

The Next Stage

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 4

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

NOVEMBER 14, 2018



CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AT MAGNOLIA TRACE!!

Think we'll have a White Christmas this year? Come join the warm camaraderie of dear friends at the Christmas luncheon, scheduled for **Saturday, December 1st, at Magnolia Trace's Magnolia Room, 1 Clubhouse Avenue in Huntsville. Social hour begins at 11:00 a.m., and the buffet lunch ~12:00 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person!** (Great negotiating, Paul and Cec!) We have the room until 3:00 p.m. so sit and visit a while.

Dues must be current, so check your mailing label to check your status. We don't want to miss you or your guests, nor you miss a possible door prize!

Paid reservations are required by noon Saturday, November 24th, and may be submitted to HDAA P.O. Box 4185, Huntsville, AL 35815-4185.

Your committee chairman, Paul McFall, has planned a fabulous event for us, Thanks to Cecil and Shirley Stokes for sponsoring our luncheon as their guests at Magnolia Trace.

A delicious fare of tossed salad, bread, orange chicken, beef tenderloin, asparagus, Southern green beans, rosemary roasted potatoes, creamed sweet corn, pecan pie, chocolate mousse truffle cake, coffee, tea and water will be served. ("If it ain't broke, don't fix it," right?) A wine bar will be available.

Door prizes this year will be an assortment of *gift cards* to local restaurants. Winners must be present to win, and only one winner per household.

Directions to Magnolia Trace: South Memorial Parkway, west on Boulevard South. Check in at gate, follow Club-house Avenue to Magnolia Trace main community building.

*Come share the Christmas Spirit with dear friends.
And, best of luck at winning one of the fabulous door prizes!*

Remember: Life is better when you're laughing! 😊

TTR Round!@ Logan's, That is!

Come join us for the Engineering Luncheon, to be held on Monday, December 10, 11:00 a.m. at Logan's on Balmoral Dr/HSV...in their garage.

Contact Nita Boyd at 256/603-7349 for a head count.

Please help spread the word!

*Hope to see you there...Tell them you're with the
Thiokol Engineering Group!*

Next Board Mtgs:

(2nd Thurs each qtr)
Jan 11, Apr 13,
Jul 12, Oct 11 2019

2:30 pm Faith
Presbyterian Church,
SE corner of
Whitesburg/Airport.

*Come join your
Board in preparing
for an exciting year
ahead!*

Dates to Remember:

2018

12/1: Christmas Party
(Magnolia Trace,
Social 11:00/Buffer 12 N)

2019

-Spring Breakfast TBD
-Summer Picnic TBD -
Grn Mtn Nature Trail.
-Fall Dinner TBD
-Christmas Party TBD

Specific details will be
provided closer to the
date of the event!
Hope to see you at
every event!

Monthly:

1st Wed: Ladies
lunch, 11:00, Gibson's
BBQ/S. Mem. Pkwy.
Call Faye/551-0126
for details.

**2nd Tue: Bill
Russell at 650-5400
still trying to create
a fun breakfast
group. Call him!**

3rd Wed: Lunch at
Logan's/Balmoral
12:00. Call Jim
Gasaway/256/353-
7199 and ask to be
added to his emails!

Concerns: Northrup Grumman Benefits?

Dan Merenda, Sr. Program Manager of HSV Operations for the SLS Program, Northrup Grumman Innovation Systems, Propulsion Systems Division, has indicated current employees should not expect to see any significant benefit changes for at least a year. What effects might come after that would be consolidated with what the rest of the company does. How that might affect folks who've retired over the years is unknown at this time.

Mr. Merenda is the point of contact for HSV Human Resources. If you have any questions, give him a call at 256/544-8825 or Daniel.merenda@ngc.com.

Fall Luncheon = Balanced Budget!

Bill and Amma Barnes did what even Congress can't do: came out with a **balanced budget** for a wonderful fall luncheon! A few no-shows were countered with a few "drop-ins," so it worked out perfectly. *Congratulations on another job well done! Great food, fabulous camaraderie, another memorable luncheon. Thanks, Brookdale!*



Kathy Bazzell Brenda Turner Barbara Plonka Helen Mitchell



Sam and Liz Zeman

Tom and Sharon Turner



Alice and Ron Clements toasting to another fabulous event!
Thanks, again, to Paul McFall, Bill and Amma Barnes.

Check out the HDAA FaceBook page to see all of the other photos in color...and, larger!

Open Enrollment Quandry?

If satisfied with your supplemental insurances, keep them. If questions, **OneExchange** (remember them?) can ease the selection process. They are "one-stop shopping" to help you make wise selections, with the ability to compare costs of most programs for your specific needs and prescribed drugs, perhaps saving you money.

Call **1-855-769-7952** to see if they are able to help you. And, don't forget the **open enrollment period ends 12/7/18**.

Good luck!

FRIENDS IN THE NEWS....



Now, it's not every day that we get to celebrate 90th-year birthdays of dear friends. But, we did recently attend one for **Bill Schwarz** in Mentone. He and Sue are shown above as he entered the room where the party was held.

Thanks, Janet Schwarz Hamilton and Sue, for letting us share in his life celebration!

The soul is sweetened by the wise counsel of a friend.

-Proverbs 27:9



As most of you already know **Dave and Yvonne Flanigan** have serious health issues. Well loved by many, Dave can be seen above with friends who recently paid him a visit. He has such an upbeat manner and an incredible attitude, and a smile for all who come to visit. Keep Dave, Yvonne, and theirs in your thoughts and prayers. L-R: Bob Wardle, Jamie Neidert, Dave, Charlie Zisette, Dale Hutchens. *Still dazzling 'em with your brilliance, Dr. Dave! Love that spirit.*

SLATE OF OFFICERS AND BOARD NOMINATED FOR 2019

(Highlighted names only to be voted upon at the annual Christmas Business Meeting.)

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer/Membership

Bill Barnes
TBD (Interested? Call a Board Member)
Cecil Stokes
Charlie Thomas

Directors: Directors: ('19) Jim Gasaway
 Paul McFall
 Gerald Roberts

Directors: ('20) Ron Clements
 Harold Whitesides
 Roy Willis
 Sam Zeman

Director: (21) Tom Bryant
John DeHaye
Don Royston
Patti Wilson

Ex Officio: Vacant/Historian
 Cecil Stokes/WebMaster

Retiring from Board: Joyce Royston and Don Wilson.

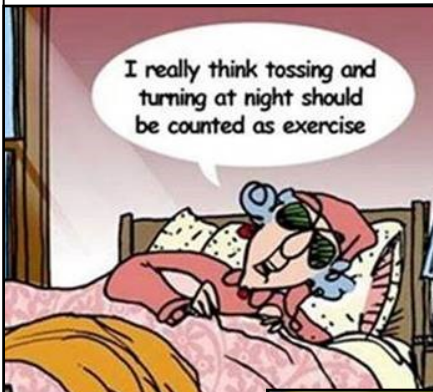
To those departing and to all who agreed to serve again...

THANKS for serving HDAA with your time and efforts!

Thanks to the nominating committee for doing such an outstanding job! It's difficult to recruit new Board members, since no one wants to commit. The meetings are only four times a year at 2:30 p.m., and are seldom longer than one hour, often less! That's only **Four Hours A Year!** Why not consider serving on the Board? It's fun, productive, keeps your mind active, and you're an integral part of a very unique organization. Nothing feels better than serving others. Join us!

People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is light from within.

-Elisabeth Kubler-Ross



**Can
You
Relate?**

**Gotta
Love
Maxine!**

When I die I want my last words to be, "I left a million dollars under the....."



**Mean...
But, funny.**

University of AL/HSV Oral Archives

If you are interested in helping to preserve the history of Thiokol/Huntsville Division, and the impact it had on the propulsion industry, the military branches, and the entire world (think launch assist for satellites which enable your use of GPS, cell phones, etc.), interviews are still being conducted. Why not become a part of this historical endeavor, and provide your personal perspective on your affiliation with Thiokol and the affect it had on your life?

Contact Cecil Stokes, Glenn Webb, or Sam Zeman to get scheduled for an interview. It can be as formal (lights, camera, action!), or informal (conversation around a meal table) as you like. And, if you're not living in the Huntsville area, Zoom (like Skype) might be possible.

Give one of the men, above, a call, and become a part of this vital piece of history. *Believe you'll truly enjoy it!*

Proposed Thiokol Greenway

Your HDAA Board is still pursuing the possibility of having a planned greenway between Bell Mountain Park (Gate 3) and the new Grissom High School (Haysland Square) named the "Thiokol Greenway." A permanent sign to that effect is being considered for the area near the old plant site, along with a bench or two for sitting, reading the sign, and reminiscing a bit about your history with Thiokol...or, someone else you may know who worked there.

A grant will be sought to help fund the amenities for this Thiokol Greenway; but, we may find "matching funds" or other commitments may be required to achieve this. The Board might be seeking donations for this venture and/or approval to use HDAA funds. In light of that, this will be brought before the membership at the Christmas Party, and a vote taken of those in attendance on what funding might be considered.

More details provided at the party. Your thoughts welcome.



The Next Stage

The Huntsville Division Alumni Association
P.O. Box 4185
Huntsville, AL 35815-4185

Place
Stamp
Here

REMINDER: \$12 DUES FOR 2018 MUST BE CURRENT
TO ATTEND OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!



*Give thanks in all you do,
all you have, all you are.*

*May the spirit of the season
be with you throughout the
coming year.*

*Share the joy,
bring peace to all you do,
and embrace the love.*

Happy New Year 2019!

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The Next Stage is the quarterly newsletter publication of the Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc. Distribution: approximately 100. Editor: Patti Wilson. Its address is POB 4185; Huntsville, AL; 35815-4185.

The 2018 HDAA Board consists of President John DeHaye, Vice President/Bill Barnes, Secretary Cecil Stokes, Treasurer/Membership Charlie Thomas, and Directors: Tom Bryant (18), Don Royston (18), Joyce Royston (18), Don Wilson (18), Jim Gasaway (19), Paul McFall (19), and Gerald Roberts (19). Ron Clements (20), Bill Barnes (20), Roy Willis (20), Harold Whitesides (20), and Sam Zeman (20)

Ex-officio members of the Board: Vacant/Historian, and Cecil Stokes/WebMaster.

Contact Cecil for details about the HDAA website and how to view more photos in color and photos at Smugmug.com! Check out HDAA's FaceBook page. Remember to Friend HDAA to get notices.

*See you at Magnolia Trace Sat., 12-1!
Come build fond Christmas memories!
Hope to see you there!*

In Fond Memory...

We join the families in mourning the loss of
family, friends and prior coworkers:

Mary Jo Beal: Wife of Billy Beal, who worked in Plant Engineering.

Betty Martin Fogg: A buyer in Purchasing in the 1960s.

Charles S. (Jack) Roberts: Worked at TC/HD in the early years, quickly moving to Brigham City, UT, then St. Simon's Island, GA.

W. W. Bill Schwarz: Who worked in Research Section, Chemistry.

Mary Willodean Snowden: Wife of Ralph Snowden, who worked in Advanced Design, Engineering Department.

They will be sorely missed by us all, since they truly touched our lives.
Our heartfelt sympathy to those who have lost other loved ones, as well.



Whenever you find yourself doubting how far you can go, remember how far you have come. Remember everything you have faced, all the battles you have won, and all the fears you have overcome. You can do this.

Hope is the only thing stronger than fear.

Never apologize for being sensitive or emotional. Let this be a sign that you've got a big heart and aren't afraid to let others see it. Showing your emotions is a sign of strength.

-Brigitte Nicole