

Volume 34, March - April 2022 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:

I hope this Newsletter finds everyone well and excited about 2022.

We began the year with an "in person" retiree meeting on January 11th at the Shelby County Arts Center in Columbiana. Several of you attended the meeting and everyone seemed to enjoy getting back together. We will continue to have our meetings in person, and we hope that those that could not attend the January meeting will be able to attend the March meeting. I also want to thank everyone that provided input and feedback from the January meeting. It is through everyone's input and feedback that we can know what is working so we can achieve an environment where everyone knows they are a part of a group where they may actively attend.

Although the statistic for the pandemic shows the number of Covid cases in a decline and some of the requirements and recommendations associated with the pandemic are being relaxed within the state, we are still having issues finding a place where we can meet in person. The Colonnade Building has not

reopened so we cannot meet there. The auditorium at the Alabama Power Building has a limit on the number that can attend, and we had more than is allowed at our first meeting in January. As a result, we will be having our March meeting back at the Shelby County Art Center in Columbiana, Alabama. The meeting will be March 14, 2022. For many it may not be as convenient as the Colonnade or Alabama Power Building; however, it is very spacious with comfortable seating and plenty of parking. Additionally, the Arts Center does not charge us to use the facility which helps us to be good stewards of the retiree funds.

In our January 2022 meeting we had both a Lifestyle Speaker and a Keynote Speaker that did great jobs. The Lifestyle Speaker was Bruce Andrews, the Director of the Art Center. He spoke on the history of the Art Center and the involvement the Center has with the community, county, and state. Our Keynote Speaker was Todd Gerelds, author of the book *Woodlawn* which became a major motion picture.

Todd is the son of the 1974 Woodlawn football coach, Tandy Gerelds. Todd's presentation showed us how positive changes are made in people's lives when others reach out to them.

The two speakers for our March meeting will be Luke Robinson from Robinson Iron that performed the restoration work on Vulcan and Leigh Davis, Vice

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

#### Prez Sez (Cont'd)::

President of Economic & Community Development at Alabama Power. We will learn about the work done to restore Vulcan and then learn about what Alabama Power is doing in the areas of economic and community development to advance growth opportunities for the state of Alabama. Each speaker will be very informative, and everyone will have the opportunity to participate and ask questions. I hope everyone will be able to attend.

As I stated in the January/February Newsletter, I am excited to be your President for 2022 and will continue to work to do all I can to make it an enjoyable and exciting year for all retirees. We do have a great Leadership Team and their continued desire is to make our retiree organization the greatest and best that it can be. Again, it is an honor to be a part of this Team. You can find the name and phone number of each member at the end of this Newsletter.

To continue to make this a successful year, I again ask all the retirees to provide input and feedback throughout the year to ensure we have a retiree group where everyone enjoys attending and participating. Complete success only occurs when everyone participates and does their part to help achieve excellence.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the March meeting.

#### **Dave Lisenby**

#### Pictures from January 11 Retiree Meeting



**Todd Gerelds Keynote Speaker** 



Bruce Andrews Lifestyle Speaker





Celebrate

#### MARCH - APRIL SCS/SNC MEMBERS' BIRTHDAY LIST

#### **March Birthdays:**

- 1 Pam Carr
- 1 Edwin Polke, Jr.
- 2 George McCoy
- 3 David Busby
- 3 Mark Fowler
- 3 Pat Goodman
- 4 John Jansen
- 4 Rusty Williams
- 6 Barbara Varner
- 6 Philip Bartlett
- 6 Kenneth Horton
- 7 Christopher E. Boone
- 7 Paul Brasfield
- 7 Linda Katz
- 9 Carl R. Foltz
- 10 Diane Long
- 11 Karen Tucker
- 12 Harry Durden, Jr.
- 12 Billy Goforth, Jr.
- 12 Bruce Thomas
- 12 Sid Varagona
- 14 Fred Hollis, Jr.
- 15 Barbara Hawk
- 15 Kenneth Baker
- 15 Phillip McCullough
- 16 Martha Cook
- 17 Brian P. Wozniak
- 18 Dan Hines
- 19 Anthony Hankins
- 19 John Meier
- 20 Ronnie Antone
- 21 Robert M. Moore
- 22 Billy Ball
- 23 Peggy Burdeshaw
- 23 Anne Campbell
- 23 Walter Daniel Harbin
- 24 Daniel Blackwood
- 24 John Horn

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

- 26 Gail Byrd
- 26 Roger Golden
- 26 Olivia D. Moman
- 27 Jose Cantu
- 27 Harry V. Crine
- 27 William Morrow
- 27 Sue E. Summers
- 28 Michelle C. Marsh
- 29 Kathy Gayle Etheridge
- 29 Amy Houston
- 29 Barbara Jones
- 29 Joel William Offet
- 30 Steve Logan
- 31 Marion Darby
- 31 Tracy Edmunds
- 31 Shannon Sampson

#### **April Birthdays:**

- 3 William Porteous, Jr.
- 3 Tony Steve Tatum
- 3 Ken Turner
- 4 Vicky Garner
- 5 Jim Cofield
- 5 Ramachandra Reddy
- 6 John Wesley Bell
- 7 Gayas Ahmed
- 7 Shirley Dickson
- 7 Janice Minor
- 8 Paul Cone
- 8 Jan Dyle
- 8 Lodema Evans
- 8 Stokely Morgan
- 9 Rebecca Mueller
- 10 Keith Lega
- 10 Devida Moore



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

- 10 Becky Parker
- 11 Nancy Carr
- 11 Willie Ballard
- 12 Al Nebrig, Jr.
- 13 Carl Watts
- 14 Karim Manji
- 14 Monroe Landrum
- 16 Tony Lynn May
- 16 Paul Miller
- 16 Shirley Owens
- 18 Holly Doyal
- 19 Cynthia Ball
- 19 Dennis Jones
- 19 Brenda Kyle
- 22 Alice Bruno
- 22 Scott Fallon
- 22 Lou Ann Kaster
- 23 Don Walker
- 23 Mark Mullens
- 24 Michael Kuykendall
- 26 Clyde Edwin Taylor
- 27 James Baldone
- 28 Ronald Bush
- 28 Ken Mooney
- 29 Judith Heatherly
- 30 John Burnett
- 30 Joyce Ehrensperger
- 30 Bill Garner
- 30 Patricia Jarrel



#### **OBITUARIES)**

Charles Biddy, (Alabama Power/Southern Company Services), age 87, passed away on Friday, February 11, 2022. He was preceded in death by his parents, Vernon and Essie McGuire Biddy. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Virginia Hall Biddy; son, Charles "Chuck" L. Biddy, Jr.; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. Donations may be made to First Baptist Church of Trussville Children's Ministry.

Charles Louis Campbell, Jr., age 92, passed away on January 19, 2022. He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Wilbanks Campbell and his granddaughter, Trevelyn Grace Campbell. Charles is survived by his children, Laura Junkins (Robbie), Clay Campbell (Penny); his grandchildren, Brett Hancock, Ali Varden (Evan), Charlie Campbell; his sister, Sue Campbell Gray; and many nieces, nephews, and other family members. The family requests that donations be made to the Trevelyn Campbell Memorial Art Scholarship at Samford University.

Elizabeth "Betty" Reed, age 93, passed away on Thursday, December 30, 2021. She was preceded in death by her parents Cecil and May Burke, and brother Leslie Russell Burke all of Lynn, MA. Betty is survived by her husband Bill Reed (former president of SCS), daughter Susan Reed Hene (Paul) of Tyler, TX: Scott Reed (Stacey) of Birmingham, AL; grandchildren Stuart Hene (Sarah) of Tyler, TX; David Hene (Kristin) of Dallas, TX; Russell Hene (Brogan) of Austin, TX; Winston Reed of Birmingham, AL; Kendall Reed of Birmingham, AL; great grandchildren: Harper Hene of Dallas, TX; Burch Hene and Cullen Hene of Tyler, TX; Worth Hene, Haze Hene and Rove Hene of Austin, TX. The family requests memorials in memory of Betty be made to the Alzheimer's Association of Alabama.

#### MARCH RETIREE MEETING

#### MEETING DETAILS:

**Date:** March 14, 2022

Location: Shelby County Arts Council

105 West College Street Columbiana, AL 35051

Time: 11:00 to 12:00 - Board Meeting

1:00 to 2:00 - Retiree Meeting

Lifestyle Speaker: Luke Robinson

Marketing Manager Robinson Iron

Keynote Speaker: Leigh Davis

Vice President, Economic & Community Development

Alabama Power

#### LIFESTYLE SPEAKER:



Our Retiree Lifestyle speaker will feature Luke Robinson, Sales / Marketing Manager for Robinson Iron. Robinson Iron performed the disassembly and restoration of Vulcan, a cast iron sculpture. It included repairs to the deteriorating and damaged statue. Luke will speak on the challenges and success they had in restoring Vulcan and other cast structures they have completed.

Robinson Iron has received numerous awards for their work including the Thomas Jefferson Award for Historic Preservation and the National Trust for Historic Preservation Honor Award. Both were associated with the Vulcan work.

#### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**



Leigh Davis, Vice President of Economic and Community Development at Alabama Power will share with us what is happening in the economic, community and business development area at Alabama Power. Leigh and her leadership team actively collaborate with external partners and allies to further advance growth opportunities for the State of Alabama.

Prior to assuming her current role, Davis was Vice President for Customer Services, responsible for integrating critical aspects of the customer experience, including the use of innovative technologies and research, to support Alabama Power residential

#### MARCH RETIREE MEETING (Cont'd)

#### **Leigh Davis - Keynote Speaker (Cont'd)**

and business customers through customer service operations. In this role, she also led a Southern Company team responsible for evaluation and integration of new and innovative technologies and tools to continue to enhance the customer experience.

Davis' prior executive leadership experience includes her role as Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel for Southern Company Operations organization. In that position, she was responsible for legal strategy, energy policy and compliance for Southern Company's generation, transmission, engineering & construction services, system planning, research & environmental affairs, and its competitive generation business units (Southern Power and Southern Wholesale Energy). As General Counsel for Southern Nuclear Operating Company, Davis led corporate communications, legal strategy, compliance, and employee concerns departments. During her tenure at Southern Nuclear, she actively served on Southern Company's human resource benefits administration committee. Earlier in her career, Davis also served as chief executive of the Alabama Power Foundation and Alabama Business Charitable Trust, chief technology officer for Alabama Power and Vice President of Corporate Real Estate.

Davis joined Alabama Power in 1997 and has held a variety of positions across the Southern Company's footprint. Her external affairs experience includes leadership roles in Governmental Relations and Environmental Affairs in Birmingham, Atlanta, and Washington DC. She also served as Counsel in Southern Company's Washington office, focused primarily on industry wide environmental litigation and energy policy. As part of Plant Miller's site leadership team, she managed the compliance, budgets, security, training, water chemistry and technologies functions during the design, construction, and operation of major environmental technologies.

Davis holds a bachelor's degree in business and a juris doctorate degree from the University of Alabama. She is also a graduate of the MBA program at Samford University. Davis completed a year-long fellowship in the International Women's Forum executive program as part of a global partnership with Harvard Business School and INSEAD.

As part of her long-standing commitment to community service, Davis currently serves on the boards of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama, The University of Alabama's Culverhouse College of Business Board of Visitors, Ascension Alabama Health System, UAB's O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center, YWCA of Central Alabama and is a member of the United Way of Central Alabama's Tocqueville Society. She serves as President of the Kiwanis Club of Birmingham and Chair of Samford University's Board of Visitors.

# RETIREE SPOTLIGHTS



Submitted by: Stan Smith

#### **Note from Editor:**

As you recall, in our *November-December* newsletter we featured an article submitted by Stan Smith announcing that a movie project, A Soul Filled Life, was complete! The project started as an idea at a meeting of Stan's Creative Photography and Videography Life group at Starbucks in September 2019. It is the story of the life of his late wife, Nancy Smith, heart/double lung, and kidney recipient, and how two organ donors, one deceased and one living, through the unselfish act of organ donation, allowed her to live an extra 18 years. Below is a follow-up to this article. I strongly encourage all of you to go to the link provided to view this video. **AWESOME** job Stan!!!

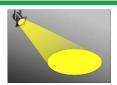
The documentary video, *A Soul Filled Life*, about Nancy Smith's transplant journey through a heart/double lung transplant in 1989 and a kidney transplant in 1999 was submitted and accepted by the Rome International Film Festival. It was shown at the historic DeSoto Theater in Rome, GA on November 13, 2021. The movie was well received, and co-directors Austin Wiggins and Stan Smith were invited to the stage to answer questions from the audience after the movie.

The documentary has also been submitted to the Atlanta Film Festival and to the Birmingham Film Festival.

On Monday February 14<sup>th</sup>, Ann Rayburn, Director of Education for the Legacy of Hope, posted on the Legacy of Hope Facebook page the Director's video introducing the story of the making of 'A Soul Filled Life'. Monday, besides being Valentine's Day was also National Donor Day - the perfect day to share the documentary story about Nancy Smith, a heart, double-lung, and kidney recipient. Below is the link to the full video, 'A Soul Filled Life':

https://vimeo.com/668465680.

## RETIREE SPOTLIGHTS (Cont'd)



#### Submitted by: Les Bailey

Would you like to talk with someone who has driven cars, ridden motorcycles, run diesel locomotives, and sailed nuclear submarines? Meet Les Bailey!

Les grew up in Birmingham, served in the Navy, and then attended Auburn University, where he met his best friend, Laraine. They were married for 42 years until Laraine passed in 2019.

With a degree in Electrical Engineering from Auburn and an MBA from the University of Alabama in Birmingham, Les built nuclear submarines as an engineer at Electric Boat in Connecticut. He returned to Alabama to join the nuclear power support staff at Alabama Power, which evolved into Southern Nuclear, and worked with nuclear power plants in Alabama and Georgia for 42 years until retiring in April 2020.

Les is one of our car guys, starting with a 1961 Rambler American to (currently) two BMW sedans with a couple of Volvos along the way. He also has a vintage 1973 Chevy Camaro that he drove new off the showroom floor!

Les truly exemplifies the volunteer spirit. He prepares income tax returns for United Way clients, teaches science classes for adults working to earn a GED, and serves "behind the scenes" in his church. He first visited the Barber Museum with friends and was so impressed with the facility and collection that he became a volunteer (and eventually docent) about 8 years ago. Les leads group tours, helps with private events, and serves as a Team Captain of the member check-in desk during race weekends. If you attended Honda Indy, MotoAmerica or Vintage Festival over the past few years, you were probably greeted at our front door by Les! He enjoys meeting and interacting with people from here and abroad, many visiting the museum as a "bucket list" destination. Les says, "What Mr. Barber and staff have created and developed is such an asset to the city of Birmingham. I'm proud to show off the facility as a 'community service.'" Thank you, Les!

We are so grateful for our volunteers who share Mr. Barber's vision and help us ensure that our visitors and guests have amazing experiences. For more information about our Volunteer Program, visit our website or call 205-702-8736.

## RETIREE SPOTLIGHTS (Cont'd)



**Submitted by: Dennis Madison** 

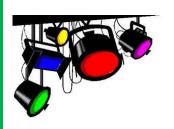
In December Donna and I went to New Jersey to watch the Army/Navy game in person. It was our first "live" game since 1983 when they played in the Rose Bowl. Great atmosphere and fun to be a part of great traditions. Navy won in 1983 and again in 2021.

Our future plans include the following:

- Trip to Annapolis to visit with my Academy roommate and his wife and, also, to watch the Navy/Army/Air Force fencing meet my varsity sport at the Academy.
- Trip with Donna to central Washington State in mid-May for a gathering with my last living cousins.
- If my application is accepted, I have volunteered to help during the July 17
  World games. I was part of the Southern Company support group that helped
  in the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.
- If accepted, I have volunteered to be a precinct worker for the November elections.

This is a far cry from our previous activities but different than my regular routine.

## RETIREE SPOTLIGHTS (Cont'd)



#### **Submitted by: Retiree Newbie Deb Jennings**

I saw a retirement card about a year ago that said there's a new style board meeting... What it showed inside was a person with a surfboard walking toward the ocean.... it was a perfect reflection of my thoughts about retirement. I loved my job at SNC but a lot of good things have happened since I left last April, I can't tell a lie! I'm so happy all the time I can hardly stand myself and my blood pressure has gone down, I've lost 28 lb, and I finally get to work on all the arts and crafts projects that I love and missed doing. My 40's were awesome and I have 3 more years to make my 60's just as good!!

I am excited to attend an International Association of Pastel Societies convention at the end of June out in Albuquerque, New Mexico, if covid doesn't mess anything up. I am attending with a lady from Florida whom I met at a pastel painting class in Huntsville a couple of years ago.

By the way I do pet portraits and landscapes if anyone needs something painted.... just had to add that little plug LOL.

In 2023 I plan to take an extended trip to England, Scotland, and Ireland and then over to Paris and Amsterdam and possibly catch a Viking River cruise from there to Basel Switzerland. At some point in the next couple of years I also want to go to Australia and New Zealand - my mother was from Sydney, Australia and I still have a couple of cousins over in Brisbane.

If any of you have spent time in England and would be willing to give me some information on what I need to do and see over there it would be much appreciated. That is where I will be spending a lot of time because there are so many artists and I want to take some classes so I may be there 3 or 4 weeks.

Thanks for reading my bit of news. I look forward to getting to know some of you better and doing some walks or movies AND eating is always a good way to go.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER IN MARCH

#### **ASH WEDNESDAY**



MARCH2

Each year, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent and is <u>always 46 days</u> <u>before Easter Sunday</u>. Lent is a 40-day season (not counting Sundays) marked by repentance, fasting, reflection, and ultimately celebration. The 40-day period represents Christ's time of temptation in the wilderness, where he fasted and where Satan tempted him. Lent asks believers to set aside a time each year for similar fasting, marking an intentional season of focus on Christ's life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection.











St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on March 17, the anniversary of his death in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink and feast—on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER IN APRIL



# RAMADAN Begins April 2



Ramadan for the year 2022 starts on the evening of Saturday, April 2nd lasting 30 days and ending at sundown on Sunday, May 1. Islamic holidays always begin at sundown and end at sundown the following day/days ending the holiday or festival.

Ramadan is a holy month of fasting, introspection and prayer for Muslims, the followers of Islam. It is celebrated as the month during which Muhammad received the initial revelations of the Quran, the holy book for Muslims. Fasting is one of the five fundamental principles of Islam. Each day during Ramadan, Muslims do not eat or drink from dawn to sunset.





APRIL 10

Palm Sunday is the Christian holiday that occurs on the Sunday before Easter. This celebration commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, mentioned in each of the four Gospels. Jesus entered the city knowing He would be tried and crucified and welcomed His fate to rise from the grave and save us from sin! Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the remembrance of Jesus' last days to the cross.

In many churches, Palm Sunday is observed by the blessing and sharing of palm branches symbolizing the branches placed in front of Christ as he entered into Jerusalem.





APRIL 14

**Maundy Thursday**—also known as Holy Thursday and Sheer Thursday, among other names—is a Christian holy day that commemorates events known as the Washing of the Feet and the Last Supper.

This day is part of the Holy Week leading up to Easter. *Maundy Thursday* comes after Holy Wednesday, and is followed immediately by Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and then Easter. These occasions, in Christianity, correspond to events that lead to the resurrection of Jesus Christ after his crucifixion.





April 15

**Good Friday** is observed on the Friday before Easter Sunday. On this day Christians commemorate the passion, or suffering, and death on the cross of Jesus Christ. Many Christians spend Good Friday in fasting, prayer, repentance, and meditation on the agony and suffering of Christ.





April 15

**Passover** (*Pesach* in Hebrew) is a Jewish festival celebrating the exodus from Egypt and the Israelites' freedom from slavery to the Egyptians. The Feast of Passover, along with the Feast of Unleavened Bread, was the first of the festivals to be commanded by God for Israel to observe. Commemorations today involve a special meal called the Seder, featuring unleavened bread and other food items symbolic of various aspects of the exodus.

Passover is one of the most widely celebrated Jewish holidays. Along with *Shavuot* (the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost) and *Sukkot* (the Feast of Tabernacles), Passover is one of the three "pilgrimage" festivals in Scripture, during which the Jews were commanded to travel to Jerusalem and observe the feasts together. Passover takes place in the spring, during the Hebrew month of Nisan. In Western countries, Passover is celebrated in early- to mid-April and is always close to Easter.

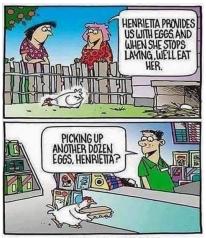




April 17

Easter is the principal festival of the Christian church, which celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day after his Crucifixion. The earliest recorded observance of an Easter celebration comes from the 2nd century, though the commemoration of Jesus' Resurrection probably occurred earlier.





... and that is WHY the chicken crossed the road.

If you think you are smarter than the previous generation...50 years ago the Owners manual of a Car showed you how to adjust the valves. Today it warns you not to drink the contents of the battery.

I'VE BEEN TO A LOT OF PLACES
BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN IN CAHOOTS.
APPARENTLY YOU CAN'T GO ALONE,
YOU HAVE TO BE IN CAHOOTS WITH
SOMEONE. I'VE ALSO NEVER BEEN IN
COGNITO, EITHER. I HEAR NOBODY
RECOGNIZES YOU THERE. I HAVE,
HOWEVER, BEEN IN SANE. THEY
DON'T HAVE AN AIRPORT. YOU HAVE
TO BE DRIVEN THERE. I HAVE
MADE SEVERAL TRIPS.

## 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

2022 Leadership		
Officers President: Vice-President: Treasurer: Secretary:	Dave Lisenby Ken McElroy Fred Ehrensperger Rick Rice	205-603-9220 205-907-6011 205-655-2725 205-266-6517
Directors Jim Blackmon Deborah Javork Dave Lambert Dennis Madisor Teresa McCrillis Owen Scott Deanna McCor	n s	205-980-9852 205-305-9739 205-914-5975 912-293-4840 912-293-4247 205-960-4590 205-915-9448
Committee Chairs		
Arrangements : Audit: Fellowship: Member Care Membership: Newsletter:		205-482-6836 205/492-6450 205-879-6617 205-969-0559 205-991-7900 205-956-0502 aham 205-440-7935
Nominating: Programs: Website: E-mail	Rick Graham Beverly Lisenby Cary Campbell - socosncretirees@g	205-807-1890 205-701-4589 205-641-9137