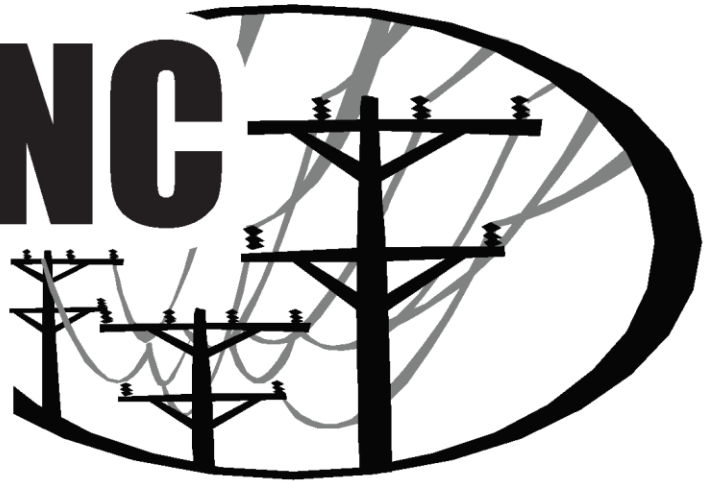


SCS/SNC OUTSIDE



Volume 33, July-August, 2021

No. 4

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.

Summer is in full swing, and there are so many amazing Birmingham events for the whole family to enjoy. From Fourth of July fireworks displays to local performances, concerts, fundraising events and more, we guarantee you'll have a fun-filled month with activities galore. Here are the top 14 events happening in Birmingham this July!

July 4, 2021: Thunder on the Mountain

Watch Vulcan Park and Museum's annual Fourth of July fireworks light up the sky during Thunder on the Mountain. Bring your family and friends, grab a blanket or two, and find the perfect place to watch this spectacular fireworks show that's set to a soundtrack of patriotic tunes. The show begins at 9 p.m., and admission is free to the public,

July 4, 2021: Homewood's July 4th Festival

Downtown Homewood is the place to be this Independence Day as the city hosts its annual July 4th Festival. This night of fun features inflatables, rides, a DJ, and a perfect view of Vulcan's annual fireworks show. Support local businesses, meet others in the community, and enjoy a special night with friends and family as you celebrate the Fourth. Admission is free, and the event begins at 5 p.m.

July 5 – 30, 2021: Camp Fashionista

Do you have a budding fashionista in your life? Local fashion designer and "Project Runway" alum Heidi Elnora hosts her highly anticipated summer camp for children (or grandchildren?) interested in fashion. Attendees learn everything from sewing techniques to runway modeling. Camps take place every week in July and are designed for kids ages 5-13. Camps run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Heidi Elnora Atelier, located on historic Morris Avenue. Registration fees are \$300 per student, per week and include all art supplies and a snack each day.

July 9 – August 1, 2021: Summer Film Series at Alabama Theatre

After a tough year for the historic Alabama Theatre, we're so excited to see the beloved Summer Film Series return. Grab the family and head to one of Birmingham's most iconic theaters to enjoy a classic favorites like *The Princess Bride*, *Singin' in the Rain*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Admission to each movie is \$10. Friday films begin at 7 p.m., and Sunday showings are at 2 p.m.

July 13 – 18, 2021: Birmingham Barons vs. Rocket City Trash Pandas

Birmingham's hometown heroes, the Birmingham Barons, take on their in-state rivals, the Rocket City Trash Pandas, for a six-game series beginning Tuesday, July 13. Enjoy specials each night at Regions Field, including T-Shirt Tuesday, Wet Nose Wednesday, Thirsty Thursday, Friday night fireworks, Superhero Night, and Family Sundays. Tickets start at \$10, and games begin at 7:05 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, and 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Want to keep up with what's happening? Got a computer? Visit the SCS Retiree Website

<http://www.scsretirees.com>

SCS OUTSIDE *July - August, 2021*

July Happenings (Cont'd):

July 14 – 18, 2021: Summer Showcase at Diamonds Direct

Add some sparkle and shine to your summer! Visit Diamonds Direct in Cahaba Village Plaza from Wednesday, July 14, through Sunday, July 18, and save 20 percent on engagement settings, wedding bands, stylish fashion jewelry, and so much more. Head to the showroom for cocktails, live music, and sweet treats on Friday evening, and check out every style from classic to contemporary! Appointments are encouraged but not required. The event runs from Wednesday, July 14, through Friday, July 16, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, July 17 through Sunday, July 18, from noon to 5 p.m.

July 17, 2021: Float Your Boat Summer Festival

This festival is worth the short jaunt to Pinson! Turkey Creek Nature Preserve hosts its annual Float Your Boat Summer Festival on Saturday, July 17. With boat races, an ice cream giveaway, great local food, swimming, and an activity zone for children, this festival is a great way to celebrate summer while supporting a wonderful cause. The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

July 24, 2021: Pink Palace Casino Night

As Frank Sinatra would say, luck be a lady this July! Join the Breast Cancer Research Foundation of Alabama for its annual Pink Palace Casino Night at Soiree Event Gallery on Saturday, July 24. With the purchase of a \$100 ticket, attendees can enjoy food, wine, beer, live entertainment, and \$500 in casino gaming money. The night begins at 7 p.m.

July 24, 2021: 3 Doors Down at Oak Mountain Amphitheatre

Welcome the triumphant return of live music to the Magic City! 3 Doors Down kicks off an awesome lineup of artists performing at the Oak Mountain Amphitheatre this year. Celebrating their 20th anniversary with The Better Life Tour, Brad Arnold, Chris Henderson, Greg Upchurch, Chet Roberts, and Justin Biltonen of 3 Doors Down return to the South for a night of music and fun. Along with musical guest Seether, this concert is a must-attend event in July. The concert kicks off at 8 p.m., and tickets start at \$63.

July Happenings (Cont'd):

July 25, 2021: Alabama Music Awards

Another exciting July event in Birmingham is the Alabama Music Awards! The Alabama Music Awards Organization hosts the 7th annual event featuring entertaining performances and local artist recognition. This year, the show is televised and able to stream online and via Zoom. Local talent LeNard Brown of The Controllers is set to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. The event begins streaming at 4 p.m.

July 28, 2021: Flicks Among the Flowers at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens

A summer date night favorite at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Flicks Among the Flowers returns! On Wednesday, July 28, grab a blanket and enjoy the classic movie *Grease*. After all, nothing says summer more than a night spent among the blooming flowers. No dogs or alcoholic beverages are allowed, and admission is free, although a \$5 donation is encouraged. Gates open at 6 p.m., and the movie begins at dusk.

July 29 – August 8, 2021: *Little Mermaid Jr.* at Virginia Samford Theatre

It's time for a little fun for the whole family! See the classic Disney fairytale, *The Little Mermaid*, live and performed by the Virginia Samford Theatre STARS players. All ages can enjoy this fun and exciting show. Showtimes are at 7 p.m. Thursday through Friday, 11 a.m. on Saturday, and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. General admission is \$25.

July 30, 2021: 3rd Annual Our Hope International Gala

Lights, camera, action! Get dressed up for a night in Hollywood at the 3rd Annual Our Hope International Gala. This fun affair takes place at B&A Warehouse and features tasty food, an exciting silent auction, and live music. Each year, the gala raises over \$10,000 for the children and staff at Home of Hope, an orphanage in Jinja, Uganda. Tickets are \$40 each, and the event kicks off at 6 p.m.

The calendar of events for August is not available on-line at this time but should be available by the end of July at the below link:

<https://styleblueprint.com/birmingham/everyday/birmingham-events-august>

SCS OUTSIDE
July - August, 2021



JULY-AUGUST SCS/SNC MEMBERS' BIRTHDAY LIST

July Birthdays:

2 Sonia Garnem
2 Timothy Hawkins
7 Gail Hicks
3 Albert Burford
3 Kapil Desai
4 Mohinder Ghuman
5 James Dailey
5 Donna Mueller
5 Lisa Webb
8 Robin Dyle
8 Michael Wayne Mcanulty
8 Dawn Wilson
9 Lee Haubein
9 Richard Hovey
9 Rhonda Powell
9 Marvin D. Salter
9 Gail Tew
10 Kathleen Lontine
11 Joe Styslinger
13 Doris Hardy
13 Gerri Monosky
13 Larry Posey
14 Ginny Green
14 John Lontine
14 Sherry Runyans
14 George Russell, Jr.
15 Peggy Brashier
15 Ellan Thigpen
16 Janet Self
17 Russell Noble
18 Barry Sykes
20 Paula Hairston
20 Kathryn Studdard
20 Daniel Wise
21 Dennis Runyans
22 Mike McKelvy
22 Patty Warren
23 Loretta Adkins
23 Judy Long
23 Theresa Reed
24 David Adams

July B'Days (Cont'd:)

24 Sandra Morgan
24 Kenneth Purinton
25 Gerald Aultman
26 Mike Green
27 Randy Flowers
27 Patricia Johnstone
28 Kerry Adams
28 Teri Pickle
29 John Aufdenkampe
29 Ricky Cox
29 Mark Gordon
29 Roy Lyon
30 Pam Ely
30 John Garlington
30 Mary Koski
31 Annette Dean
31 Barbara English
31 Brenda Kendrick
31 Susan Lefoy

August Birthdays:

1 Ruth Shepherd
2 Hubert Pair
3 Randall Kyle
4 Willard Payne
4 William Warren
4 Jerry Wilson
5 James W. Dailey
5 Sharon Mullins
5 Martha Pilleteri
6 Robert Beason
6 Cindy Holcomb
6 Judy Martin
6 Larry Myers
7 Mark Long
8 Joyce Amick
9 Norman Stringfellow
10 Jim Gordy
10 Jean Horton
10 Jessica McCullough

SCS OUTSIDE
July - August, 2021



August Birthdays (Cont'd)

- 13 Fouzia Ahmed
- 13 Alice Lawrence
- 13 Arthur Lawrence
- 13 Nancy Mooney
- 13 Pannalal Vimalchand
- 15 William Henry
- 16 Marian Brazzell
- 16 Margaret Carter
- 16 Deborah Cornell
- 16 Deborah Matthews
- 16 Debra Stallings
- 17 John Naramore
- 18 Max Kenneth White
- 19 Nancy Moore
- 19 Sherry Morrow
- 19 Debbie Pike
- 20 Peggy Case
- 20 Yon S. Smith
- 20 Don Welliver
- 21 Janet Nebrig
- 22 John Bruno
- 22 Gina Kitchens
- 23 Jon Hornbuckle
- 23 John Pruitt, Jr.
- 23 Roxanne Wilke
- 24 Lana Thompson
- 25 Lee Rayburn
- 26 Carolyn Beavers
- 26 Sharon Horn
- 26 Rebecca McKinney
- 26 Lamar Sumerlin
- 27 Paul Beavers
- 27 Jay Dorrance
- 27 James Jarrell
- 28 Sherrell Brazzell
- 28 Ben Troncalli
- 29 Les Bailey
- 29 Lisa Golden
- 29 Charles David Pugh
- 29 Ty Robin, Jr.
- 29 Mark Wilkinson
- 30 Mary Romano
- 30 Susan Williams
- 31 Charles Bidy
- 31 Fran Goforth



OBITUARIES

Mark English, (APC), passed away on May 2, 2021. Mark was preceded in death by his parents, J.L. and Helen English. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Barbara Clemons English, two daughters, Lindsey (Blake) Kersey and Anna (Tyler) Schnell, grandchildren Noah (7), Anna Reese (5), John Mark Kersey (2), and June Schnell (3), brother, Tim (Sally) and twin brother, Paul (Dani).

Memorials can be made to the missions offering at Shades Mountain Baptist Church, "Make Jesus Known".

John Mitchell, (SCS), passed away on May 6, 2021, at the age of 72. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Terry Mitchell; two daughters, Vanessa O'Neal (Keith) and Mallory Mitchell; two grandchildren, Oliver and Claire O'Neal; a sister, Loretta Garrigan; and several nieces and nephews.

The family requests donations be made in John's memory to the Dementia Society at www.dementiasociety.org/memorials.

From SCS Families and Friends:

"Thank you so much for the generous donation in John's memory.

Terry Mitchell & Family"

"Thank you for your donation to St. Martin's in the Pines in memory of our beloved Henry.

The Garrett Family"

SCS OUTSIDE
July - August, 2021



A Celebration of Life

In loving memory of

JOHN D. PLAXCO

Saturday, August 14 | 10:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church
2100 4th Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama



HOLIDAYS TO REMEMBER
JULY-AUGUST

Independence Day



The fourth of July is the birthday of our nation and today, we celebrate and enjoy the freedom that comes with the event that made this day so special.

Thomas Jefferson, is the leading author of the Declaration of Independence. He led a committee that crafted the declaration between June 11-28, 1776. Jefferson and other representatives from the thirteen colonies, voted and approved it on July 4, 1776. The document declared freedom for the 13 colonies from British rule. It currently resides in the Exhibition Hall of the National Archive in Washington, D.C.

The Declaration of Independence was not signed by all representatives until August, 1776. To make it official, John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress signed it. That's where the saying "put your John Hancock on it" came from.

Today, we enjoy the benefits of the freedom which the framers signed and ultimately fought for. For us, it is a time for baseball, hot dogs, family picnics and fireworks.

The 4th of July is not complete without parades and fireworks. Fireworks are enjoyed by almost everyone. You should have your choice of several locations in your area on the Fourth, or even the day before. Many cottage owners on lakes will set out flares along the shore creating a "Ring of Fire". Add to the impressive display of the flares, an abundance of fireworks, and you have quite a display.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!!!!



Victory in Japan Day (VJ Day)



Victory over Japan Day (also known as **V-J Day**, **Victory in the Pacific Day**, or **V-P Day**) is the day on which Imperial Japan surrendered in World War II, in effect bringing the war to an end. The term has been applied to both of the days on which the initial announcement of Japan's surrender was made – August 15, 1945, in Japan, and because of time zone differences, August 14, 1945 (when it was announced in the United States and the rest of the Americas and Eastern Pacific Islands) – as well as to September 2, 1945, when the surrender document was signed, officially ending World War II.

August 15 is the official V-J Day for the United Kingdom, while the official US commemoration is September 2. The name, V-J Day, had been selected by the Allies after they named V-E Day for the victory in Europe.

On September 2, 1945, formal surrender occurred aboard the battleship USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay. In Japan, August 15 usually is known as the "memorial day for the end of the war" (終戦記念日, *Shūsen-kinenbi*); the official name for the day, however, is "the day for mourning of war dead and praying for peace" (戦没者を追悼し平和を祈念する日, *Senbotsusha o tsuitōshi heiwa o kinensuru hi*). This official name was adopted in 1982 by an ordinance issued by the Japanese government.

Victory

SCS OUTSIDE
July - August, 2021

Blue Cross-Blue Shield Settlement

You should have received a postcard thru the mail recently concerning the class action suit against Blue Corss-Blue Shield and the proposed settlement. Several of you had requested additional information. We did some research and thought the below might answer some questions.

Basic Information

1. Why was the Notice issued?

The Court authorized the Notice because Class Members have a right to know about the proposed Settlement of certain claims against Settling Defendants in this class action lawsuit and about Class Members' options before the Court decides whether to approve the Settlement. If the Court approves the Settlement, and after objections and appeals are resolved, Class Members will be bound by the judgment and terms of the Settlement. The Notice explains the lawsuit, the Settlement, Class Members' legal rights and options, and the deadlines for Class Members to exercise their rights.

2. What is this lawsuit about?

This class action is called In re: Blue Cross Blue Shield Antitrust Litigation MDL 2406, N.D. Ala., Master File No. 2:13-cv-20000-RDP and is pending in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama Southern Division. U.S. District Court Judge R. David Proctor is overseeing this class action.

Plaintiffs allege that Settling Defendants violated antitrust laws by entering into an agreement where the Settling Defendants agreed not to compete with each other in selling health insurance and administration of Commercial Health Benefit Products in the United States and Puerto Rico, as well as agreeing to other means of limiting competition in the market for health insurance and administration of Commercial Health Benefit Products. Settling Defendants deny all allegations of wrongdoing. They assert that their conduct results in lower healthcare costs and greater access to care for their customers. The Court has not decided who is right or wrong. Instead, Plaintiffs and Settling Defendants have agreed to a Settlement to avoid the risk and cost of further litigation.

3. What is a class action, and who is involved?

In a class action lawsuit, one or more people or businesses called class representatives sue on behalf of others who have similar claims. All of the people or businesses who have similar claims together are a "class" or "class members" if the class is certified by the Court. Individual class members do not have to file a lawsuit to participate in the class action settlement or be bound by the judgment in the class action. One court resolves the issues for everyone in the class, except for those who exclude themselves from the class.

4. Why is there a Settlement?

The Court did not decide in favor of the Plaintiffs or Settling Defendants. Instead, both sides have agreed to the Settlement. Both sides want to avoid the risk and cost of further litigation. The Plaintiffs and their attorneys think the Settlement is best for the Settlement Classes.

5. I received a notice about the Settlement. How do I know it is legitimate?

Notice of the Settlement was recently issued to potential Class Members through email and mail. The Claims Administrator sent emails using the Blue Cross Blue Shield logos from Notice@BCBSsettlement.com. The Claims Administrator also sent postcards containing Blue Cross Blue Shield logos with the return address "Blue Cross Blue Shield Settlement, c/o JND Legal Administration, P.O. Box 91390, Seattle, WA 98111". An example of the email notice and postcard notice can be found on the Important Documents page of this website.

6. What information does the Claims Administrator have about me and why?

As part of the preliminary approval process, the Court ordered Settling Defendants to produce the following information to the Claims Administrator in order to notify potential Class Members of the Settlement and process claims: names; last-known mailing addresses; last-known email addresses; last-known phone numbers; insurance and/or healthcare coverage products purchased; group, member, and subscriber ID numbers; covered lives; employer headquarters or billing addresses; and premium or premium-equivalent information of settlement class members. The Claims Administrator is required to keep this information confidential and use it only for the purposes of effectuating a notice plan, administering

(Continued on Next Page)

SCS OUTSIDE
July - August, 2021

Blue Cross-Blue Shield Settlement (Cont'd)

and calculating claims, distributing Settlement funds, and otherwise carrying out the work necessary to administer the Settlement. The Claims Administrator is prohibited from using the information for any other purpose and is required to destroy the information upon completion of Settlement administration. The Court's data production order can be found [here](#).

7. Am I part of the Settlement Classes?

If you were covered by certain Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance or administrative services plans between February 2008 and October 2020, you may be a Class Member.

You may be eligible to receive payment if you are an Individual, Insured Group¹ (and their employees) or Self-Funded Account² (and their employees) that purchased or were enrolled in a Blue Cross or Blue Shield health insurance or administrative services plan during one of the two Settlement Class Periods. Government accounts are excluded from the Class.

The Settlement Class Period for Individuals and Insured Groups is from February 7, 2008, through October 16, 2020. The Settlement Class Period for Self-Funded Accounts is from September 1, 2015 through October 16, 2020. Dependents, beneficiaries (including minors), and non-employees are NOT eligible to receive payment.

All Individuals, Insured Groups, and Self-Funded Accounts that purchased or were enrolled in a Blue Cross or Blue Shield health insurance or administrative services plan during the applicable Class Period will also benefit from the parts of the Settlement requiring Settling Defendants to change certain of their practices that were alleged to be anticompetitive. Dependents, beneficiaries (including minors), and non-employees will benefit from this part of the Settlement.

If you are still not sure if you are included in the Settlement Classes, please review the detailed information in Question 5 of the Long Form Notice and Sections A.1.v. and A.1.pp. of the Settlement Agreement, available on the Important Documents page. You may also contact the Claims Administrator at info@BCBSsettlement.com or call toll-free at (888) 681-1142.

1. Insured Groups include both employers and other groups (e.g., Taft-Hartley plans, multi-employer welfare arrangements, association health plans, retiree groups, and other non-employer groups).
2. Self-Funded Accounts include both employers and other groups (e.g., Taft-Hartley plans, multi-employer welfare arrangements, association health plans, retiree groups, and other non-employer groups).

8. Are Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplemental ("Med Supp") subscribers within the scope of the Settlement classes?

Medicare Advantage policies are not within the scope of products included in the Settlement classes. However, Medicare Supplemental policies are within the scope of products included in the Settlement classes, so long as they meet the other criteria (e.g., dates of coverage).

SCS OUTSIDE
July - August, 2021

**THIS JUST IN.....
FROM OUR RETIREES**

Per **Bill and Lori Norton**, "You say good news is needed for the newsletter so at the risk of opening the baby flood gates, we have some **"grand"** news.

Our oldest daughter has a new baby, Marian, now a bit over two months old and a delight (see picture). And, our second daughter is within two weeks of giving birth to a little girl. So, the two first cousins will be about three months apart and we have lots of tea parties in our future. We will now have four grands and consider ourselves very, very blessed.



Finally back together after 1 1/2 years of Covid:



Dora Brandt, Gale Busby, Liz Winter, Margaret Carter, Tallulah DeMarco, Joyce Studinka, Patsy Evans, Beverly Lizenby, Valerie Webster, Nell King, Peggy Howard, Pat Powell

We are all given, and earned, various amounts of **time, talent, and treasure**. For my current 'role,' I'm attempting to balance those assets to give back.

Time: Volunteering.

Talent: Volunteer in ways that require a certain degree of skill. (Like preparing tax returns at United Way.)

Treasure: Give back by financially helping friends/family and causes whose mission/role I personally support.

Les Bailey

We never quit or stayed indoor during the pandemic. We continued our 3-mile daily hike and going shopping where we can. The churches shut down hurt more. We were never fearful but are more at ease since we are fully vaccinated.

Bonita and Bert Burford

THIS JUST IN.....
FROM OUR RETIREES (Cont'd)

Memories from G. P. Russell, Jr.

One Sunday morning while working as a System Control Operator at Gulf Power Company, Transmission System, I had a major line to open and lockout at one of the substations near Crestview. As per written instructions, I called the manager at that district and requested that he go to the substation. As he was leaving his house he radioed that he was on the way. I replied "Roger, Expedite, Expedite", a term often used in my Navy Fighter Squadron as a pilot.

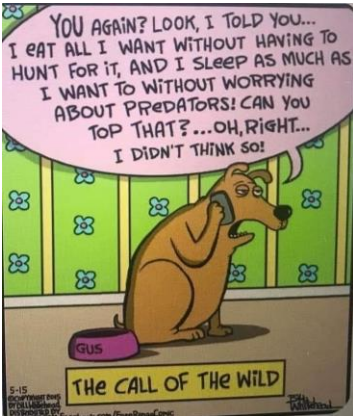
At the next managers' meeting he complained about the company hiring college graduates as system control operators. He said that he had to wait until he got home and looked in the dictionary to find I was telling him "Hurray, Hurray". My manager told me everyone in attendance had a big laugh.

SCS OUTSIDE
July - August, 2021



Laughter...

The Best Medicine



If anyone gets a message from me about canned meat, don't open it.

It's Spam.

When I get a headache, I take two aspirin and keep away from children, just like the bottle says.

"ehh, good enough"



- Mediocrates

AGE 12: Fell off bike at high speed on gravel road rode home 5 miles

AGE 50: Used the wrong pillow and was non-functional for 2 days

SCS OUTSIDE
July - August, 2021

**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

2021 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