

# The Next Stage

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

MARCH 9, 2013



## BREAKFAST....SATURDAY, MARCH 23<sup>rd</sup>!

Brookdale Place at Jones Farm, 2815 Carl T. Jones Drive SE (opposite Mayfair Church of Christ) in Huntsville is the scene for our Spring Breakfast: Saturday, **March 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Plan to arrive by **8:30-8:45 a.m.** to enjoy a little camaraderie, then enjoy the buffet beginning at about **9:00 a.m.** The cost is **\$6/person**. Kurt Lineback (former chef at the Senior Center) will prepare a delicious fare of breakfast casserole, bacon, sausage, grits, hashbrowns, biscuits, fruit, juice, and coffee. Bring a hearty appetite!

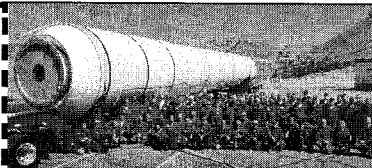
**Paid reservations** should be mailed to HDAA, P. O. Box 4185, Huntsville, AL, 35815-4185 by **Monday, March 18**. Thanks to Don Royston, Committee Chairperson, for all his hard work, as well as Jack Hagler for making the contact with Kurt Lineback at Brookdale! *Looking forward to seeing you all there!*

Spring Breakfast: Saturday, March 23  
9:00 a.m. buffet served.

Brookdale Place, 2815 Carl T. Jones

Cost is \$6 per person

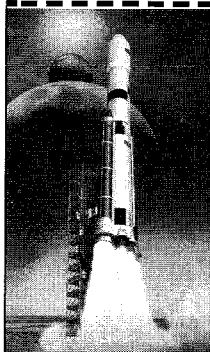
Paid Reserv's. to HDAA by Mon., Mar. 18



Daylight Savings Time begins - 3/10

Happy St. Patrick's Day - 3/17

Happy Easter - 3/31



### NASA's SLS Marks 1.5 Yr Mark

ATK is a part of the team responsible for the formation of the Space Launch System, the nation's next step in human exploration efforts, designed to carry the Orion spacecraft and send astronauts farther into space than ever before. The SLS program will make human exploration of deep space a reality and create new possibilities for scientific discovery.

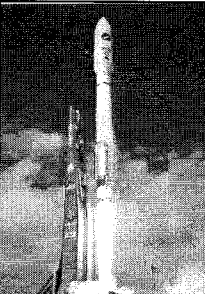
ATK is scheduled to test a flight-qualified booster this year, with additional testing in 2014 and 2017. Significant progress is being made toward launch. NASA's SLS Program Manager, Todd May, and Marshall Space Flight Center SLS program managers are working closely with Orion program managers at Johnson Space Center in Houston and Ground Systems Development and Operations program managers at Kennedy Space Center in FL. May said "We're moving forward with our eyes on deep space, contributing critical technology and functional knowledge to meet our nation's exploration goals...and, hopefully inspire future generations."

(Excerpt from *Aerospace News*, dated November 26, 2012)

### Space Shuttle Solid Rocket Motor

Shown above left at the Promontory, UT facility, ATK employees gather around the four-segment space shuttle rocket motor they prepared for transport to NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville. The historic exhibit will be on permanent display in the MSFC rocket garden where the exhibit can be viewed by employees, as well as tourists during U. S. Space and Rocket Center tours.

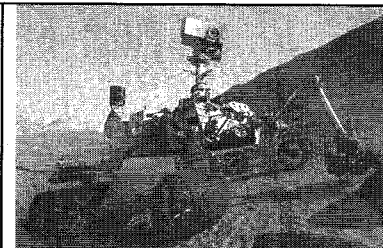
(Excerpt from *Aerospace News* dated November 26, 2013)



### ATK Supports Atlas V Launch of OTV3

ATK composite technology supported the recent successful launch of United Launch Alliance's Atlas V rocket. It launched the US military's third Orbital Test Vehicle, a prototype space plane supporting space experimentation, risk reduction and concept of operations development for long-duration, reusable space vehicle technologies. Parts of the composite heat shield, Centaur Interstage Adapter and boat tail that connects the adapter to the payload fairing were manufactured at the luka, MS facility.

(Excerpt from *Aerospace News* dated 1/30/13)



### NASA's Mars Curiosity Rover

Currently on a 2-year mission to determine if Mars ever had an environment capable of supporting microbial life, the rover has completed experiments showing the mineralogy of Martian soil. ATK teams in Pasadena, CA provided key support for this effort. These NASA technological advances have resulted in applications on Earth, such as compact and portable X-ray diffraction equipment for oil and gas exploration, analysis of archeological objects, screening of counterfeit pharmaceuticals, etc.

## Christmas Lunch Revelers !



The annual Christmas party was held at lunch-time at Magnolia Trace, both delightful changes! The food was delicious, and attendance was good since it was

a day-time event. The gift-card prizes were well received by all the winners, which made shopping much easier for the committee: Gene Thomas and Cecil Stokes. All their hard work at making a successful event paid off well! It was the general consensus that the 2013 event will be held at the same time, same place—so, that would make it a successful event, indeed. More photos, in color, can be seen on MyFamily.com. *Thanks, Gene and Cec, for a wonderful time thoroughly enjoyed by one and all! Lauds!*

For Your  
**FYI**  
Information

**Nita Boyd** will soon be heading to Dothan, AL to live closer to those wonderful grandchildren. Can you blame her? *We'll sure miss you (and your wonderful laughter)...come back to visit often!*

**Mary Compton** (worked at the HSV Division, for Billy Hunter until 1962) has returned to the area and joined our retired ladies lunch bunch. *Welcome, Mary!*

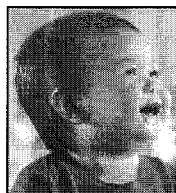
**Louise Fenton**, shown 3rd from right below, with her fellow singers. They visit and sing for local churches near where she lives in Tuscaloosa. *Way to keep connected, Louise! Fun, rewarding times. Wish we could hear you, too! We miss you.*



Have you seen **Gerri Gurley** in a local TV ad? Keep an eye out for her pretty face! *We always knew you were a star, Gerri!*

**Dottie (Dale) Hughes** recently visited with Sam and Lo Vance. She now has 15 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. She was in good spirits and they all enjoyed getting caught up. As Sam said, their good time was "marred only by our short-term memory losses!" *We totally understand...totally!*

**Sam and Lo Vance** want to share their bragging rights...their 4 beautiful grandchildren! Pictured, L-R, below: Sami (Samantha Anne Vance), 6; Cara (Caroline Anne Vance), 3; Kamakana, 6; and LanaKila, 1. (Can definitely see Sam and Lo, both!)



## It's Turbulent Weather Time Again... So, be prepared!

**Get a Kit** - Include water, food, batteries, a flashlight, first aid kit and other essentials for your specific needs..

**Make a Plan** - Have a plan established in the event of a fire, tornado or other emergency. Plan where to meet if you become separated from one another. Maintain cell phone contact if at all possible.

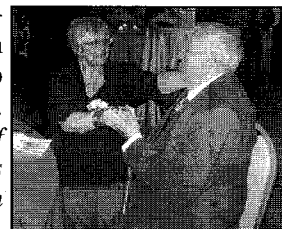
**Be Informed** - Have a weather radio and listen to all weather advisories given by officials.

Be informed...be prepared...be safe!

**FYI** (continued...) And, the sweetest shot of all: Papa, Stuart, and LanaKila taking a little snooze. Nothing more beautiful than youth, love, and trust. *Magnificent!* (Recent surgery required arm braces....)



**Sue and Walt Terry**, shown below right, share a "chair dance" at the



October wedding of one of their granddaughters in Atlanta. Don't ever let anything keep you from enjoying life to the fullest. *Congratulations on the wedding of your granddaughter, as well as having so much fun! You're both an inspiration to us all.*

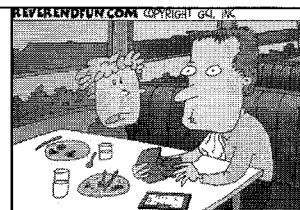
**Patti Wilson, Dottie Luke, and Nita Boyd** recently shared a nice lunch, getting caught up on 10 years of Dottie's life at the UAH Engineering Department. A great time was had by all, and it was decided to not let quite so much time go by before another meeting! With Nita soon leaving the area, it's nice that she's trying to reach out to see friends she might not see for a while. *Never know what's around any corner, any time...so, keep in touch with those you care about. It will mean a lot!*

\* \* \* \* \*

Please keep the following folks in your thoughts and prayers: Faye Cooley (surgery-OK!), Jim/Sue Ferrara, Lillian Hawkins, Billy Hunter, Jim Lee, MaryAnn Williams (triple bypass-better!). We hope you're well on your way to complete recovery!!

**Family isn't always blood. It's the people in your life who want you in theirs; the ones who accept you for who you are. The ones who would do anything to see you smile and who love you no matter what...Stay in touch with them!**

*Keep your faith strong, and your doubts will starve to death!*



How come the waitress gets 15% and God only gets 10%?

(The Cooley's son, Scott, said this decades ago!)

Regular events you might want to attend...

### Monthly:

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

**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/539-4338 for details.

*Hope to see you there!*



L-R: Logan, Gary, Wyatt, Beth, Brandon

business workers and their families that work and live in China). And, according to Carroll, it is quite nice, with all the comforts of home: housing, shopping, restaurants, private schools, with many amenities provided, etc. Brandon, a freshman at the University of Wisconsin, will stay in the U.S. and join them for part of the summer.

Gary was on a team that restructured the GE Medical Division organization and business model to be used in the U.S. and now Asia and Europe. He was selected to go by the current head of GE, who was in charge of the Medical Division when Gary joined the firm.

*Congratulations to the Gary Bobb family! Carroll/Marie may soon visit China!*

## Bobbs Move to China!

No, not Marie and Carroll. But, Carroll's son, Gary, a senior VP for GE Medical, who will be reporting to the President of GE Medical/China. It is a two-year assignment that might be extended. Gary will work in Beijing, with the family living in an international "city" just out of Beijing (which has been established for the many foreign

## Next Board Mtg:

(2nd Thurs each qtr)  
Apr 11, 2013  
5:00 pm, Faith  
Presbyterian Church,  
SE corner of  
Whitesburg/Airport.  
*Come join us!*

## Dates to Remember:

### 2013

**3/23:** Spring Bkfst at Brookdale Place.  
**6/1:** Picnic at Green Mountain Nature Trail.  
**9/10:** Fall Dinner  
**12/7:** Christmas Party

Last 3 dates tentative.  
Details will follow for each event.



A hospital stay—even one that's just a day or two long—can contribute to physical and mental decline, especially among older adults. Here are ways to help you maintain and regain strength, stamina, and mental clarity:

- **Get moving** — Inactivity can set off functional decline. The drive to get moving is especially important for older adults whose reduced reserves make it easier for health to get off track. Work with your care team to develop a rehabilitation plan. Getting active as soon as possible in a safe and appropriate manner can be critical for continued improvement once you return home.

- **Avoid sensory deprivation** — If you normally use glasses or hearing aids, arrange to have them available in your hospital room. Ask if it's possible to have a room with windows to help you keep track of day and night. A clock and calendar can help you keep oriented, too.

- **Stay mentally active** — Keep your mind engaged as much as possible. You might catch up on some reading or write letters. Computer use and personal electronic devices can keep your mind occupied. Be aware that mental clarity can be a challenge after general anesthesia, and receiving pain-relieving drugs can sometimes cause confusion.

If possible, enter the hospital at your best attainable levels of physical and mental well-being. Doing so may help improve the chances you will recover well once you return home, and in a short period of time.

*(Excerpt from Mayo Clinic Health Letter dated March 2013)*

## MEDICARE DEDUCTIBLES FOR 2013

Having trouble finding them? They are \$1,184 for Part A Hospital; and \$147 for Part B Medical. Keeping up with all the tax rule changes each year can be a real challenge! *Good Luck! Remember the April 15 deadline.*

## Seeking Truth In Journalism?

With so many "factual" news sources from around the globe via internet, social networking, etc., the truth is becoming lost in all the noise. Because of this "instant news," Congress can no more plot a safe course "than a squirrel in traffic," even though our nation faces enormous challenges. So, here are a few internet locations where information can be checked for alleged authenticity: FactCheck.org (univ./Pennsylvania re: politics; national), PolitiFact.com (Tampa Bay Times re: politics; national; with links to 11 affiliated state fact-checking organizations), WashingtonPost.com/blogs/factchecker (by Post re: political falsehoods; national); UrbanLegends.about.com (New York Times Re: political/other claims, photos, videos; national); Snopes.com (an individual couple's debunking of various myths, including viral emails, etc.); VoteSmart.org (interactive website specific to your voting eligibility, etc.). (*Costco Connection*)

*The April 3 retired Ladies Lunch will be held at Gibson's on S. Memorial Pkwy. in Huntsville, 11:00. Call Joyce Royston!*

## Don't Forget HDAA When You Change Your Snail-Mail or Email Addresses!

There's nothing automatic about changes in email addresses; so your feed of news about what's going on with folks you have known at the Huntsville Division won't automatically follow you. You can make the updates yourself on HDAA.info (email mailing list) and MyFamily.com (HDAA web page). These are separate web sites, so BOTH lists must be changed in order for you to continue receipt of emails. Or, you can let Patti (Pattikat2@aol.com) or Cec (CStokes@HDAA.info) know about your change. Otherwise, messages will continue to go to the obsolete address, and eventually stop after a few messages are refused. That's also something to think about if your internet service provider or its spam filter blocks messages for any reason, whether intentional or unintentional. If you don't get a message for a few weeks, check to see if you are still on the lists. Send inquiries to either of the two email addresses, above, to be sure it's received. *Cecil Stokes, HDAA WebMaster*

09 MAR 2013 PM 2 L



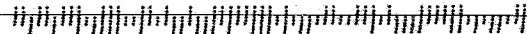
# The Next Stage

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

\$12 DUES FOR **2013** ARE DUE (ALWAYS BY THE FIRST OF EACH YEAR). THIS ALLOWS YOUR BOARD TO BETTER PLAN SUBSIDIZED EVENTS.  
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Cecil Stokes (pd 13)  
3134 Constellation Dr.  
Huntsville, AL 35802

35802209834



VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1

THE NEXT STAGE

MARCH 9, 2013

The Next Stage is the quarterly newsletter publication of the Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc. Distribution: approximately 175. Editor: Patti Wilson.

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

The 2013 HDAA Board consists of President Cecil Stokes, Vice President Ron Clements, Secretary Helen Mitchell, Treasurer/Membership Charlie Thomas, and Directors: Bill Barnes (13), John DeHaye (13), Joyce Royston (13), Gene Thomas (13), Jerry Webb (13), Nita Boyd (14), John Grider (14), Charlie Thomas (14) Sam Vance (14), Patti Wilson (14), Carroll Bobb (15), Paulette Hamblin (15), Paul McFall (15), Don Royston (15), Don Wilson (15). 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 Brookdale Place on  
Carl T. Jones Drive SE  
Saturday, March 23!**

## In Fond Memory...

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

**Ronald Bledsoe:** Foreman in Pilot Lines.

**Mable Cherry:** Mother of Nita Boyd, who worked in Engineering. Mrs. Cherry was just 13 days short of her 100th birthday.

**Tony Goodloe:** Son of Rosemary and John Goodloe, General Manager at Thiokol/Huntsville Division.

**Bob Kruse:** Worked in Engineering.

**Billy Tidwell:** Worked in Engineering in the early 1960s.

\*\*\*\*\*

They will be missed by us all.

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

If we have missed others, we were unaware. Please let us know.

## Getting Older = Poor Sleep?

It doesn't have to. If you eat right, exercise regularly, and keep activity/stress to a minimum in the late evening, sleep should come more readily. Rather than age, sleep problems as we age may be more closely related to health status and depression. If you're not getting good rest, talk to your doctor!

(Excerpt from *Tufts University health & Nutrition Letter*)

## WINE ALERT!

Looking for a low oak, rich-in-flavor Chardonnay? Try FlipFlop, Kalbarri, or Snapping Turtle at Kroger grocery stores. ~\$5 per bottle.