

The Next Stage

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 3

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

AUGUST 18, 2017

JOIN US AT BROOKDALE FOR OUR FALL EVENT!!

In case you've forgotten, the event is at Brookdale Place/Jones Farm, 2815 Carl T. Jones Drive SE, Huntsville. Bill Barnes, Committee Chair, has been ardently taking care of arrangements for this popular event, to be held on Saturday, 9/9. Social hour will begin at 11:30 a.m., and lunch served at 12:00 Noon. Brookdale will provide their usual delicious fare, graciously funding the event themselves this year! Cost to our members/guests will be \$0 per person! *GREAT negotiating, Bill!*

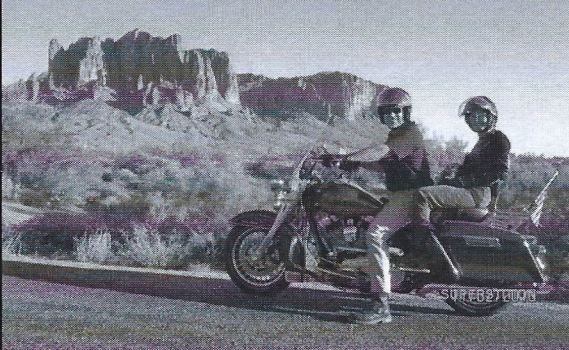
In order to have an accurate head count for Brookdale, please submit reservations to HDAA, by Monday, September 4, 2017. Bill indicated they need to know who is coming by email/wwbarnes@knology.net or by phone at 256-881-4537 (leave a message if they miss the call).

*Hope to see you there! And, how special is Brookdale for doing this!?
We owe them a multitude of thanks.....*

OUR HOME-GROWN BIKERS!

Harold and Jacqueline Whitesides hauled their Harley out west to visit daughter, Kathy, and family in Tucson, AZ. They rode with a Harley Owners Group from San Marcos, CA, visiting many interesting sites: ranch and cemetery of Quanah Parker (a savage Comanche Chief who became a successful rancher, landowner and even a Washington politician. He shared his riches helping to improve the lives of poor Indians). While in Tucson with family, they visited the Desert Museum and the National Saguaro (cactus) Park. They met up with the Harley riders in Mesa and rode to the Lost Dutchman's mine on Superstition Mtn., for a 4-hour hike up the mountain. They also visited The Goldfield Ghost Town and Glen Canyon (used by Geronimo as a hideout). On their way home, they visited White Sands National Monument, and other sights while bike riding 1,000 miles around AZ! *Keep up the wonderful life.*

**Superstition Mountain
...Geronimo's Hideout...**



Orbital ATK Successfully Completes Launch of Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile Target

A critical element of U.S. missile shield testing, the successful IRBM target test validates the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) flight test program for the Missile Defense Agency (MDA).

The IRBM target was air-dropped from the cargo hold of a C-17 aircraft and lowered by parachutes before igniting and performing its mission of simulating an IRBM threat.

The IRBM target uses Orbital ATK's Orion family of solid rocket motors, originally designed for the air-launched Pegasus space launch vehicle. The Orbital ATK facilities in Huntsville, AL; Chandler, AZ; Magna and Clearfield, UT contributed to this successful test.

Orbital ATK is a major contributor of designing and deploying sophisticated target systems to test the nation's missile defense systems against all possible threats. Orbital ATK provides a complete suite of threat-representative missiles target products, spanning short-, medium-, intermediate- and long-range ballistic missiles.

Rich Straka, VP and GM of Orbital ATK's Launch Vehicles Divisions states, "We remain committed to the defense of this nation and our allies around the world."

(Excerpt from www.orbitalatk.com/news-room, dated 11 July 2017)

Next Board Mtgs:

(2nd Thurs each qtr)
Oct 12, 2017

2:30 pm Faith
Presbyterian Church,
SE corner of
Whitesburg/Airport.
*Come brainstorm
with your Board to
renew our HDAA!*

Dates to Remember:

2017

-Fall Dinner 9/9,
Brookdale Place
-Christmas Party 12/2,
Magnolia Trace
**Mark your calendars
now!**

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

Hope you'll join us!

*Food, laughter, and
camaraderie that is
always comfortable
and memorable.
Mingle and linger
with your Thiokol
family!*

Monthly:

1st Wed: Ladies
lunch, 11:00, Gibson's
BBQ/S. Mem. Pkwy.
Call Faye/551-0126
for details.

2nd Tue: Galen's
(old Mullin's) is now
open for breakfast
and lunch. **Call
Bill/256-650-5400 for
details and get it
going again!**

3rd Wed: Lunch at
Logan's/Balmoral,
12:00. Call Jim/353-
7199 for details.

ANOTHER GREAT TIME ON THE MTN!

Apparently, Ron Clements and Glenn Webb just keep trying to improve on an already-proven grand time for our Summer Picnic at the Green Mountain Nature Trail! As always, the weather was warm, but our pavilion setting helps keep that tamed. The Lawler's BBQ luncheon was ample and delicious, and everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy the afternoon. *Thanks to Ron and Glenn for a great event!*



Shirley Stokes, Martha/John Nelson arrive at the nature trail.

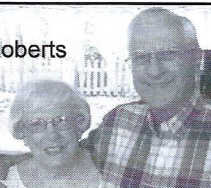


Betsy Reep, Nancy Webb, Nita Boyd



Tom/Carol Bryant

Juanita/Gerald Roberts



Liz/Sam Zeman with TC/HD memorabilia

Shirley/Cecil Stokes...
The hat, from TC/HD picnic
festivities in days of yore, was
a big hit with all!



Gene/Iva Thomas

Remember to check out the HDAA Group FaceBook page for lots of beautiful color photos! And, if we missed you this year, we'll look for you in 2018 at the Green Mountain Nature Trail. Come hungry and ready for fun... and don't forget your walking shoes! *GREAT times.....*

FRIENDS IN THE NEWS....

Andy and Rosa Karabinos recently visited with Ernie Larose in Albertville. His daughter and her husband visit with him daily. Ernie is not very mobile, but is still great in his com-municating! *You're in our hearts, thoughts, and prayers, Ernie!*

Lisa Duncan-Williams was the keynote speaker at the Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month observance at Bob Jones Auditorium, hosted by the Army Contracting Command.

Lisa worked in our R&D Department as a chemist, is an entrepreneur, formed her own company (3D Research), served as CEO for several companies, and is an accomplished musician. She and husband, Phil, have a band, JED Eye, which plays all over the area. *Amazing woman...*

Growing up in VietNam, her mother married a soldier, returning to the US, where "He gave me the American Dream." Her father was her "quiet hero."

Lisa encouraged the audience to strive to achieve personal dreams. "It is so valuable. We can't take it for granted. We can't give it up!" *So true, Lisa!*

Sister Daredevils have been awakened in **Angele McCauley and Patti Wilson!** So far, they have zip-lined, gone mountain bob-sledding, parasailed, and jumped out of a perfectly good airplane!—What's next, you two! *Age is (mostly) a state of mind, y'all.....*



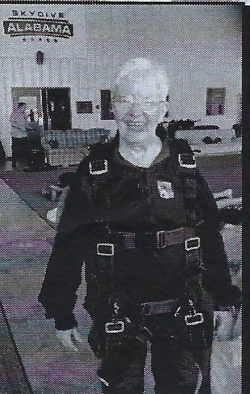
Left: Getting ready to zipline, 350' max height.

Right: Angele, in Florida, parasailing, 500 feet altitude, 1,000 feet behind boat. *Loving it!*



Left: Patti, in Cullman, AL at 14,700 feet. Angele jumped first...no fear at all! *WooHoo!*

Check out skydivealabama.com (or TN, GA, FL, CA...they are all over the country). You might want to try it with them next time.



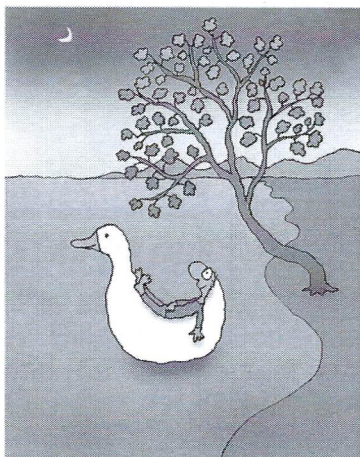
**You've survived
100% of everything
in your life so far, so
there's a pretty
good chance that
you'll survive
whatever is next!**

Timber Tankage

JOMO (Joy of Missing Out.)

Oh the joy of missing out.
 When the world begins to shout
 And rush towards that shining thing;
 The latest bit of mental bling –
 Trying to have it, see it, do it,
 You simply know you won't go through it;
 The anxious clamouring and need
 This restless hungry thing to feed.

Instead, you feel the loveliness;
 The pleasure of your emptiness.
 You spurn the treasure on the shelf
 In favour of your peaceful self;
 Without regret, without a doubt.
 Oh the joy of missing out.



Thanks, Bill and Sue Schwarz,
 for reminding us to slow down and
 enjoy the finer, more simple things in
 life! *Life is Good!*



Great, Great Uncle Bill high fiving his
 favorite buddy. *Happy, happy guys!*

JULY "EL PALACIO LUNCH GROUP" MEETS ON MONTE SANO!

This lunch group has been gathering for over 40+ years, with members ebbing and flowing over the seasons as situations changed. The July luncheon was hosted by Walt and Sue Terry, with daughter, Linda Terry Hickam, in the home that Walt built with his own hands on beautiful Monte Sano. And, how magnificent that dear friends, Jerry and Nancy Webb, lived right next to them!

Linda greeted us all most graciously into their home, and immediately began wearing multiple hats throughout the afternoon, serving as chief cook and bottle washer, facilitator for interesting conversations, logistician for helping us all get situated, and general, all-round amazing legacy for Walt and Sue to share with the rest of the world.

Simply, it was an amazing afternoon spent reminiscing, sharing interesting tales and highlights from over the many years at Thiokol/Huntsville...and relishing in the fact that we are still friends after all these decades. All experts in their specific areas at work, all working together to generate exceptional products for most all branches of the military, proudly serving a country dearly loved by all.

Special thanks to Walt, Sue, and Linda for letting us share in your lives and your home on a hot summer day...an unforgettable afternoon. Thanks, as well, to Ron Clements, Cecil Stokes, Jim Gasaway for pulling it all together. (Nita Boyd was there in spirit, as can be noted by her place next to Gene Thomas!)

Magnificent minds, beautiful souls, a superb group of people!



L-R: John Nelson, Roy Willis, Bill Barnes, Walt Terry, Sue Terry, Linda Hickam, Jim Gasaway, Steve Alexander, Ron Clements, Don Royston, Cecil Stokes.



L-R: Glenn Webb, Nancy Webb, Linda Hickam, Walt/Sue Terry, Sam Zeman, Patti Wilson, Gene Thomas, Nita Boyd (in spirit!), and Tom Bryant.



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

REMINDER: \$12 DUES FOR 2017 WAS DUE 1/1/17.

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

Labor Day—Sep 4
Patriot Day—Sep 11
Autumn Begins—Sep 22
Columbus Day - Oct 9
United Nations Day—Oct 24
Halloween—Oct 31
Daylight Savings Time Ends—Nov 5
Election Day—Nov 7
Veterans Day—Nov 11



Never miss an opportunity to thank a Veteran!



Cecil Stokes (pd 16)
3134 Constellation Dr.
Huntsville, AL 35802

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AUGUST 18, 2017

The Next Stage is the quarterly newsletter publication of the Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc. Distribution: approximately 120. Editor: Patti Wilson.

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

The 2017 HDAA Board consists of President Glenn Webb, Vice President John DeHaye, Secretary Cecil Stokes, Treasurer/Membership Charlie Thomas, and Directors: Ron Clements (17), Faye Jones (17), Sam Vance (17), Harold Whitesides (17), Patti Wilson (17), Tom Bryant (18), Don Royston (18), Joyce Royston (18), Don Wilson (18), Jim Gasaway (19), Paul McFall (19), Gerald Roberts (19), and Jim Tucker (19).

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

Contact Cecil for details about the HDAA website and how to view more photos in color! Check out HDAA's FaceBook page!

*See you at Brookdale on
September 9, 2017!
...Magnificent food...great camaraderie...*

In Fond Memory...

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

Jeune Blackmon: Who worked in Purchasing.

Basil Boggs: Worked in Motor Manufacturing.

Mary Karel DeHaye: Sister of John DeHaye, who worked in Engineering.

Chuck Lundquist: Worked at NASA/MSFC, as well as UAH. He had interfacing with many Thiokol employees over the years.

Clynton Ratliff: Worked at the Elkton Division.

Helen Lincoln Reynolds: Wife of Royce Reynolds, who worked in the Control Lab of the Quality Department.

M. David Rosenberg: Program Manager, Elkton Division, 1958-95.

Mary Lou Thirkill: Wife of John Thirkill, VP/GM at TC/HD.

Syble Whitehead Vinson: Worked in Administration, 1959-60.

David Raymond Warth, Sr: Husband of Jennifer Warth who worked in Quality 1985-93.

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.

*I give you this one thought to keep: I am with you still, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow. I am the diamond glints upon the snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain. I am the autumn's gentle rain.
When you awaken in the morning hush, I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight. I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not think of me as gone. I am with you still in each new dawn.
- Native American Prayer for the Grieving*