



# Powerlines

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## LOWMAN TRIBUTE SERIES: PART III

# The People Behind the Power

Lowman Units 2 and 3 came online in 1979 and 1980, respectively, bringing with them a surge of new employees and a greater ability to safely generate reliable and affordable energy. The plant spent many years as the heart of PowerSouth's generation fleet, due in no small part to the commitment of its employees.

Now that the units are set to be retired later this year, employees reflect on their time spent as the driving force behind the plant.

Three such employees are Calvin Davenport, Charlie Etheridge and Donald Richardson. Even though they work in three separate departments, these individuals showcase the work that has served as the pulse of the Lowman Plant.

This is an in-depth look at the people behind the power.

### Calvin Davenport

Davenport worked part-time at a hardware store before coming to PowerSouth in March 2007, where he is currently a Utility Technician 5. For a time, he also did construction work. He still works part-time at the hardware store, but the construction work is no more.

"I was an ironworker at one time," Davenport said. "I wasn't in my right mind, I do believe. For my age, heights are not for me."

During his 13 years at Lowman, Davenport has interacted with many people, which he enjoys, and encountered many different jobs.

"It's according to what they give you every day," he said. "You could be on the bulldozer or the loader. You could do any number of things — some maintenance work or some service work on motors or maybe changing

belts. You just never know from day to day where you're going to be working, but you know you'll be working at PowerSouth, and that was always the good part about it."

His proudest accomplishment? Working his way to a Utility Technician 5 by taking advantage of PowerSouth's educational and career advancement opportunities.

"We had a lot of schooling we had to do to get there," he said. "It wasn't just given to us. We had to work in our classes in the training building and we progressed, learned how to do a little more, operate a little more, do oil changes — so on and so forth. It sounds basic, but if you don't know what you're doing you could mess up millions of dollars' worth of equipment out here."

**Continued on page 2 ►**

*Above (left to right): David Horton, Searcy Slayton, Ed Karr, Mitch Beasley, Jerrold Syphrit, Greg Brunson, Sherry Jackson and Grady Williams.*

“It was just a blessing to work with so many wonderful people.”

## CALVIN DAVENPORT



While in training, Davenport faced Lowman's equilibrium crane, or E-Crane, made for handling materials in bulk.

“It was the first day I sat in the seat to operate that big piece of equipment, and I knew one thing — the emergency stop,” he said. “I remembered where it was. I got up in that crane, and I was swinging around. It looked like I was going to take out everything down there. I quickly pulled that emergency stop and said, ‘This ain’t for me.’”

“It took time to get used to that,” he said. “The guys training me told me it would, and I said to myself that day that I would never make Tech 5. I still don’t like to run the E-Crane today, but I can if I need to.”

Davenport explained that operating the E-crane is a great responsibility from a safety standpoint.

“The crane is run by hydraulics,” he said. “When you see how that thing closes up — a man would never have a chance. I’m always safety conscious. You’ve got to be careful. In that E-Crane, I go to counting the heads of people that I’ve got in my responsibility,

people I’ve got to look out for. If they came here from home with all their body limbs, I want to send them back home the same way they came. Once you sit in the seat, that’s your responsibility.”

Davenport has encountered people with diverse personalities and backgrounds...some have been mentors and some friends.

“First person I think I worked with was a guy named Tommy Briggs. He taught me a lot. There’s another fellow, Nigel Lee, now he’s peculiar on how he wants something done. It’s fun working with him,” Davenport said. “I learned just by watching him. You pay attention and you watch — that’s how you learn. Also, you ask questions if you don’t know the answer to something.”

He reflected on the family atmosphere at Lowman and the employees who have watched the plant grow and change together.

“Some guys have been here a long time, since it was just one unit,” Davenport said. “They saw how it was built from the ground up. Every now and then, if you look at the pictures on the wall, you start seeing this was a small

place and then, all of a sudden, it started growing.

“The people are the best part, though,” he continued. “There have been some good people I’ve met. Some people have retired and gone on, and we have had some good ones that have passed. Just meeting the good folks and working with some of the good folks has been a treasure.”

Outside of work, Davenport enjoys spending time with his family. Most recently, he’s had his hands full of outside work.

“I recently built a house, so it’s been yard work,” he said, laughing. “When I tell you it’s a job, I mean that’s a never-ending story type job. I try to spend time with my family, with my kids. Whenever they come home, I get a chance to spend a lot of time with them, and that’s one of the most wonderful things you can do. It goes back to my point of always being safe — I want to go home to them. I sure hope others feel the same way.”



### Charlie Etheridge

As an instrument repairman with 36 years of experience, Charlie Etheridge plays a pivotal role in keeping the Lowman Plant operational from an electrical standpoint.

"We do all the controls for maintaining the running of the generators, to protective services, the firing of the boilers, stuff like that," Etheridge said. "There's 15 of us [in the department]."

Etheridge said he loves the job. There have been some challenges, but his coworkers have been his favorite part of the job.

"Probably the biggest challenge has been the advancements in technology," Etheridge said. "When I first came here, we had a lot of pneumatic analog controls, and we have changed from that to where we're at today in the technology for Emerson controls. It's super advanced, I mean, we do in-house graphics, controls, everything.

"My coworkers have by far been the best part of the job. We always worked together and got it done. I've had a good run here. I came here young. The company put a lot of responsibility on us — on the 15 of us in the shop. We've been out here in the middle of the night, sometimes at midnight, with a multi-million dollar piece of equipment in the palm of our hands and, you know, in that moment it's ours. They let you make all the decisions, and I've always enjoyed it."

Several of those coworkers had an impact on Etheridge over the course of his career.

"I'm the last of the original crew in my department," he said. "I had coworkers with me in the department like Johnny Wilson and Hershel Carpenter and my past supervisor Roy Donald, also Dale Chapman. I've worked with a good group of men. Most of the men out here, they're not afraid to show you what they know."

Etheridge reflected on the uncertainty in the air as the plant prepares for closure in October.

"Biggest thing I think is changing, I guess, is priorities," he said. "Things are changing at a rapid rate. The world's changing. It's not like it used to be. When we first came here, we were working overtime. The units were unstable, but we set records on megawatts and all kinds of records on safety, production, everything. We took pride in it. We kept it going. All these



"We took pride in it.  
We kept it running."

**CHARLIE ETHERIDGE**

years, we've been here under all conditions. We've been up in the middle of the night from bad weather to storms to freezes, hurricanes. It didn't make any difference what conditions — we've been here."

Etheridge's wife of many years passed away four years ago. He enjoys hunting and fishing, and he is heavily involved with his church.

"I go to First Baptist Church in Jackson, and I love it," he said. "I love my church."

### Donald Richardson

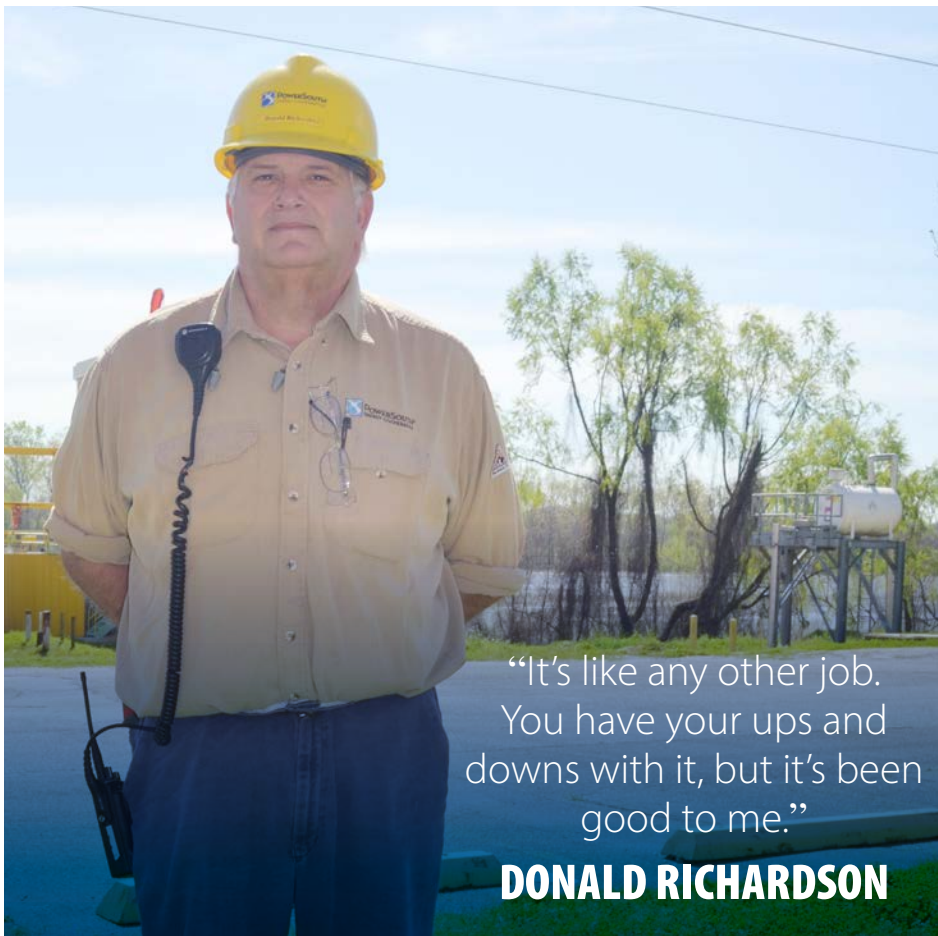
Richardson started in 1979, after Unit 2 was already online and as Unit 3 was about to go commercial.

"I started as summer help, then when I hired on permanently I went into coal handling," he said. "They were already pretty well-staffed when I came here. I was in coal handling for a year. I would have stayed in coal handling,

**Continued on page 4 ►**

**Honored for  
5 years of service  
in December  
1989 were:  
(back row)  
Bill Blount,  
Earl Strong,  
Dean Bedwell,  
(front row)  
Charlie  
Etheridge, Roy  
Guy and Robby  
Loper.**





“It’s like any other job. You have your ups and downs with it, but it’s been good to me.”

**DONALD RICHARDSON**

but back then people in operations would bid back to coal handling and bump us out. A lot of assistants that were in operations came back to coal handling, and you couldn’t move up down there.”

Before coming to PowerSouth, Richardson and his father owned a used car lot. Richardson did mechanic work on the side, as well.

Working in operations, he said, can be unpredictable but rewarding work. “We work different places, so one day might be different than another day,” he said.

He identifies a good day of work as one with no coal problems.

“On a normal day, though, if we were running as much as we used to and, let’s say I was working in the control room, I’d have to stay for a safety meeting, check boilers, basement, fan yards, oil levels, hydrogen. You do that every two hours, making sure everything is running like it’s supposed to.”

Like the others, Richardson received guidance and developed a good relationship with his coworkers when he first started at the plant.

“That’s been a long time ago, so it’s hard to remember all of them,” Richardson said. “I trained

under Floyd McDonald. But, different people would train you. I couldn’t say one person did more than another person, but they all helped in their own way.”

The most satisfying part of the job, Richardson said, was training the younger people. “I’ve trained a lot of people. I liked the challenge of training them. Some you couldn’t train; some you could.”

Another challenge was a constant shifting of the job.

“The outside people (like I was), our job changes. You really just had to be prepared for any kind of little problem that came up and you had to know your job really.”

As far as changes, Richardson said there have been significant changes with safety.

“Basically, my job’s the same. I would say safety has changed a lot. When I first came here, we were producing the bulk of the power. Safety has gotten a lot better. They improved the safety department a lot. As far as equipment, it stayed the same over the years. Now the operators, they updated the computers for them — the controllers and stuff — basically my stuff stayed the same over the years. Even Unit 1 is the same as far as the outside work.”

Outside of work, Richardson — who remains close with his brother and sister — said he’s “just in between right now” in these times of uncertainty.

“I don’t know whether I should open my automotive shop back up or not,” Richardson said. “I’d like to stay on to do the decommission work, then I’d just retire. I don’t think you’ll find anybody that knows the outside more than me, because I’ve been working it for 40-plus years.

“But, I like my job. It’s like every other job. You have your ups and downs with it. I liked it, you know. It’s been good to me.” ■

*TOMBIGBEE PLANT  
ALABAMA 73-11-1  
MAY 13, 1987  
SOUTH ELEVATION*





# COVID-19: Keeping the lights on

As part of the critical infrastructure defined by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, PowerSouth responded to COVID-19 by implementing its pandemic plan in mid-March.

"Our mission is to safely generate and transmit reliable, affordable electricity to our distribution system members," said Gary Smith, PowerSouth President and CEO. "Like other businesses during these uncertain times of medical emergency, we are focused on keeping our employees safe and healthy while providing this vital service."

In addition to adherence to pandemic operating precautions, such as practicing good hygiene, requiring sick workers to stay home, curtailing business travel, and strictly limiting visitors to facilities, PowerSouth set up telework for some employees beginning Monday, March 23.

The pandemic plan includes functions that allow essential employees to be sheltered in place. Essential employees, such as those that operate the power plants and the energy control center, are the employees that are unable to do their jobs from home.

"If the situation worsens in the communities in which our facilities are located, we have plans to require critical operating employees to remain at work and be sequestered from the general population," said Smith.

"Those people will remain in the facilities for a specified period of time. We have resources to feed and house critical personnel for the first two weeks of sequestration and will be making arrangements for possible longer periods," said Smith. "During this outbreak, we are following

Center for Disease Control protocols for disinfecting facilities."

PowerSouth is encouraging employees working from home to use caution in interacting with the community, in crowds and with the public, since those at home may be required to replace employees who are physically at work who become ill or who are otherwise unable to be there. According to

Smith, the cooperative has resources to allow meetings to take place online or by telephone, rather than in person.

The chief executive said PowerSouth has been in touch with utilities across the country. "We understand that the quality of life during this difficult time rests even more heavily on access to energy, and we're taking the necessary precautions to keep the lights on." ■



## Ways to stay in touch with your team

- Schedule virtual meetings.
- Use a secure online forum for informal check-ins and encouragement.



## Ideas for keeping your children engaged


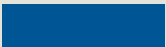


- Provide opportunities for online learning.
- Give them creative ways to learn, such as art projects, music, reading and even board games.



## Keeping your own mental health intact

- Stick to a routine and be sure to schedule breaks!
- Get moving with some exercise — indoors and out.
- Connect with your favorite people by phone or social media.

## How long the virus lives on various surfaces

<b>COPPER</b>		<b>Up to 4 hours</b>
<b>ALUMINUM</b>		<b>Up to 8 hours</b>
<b>CARDBOARD</b>		<b>Up to 24 hours</b>
<b>STAINLESS STEEL AND PLASTIC</b>		<b>2-3 days</b>

# A faster, better telecommunication system

Communications are essential to visibility and control of a complex power system.

"If parts of our telecommunication system are down, it's like driving a car with a blacked out window," said Director of Engineering Joe Armstrong, addressing the importance of the cooperative's 10-year Telecom Master Plan (TMP). According to Armstrong, system improvements will help keep reliability high and the cost of service low for PowerSouth's members and nearly half a million end users.

## The need for speed

TMP implementation began last year with a tenfold increase in speed to PowerSouth's core network, giving system operators near real-time access to rapidly changing data.

Installing fiber optic cable will also enable PowerSouth's network to move large amounts of electronic data faster and over longer distances.

Telecom Engineering Supervisor Russell Rigdon has faced the challenges. "High-capacity lines must be taken out during non-peaking times in the spring and fall, for short windows of time," he said. "Personnel must also work around planned outages."

## Communication anytime, anywhere

For operations and safety, personnel must be able to communicate remotely. Expanding the cooperative's wireless and private land mobile radio (LMR) systems will fill gaps where there is no service and extend coverage to every PowerSouth transmission and distribution substation.

The LMR system will continue to play a critical role in keeping communications open between personnel when other service providers, such as cellular, are down.

## Reducing outage time

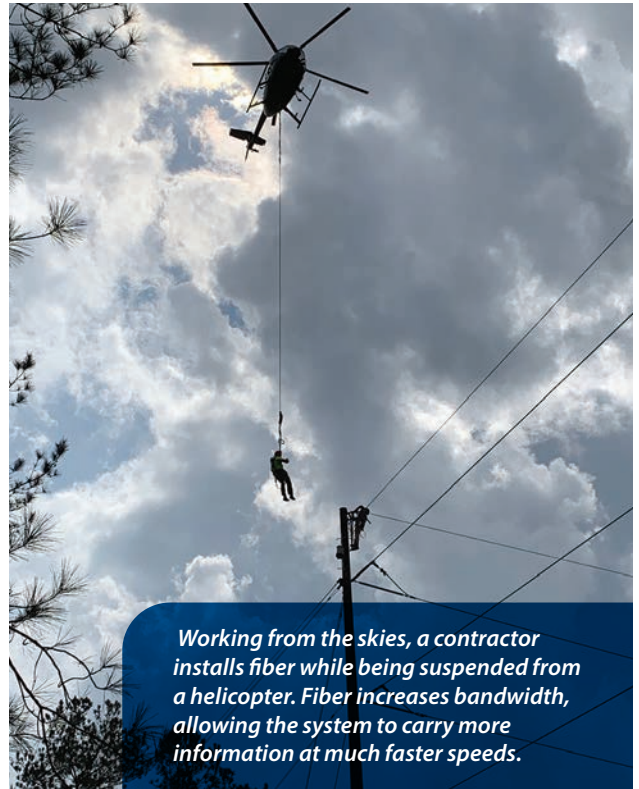
System updates are already decreasing outage duration. When a tree fell on a line between Andrews Junction and West Point in Lee County, PowerSouth's Operations group quickly received a signal conveying which breakers were open and the location of the power interruption.

Energy Control Center operators reenergized the breaker remotely, restoring power to three substations and about 3,000 meters within nine minutes.

## More partnerships, more opportunities for growth

PowerSouth and its members are forming mutually beneficial partnerships with other service providers, such as local cable businesses, for high-speed communications to substations and offices.

Telecom Services Manager Chad Jenkins sees another benefit. "If part of PowerSouth's



*Working from the skies, a contractor installs fiber while being suspended from a helicopter. Fiber increases bandwidth, allowing the system to carry more information at much faster speeds.*

private communication system fails," he said, "information securely reroutes over public infrastructure within a few seconds."

Some members are also using excess network capacity to enhance office connections, improve metering and billing applications, and support their surveillance systems.

A strong PowerSouth telecommunication system is essential to safely delivering reliable and affordable energy for years to come. The TMP is making that a reality. ■

## Upgrades for a stronger system

21 new access point towers to expand coverage and help fill in communication gaps

93%

Land mobile radio (LMR) coverage in PowerSouth's service area, an increase from 79%

600

miles of fiber to increase bandwidth and move more data faster

1,000%

increase of core network capacity from 1G to 10G

# PowerSouth honored for safety behind the wheel

In February, PowerSouth received the Liberty Mutual 2019 Gold Safety Award for Outstanding Safe Driving Performance. The award celebrated safe driving achievements of PowerSouth employees throughout the year. The recognition was a testament to the cooperative's emphasis on safety first as part of its mission to safely deliver reliable and affordable wholesale electricity to members.

To stay safe on the roadways, all PowerSouth employees are required to take a decision

driving course. Using in-office and real-world training, the course teaches employees steps for being smart, safe and aware while driving. PowerSouth emphasizes safety every day — on the roadways and off. ■

***Below: Telecommunications Technician Paul Ayers and all PowerSouth employees keep safety first on the roads.***



## 2019 safe driving stats

**2 million+ miles**

driven by PowerSouth employees



**0 at-fault accidents**

involving PowerSouth vehicles



High school and college graduates will be honored in the June issue of *Powerlines*. Any PowerSouth employee who has a child graduating may send a high-quality photo, along with the graduate's name, degree and school, to [christi.scruggs@powersouth.com](mailto:christi.scruggs@powersouth.com) by **Friday, May 8**.

**For photos sent from mobile phones, please be sure to select the largest file size or original size option.**



## Spring clean your digital machines



**Do a digital file purge**  
Clean up emails and unsubscribe to those you don't need.



**Keep a clean machine**  
Ensure that software on all internet-connected devices is up to date.



**Lock down your login**  
Enable strong passwords and authentication tools for your online accounts.



**Save important info**  
Back up important data to a secure cloud site or another computer/drive.

*Source: StaySafeOnline.org*



# Energy-saving partnership helps Wiregrass EC service organization



*SARCOA's monthly energy use is cut by nearly half, thanks to this team. (Left to right): Wiregrass EC Manager of Energy Services Jessie Ingram, SARCOA's Director of Finance Joel Bass and Information Technology Support Specialist Marty Walden, and PowerSouth Commercial and Industrial Accounts Coordinator Skip Spurlin.*

With assistance from Wiregrass EC, the Southern Alabama Regional Council on Aging (SARCOA) has implemented energy conservation measures to achieve a 45% reduction in monthly energy usage.

This savings allows SARCOA to better serve the elderly and disabled community, administer federal grants, and oversee the senior centers in their region, among other things.

SARCOA Director of Finance Joel Bass said he simply assumed that their bill was high in the wintertime, because "that's just the way things are — your bill is higher in the winter." Once Wiregrass EC Manager of Energy Services Jessie Ingram showed Bass why their bill was so high, they worked together to reduce their demand and energy usage.

Wiregrass helped SARCOA implement the following energy conservation measures:

- Improved HVAC sequence of operation
- Installed LED lighting
- Installed foam roof deck insulation
- Upgraded the HVAC control system
- Trained employees on the proper use of the control system

Bass said he is thankful that they "have so much control over the system now instead of shooting the demand up by turning

everything on at once." SARCOA Information Technology Support Specialist Marty Walden appreciates that "everything is staged because of the new system and lighting."



*Wiregrass EC's Jessie Ingram checks the operation of the updated control system.*

After a competitive energy feasibility study and proposal, SARCOA realized that they could self-perform the recommended LED lighting retrofit to realize a faster return on investment. Because SARCOA decided to partner with Wiregrass, Bass and Walden see that they "now

have a better understanding of how everything works together." PowerSouth Commercial and Industrial Accounts Coordinator Skip Spurlin said SARCOA now has the ability to control their mechanical systems, energy usage and demand.

Seeing the success of the project, Ingram believes that "it is important to have a reciprocal relationship with my members because it controls costs. I never dreamt that SARCOA would do everything that they did — the numbers are unreal to me." Walden said, "I'm completely blown away by the savings. I don't think any of us expected it to be that good."

Ingram shares that "getting the trust of members and being conservative was crucial in the success of this project." Bass encourages other businesses interested in this service to "look at the numbers because I don't believe that we would be where we are today if we had not." ■



*Sara Wilson, graduating in May 2020 with a degree in Communications, is completing an internship with PowerSouth this spring.*



# Just Asking – for a Friend

A friend told me Joe Biden said on *Face the Nation* the Russians interfered in the 2016 presidential elections and continue to try to interfere in U.S. politics to influence the 2020 presidential election. *The Washington Post* and other media outlets report U.S. officials have told Senator Bernie Sanders that Russia is attempting to help his presidential campaign as part of an effort to interfere with the 2020 democratic nomination.

My friend asked me, “If the Russians could influence a presidential election, could they also influence the public opinion on global warming?”

The Mueller Report found Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election was illegal and occurred in a sweeping and systematic fashion. It also states Russian interference deserves the attention of every American.

The Report determined Russia employed tactics during the 2016 election it has used closer to home to cause disruption among its democratic neighbors in the Balkans and to expand its influence. Before Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine in 2014, for example, it launched a cyber campaign in eastern Europe, flooding news websites in Ukraine with tens of thousands of comments during unrest there, according to a report by the non-profit Rand Corp.

Additionally, the Report found Russians bought at least \$100,000 of Facebook ads before the 2016 presidential election and bombarded Twitter accounts that boosted Trump and disparaged Hillary Clinton. The Russians unleashed another weapon in their unconventional arsenal: cyber espionage, stealing emails and disseminating them to embarrass democrats.

The Report cited an anti-Clinton ad from March 2016 with a caption that read in part, “If one day God lets this liar enter the White House as a president — that day would be a real national tragedy.”

The Russian campaign began in 2014, according to the Report, when the Internet Research Agency (IRA) mimicked Americans on social media. “Using fictitious U.S. personas,

IRA employees operated social media accounts and group pages designed to attract U.S. audiences,” the report says. “By early- to mid-2016, IRA operations included supporting the Trump campaign and criticizing Hillary Clinton.”

The operations seized on social divisions and showed a clear bias toward Trump, said Young Mie Kim, a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, whose research analyzed 3,500 Facebook ads bought by Russia and released last year by the House Intelligence Committee. “If the goal was to simply sow the division, then you should see voter suppression targeting likely Trump voters,” Kim said in an email. “We found ZERO voter suppression targeting likely Trump voters.”

*The Wall Street Journal* recently reported on China’s reaction to Walter Russell Mead’s article, *China is the Real Sick Man of Asia*, about the Chinese government’s management of the coronavirus epidemic. *The Journal* reports the Chinese government initiated a public campaign against the article. Its mailbox was flooded with complaints about the article, all containing similar language demanding an apology. A campaign was orchestrated to get Mr. Mead banned from Twitter.

*The Journal* states, “If you think this was spontaneous outrage, you don’t understand how China’s government works to influence public opinion home and abroad. Beijing knows how to exploit America’s identity politics to charge racism in the article in service of its censorship.”

Democrats and republicans, liberals and conservatives all are of the opinion that foreign governments or foreign agents are actively involved in influencing or disrupting U.S. opinion on certain issues that could be advantageous to their interests. Democrats are convinced Russians contrived to influence the 2016 election. It is apparent Chinese are active in influencing reporting to build opposition to criticism about government management of the coronavirus and other issues.

My friend raises an interesting issue. If the Russians could throw a presidential election could they or China or both be active in influencing the U.S. debate on climate change?



The cost of all U.S.-produced goods and services would be increased if the U.S. adopts even moderate action to mitigate climate change. If the cost of U.S. goods is increased, Chinese goods and even Russian goods become much more competitive and could result in China replacing the U.S. as the global economic power.

China has made no commitment to cut its carbon emissions. Can we trust the Chinese or the Russians to accurately report carbon emissions? There is an energy cost component in every product or service. If our cost of production, while today threatened by Chinese goods, could be displaced as the world leader with an increased cost of energy, could the Chinese or Russians be using fictitious U.S. personas, American-appearing social media accounts and group page audiences to influence U.S. opinion on climate change? Could foreign interests be exploiting American free speech to become the leading world economic power?

Not that I believe that the Chinese or the Russians could be that smart or strategic. Just asking — for a friend.

I hope you have a good month. ■



**Gary Smith**

PowerSouth President and CEO

# SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES



**Randy Reid**  
Lowman  
43 years, April 4



**Barry Orso**  
McIntosh  
40 years, April 8



**David Norris**  
T&D Eng. & Const.  
33 years, April 6



**Belinda Dunn**  
Comp. Info Services  
33 years, April 20



**Tracy Simpler**  
Comp. Info Services  
30 years, April 23



**Ron Graham**  
Power Supply  
30 years, April 30



**Darren Smith**  
Computer Info. Services  
29 years, April 22



**Greg Brunson**  
Lowman  
27 years, April 12



**Chad Busby**  
Lowman  
27 years, April 12



**Russ Jones**  
Lowman  
27 years, April 13



**Linda Eastman**  
Finance & Accounting  
26 years, April 11



**Craig Fore**  
Telecom Services  
26 years, April 25



**Michael Dauphin**  
Central Generation  
24 years, April 1



**Byron Beverly**  
Lowman  
24 years, April 8



**Benji Elmore**  
McIntosh  
24 years, April 8



**David Wyatt**  
Central Generation  
24 years, April 22



**Rob White**  
Telecom Services  
22 years, April 13



**John Turvin**  
Central Generation  
21 years, April 23



**Stacy Carpenter**  
Lowman  
21 years, April 26



**Kenny Jones**  
Comp. Info Services  
19 years, April 28



**T.J. Defee**  
Central Generation  
18 years, April 22



**Russ Vickery**  
Safety Services  
17 years, April 28



**Scott Rogers**  
Central Generation  
14 years, April 3



**Brian Sanderson**  
Lowman  
14 years, April 24



**Cheyney Robinson**  
Central Generation  
13 years, April 16



**Windell Bedwell**  
Lowman  
13 years, April 23



**Billy Brewer**  
Lowman  
13 years, April 23



**Tim Maten**  
Lowman  
13 years, April 23



**David Gammage**  
Central Generation  
13 years, April 30



**Dylan Hopper**  
Transmission O&M  
13 years, April 30



**Brett Mack**  
Transmission O&M  
13 years, April 30



**Jennifer Brooks**  
Financial Planning  
12 years, April 14



**Matthew Bush**  
Substation O&M  
12 years, April 14



**Jamie Jones**  
Telecom Services  
12 years, April 14



**Kenneth Baggett**  
Power Production  
12 years, April 22



**J.P. Milstead**  
McIntosh  
9 years, April 4



**Cody Williams**  
McIntosh  
9 years, April 4



**Bob Bentley**  
Bulk Power Services  
9 years, April 11



**Greig Foshee**  
T&D Eng. & Const.  
8 years, April 2



**Dorothy Smith**  
Lowman  
8 years, April 16



**Joseph Baxley**  
Safety Services  
7 years, April 30



**Leigh Grantham**  
Mbr. Serv. & Comm.  
6 years, April 7



**Andrew Jones**  
T&D Technical Services  
5 years, April 20



**Alex Mount**  
Finance & Accounting  
4 years, April 11



**Steven Hinote**  
Transmission O&M  
4 years, April 25



**Kim Thomas**  
Safety Services  
4 years, April 25



**Suzanne Harrell**  
T&D Eng. & Const.  
4 years, April 28



**George Patterson**  
Bulk Power Services  
4 years, April 29



**Baynard Ward**  
Communications  
4 years, April 29



**Jacob King**  
Computer Info. Services  
2 years, April 30



**Benji Jordan**  
Substation O&M  
1 year, April 1



**Drew Nixon**  
Substation O&M  
1 year, April 8



**Blake Quimby**  
Engineering Division  
1 year, April 15



**Brandon Garrett**  
Engineering  
1 year, April 22



# Comings and goings

## Welcome

**Chris Bedsole**, Evening Custodian in Safety Services, effective Feb. 24.

**Rhonda Cleghorn**, Evening Custodian in Safety Services, effective Feb. 17.

**Nathan Johns**, Evening Custodian in Safety Services, effective Feb. 17.

**William Piggott, Jr.**, Work Study in Substation O&M, effective Feb. 17.

**Joseph Snider**, Work Study in Safety Services, effective Feb. 24.

## Promotions

**Jason Anderson** was promoted to McIntosh O&M Superintendent from Plant Supervisor, effective Feb. 23.

**Brett Campbell** was promoted to Engineer II from Engineer III at Lowman, effective Feb. 16.

**David Murphy** was promoted to Central Lines Supervisor from District Crew Leader in Transmission O&M, effective Feb. 3.

## Retirement

Best wishes to **Brenda Rodgers**, who retired Feb. 21 after 18 years of service. Her most recent position was Administrative Clerk in Legal Affairs.



At the recent Southeast Worlds of Work expo, thousands of eighth grade students from Alabama, Georgia and Florida got a chance to see what a career in electricity would be like and if it would be the right fit for them. Here, PowerSouth Energy Services Training Coordinator Jeff Gorum gives a group of students a glimpse at the industry. Covington Electric EC, Pea River EC, South Alabama EC, Wiregrass EC and PowerSouth took part in the expo.

# Happy Birthday!

April 2.....	Asa Landon Max Smith
April 3.....	Alex Short
April 4.....	Madison McCormick Jonathan Norris
April 5.....	T.J. Harrison Scarlett Phaneuf
April 6.....	Suzanne Grissett Debbie Marcum Russell Wallace
April 7.....	Joe Jones
April 8.....	DeAndrea Pylon
April 9.....	Dennis O'Neal
April 10.....	Harrison Obenhofer Heath Williamson
April 11.....	Robby Loper
April 12.....	Abigail Hammett Brian Salter
April 13.....	Darren Smith
April 14.....	Dusty Coker Donnie Pitts
April 15.....	Bill Sexton
April 17.....	Joe Day Carol Page Dorothy Smith Jim Warr
April 18.....	Miles Hammac Patrick McCalman Alex Mount
April 19.....	Terry Caldwell
April 21.....	Matt Canant
April 22.....	Catherine Dubose
April 23.....	Wesley Pearce Josh Williamson
April 24.....	Ed Karr Chris Tillman
April 25.....	Mitch Alexander
April 26.....	Siobhan Teel
April 27.....	Amy Johnson
April 28.....	Brian W. Jones Jackson Vickery
April 29.....	Derek Dillard Johnny Wilson Scott Wright
April 30.....	Cory Bryan Craig Wilson

**POWERSOUTH**  
Monthly Board Meeting





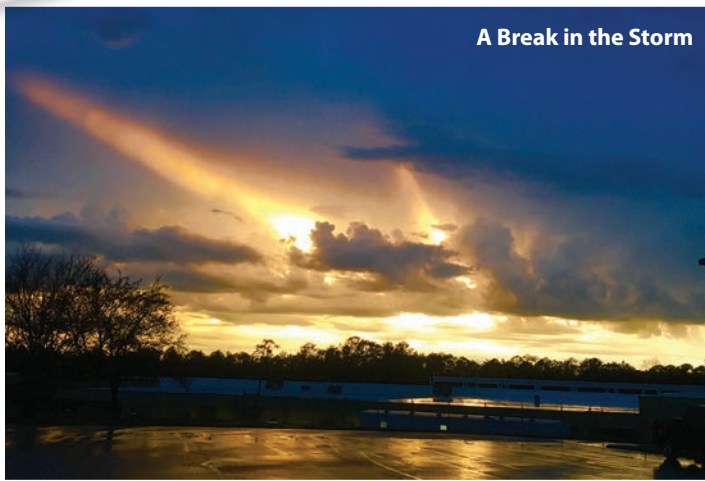
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April photo contest  
winner: **Kim Johns**



Congratulations to **Kim Johns** (Executive Division) for winning this month's photo contest. April's photo contest theme was **That's Amazing!**

May's photo contest theme is **Sports.**

**IMPORTANT:** When sending photos taken with a mobile device (cellphone), be sure to send the highest quality possible.

The submission deadline for the May contest is April 15. Please submit only one entry per employee per month.

Send entries to Christi Scruggs at [christi.scruggs@powersouth.com](mailto:christi.scruggs@powersouth.com) or via interoffice mail. ■

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