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The Next Stage

Christmas Party Reservation Deadline Approaching for Event on December 11

Jo Tipton has made arrangements for our third annual HDAA Christmas Party on Thursday evening, December 11, 1997. All members should have received post-card notices in mid-November and prepaid reservations are now being taken. These are due by December 8.

Location: The Holiday Inn ballroom at Madison Square Mall is the party location. We will have most of the ballroom, like 1996 and larger than we had in 1995.

Music: Fouts McCauley has volunteered to set up the music from CDs; so, bring your favorites to play.

Times: "Get Reacquainted Time" (social hour) will start at 6:00 p.m. and buffet service will start at 6:30. Order of service will be established by random drawing of table numbers (as we did last year). We will have a brief program after dinner, conduct some business, and have elections (see page 3).

Menu: The buffet will include sliced roast sirloin of beef, teriyaki chicken with pineapple sauce, seasoned green beans, broccoli casserole, buttered squash, parsley buttered potatoes, garden salad, rolls, beverages and assorted deserts. This menu is being repeated by popular demand.

Attendance: Members (alumni and spouses) and guests are invited. Members are encouraged to bring houseguests, prospective members, and other good friends as their guests. We had an attendance of 133 last year and 126 the previous year. Most important, everyone seemed to enjoy the party.

Cost: The cost is \$17.00 per person (\$34 per couple). This is what is required to cover actual costs.

Reservations Deadline: Prepaid reservations are required. **December 8 is a firm deadline.** Refunds will be made for cancellations by Dec. 8, and possibly later. Send checks to P.O.Box 4185; Huntsville, AL 35815-4185. The form below can be useful, but it is not required.

Reservation Form: (send to POB 4185, Hsv.; 35815-4185)

Members: _____ and _____ (spouse)
Guests (Please List for nametags):

Total number of reservations: _____ Enclosed: \$ _____
Other: \$ _____ enclosed for '97 dues , etc. _____

Fifty Attend Fall HDAA Dinner at Madison Square

The HDAA winter dinner meeting was held at the Madison Square Holiday Inn. It started at 6:00. Dinner was served at 6:30 pm. Breast of Chicken Supreme was served with a delicious vegetable, salad, and rolls. The arrangements were made by John Marlin. HD alumna Mary Glenn King managed the event.

Fouts McCauley conducted a very brief meeting for announcements after dinner. As promised, there was no program; and the socializing seemed to be sufficient for everyone.

Attendees included: Izzy & Roberta Friedman; Bill & Betty Savelle; Millie Wallace, Bobby Pillow; Jim & Paulette Hamblin, Bob Lakebrink, M. Thrasher; Jimmy & Sue Johnson; Fouts & Angel McCauley; Ruthy Wilson; Sam & Nora Zeman; Sam & Lo Vance; Faye & Lowell Edmonds; Sharon Sears; Bill Metchnik; John & Martha Nelson; Chester Franklin; Billy & Jo Beal; Billy & Evelyn East; Jack & Judy Godsey; Tom & Ibbey Loder; Bill & Doris Fiser; Martha J. Allred; Bobby & Alice Tanner; Nita Boyd, Bill Stogner; Don & Patti Wilson; Paul & Bobbie McFall; Don & Patti Wilson; Jo Killian; John & Linda DeHaye; Cecil Stokes; William B. Thomas; and Sue Steuer.

In Memory:

Jay Pockrus passed away on September 10. He battled cancer for seven years. Thiokol retirees turned out in mass for the visitation and funeral.

Jay joined Thiokol in 1954 and retired in 1990. Jay and wife Lucile, long time HDAA members, have been enjoying life on the river in the home they built in the Rogersville area.

Buck Spelce passed away in September. Buck joined Thiokol in 1948 and had TC number 92. He retired in 1983. Buck was well known as an entertainer, playing the spoons. Buck's brother Ned is also a HD alumnum.

Floyd French passed away on November 18. Floyd joined Thiokol in 1948 and had TC number 42. He retired in 1983.

The Next Stage is the quarterly newsletter of the Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc. Its address is PGB 4185, Huntsville, AL, 35815-4185. The 1997 HDAA Board consists of President Fouts McCauley, Vice President Paulette Sellers, Secretary Nita Boyd, and Treasurer Roy T. Willis. And Directors: Bill Barnes ('97), Al Brazelton ('99), Gene Burroughs ('98), Bo Chunn ('99), Faye Edmonds ('98), George Green ('99), Charles O. Jones ('99), Stan Kilpatrick ('97), Jim Lee ('98), John Martin ('97), Jake Reep ('99), Joyce Newton Royston ('97), Billy Ray Sorter ('98), Cecil Stokes ('99), Gene Thomas ('97), Jo Tipton ('98), Cecil Walden ('98), Glenn Webb ('97).

Building 7631 Houses SAMD

Building 7631, rebuilt from scratch as a Thiokol building but never occupied as such, now houses government employees of the Safety Administration Management Directorate (SAMD). Sounds familiar doesn't it.

HD Plant Gets Carved Up

Recent visitors to the old Huntsville Division plant notice changes immediately since there is no special security for the plant area. It is just another part of Redstone Arsenal. The arsenal gates are now regularly manned and Gate 3 is only open for normal business hours. There is also a new checkpoint on Patton Road north of Martin Road.

Building 7611 has been extensively remodeled. The first floor now has a normal complement of windows. The building houses a number of organizations moved here from St. Louis. Foreign Military Sales people and representatives from other NATO nations have offices in the building.

Buildings 7649 and 7650 were still unoccupied at last report. The Line 2 area is also like a ghost town, with many buildings marked for demolition. There is a security fence between the machine shop annex and the photo-lab/Patriot area. It runs north from there. Buildings 7625 (Patriot) and 7620 (Test Pit)

are in the plant area being operated by the Redstone Technical Test Center for demilitarization of rocket motors and recovery of materials. As reported previously, several HD people are involved in this operation.

The South Plant was still deserted at last report, but the Sidewinder area looked to be in reasonably good shape.

The road from South Parkway to Gate 3 is now a four-lane highway (divided in some places and five-lane in some places). But don't expect to find Redstone Road modified like this. The new road is an extension of Hobbs Road, which crosses over Bell Mountain and then swings up to Redstone Road and Gate 3. A Wal Mart superstore is located between these two roads near the Parkway.

Retirees Meet for Breakfast at Shoney's

A group of Huntsville Division Retirees meets for breakfast at Shoney's Haysland Square location on the second Tuesday of every month. The group gathers at 7:30 a.m. and will welcome other retirees to join in.

Regular attendees include Bill Fiser, Billy Beal, Billy East, Gene Burroughs, Troy Whisnant, Bill Russell, Bion Duncan, James Thomas, C. O. Moon, Joe Wells, Bill Groves, Charlie Tipton, Jim Williams, Major Kidd, Richard Parker, John Lemmons, Jack Kerr, John Cobble, Marion Campbell, Preacher Pritchett, Buddy Chamness, Bill Byess, James Evans, and George Green.

Slate Offered by Nominating Committee

A Nominating Committee formed by the Board met on November 13 to nominate 1998 officers. Paulette Sellers Hamblin, 1997 VP, was nominated for 1998 President. Roy Willis, 1997 Treasurer, was nominated for VP (and, presumably, 1999 President). Nita Boyd, 1997 Secretary, was nominated for Treasurer. Faye Edmonds, Director in class of 1998 was nominated for 1998 Secretary.

Nominated to fill Faye's unexpired term, as Director is Billy Graham. Nominated for the six terms extending through 2000 are: Bill Barnes, Jim Hamblin, Footh McCauley, Jan McMahan, Connie Oswald, and Sam Zeman.

Newlywed Hamblins Nominated as HDAA President and Director

HDAA Board meetings sometimes produce surprising results. Paulette Sellers was nominated as 1997 HDAA VP and presumably 1998 President at the November board meeting, but this was not surprising.

Jim Hamblin had been invited to December and January board meetings to present an idea he had put forth. He came away with a job of planning the 1997 HDAA Picnic and a reason to have dialog with those involved in the previous picnic. We might suspect that he left with new ideas of his own. Now the plot thickens.

It will be Paulette Hamblin who is on the ballot for 1998 HDAA President. To make a long story short, Paulette Sellers became Mrs. Jim Hamblin on September 27, 1997, in a ceremony at Trinity United Methodist Church. The happy couple reside in their new home in Madison.

For those who have been away, Paulette worked in the old Chemistry Department, left Thiokol for a couple of years, returned with her degree, and served for over a decade as Security Chief. She is now Security Manager at Dynetics, a booming company located in Research Park. Jim is an engineer who retired from the Engineering Department. Both lost long-time spouses a couple of years ago after extended illnesses.

Having been assured that there is no opposition movement taking shape, Paulette is planning overall HDAA activities and Jim is working on plans for the 1998 picnic. Paulette would love to hear from others interested in taking active roles in HDAA. We wish them all the best in all of their endeavors

For information, directors with terms extending through 1998 are: Billy Sorter, Gene Burroughs, Cecil Walden, Jim Lee, and Jo Tipton. Directors with terms extending through 1999 are: Al Brazelton, Bo Chunn, Charles Jones, George Green, Jake Reep, and Cecil Stokes.

The club thanks retiring Directors **John Marlin, Stan Kilpatrick, Joyce Newton Royston, Gene Thomas, and Glenn Webb** for their service to the club during '95, '96, and '97.

The ballot (to right) can be brought to the annual meeting (during the Dec. 11 party) or mailed to POB 4185.

BALLOT (vote for officers and six full-term & one 1-yr directors):

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| President | <input type="checkbox"/> Paulette Hamblin | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ (write-in) |
| VP | <input type="checkbox"/> Roy Willis | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> Nita Boyd | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Faye Edmonds | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| Directors ('00) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Barnes | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Hamblin | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Footh McCauley | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Jan McMahan | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Connie Oswald | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Sam Zeman | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| Director ('98) | <input type="checkbox"/> Billy Graham | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

Bring to Dec. 11 Party or mail to POB 4185; Huntsville; 35815-4185

Health Notes:

Jimmy Johnson had surgery for prostate cancer in April and says he is doing fine. He looked good at the September dinner.

John Bensing was hospitalized recently with a circulatory problem; but he got a stint installed and is back on the golf course.

Vaughn Blevins had heart surgery recently and is reportedly doing fine.

Avis Herbert (Mrs. Dean Herbert) has been hospitalized several times in recent months and now has a diagnosis and treatment program.

Dick Wall went from a back pain to a treadmill test and then to quadruple by-pass surgery and home for recovery over a week's time in late October. He says he's doing fine.

Red Hayes recently had a stroke that has affected him badly.

Bernie Sandlin is taking "chemo" for cancer.

Peggy Carlisle (Mrs. Harold Carlisle) has recently had a struggle with melanoma. After much treatment and surgery, she is progressing fairly well.

Personal Notes:

Welcome new members **Mary Vassar** and **Ron Ware**.

Millie Wallace reports that she is proud to have four great-grandchildren, two boys and twin girls.

Leon Whisnant has remarried within the Thiokol family, his bride being the widow of another Thiokol retiree.

Activities:

Don and Patti Wilson, Barry and Susan Moore, and Wesly Hass enjoy dining at Mullins on Andrew Jackson Way. Patti says this reveals how much she and Susan like to cook.

Barry says that he is really enjoying retirement/fishing. **Susan** works for the U.S. Postal Service. **Patti** says she hopes Susan never becomes a "disgruntled" employee!

Patti reports that **Wesley Haas** looks ten years younger since his retirement, which is busy with assorted projects.

Don Wilson enjoyed a weeklong fishing trip to the Canadian outback last summer.

Bill Cooley gained three new grandchildren during summer months. He's been doing a lot of babysitting between cabin/hunt-club "fixins."

Ron Clements got his summer tan working Habitat construction instead of golf. He says he got practice building a new porch for Alice's mother after starting a small repair job.

Bob Askins is still enjoying his farm building with his son and family near Fayetteville.

Pat and Chuck Anderson and family recently moved into their new home in Hazel Green. The house was built almost single-handedly by **Chuck**.

Billy Hunter has moved back to Huntsville from Birmingham. He is enjoying investment ventures.

Cal and Reva Wiggins have returned to Utah and are in the process of planning a new house.

Travel:

Jerry and Nancy Webb missed the last dinner meeting because they were travelling in Missouri.

Joyce and Don Royston went to see **Verne Reckmeyer**. **Verne** lives in a retirement home in Colorado. Call **Joyce** or **Don** for further information.

Nita Boyd visited Atlanta recently and visited with **Tom and Shirley Owens**, who have a beautiful new home in Powder Springs within eight miles of their two grown children and several grandchildren.

Jack and Harvilee Harbarger toured the Dakotas for a few weeks in September. This completes their tour of the 50 states through the years.

Marie and Carroll Bobb cruised off the Mexican coast in September. They recently attended the wedding of **Carroll's** son in San Francisco. **Carroll** has been teaching **Marie** to play golf. She reportedly needed little instruction, getting a birdie on her first hole.

Working:

Ron Clements is now back with Thiokol, working contracts for Space Operations here in Huntsville.

Faye Edmonds has rejoined Thiokol, working with **Tom Bryant** at Space Operations at MSFC here in Huntsville.

Harold Moore recently went to work for **Dynamic Research Corp.** and is located in the **Heflin Building** of the **Sparkman Complex**.

Work Updates:

Gwen Herman is employed by Litton/PRC in Research Park. This is where Pat Kavanaugh Anderson works.

Faye Liddy is working at Penny's in the Household/Linens Department. Faye says that Jim is tinkering.

Phil Worsham, J. Murphree, and a couple of other Huntsville Division alumni are working at Chrysler.

Patti Wilson is still working as an administrative secretary, administering the joint UAW-Chrysler training program.

Joan Smith is working at the Children's Advocacy Center training "counselors."

Dottie Luke is working in the UAH School of Engineering. **Helen Mitchell** is also working there.

Helen Clark is working at Magnetek and enjoying it.

Bill Stephens was getting ready for his retirement party when he was "recalled" by AMCOM (formerly MICOM) to work for another six months. But, the party took precedence over everything. HD alumni **Dave Flanigan, Bill Schwarz, Jim Hightower, Robert Stanley, and Bob Lynch** were among those roasting Bill. Wife Kathryn, ex-wife Lynn (with husband Harvie Jones), children, grandchildren, and many friends helped with the early celebration.

Cecil Stokes has now joined HD alumni **Sam Zeman, Tom Sato, John Nelson, and Bernie Cobb** in working part time for Stone Engineering.

Retirees Enjoy Lunches at El Palacio

A group of Huntsville Division retirees meets for lunch at El Palacio on the third Wednesday of every month. This group gathers at about 12:15 in the back room.

Attendees recently included **Bert Mangum, Bill Fiser, Tony Guzzo, W.C. Smith, Jim Hamblin, Jack Hagler, Jim Gasaway, Bob Overall, Ed Bradshaw, Jesse Hopkins, Cecil Stokes, Chuck Owens, Garland Grace, Steve Adamek, Roy Willis, Bill Savelle, and Jack Godsey. Sam Zeman, Dick Wall, Dave Wallace, Billy Hunter, Jack Harbarger, Dean Herbert, Marty Olliff, Rob Jones, and Don Royston** usually attend.

The group had its first ever program in September when **Bill Stephens** and **Bill Schwarz** gave a presentation on heir work with the North Alabama Science Center located at Calhoun Community College. They made volunteer activity there sound inviting. Call Bill if interested.

Retired Women Meet Monthly

Thiokol Retired Women meet for lunch on the first Wednesday of every month at selected locations. The September meeting was held at the Heritage Club. Present were **Joyce Newton, Doris Osmer, Jo Killian, Jean Walker, Helen Acuff, Faye Jones, and Faye Edmonds**

'98 Dues Are Due

Dues for 1998 are now due if not already paid. Dues are set at \$12/year (\$1 per month). These can be mailed to POB 4185 with reservations or separately.

Prizes for Input

Paulette Hamblin was the winner of the newsletter input contest with 12 items and 23 names. **Nita Boyd, Patti Wilson, and Bill Russell** were close. We will propose more contests.

List of Known E-mail Addresses

Nita	Boyd	BoydN@Nichols.com
Tom	Bryant	ctbryant@traveller.com
John	DeHaye	DeHaye@Hiwaay.net
Jim	Gasaway	Jgasaway@Traveller.com
Bob	Glick	GlickBob@aol.com
Garland	Grace	dunlavy@ro.com
Billy	Graham	whgram@worldnet.att.net
Gene	Huckaby	ghuckaby@fedex.com
Foots	McCauley	FootsM@worldnet.att.net
Don	Nelson	nelsond@nichols.com
John	Nelson	JMNelson@Worldnet.ATT.net
Bo	Stokes	idnstohq.nato.int
Cecil	Stokes	CStokes@Traveller.com
Dick	Wall	rhwallsr@Traveller.COM
Ron	Ware	rware@browninternational.com
Roy	Willis	74101.3457@compuserve.com
Don & Patti	Wilson	DonPatti@AOL.com

HDAA web site under construction at: www.hsv.tis.net/~cstokes/HDAA

HDAA Information to Pass Along

Membership

All former employees of Thiokol's Huntsville Division and their spouses (including surviving spouses of deceased former employees) are invited to Join HDAA. Others who had a close association with the division (as customers, suppliers, etc.) but were never its employees are invited to consider an associate membership (most privileges).

Objectives

HDAA objectives 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.

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 has developed: a spring dinner, a summer picnic, an autumn dinner, and a December party. A quarterly newsletter, telling of activities of HDAA and news of individual members, is distributed to members.

An HDAA committee is attempting to maintain in-depth benefits reports, previously available at HD

HDAA will also interact with smaller groups of alumni who meet more often 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 if a hardship exists.

Officers

HDAA business is conducted by an elected Board of Directors. The current board includes past leaders of both the Management Club and AFL-CIO Local 1325. Join us!

If interested, call Nita Boyd at 726-0215 (new number).