

The Next Stage

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 3

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

AUGUST 22, 2011

DINNER AT RYAN'S ON TUESDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER

We're changing it up a little this year, and enjoying our Fall Dinner at Ryan's, University Drive/Pratt Avenue in Huntsville (near Red Lobster), on Tuesday, 13 September. Social hour will begin 5:00 p.m., and you can eat dinner at any time you'd like. Sr. discount for dinner/drink/tax/tip is \$13.23/person, which you pay as you enter the restaurant (Jerry indicated it may be less if we have more than 40, for a special group rate).

In order to have an accurate head count for Ryan's, please contact Jerry Webb/536-9340, webb2248@bellsouth.net. Please call no later than Thursday, September 8, so Ryan's can make appropriate space for us where we can visit and talk, as well enjoy the food.

Hope we see you at Ryan's...and, bring a hearty appetite!

Dick Wall Memorial Dedication

The dedication is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 17, 2011, at Ditto Landing in South Huntsville. A rain date is scheduled for one week later (9/24, same time/location). Directions: East on Hobb's Island Rd from S. Memorial Parkway close to the TN River bridge, then right at Ditto Landing sign. Follow signs to the Pavilion. The dedication will be at the picnic area before you reach the Pavilion. We will also put up signs directing you to the site. *Hope we see you there!*

ALL are invited to honor Dick's memory. It's such a nice, shaded location, you might want to bring a picnic lunch and stay a while. HDAA and the Wall family deeply appreciate donations made to this well-deserved memorial.

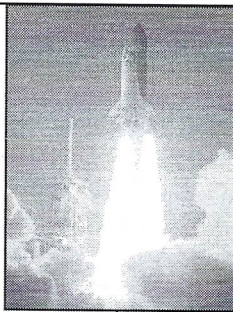
**Fall Dinner: Tuesday, September 13th
5:00 p.m. Social; buffet ANY time!
Ryan's, University Dr/Pratt Ave, HSV
Cost is \$13.23 (includes drink, tax, tip)
Called Reservations by Thursday, Sept 8
to Jerry Webb /536-9340.**

The End of An Incredible Era

For ATK, America's Space Shuttle Program began in 1974 when the then Thiokol won the contract to build the solid rocket motors for the space shuttle — a contract for 21 four-segment motors—six flight sets and nine test motors—through 1986. By 1977, the first static test was conducted. Seven years of design, development and testing culminated in the first space shuttle launch, immediately hailed as a success! It was the first vehicle to go into orbit and return to Earth as an airplane.

Since 1981, the shuttle has flown 135 times with two of ATK's solid rocket boosters powering every single mission. ATK has also supplied the titanium hydrazine propellant tanks for the auxiliary power units, as well as crew aids and tools for the mission to service the Hubble Space Telescope, and tools for robotically refueling satellites in orbit.

Countless men and women have dedicated their lives (some even *given* their lives) for this tremendous program and the benefits it has brought to the world.



Timeline of SRM/RSRM Events

- 1974** Thiokol wins the contract to build the solid rocket booster for the space shuttle.
- 1977** First static test is conducted.
- 1978** NASA extends contract through 1988.
- 1980** Final motor test before qualification completed.
- 1981** Launch of STS-1 w/John Young, Bob Crippen.
- 1982** NASA adds six motors to contract.
- 1983** NASA awards contract for 60 additional motors to (Morton) Thiokol.
- 1986** Challenger incident.
- 1988** Return to flight; the Redesigned Solid Rocket Motor.
- 1991** NASA contract award for 142 motors; Thiokol wins the prestigious George M. Low Trophy for Excellence.
- 1998** NASA contract award for 77 additional motors thru 2010.
- 1999** Company wins Low Trophy award for second time.
- 2000** 100th set of flight motors flies on STS-92.
- 2003** Columbia accident upon mission STS-117 return to earth.
- 2005** Company wins Low Trophy for unprecedented third time.
- 2009** 100th set of reusable solid rocket motors flies: STS-119.
- 2010** ATK performs final ground test of RSRM.
- 2011** Launch of STS-135 marks the end of the magnificent and tremendously successful Space Shuttle Program.

From www.nasa.gov, this is a small sampling of world-wide benefits produced by the Space Shuttle Program: artificial limbs, automatic insulin pumps, breast biopsy system and cancer diagnosis imaging, corneal refractive therapy, ER infrared ear thermometer, heart rate monitors, laser angioplasty, thermal video imaging, voice controlled wheelchair, airbags, imperfection detection systems, freeze-dried technology, portable cordless vacuums, wireless headset, environmentally-safe sewage treatment.

(Excerpted from a special Space Shuttle Commemoration issue of Aerospace News, dated July 21, 2011.)



Ron Clements and Glenn Webb, shown at left, did another outstanding job with our summer event. The weather totally cooperated, and the magician, Wayman Krugh, kept us spellbound with his tricks! Call 256/859-2140 if you'd like him to entertain at an event. He captured Don Royston to be his assistant, at right. Don was a natural! A new career, possibly?



Lawler's BBQ was fabulous, as usual...they're the best! Thanks, Ron and Glenn, for another great time! (More color photos on MyFamily.com) Plan to join us at next year's picnic!



• The Christmas party this year is scheduled for Wednesday, 7 December at the Redstone Officers and Civilian Club (our usual place). **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW** so you won't schedule a conflict. Don't miss out on the fun. There will be lots of food, door prizes, and Christmas cheer! Details in the next newsletter. 🦋🦋🦋

• According to the HSV Times, Raytheon has broken ground for a missile integration facility on Redstone Arsenal for assembly of the SM-3 and SM-6 missiles. Signs to that effect were found in the HSV Division's old "Line 2" (B-7728) area. When Cecil Stokes was recently "scouting out" the area, he noted the only structure still standing in the Line 2 area is B-7727 (X-ray facility in the '50s and Maverick robot-painter facility in the '80s). Buildings 7631, 7649, and 7650 (rebuilt in 1994/95) are open and full of people. Buildings 7611, 7612, and 7613 were recently emptied when the new building for the Army Materiel Command Headquarters was constructed on Toftoy Rd. There is a small metal utility building marked 7632, where the Chemistry Lab once stood. The newer change houses all appear to be in use. B-7625, the T-building, and the new lab buildings never occupied by Thiokol are fenced off. The new (1995) machine shop building, the motor pool building, and a small part of the old weld shop appear to be ready for use. Most other buildings have disappeared without a trace. (Thanks to Cecil Stokes and Nita Boyd for this input.)

• The "mystery" history building in the previous newsletter was the Darwin home place, where Jack Darwin grew up. Darwin Downs, in NE HSV, was named for Jack's father. It is now the East Huntsville Baptist Church.

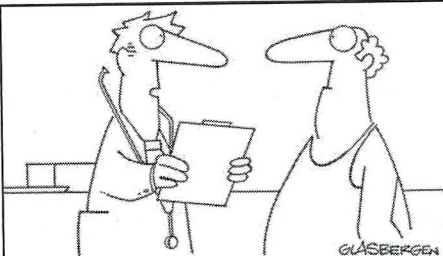
• According to a recent Tufts University *Health and Nutrition Letter*, ~1.5 oz of walnuts daily can improve blood vessel linings, as well increase fasting serum glucose, lower total cholesterol and reduce LDL cholesterol. Ask your doctor!...but, watch those 278 calories.

• And, speaking of calories...The Cornell University Food and Brand Lab has found that making just a few small changes can help you eat a little healthier: 1) Sit down for lunch/dinner *only* if there is a fruit *and* a vegetable on the table. 2) Don't eat white foods at dinner (bread/rice/potato). 3) Use the half plate rule (half of your plate should be filled with salad or vegetables). 4) Have an afternoon snack *only* if you first eat a piece of fresh fruit. 5) Drink a glass of water before every meal. 6) Use the restaurant rule of two (limit yourself to two items other than your entrée). 7) Eat only in the kitchen or dining room, where there's no TV! Other hints: 1) Keep three small single-serving food-storage bags of precut vegetables or fruit on the middle shelf of your refrigerator, making them easy to see/grab when you're hungry. 2) Add a can of rinsed vegetables to canned soup when you're tempted to skip dinner. You'll eat better, look better, and feel better. Just these few changes may help your cholesterol and blood pressure numbers go down, and your spirit and energy levels soar! (AARP Magazine)

If you suffered losses, we hope and pray you've a quick, complete recovery.



Tornado photo at left was taken on April 27, 2011, at Athens-Limestone County Prison by Morris Bowers. This is a small part of what wreaked such havoc and terror throughout N. AL's hearts and homes.



"The handle on your recliner does not qualify as an exercise machine."

Regular events you might want to attend...

Monthly:

1st Wed: Ladies lunch, 11:00-15 am. Call Joyce Royston/539-4338 for details.

See below schedule:

Sep 7: Jo Tipton
256/852-5527

Oct 5: Patti Wilson
256/534-9702

Nov 2: Joyce Royston
256/539-4338

Dec 7: Jean Walker
256/534-6806

2nd Tue: Breakfast at Mullins/Andrew Jackson Way, 07:30. Call Bill Russell at 650-5400 for details.

3rd Wed: Lunch at El Palacio, 12:00. Call Don Royston at 539-4338 for details.

Call for details...Hope we you there!

Next Board Mtg:

(2nd Thurs each qtr)
Oct 13, 2011
5:00 pm, Faith Presbyterian Church, SE corner of Whitesburg/Airport. Come see what your Board does for you!

Dates to Remember:

2011

9/13: Barnhill's dinner 5 pm social; eat any time!

12/7: Christmas Party at the RSAOCC.

Details will follow in the next newsletter.

Worrying does not take away tomorrow's troubles. It takes away today's peace.



With Friends In The News:

Tom Bryant is a celebrated photographer, with two framed photographs on exhibit at the Huntsville Museum of Art, as part of the Huntsville Photographic Society exhibit. The photographs are on the plaza level of the museum. Tom gives special



Carole and Tom at HMA exhibit



thanks to Kathryn Windham for encouraging him over the years, saying one day he'd have his own exhibit. She was right! Two of Tom's pictures are shown at left. But, you can see them in color at the HMA. *We're proud of you, Tom...Keep up the good work, and keep sharing it with us!*

Angele McCauley was honored as the 2010 Red Cross Volunteer of the Year at a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Not only do she and Footh work multiple days at the Huntsville Hospital front information desk, she also knits baby blankets, and makes "stockings" for the babies to go home in over the holidays. We always knew she was mighty special! *Great work, Angele, and Congratulations!*

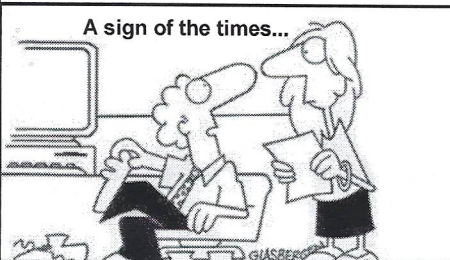


Shown below are a couple of our Thiokol "greats" doing what they love most...being great-grandmoms! **Millie Wallace** on the left, and **Lucy Pockrus** holding baby Ben, right. He is Millie's 14th and Lucy's 8th great-grandchild. *Simply adore all that sticky sugar and love. Don't they look just a little proud...and, serene!*



Somebody said a mother's job is done when her last child leaves home.

That Somebody never had grandchildren.



"Sorry about the odor. I have all my passwords tattooed between my toes."

Boredom is the feeling that everything is a waste of time; serenity, that nothing is. - Thomas Szasz

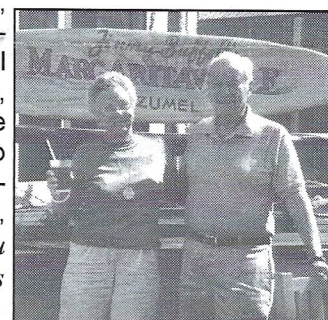
Left to right: **Don Wilson, John DeHaye, and Cecil Stokes** are shown after they completed installation of the memorial for Dick Wall at Ditto Landing. Not shown, photographer Bob Huntley. Vernon Bush & Ron Clements helped to select the location at Ditto, ensuring it would be visible and the tree of grand enough stature to honor Dick. *Good job, y'all. And, Thanks for all your hard work!*



Wendal Payne recently celebrated his 90th birthday! He and **Walt Terry** started school together at East Clinton. Walt said Wendal is holding his own and fighting the good fight. *Congratulations, Wendal...Happy Birthday!*

David Ricks recently lost a tussle with a tree, which created a lengthy hospital stay/time off from work. He says he's almost 100%, with the metal appliance removed from his clavicle; so, he's no longer bionic! BTW, David is now AMRDEC Explosives Safety Manager in their Safety Office. *Thanks for keeping in touch, David!*

Liz and Sam Zeman, at right, party it up in Cozumel, Mexico, after wonderful experiences of snorkeling, scuba diving, a submarine dive to a 100-foot depth to view marine life, and a self-tour of the area in a local, "rattletrap" jeep. *Glad you survived all the fun! That's what keeps you both young!*



El Palacio lunch bunch is doing well. L-R: Sam Zeman, Jack Godsey, Cecil Stokes, Jerry Webb, Bill Barnes. Other attendees: Steve Adamek, Jake Reep, Don Royston, Jim Gasaway, and Walt Terry. *Join the camaraderie!*

Rosa and Andy Karabinos...

Are truly earning their angels' wings. Their mission work through the Good Shepherd Catholic Church includes doing good works for countless people, through the thrift store on the SW corner of N. Memorial Parkway and Oakwood Avenue and the Downtown Rescue Mission, both in Huntsville. They spend many hours sorting, packaging, and delivering clothing and furniture to people in need for the South Alabama Missions (SAM).



Thanks to you both!



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



REMINDER: \$12 DUES FOR 2011 ARE DUE!
IF YOUR ADDRESS LABEL SAYS
(PD. 2009, 10, ETC.), YOU OWE DUES FOR 2011.
THANKS!



Cecil Stokes (pd 11)
4022 Heatherhill Rd.
Huntsville, AL 35802

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AUGUST 22, 2011

The Next Stage is the quarterly newsletter publication of the Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc. Distribution: approximately 195. Editor: Patti Wilson.

Its address is POB 4185; Huntsville, AL; 35815-4185.

The 2011 HDAA Board consists of President Nita Boyd, Vice President Don Royston, Secretary Tom Bryant, Treasurer/Membership Charlie Thomas, and Directors: Ron Clements (11), Jim Lee (11), John Nelson (11), Don Royston (11), Cecil Stokes (11), Glenn Webb (11), Fouts McCauley (12), Harold Webb (12), Roy Willis (12), Don Wilson (12), Sam Zeman (12), Bill Barnes (13), John DeHaye (13), Joyce Royston (13), Gene Thomas (13), Jerry Webb (13). Ex-officio members of the Board are: Jim Lee/Historian, and Cecil Stokes/WebMaster.

For Internet information:

MyFamily.com (contact Cecil for details)

*See You at Ryan's
Tuesday, September 13th!*

In Fond Memory...

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

Helen Acuff: Worked in Human Resources.

Tom Carney: Son-in-law of Chuck Owens, who worked in Quality.

Wendal Payne: Grandson of Wendal Payne, who worked in Program Management.

Bill Cooley: Worked in Engineering.

Winnona Hicklen: Wife of David (deceased), who worked in Quality.

Earl Hoard: Worked in the Motor Folder Group 1950s/60s.

Art Jones: Worked in Engineering and Quality.

Mary McCool: Wife of Edward (deceased), who worked in Process Engineering.

They will be sorely missed by us all.

Our heartfelt sympathy to those who have lost other loved ones, as well.

If we have missed condolences, it's because we were unaware.

