

SRS HERITAGE FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER SPECIAL EDITION

November, 2014

RIBBON CUTTING LAUNCHES MUSEUM



The Savannah River Site Museum was officially launched with a ribbon-cutting ceremony October 27th. The gathering was sponsored by the SRS Heritage Foundation, Aiken County and Savannah River Nuclear Solutions.

The ceremony was attended by an enthusiastic group of about 80, including many elected officials and local business leaders. In the crowd were 1 US congressman, 3 state senators (from both South Carolina and Georgia), 2 South Carolina representatives, and members of the Aiken County and Aiken City Councils. Dr. David Moody, Manager of the Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office, and staff members from several SRS contractors also participated along with Foundation members and interested citizens.

The ceremony was preceded with a series of brief presentations:

- Walt Joseph, Executive Director of the SRS Heritage Foundation, opened by welcoming assembled guests and referring to the day as “a dream come true”.
- Ronnie Young, Chairman of the Aiken County Council, expressed his pleasure that “this fine old building is being opened to the public for their education and enjoyment”.
- Joe Wilson, Representative from the South Carolina 2nd District, spoke of the importance of history and reminded the audience that he is the only member of Congress who has worked at the Savannah River Site.

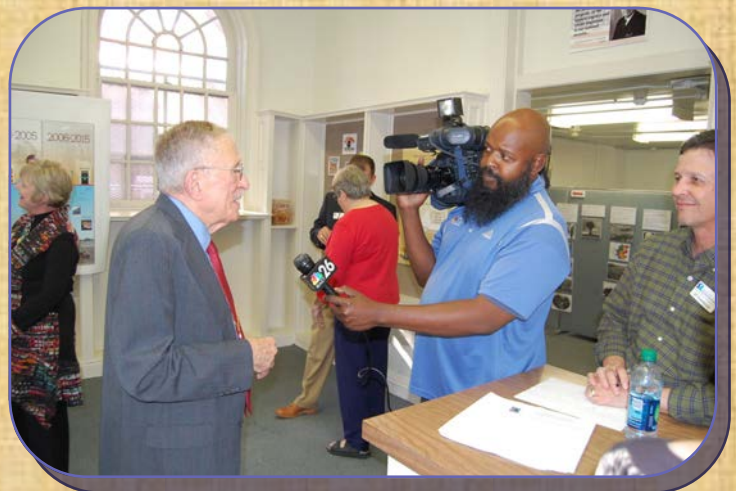
- Carol Johnson, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions President and Chief Executive Officer, spoke of her pleasure at returning to SRS and the important work being accomplished at the Site.
- Dwayne Wilson, Fluor International and former President and CEO of SRNS, praised SRS employees and the opportunity to inform the public about their many achievements.



After the ribbon was cut, guests were treated to a tour of the first floor of the Museum building. Featured exhibits included a SRS timeline, the Cold War, SRS plutonium-238 used in deep space exploration, and ecological studies of box turtles in wooded and suburban environments. Brief clips from Foundation interviews

with former SRS employees and local residents were shown in the Museum theatre. Guests were very appreciative of the work that has been accomplished to date. Former Ellenton resident, Garfield Walker, summarized the experience by saying that he wanted to see the contributions made by the coming of SRS. "I wanted to find out how it changed the economy, how it created more jobs, how it changed education... when DuPont came, all of that changed. So it was an experience, and this museum is a testament to the standards this area has today."





Thank you to Mr. Allan Riddick and Mr. Todd Lista for providing the photos.

Preserving & Interpreting Savannah River Site History

THANKS FOR HELP MAKING THE RIBBON-CUTTING A SUCCESS

The SRS Heritage Foundation thanks the friends and supporters who helped make the ribbon-cutting a very successful event:

- Darrin Tanton and his Aiken County staff, for clearing tree limbs and excess vegetation and installing fire safety equipment in the building
- Savannah River Nuclear Solutions for managing the logistics, including the invitations, tent, refreshments, and publicity
- New South Associates for design of the SRS Timeline exhibit and fabrication of the small model when delivery of the full-size Timeline could not be accomplished in time for the ribbon-cutting
- Connie Shepard and Leo Grief of Home Depot for arranging for the Foundation to participate in the Home Depot PRO discount program for paint and carpet purchases
- Cold Creek Nursery for contributing and installing landscaping in front of the building
- Brenda Barrato, Mary White and Ashley Oswald of the Aiken County Historical Museum for providing artifacts for exhibit and preparing exhibit materials for the SRS Museum
- Members of the SRS Heritage Foundation who cleaned, painted, fabricated and contributed to achieving the dream.