern Company, America's premier energy company. Elected by the board of directors in July 2010, he became president of Southern Company in August 2010, and assumed the additional responsibilities of chairman and CEO in December 2010.

He has worked for Southern Company for more than 38 years and has held 15 different positions in eight different business units, including numerous officer positions with a variety of Southern Company subsidiaries in the areas of finance, strategy, international business development and technology.

Fanning has served as chief operating officer, where he was responsible for Southern Company's generation and transmission, engineering and construction services, research and environmental affairs, system planning and competitive generation business units. He also was responsible for leading Southern Company's efforts on business strategy and served as a director of Southern Nuclear, Southern Company's nuclear plant operating company.

Also, Fanning previously was the company's chief financial officer, where he was responsible for the accounting, finance, tax, investor relations, treasury and risk management functions. In this role, he served as the chief risk officer and had responsibility for corporate strategy. Prior to assuming the role of chief financial officer, Fanning was president and CEO of Gulf Power.

Fanning is co-chair of the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council, which serves as the principal liaison between the federal government and the electric power sector to protect the electric grid from threats that could impact national security, including cyber and physical terrorism as well as natural disasters. He also collaborates with the Tri-Sector Executive Working Group, which was formed by the electricity, finance, and communications sectors to enhance national and economic security by developing a cross-sector strategic framework to address existential threats, risk and consequence management.

His leadership in the cybersecurity area was recognized by the U.S. Senate in 2019 with an appointment to the Cyberspace Solarium Commission, a group developing a protection strategy for the cyberspace interests of the United States.

From 2012-2018, Fanning served on the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and is a past chairman. He also a past chairman of the Conference of Chairs of the Federal Reserve Banks and the Edison Electric Institute (EEI).

Fanning sits on the advisory board of the Georgia Tech Scheller College of Business, the board of trustees of the Georgia Tech Foundation, the board of directors of the Institute of Nuclear Power Operations and the regional governing board of the World Association of Nuclear Operators' Atlanta Centre. He also serves on the board of directors of Vulcan Materials Company and is a member of the Business Roundtable. Fanning also is a member of the international advisory board of the Atlantic Council, which promotes constructive leadership and engagement in international affairs, and the American Energy Innovation Council, a group of America's leading business executives working to build broad bipartisan support for public and private investments in innovation.

Recent accolades include being named CEO of the Year at the 2018 S&P Global Platts Global Energy Awards which honor individuals in the energy industry dedicated to achieving excellence, improving the industry and creating new solutions to better serve customers. He also has been awarded EEI's Distinguished Leadership Award by his industry peers for his significant contributions and commitment to the electric power industry and is the 2018 recipient of the American Football Coaches Foundation's CEO Coach of the Year Award.

Fanning earned bachelor's and master's degrees in industrial management and also was awarded an honorary Doctor of Philosophy degree from Georgia Tech. His executive education includes programs at the International Institute for Management Development in Lausanne, Switzerland, Harvard Business School and the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.



## Significance of Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a holiday celebrated annually on the second Sunday of May (May 12 in 2019). It is a day that commemorates motherhood and appreciates all mothers and mother-figures (including grandmothers, great-grandmothers, stepmothers, and foster mothers) as well as their contribution to society.

The History of Mother's Day dates back to the 19th century, when women's peace groups wiithin the United States often tried to establish holidays and regular activities in favor of peace and against war. A common regular activity was the meeting of groups of mothers whose sons had fought or died in the American Civil War.

In the early 1880s, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Albion set aside the second Sunday in May to recognize the special contributions of mothers. In its present form, Mother's Day was established by Anna Jarvis with the help of John Wanamaker following the death of her mother, Ann Jarvis, on May 9, 1905. The official service was on May 10, 1908, and the next year the day was reported to be widely celebrated in New York.

Jarvis then campaigned to establish Mother's Day as a United States national holiday and then later as an international holiday. The holiday was declared officially by the state of West Virginia in 1910, and the rest of the states quickly followed.



## Significance of Father's Day

Father's Day is a celebration honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society. Many countries celebrate it on the third Sunday of June, though it is also celebrated widely on other days by many other countries.

The nation's first Father's Day was celebrated on June 19, 1910, in the state of Washington. However, it was not until 1972– fifty-eight years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day official – that the day honoring fathers became a nationwide holiday in the United States. Father's Day 2019 occurs on Sunday, June 16.



Flag Day June 14

Flag Day is the day a country celebrates its national flag and holds events related to its flag, such as flag-raising ceremonies, displaying the flag on public buildings and in homes, and holding parades and salutes.

In the United States, National Flag Day is observed annually on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the US flag on June 14, 1777. It is an observance, not a public holiday.

## Flag Day (Cont'd):

Many other countries also observe a flag day, for example:

European Union	May 9	
Australia	September 3	
Canada	February 15	

Each of the four nations that make up the United Kingdom has its own flag day (which coincides with the respective country's saint's day):

<u>England</u>	April 23	<u>St. George's</u> <u>Day</u>
<u>Wales</u>	March 1	St. David's Day
Scotland	November 30	<u>St. Andrew's</u> <u>Day</u>
Northern Ireland	March 17	St. Patrick's Day



# **Humor – the BEST medicine!!!**

- I got called 'pretty' today! Well actually the full statement was "you're pretty annoying' but I only focus on positive things.
- If you weigh 200 pounds on Earth, you'll be only 76 pounds on Mars. You're not overweight, you're just not on the right planet.
- I wonder if clouds ever look down on us and Say "Hey look...that one is shaped like an idiot."



CHURCH SIGNS

- Evening massage 6:00 p.m.
- The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.
- The congregation is asked to remain seated until the end of the recession.
- Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.
- The choir invites any member of the congregation who enjoys sinning to join the choir.
- Our next song is "Angels We Have Heard Get High."
- Church Sign: Jesus Saves! Safeway sign across the street: Safeway saves you more.



## **FOR THE SPORTS FAN**

- In 1963, major league baseball pitcher Gaylord Perry remarked, "They'll put a man on the moon before I hit a home run." On July 20, 1969, an hour after Neil Armstrong set foot on the surface of the moon, Perry hit is first, and only, home run while playing for the San Francisco Giants.
- Retired basketball sensation Michael Jordan makes more money from Nike each year than all the Nike factory workers in Malaysia combined.
- The Olympic flag's colors are always red, black, blue, green, and yellow rings on a field of white. This is because at least one of those colors appears on the flag of every nation on the planet.

## Sports Trivia (Cont'd):

- 4. The average lifespan of a major league baseball: 7 pitches.
- 5. Dueling is legal is Paraguay as long as both parties are registered blood donors.
- 6. All major league baseball umpires must wear black underwear while on the job in case their pants split.
- 7. In 1920, Babe Ruth out-homered every American League team.
- 8. Babe Ruth wore a cabbage leaf under his cap to keep his head cool. He changed it every two innings.
- 9. Every year 56,000,000 people attend major league baseball games.
- 10. In 18th century England, gambling dens employed someone whose job was to swallow the dice if there was a police raid.
- 11. A Costa Rican worker who makes baseballs earns about \$2,750 annually. The average American pro baseball player earns \$2,377,000 per year.
- 12. There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball.

# 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

#### 2018 Leadership

#### **Officers**

President: Teresa McCrillis 912-293-4247 Vice-President: Deanna McCombs 205-915-9448 Treasurer: Fred Ehrensperger 205-655-2725 Ken McElroy Secretary: 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-Officio) 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	
	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: Amy Houston

bchgrayton@aol.com

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

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

## **MEETING DETAILS:**

Time:

When: May 13, 2019

Where: The Club, atop Red Mountain

Ballroom.

1 Robert S. Smith Drive Homewood, AL 35209 10:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.