

The Next Stage

New Members Welcomed

Membership in HDAA now stands at approximately 197. We welcome the following new members during the past quarter:

Martha Allred, E. J. Cagle, James Evans, Chester A. Franklin, Bob Glick, D. M. Jones, Andrew Karibinos, Jackie Kennedy, Gattis Milam, Helen Mitchell, Linda Ochoa, Bill Oetjen, Tom Owens, Verne Reckmeyer, Carl Rector, Bill Schwarz, Harold Speake, Jean Walker, Millie Wallace, and Don Wilson.

Apologies are due the members erroneously omitted from the roster printed in the last newsletter. These include: Helen Acuff, John Cobble, William Groves, James Hardin, Mahlon Harvey, Faye Jones, Elmer Pruitt, Wayne Thornberry, and Jean Walker.

Party Set for Dec. 12, 1996

Jo Tipton has reserved the ballroom of the Holiday Inn at Madison Square for the HDAA Christmas Party on December 12. Tentative plans call for an event very similar to what we had last year except that we will have room for more people and probably even a dance floor. Suggestions and volunteers are solicited.

Ticket Deadline Nears for June 22 Picnic and Last Look at HD Plant

Event Chair Nita Boyd is making final arrangements for our picnic supper under the pines at the Huntsville Division plant on a Saturday, June 22. One thing remaining to be done is ordering the right amount of food for those making prepaid reservations. The deadline for those reservations (in the PO box or in Nita's hands) is June 19. The HDAA Board is meeting on Monday (6/17/96) at 2:00 to help with final arrangements.

Prepaid tickets will be held at the plant gate for pick up. The band "Young Country" will be playing in the parking lot starting at about 4:00. Food will be served in the 7649 lobby at 5:30. The picnic tables remaining in the plant will be arranged for use, but folding lawn chairs from home may be needed to assure you a comfortable place to sit. There is not much furniture left in Buildings 7649, 7611, or elsewhere in the plant.

Plant Manager Vern Bush came to the rescue when Nita had trouble finding a suitable place for the picnic. Burritt Museum is booked solid for weddings, Sharon Johnson Park is recovering from tornado damage, and the Shriners require a bigger guarantee than we could confidently provide.

This will be a particular treat for some in getting a look at the plant just before it closes completely. This will almost certainly be the last time you will be able to see a large number of Thiokol people in the Huntsville Division plant. We will not have access to the operating area of the plant, which is rapidly being dismembered.

Gibson's will be providing dinners of bar-b-q pork, baked beans, cole slaw, roll, tea, and pie. Sunday, June 23, is the established "rain date." In case of rain on Saturday, listen to radio stations WBHP or WDRM for word on rescheduling.

Something that worries Nita is the possibility that people will confuse this with the old company-sponsored picnics and show up without prepaid reservations. **This is a members-only affair, but everyone ever associated with the division in almost any way is eligible to join.**

Reservations can still be made by sending \$8.00 per person (\$6.00 per child under 10) to PO Box 4185, Huntsville, 35815-4185. This box is at the Haysland Square Post Office (noted for the benefit of any cutting it close). For those who have not joined, add \$12.00 for a family membership (\$5.00 initial fee plus \$7.00 for the rest of 1996).

Nita Boyd Joins Board

At its May meeting the HDAA Board accepted the resignation of director Steve Alexander, who is busy with his new job at SCI, and elected Nita Boyd to fill the vacant Board position.

Nita has been the leader in a number of alumni gatherings over the past several years and is currently serving as Event Chair for the picnic. Nita received a write-in nomination during December balloting.

Nita is still on the job at the division and is likely to be the last secretary to leave.

Division End Leaves Few

Ron Clements retired at the end of May, signaling the end of the Programs organization. Work on clearing final Patriot deliveries is underway. Mid July is expected to find only Plant Engineering left to clean up the plant for the next occupants, whoever that may be.

The Next Stage is the quarterly newsletter of the Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc. PO Box 4185; Huntsville, AL 35815-4185. Officers of the association are: Cecil Stokes, President; Foots McCauley, Vice President; Joyce Newton Royston, Secretary; Charles O. Jones, Treasurer, and Directors Nita Boyd, Gene Burroughs; Tom Bryant; Larry Davis; Bill Fiser; Dorothy Franklin; Stan Kilpatrick; Jim Lee; John Marlin; Paulette Sellers; Joe Smith; Billy Ray Sorter; Gene Thomas; Jo Tipton; Roy Willis; Cecil Walden; Todd Wall; and Glenn Webb.

Personal Notes:

C. T. "Tom" Bryant is now working for Thiokol's Space Operations office in Huntsville.

Jeff Jones is also working with Space Operations in Huntsville.

Jim Hightower retired at the end of March, but he resumed work part-time in continued support of Dave Flanigan on some new product development work.

In Memory

Jane Hamblin: Our sympathy goes to Jim Hamblin on the loss of his wife, Jane, on June 10. The Hamblins are on the list of HDAA charter members. Jim retired from HD in 1983

Mel Wikle: We were saddened to learn of the death of charter member Mel Wikle. Mel left Thiokol many years ago to enter the family insurance business, but he maintained contact with his friends in the division and met most months with the retiree group at El Palacio.

Groups

Groups of Thiokol retirees can be found at a breakfast at the Haysland Shoney's on the first Monday of every month and at lunch at El Palacio on the third Wednesday each month.

Anyone wanting to get together to investigate alternate group insurance possibilities can let an HDAA officer know. This may be of interest to those now paying higher premiums.

From the Mailbag

Vern Reckmeyer writes from the picturesque Meridian Retirement Community in Colorado that "Living in Colorado I am not able to participate - but I do enjoy reading about what is going on. Thank you.

[Verne was the first to suggest a newsletter.]

Linda Ochoa writes:

"Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of something I hold very dear.

"I may be hundreds of miles away but even then you never forget me. It is important to me to know how everyone is doing and you know that I care.

"Again thank you for including me in this wonderful group."

Martha Allred (formerly Martha McMahan) writes:

"I was surprised and delighted to receive the HDAA newsletter. ...

"I am still working full time as an investigator for the U.S. Department of Labor. I am very fortunate to be working out of my home in Rogersville, AL, and I live across the road from Millie Wallace and Jay and Lucille Pockrus.

"I went to work for Thiokol in 1957 for Jack Buchanan. After he went to the Utah Division, I worked for Monte Korb and Oscar Hawkins ... [then] Dooley Culbertson, Bill Dunkelburger, and Doug Grimes. "The HDAA is a wonderful idea ..." [Our thanks to new member Martha Allred.]

December Attendees

The December 14 Christmas party attendees included: Bill Barnes; Jan McMahan; Billy and Mary Beal; Tom and Ann Bolner; Nita Boyd; Bobby and Deloris Brooks; John D. And Alma Brown; Betty Bryant; Tom and Carol Bryant; Billy and Charlene Childers; Ron Clements; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Daniel; Bob and Elizabeth Davis; John and Linda DeHaye; Billy and Marjorie East; Bill and Doris Fiser; Izzie and Roberta Friedman; Billy and Anna Graham; George and Lela Green; Dan and Vivian Hackelman; Jack and Helen Hagler; Jim and Jane Hamblin; Don and Bernice Harper; Red Hayes; Deanne and Avis Herbert; Linda Huckaby; Jimmy and Sue Johnson; Jeff and Catherine Jones; Bob and Janis Langley; Ernie and Barbara Larose; Sharon Livingston; E. J.

Magnusson; Johnny and June Marlin; Tim and Thea Mauldin; Foots and Punchy McCauley; Paul and Barbara McFall; Charles and Barbara Moon; Barry and Susan Moore; Don and Gay Ann Nelson; Chuck and Anna Owens; Ron and Pam Pritts; Jake and Betsy Reep; Gerald and Jaunita Roberts; Don and Joyce Royston; Billy Russell; Calvin and Elna Sanderson; Frank and Joyce Schwarze; Frank and Martha Showalter; Don Smith; Billy and Dianne Sorter; Bill and Kathryn Stephens; Mickey and Martha Stewart; Cecil and Shirley Stokes; Bobby and Alice Tanner; Walt and Sue Terry; Charlie and Ann Thomas; Gene and Iva Thomas ;Lottie and Wilbur Thornton; Jo and Charlie Tipton; Sam and Dolores Vance; Dave and Lucile Wallace; Harold and Earlene Webb; Jerry and Nancy Webb; Glenn and Patricia Webb; John L. Williams; Roy and Betty Willis; Avon Young and guest; Sam and Nora Zeman;;

Attendees at April Dinner

Attendees at the April dinner meeting at Valley Hill Country Club included: Bill Barnes, Nita Boyd, Ron Clements, Margaret and Earl Driskill, Faye Edmonds, Doris and Bill Fiser, John Grider, Jane and Tony Guzzo, Helen and Jack Hagler, Harvilee and Jack Harbarger, Red Hayes, Avis and Deane Herbert, Mary and Andy Karibinos, Libby and Tom Loder, June and John Marlin, Punchy and Footh McCauley, Jan McMahan, Marlyn Moman, Lathair Munk, John Nelson, Joyce and Don Royston , Paulette Sellers, Martha and Frank Showalter, Bill Stogner, Cecil Stokes, Alice and Bobby Tanner, Sam Vance, Patricia and Glenn Webb, and Nora and Sam Zeman,

As announced, there was no program and no one complained.

Member Information Solicited

(Please Return to P.O.B. 4185; Huntsville, AL 35815-4185)

1. Names (member 1) _____ spouse (member 2) _____
 2. Address Correction: _____
 3. Work: full time __, part-time __, retired __, semi-retired __, self-employed __, unemployed __
 4. Place of Work: _____ Title: _____
 5. Recent Activities/Accomplishments: _____ *
 6. Children: __ sons & __ daughters; best known for: _____ *
 7. Grandchildren: ____; best known for _____ *
 8. Recent Travel of Interest: _____ *
 9. Other Info for my Friends _____ *
 10. If I slip away to the S. Pacific with lottery winnings, contact me through: _____
 11. OK to include info in newsletter and/or directory: yes __, no __, highlighted info only __.
- (* - Add additional page/pages as needed.) Initial _____

HDAA Information for Prospective Members

The official objectives of HDAA are:

1. to promote the mutually enjoyable and beneficial association of the individuals employed by Thiokol's Huntsville Division during its 46-year history,
2. to preserve the good image of the organization and foster the spirit that we found to be valuable, and
3. to sponsor those activities that the membership deems to be in keeping with other objectives.

Membership

HDAA membership is open to all current and former employees of Thiokol's Huntsville Division and their spouses (including surviving spouses of deceased former employees).

An associate membership, carrying most membership privileges, is open to others (customers, suppliers, etc.) who had a close association with the division but were never its employees.

Activities

With one definite meeting per year, all other activities are subject to determination by the board in response to membership desires.

A pattern of quarterly get-togethers appears to be developing: a March or April dinner, a May or June outing, a December party, and possibly an autumn event.

A quarterly newsletter, telling of activities of HDAA and news of individual members, is in its early form.

An HDAA committee is attempting to maintain in-depth benefits reports, previously available through Human Resources, and other such data to supplement summaries sent from Utah.

HDAA will also interact with smaller groups of alumni who meet more often for meals, golf, etc. and will look for ways to provide mutual support.

Costs

An initiation fee of \$5 and annual dues of \$12 (\$1 per month) have been set. The board can waive these where a hardship exists.

Officers

HDAA business is conducted by an elected Board of Directors. The current board includes past leaders of the Management Club, past and present leaders of the bargaining unit, and several individuals who have been instrumental in getting alumni groups together.

Invitation

A number of areas of the plant and some age groups are not well represented on the HDAA roster. We urge everyone to consider joining with us, either individually or as a group that wants to meet on its own and then join with the larger group for

The Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc.
Post Office Box 4185
Huntsville, Alabama 35815-4185

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