

The Next Stage

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 3

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

AUGUST 19, 2019

Next Board Mtgs:

(2nd Thu each quarter)
Oct 2019, 9 Jan 2020

2:30 pm Faith
Presbyterian Church,
SE corner of
Whitesburg/Airport.
*Our meetings are
fun, productive,
quick, with great
camaraderie.
Come Join Us!*

Dates to Remember:

2019

-Fall lunch **9/7** at
Brookdale Place.
-Christmas Party **12/7**,
Magnolia Trace.

**Mark your calendars
now to remember!**

Specific details will be
provided closer to the
date of the event.

Hope you'll join us!

Love to see you!

Monthly:

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

2nd Tue: Call Bill at
650-5400 to see
about meeting for
breakfast with Bill!

3rd Wed: Lunch now
at Logan's/Balmoral,
12:00. Call Jim
Gasaway/353-7199.

*Hope you are able to
attend some of these
fun events!*

Brookdale Hosting Fall Luncheon!

Brookdale is, once again, hosting our fall luncheon scheduled for **Saturday, September 7, 2019. We will be in the same room at Brookdale from 11:30-1:00 or so, with Lunch being served ~12:00 or so.** The menu will be the Chef's usual delicious fare of: Smothered chicken, ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, peach cobbler, water/tea/lemonade. Come hungry!

Directions to Brookdale at Jones Farm in Huntsville: Memorial Parkway, turning East on Airport Road, which turns into Carl T. Jones Drive SE. Turn at 2815 Carl T. Jones Dr. SE at the Brookdale sign, enter through the gate to the community and proceed to the large building on the right. Parking is available in front of the building. Enter the building, keeping right past the Reception Area, proceeding to our dining area in the back right side next to the residents' dining room. You should see Paul McFall waiting to greet you! Mingle and get caught up on news until lunch is served.

Even though there will be **no cost** for this event, **a head count is required. Please have your phone/emailed reservation turned in by Monday, 2 September 2019, to Don Royston: 256/539-4338, edjnr89@comcast.net OR Patti Wilson: 256/534-9702, pattikat2@aol.com.** (Charlie Thomas will not be available for this event.)

We look forward to seeing you Saturday, September 7th!

Come hungry...linger to visit a while longer with dear friends.

Northrop Grumman (NOC) Space & Missile Defense Symposium



The symposium was held at Huntsville's Von Braun Center August 6-8, showcasing a robust portfolio of multi-domain air, space and missile defense solutions. Exhibited were end-to-end capabilities for layered protection against maneuvering, hypersonic and ballistic missile threats, as well as unmanned aerial systems and rocket, artillery and mortar fire.

"Our servicemen and servicewomen face an increasingly complex threat environment, particularly with the emergence of maneuvering

re-entry vehicles and hypersonic missiles," said Kenn Todorov, VP, Missile Defense Solutions of NOC. "We're investing and working now to ensure our customers can detect, engage and defeat these destructive weapons."

Countering hypersonic threats: NOC is maturing kinetic, non-kinetic, sensing, and command and control solutions to protect homeland and regional forces against boost-glide and scramjet-powered missiles across all layers and ranges. Defense is required against ballistic missiles to short-range air defense threats from slow-moving UAVs to fast fighters. NOC also provides the test and evaluation community with short, medium, intermediate and intercontinental-range ballistic missile targets.

NOC has developed the US Army's Integrated Air & Missile Defense Battle Command System to provide air defenders with unprecedented command, control, communications, battle management and situational awareness capabilities. NOC also supports national security space missions, and will be highlighting its flight-proven GE-OSTar-1 and ESPaStar spacecraft buses, and Mission Extension Vehicle for satellite servicing and space logistics.

(Excerpt from Northrop Grumman Innovation Systems News Room, dated August 2, 2019; news.northropgrumman.com)

Summer Picnic Perfect Again!

The weather was perfect, Lawler's BBQ buffet was typically delicious, cookies abundant and sweet! Ron Clements and Glenn Webb, Co-Chairs, did another outstanding job of providing picnic perfection! 🤖

Shown below, L-R, are Cecil & Shirley Stokes, Glenn and Patty Webb, and Don Wilson, all eagerly awaiting Ron Clement's arrival with the Lawler's feast!



At left are Chuck, Anna, and Charlie Thomas. Thanks for bringing your folks, Chuck!



Shown at right, Alice Clements and Jan Kranert. Great party. Smiles of satisfaction!



At left are Paul McFall, Pat and Rod Summers. Great to see old friends!
Below, L-R: Gene Thomas,



Bill Barnes, Harold Whitesides, Iva Thomas.
Everyone sharing good times!



J Whitesides S Zeman



Jim Gasaway



Tom Bryant

Thanks, again, Ron and Glenn, for a great event!
(More photos on HDAA FB page, Photos, Albums)

Friends In The News...



Carroll & Marie Bobb...looking young, healthy and happy! *Keep up the good work, "Kids!"*



Jill & Mike Ferguson: Must be contagious — looking young, healthy and happy! Having fun in Panama City.



Jeanne Hightower: Enjoying the Chinese Lantern Botanical Garden display in Huntsville. *So glad you got to enjoy it in such good company — grands and great-grands are SO very special, aren't they?*



Kathy Bazzell (right): Some folks just get better with age, right? *Again, no greater joy than offspring!*



Now, some folks really know how to enjoy life, don't they,
Greg Bentley?
Havin' fun!

(Note from Editor: Above photos taken from FaceBook pages, with specific permission!)



The *Thiokol Retired Ladies* still enjoy fellowship and delicious food at Gibson's (S Memorial Pkwy) the first Wednesday of each month. If interested in joining the ladies give Faye Jones a call and she'll add you to the email reminder list! Would love to get caught up on lives since TC/HD.

Shown above, L-R: Faye Jones, Jan Kranert, Betty Bryant, Barbara Plonka, Helen Mitchell, Joyce Royston, Don Royston.

PAIN IS TEMPORARY.
QUITTING LASTS FOREVER.

THE FIRST LUNAR COMMUNION

Standing erect at the Cape Kennedy launch pad was the Saturn Rocket system that Wernher Von Braun and the government team of 150,000 engineers and scientists had put together from parts built by 8,000 American companies. Many of Von Braun's team of scientists and engineers lived on Monte Sano in Huntsville. Many others working in the space program lived in our community and were active in our churches. They, along with the world were focused on the Saturn launch on July 16, 1969. Four miles away from the launch pad were dignitaries including former President Lyndon Johnson, 206 congressman, 30 senators, 19 governors, Supreme Court and Cabinet members, 69 ambassadors, 102 foreign science ministers and military attaches, and 3,000 reporters from all over the world and thousands of citizens. All were fully aware that they were watching history in the making. Bravely sitting atop the rocket ready to carry out the most dangerous journey of all time were three astronauts — Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin and Michael Collins.

What the world didn't know was that on July 6, 1969 Astronaut "Buzz" Aldrin gathered with his family at the altar of the Webster Presbyterian Church in Houston to celebrate communion and consecrate bread, wine, and a small chalice which would travel over 250,000 miles to the surface of the moon.

On July 20, 1969 the Webster congregation gathered at its normal time to give thanks to God and to celebrate communion. On the communion table was the loaf previously consecrated with the piece missing. The press was present because the family of Buzz was in attendance. They were unaware of the significance of this service. The service was carried out in a normal fashion, with one exception. There was no benediction. Instead there was this word, "Later today after certain events have taken place, each of you in your own way should say a word of benediction to close this worship service."

Later on that same day, after the Lunar Module landed on the moon, Buzz got out the communion elements and asked Houston for a moment of silence while he took the sacred Bread and Wine as an act of love and gratitude to God and to honor the glory of God.

(The above is from MSUMC's Pastor Dale Clem when serving the Monte Sano (and surrounding) community with his ministry.)

Monte Sano United Methodist Church commemorates annually the first communion celebrated on the moon on the Sunday closest to July 20. Astronauts (Jan Davis is a local favorite!) often attend, some bringing presentations of photos taken while in space. Most ALL have witnessed regarding the increase of their faith after their incredible journey, either initiating or reaffirming a strong belief in God.

Be sure to check the schedule of MSUMC July of 2020, to see if the tradition of having astronauts at the service continues!



*The heavens declare
the glory of God...*

Psalm 19:1

NEVER GIVE UP.
GREAT THINGS TAKE TIME.
BE PATIENT.

*It's ironic how we often forget
the things worth remembering,
but remember the things
worth forgetting!*

LIFE BEFORE THE COMPUTER

a memory was something that you lost with age
an application was for employment
a program was a TV show
a cursor used profanity
a keyboard was a piano
a web was a spider's home
a virus was the flu
a CD was a bank account
a hard drive was a long trip on the road
a mouse pad was where a mouse lived
and if you had a 3 1/2 inch floppy
...you just hoped nobody found out.

Second Opinion!

Q: Do brain training memory apps for smartphones work as advertised? I'm looking to slow the memory loss I feel I've been experiencing.

A: There's some promising evidence that brain-training smartphone apps — with popular choices being Lumosity, BrainHQ, Elevate or Peak — may have a mild to moderate effect on improving memory and other types of thinking in older adults with age-related cognitive decline or those with mild cognitive impairment.

While brain-training apps may provide a boost, there's no substantial evidence that they can prevent or slow cognitive decline. They also don't seem to help people with cognitive decline that has progressed to dementia. There's also considerable debate as to whether brain-training apps simply make you better at the brain-training exercises or tests, or whether the improved cognition extends into tasks of everyday life.

Potential benefits of brain-training apps require a fair amount of work. They must be used regularly and fairly intensively, and the effects fade quickly if you stop. In one study in which a brain-training app improved memory and thinking speed, study participants used the app for one a day, five days a week for eight to 10 weeks.

Brain-training apps have important positives, such as being portable and easy to use. Most have a variety of activities, and the difficulty level increases as you improve.

If you're motivated to use brain-training apps (and don't mind paying for them), they're a reasonable way to try for a cognitive boost. However, you may prefer other forms of engagement and challenge (such as social activity, starting a new hobby or studying a foreign language), which may be just as effective in terms of maintaining mental sharpness.

(May Clinic Health Letter, May 2019)

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The Huntsville Division Alumni Association
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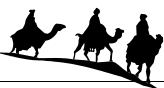
Place
Stamp
Here

REMINDER: \$12 DUES FOR 2019 WERE DUE 1/1/19.

*IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY SUBMITTED, PLEASE
CONSIDER DOING SO SOON. THANKS!*

*Mon, Sep 2 — Labor Day
Wed, Sep 11 — Patriot Day
Mon, Sep 23 — First day of Autumn
Mon, Oct 14 — Columbus Day
Wed, Oct 16 — National Boss Day
Thu, Oct 31 — Halloween
Fri, Nov 1 — All Saints Day
Sun, Nov 3 — Daylight Savings Ends
Mon, Nov 11 — Veterans Day
Thu, Nov 28 — Thanksgiving
Sat, Dec 7 — Pearl Harbor Day*

Wed, Dec 25 — Christmas



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AUGUST 19, 2019

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 2019 HDAA Board consists of : President/Bill Barnes, VP/Tom Bryant, Secretary/Cecil Stokes, Treasurer/Membership/Charlie Thomas. Directors: (19) Jim Gasaway, (19)Paul McFall, (19) Gerald Roberts; (20) Ron Clements, (20) Harold Whitesides, (20) Sam Zeman; (21) John DeHaye, (21) Don Royston, (21) Patti Wilson.

Ex-officio members of the Board are: Historian (position vacant), and Cecil Stokes/WebMaster.

Contact Cecil for details about the HDAA website and how to view more photos in color!

*See you at Brookdale@Jones Farm on
Saturday, 9/7/19, 11:30, lunch
being served ~12:00.
Delicious food, great friends...nice start to a
weekend. See you there!*

In Fond Memory...

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

Norman M. Batson: Worked for Thiokol ~1960-63, Section not known.

Rosie L. Byrd: Wife of Jim, who worked in R&D, Chemistry.

Bernie Cobb: Worked at TC/HD in late 1950s, early 60s, as did wife Jackie.

David Flanigan: Worked at TC/HD in the 1960s-80s, then to Morton-Thiokol in Chicago, then to Utah, retiring in 1999 as Director, Advanced Technology.

Yvonne Flanigan: Worked at TC/HD in the 1950s/1960s (Yvonne Keel/ Rocket Engineering; Yvonne Collier in PM), then Yvonne Flanigan, wife of David, shown above.

Misha Gasaway: Wife of Jim, who worked in Rocket Engineering.

John T. Ikard: Worked in TC/HD Section 353, 1981-1984.

R.E. "Bob" Overall: Who worked in Rocket Engineering.

Mildred Rousseau: Wife of Jim Taylor Rousseau, foreman in the Motor Manufacturing area, Motor Handling in the 1960s.

Hans Walter Sitarz: Worked in Thiokol /Huntsville Marketing Office.

Walt Terry: Worked on the Pilot Lines, Development Section of R&D, and Production Engineering late 1950s to late 1980s.

Movolene White: Wife of Ralph White, who ran the TC/HD Print Shop and Photo Lab for many years.

*They will be sorely missed by us all, since they truly touched our lives.
Reach out to our Thiokol family members who may be suffering some way.
You may be the light they need to brighten their lives.*