

The Next Stage

VOLUME 26, ISSUE 2

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

June 9, 2021

Next Board Mtgs:

(2nd Thurs each qtr)

Jul 13,

Oct 12, 2021

2:30 pm Faith

Presbyterian Church,

SE corner of

Whitesburg/Airport...

Or ZOOM mtg. TBD.

The CV19 situation is improving, but locations/times will be noted closer to events.

Dates to Remember:

2021

There is currently NO picnic at Green Mountain...yet!

-6/12: 10 a.m. TC/HD Greenway dedication.

-9/11 picnic at Green Mtn. Nature Train.

-12/4: Christmas Party, Zoom or in person TBD!

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

Plan on getting together whenever we can. Don't miss out!

Monthly:

1st Wed: Ladies lunch, 11:00, Gibson's BBQ/S. Mem. Pkwy. On Hold until further notice.

3rd Wed: Lunch at Logan's/Balmoral 12:00. Call/email Jim Gasaway for details: djgas@att.net

It is sincerely hoped the CV19 numbers improve enough to resume our normal events! We are soooooo ready!

No Picnic on Green Mountain.....Just Yet!

No Spring Breakfast, still no picnic on the mountain. ***But!*** Ron Clements has reserved the Green Mountain pavilion for us for Saturday, September 11 (**9/11/21**...combination summer picnic and fall lunch). The pavilion is ours 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with lunch being served 11:30/12:00, with delicious Lawler's BBQ, baked beans, potato salad, beverages, cookies.

Cost will be \$7/person (subject to Board approval in July), with paid reservations being required by 9/6/21 for Ron to notify Lawler's for food preparation. Reservations may be submitted to HDAA, P.O. Box 4185, Huntsville, AL 35815-4185.

Come comfy, come hungry, come enjoy Finally being Together! More details to be reported closer to the 9/11 date.

Come early and walk the Trail; stay late and get caught up with good friends! *Looking forward to seeing you All there!*



June 12 Is Date: Thiokol Greenway Dedication!



Above is an aerial view of the old Thiokol plant depicting where the TC/HD Greenway is located. You can see the Bell Mtn Park parking area right above 3 in "new Gate 3" where it's advisable to park. There should be plenty of parking there.

Your Board has been hard at work setting Saturday, June 12th, 10:00 a.m. as the date/time for the Thiokol Greenway Dedication.

(continued on Page 2)

Thiokol Greenway Dedication (continued)

Mayor Tommy Battle will dedicate the new Greenway to the people of the Huntsville Division of Thiokol who accomplished great things. All those people and particularly those who contributed to the memorial plaque and benches will be honored. All alumni and their families are urged to attend.

Get the word to children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren of former Thiokol employees of this dedication of the

Thiokol Greenway just outside Gate 3, where many Thiokol employees entered Redstone Arsenal.

Plenty of parking space is available at Bell Mountain Park (remember Duncan/Maurice Bell?); and, Harold Whitesides has offered to provide a shuttle service with his ATV-like vehicle for those who cannot make the half-mile walk (actually 0.6 mile per Tom Bryant) to the Thiokol History patio and plaque. *See you there!*

If you've seen the newscasts about alligators living in the ponds in the area, Ron and Glenn have checked it out for themselves. Ron took a photo of this little fellow in the small pond next to the larger pond. But, he and Glenn indicated the gators are usually not aggressive to humans, unless they are trying to protect a small pet the gator might find interesting! So, it might be advisable to Not have a pet with you while walking the Greenway.



Perhaps the City will see fit to return these ancient critters to more appropriate waters before too long...so strolling visitors can feel no sense of threat while walking! Think the gators might like it better in Gator country anyway.

Think the crowds will keep the gators at bay with all the activity.....

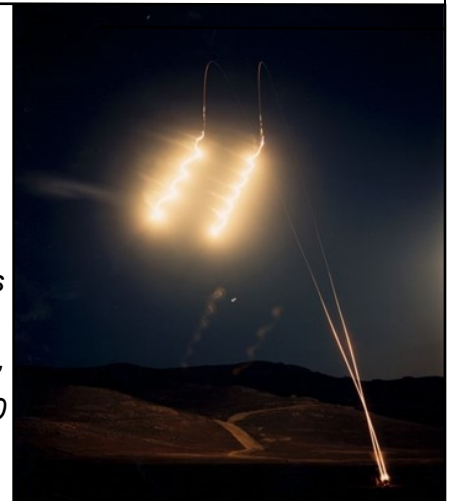
Looking forward to seeing you there!

When life hands you gators, make boots/handbags!

(With apologies to protectors of the environment/animal rights activists/conservationists!)

**NORTHROP GRUMMAN**

...will produce illuminating flares for the U.S. Army's Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions' unguided Hydra-70 Rocket program.



These flares will be produced for General Dynamics –Ordnance and Tactical Systems (GD-OTS) that will be used for the U.S. Army's above uses. The flares will provide greater tactical battlefield illumination in both the visible and infrared spectra.

The 5-year indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract award is valued at up to \$80 million and is for production of the M257 visible spectrum flare, the M278 infrared spectrum illuminating flare and the newly designed M278A1 infrared spectrum illuminating flare.

Hydra-70 illuminating flares can be fired from a variety of rotary and fixed-wing platforms, including the U.S. Army Apache and U.S. Marine Corps Cobra attack helicopters, as well as the U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon and combat aircraft of many nations worldwide.

Northrop Grumman has been providing illumination technology for 40 years, including the first Hydra-70 illumination rounds, which were first patented in 1971.

(Excerpt from NorthropGrumman.com/News, 6/3/21)

FRIENDS IN THE NEWS....

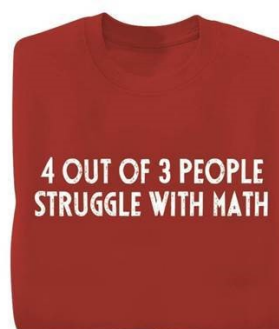
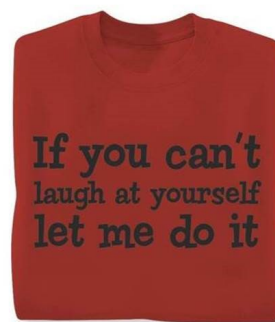
When friends come to the aid of friends in need of help, it is such a special event. Don Wilson had a need at this stage of his life. So, Ron Clements, Butch Patterson, Ronnie Banks, and Bill Roberts came to his rescue and built him a CASA ramp (through our church, Trinity United Methodist). It wasn't any time at all and they had the ramp up, functioning perfectly, and Don had new-found wings. As a matter of fact, on more than one occasion I've searched the house (and his man-cave) for him, all to no avail! He'd used his new-found treasure to escape somewhere into the neighborhood to visit a friend!

And, they all had such a good time while doing this good deed... sounded like a party going on with all the laughter while they worked their ramp magic. So, *Thanks, guys!...* for giving Don some welcome relief from Parkinson's holding him captive. You have All earned your angel's wings, and made us Both happy campers! *You're the best!....Patti*



L-R: Ron Clements, Butch Patterson, Bill Roberts, Don and Patti Wilson. Ronnie left before picture time. *Great Job, guys!*

Thanks to Lowell Edmonds for submitting these cute t-shirts for seniors!



We All need a good laugh and at Least one good (Angele) hug every single day. Wouldn't life be much nicer like that....for everyone?! Smile at folks when you see them, it may just make their day as much as it helped yours! *Thanks, Lowell, for helping to spread the sunshine!*

Looking For Great Fish and Chips?

Little Libby's Catfish & Diner, 234 Lime Quarry Rd., Madison. Just as good as what we loved in Great Britain (minus the smashed peas, which were great). Our Huntsville Red Lobster runs a close second (cod). Try them both, and get hooked! (Pardon the pun.....)



The Next Stage

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

REMINDER: \$12 DUES FOR 2021 WERE DUE 1/1/21

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

Place
Stamp
Here

Thiokol Greenway Dedication — Sat., 6/12, 10:00 a.m.



Father's Day — 6/20

Summer begins — 6/20

Independence Day — 7/4

Labor Day — 9/6

Patriot Day — 9/11

Green Mountain Nature Trail — 9/11

Grandparents Day — 9/12

Peace Day — 9/21

Autumn Begins — 9/22

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THE NEXT STAGE

JUNE 9, 2021

The Next Stage is the quarterly newsletter publication of the Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc. Distribution: approximately 100. (FYI: Started with ~350 26 years ago.) Editor: Patti Wilson.

Its address: HDAA, POB 4185; Huntsville, AL; 35815-4185.

The 2021 HDAA Board consists of :
President/Gerald Roberts, VP/Tom Bryant,
Secretary/Cecil Stokes, Treasurer/
Membership/Charlie Thomas. Directors:
(21) John DeHaye, (21) Patti Wilson, (22)
Bill Barnes; (22) Jim Gasaway, (22) Paul
McFall; (23) Ron Clements, (23) Glenn
Webb.

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

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

See you at the
Thiokol Greenway
dedication on Sat.,
6/12, 10:00



In Fond Memory...

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

Willie Bone: Who worked in Plant Maintenance in the late 1950s-early 60s.

Maxine Edmison: Who worked in Accounting early 1960s-early 80s.

Ben Davis: Who worked in Manufacturing in the 1960s.

Joe Reed Gatlin: Father of Joey Reed, who worked in Research & Development/Chemistry.

Blanche Irby: Husband Tom Irby worked in Project Management 1958-61 on the Falcon program and other projects.

Libby Loder: Husband, Tom "Rudd" Loder worked in Contracts/Costs Proposal Section.

Jud Lovingood: Retired from TC/HD as Director, Engineering Directorate.

Leonard Silbert: Worked in the Calibration Lab late 1950s-mid 60s.

Avon Young: Worked in Manufacturing Control & Industrial Engineering in Planning & Scheduling

Sam Zeman: Worked in Rocket Engineering and Quality, retiring as Director of Quality. H was at TC/HD 1950s-1989.



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.