

The Next Stage

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 4

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

NOVEMBER 16, 2017



CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AT MAGNOLIA TRACE!!

Dreaming of a beautiful, snowy Christmas? Come jumpstart your holiday spirit at our festive Christmas luncheon, scheduled for **Saturday, December 2nd**, at **Magnolia Trace's Magnolia Room, 1 Clubhouse Avenue in Huntsville**. **Social hour begins at 11:00 a.m.**, and the buffet lunch ~12:00 p.m. Plan to stay

and visit a while if you'd like, since we have the room until 3:00 p.m. **Cost is \$15 per person!**

Dues must be current, so check your mailing label to check your status. We don't want to miss you or your guests!

Paid reservations are required by noon Saturday, November 25th, and may be submitted to HDAA P.O. Box 4185, Huntsville, AL 35815-4185.

Your committee chairman, Paul McFall, planned a fabulous event for us, filled with good food/beverages, and exciting gifts, all wrapped up in seasonal music and beautiful decorations! Thanks to Cecil and Shirley Stokes for sponsoring our luncheon as their guests at Magnolia Trace.

A delicious fare of tossed salad, bread, orange chicken, beef tenderloin, asparagus, Southern green beans, rosemary roasted potatoes, creamed sweet corn, pecan pie, chocolate mousse truffle cake, coffee, tea and water will be served (menu may vary). A wine bar will be available before, with, and after lunch (until it runs out!...complements of a Board member; or, we may "pass a hat" before or after the meal, if allowed).

Door prizes this year will be an assortment of *gift cards* to local restaurants (Longhorn, Outback, Rosie's, Carrabba's)! Winners must be present to win, and only one winner per household.

Directions to Magnolia Trace: South Memorial Parkway, west on Boulevard South. Check in at gate, follow Club-house Avenue to Magnolia Trace main community building.

Come join us for a delicious, fun event that might prove to be more fulfilling than you can imagine! Stay and share the camaraderie with dear friends.

ENGINEERING LUNCH!

The annual luncheon will be held on Monday, December 11, 11:00 a.m. at Logan's on Balmoral Dr/HSV...in their garage.

Contact Nita Boyd at 256/603-7349 for a head count.

Please help spread the word!

Hope to see you there...Just tell them you're with the Thiokol Engineering Luncheon.

Next Board Mtgs:

(2nd Thurs each qtr)
Jan 11, Apr 12,
Jul 12, Oct 11 2018
2:30 pm Faith
Presbyterian Church,
SE corner of
Whitesburg/Airport.

*Come join the
Board in preparing
for an exciting year
ahead!*

Dates to Remember:

2017

12/2: Christmas Party
(Magnolia Trace
11:00/Buffer 12:00)

2018

-Spring Breakfast TBD
-Summer Picnic TBD -
Grn Mtn Nature Trail.
-Fall Dinner TBD
-Christmas Party TBD

Specific details will be
provided closer to the
date of the event!
Hope to see you at
every event!

Monthly:

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

2nd Tue: Bill Russell
at 650-5400 wonders,
how about Galen's for
breakfast!? Call him!

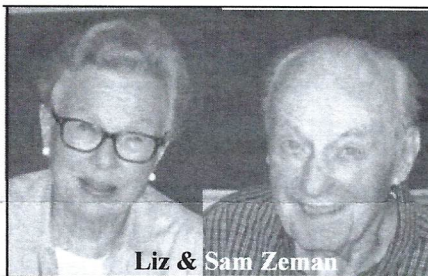
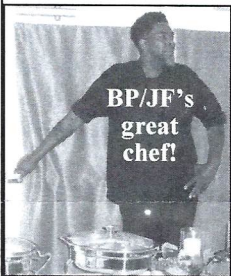
3rd Wed: Lunch at
Logan's/Balmoral
12:00. Call Jim
Gasaway/256/353-
7199 and ask to be
added to his emails!

FALL LUNCH ENJOYED BY ALL!

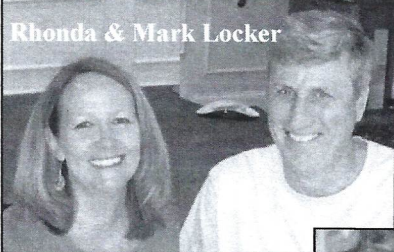
Bill Barnes, Committee Chairman, hosted another successful Fall Lunch, held at Brookdale Place/Jones Farm. The group was a little smaller this year for different reasons, but the camaraderie was fabulous, as usual! Smaller groups sometimes afford a better opportunity to speak with everyone!

Thanks to Bill (and Amma!) for all their hard work at pulling together this fabulous event. Thanks, as well, to Cecil Stokes for reminding everyone, and to Charlie Thomas for keeping up with all the finances and reservations! Great collaborative effort.

Shown below are a few folks enjoying lunch. (Color photos of the event can be found at <http://HDAASmugmug.com>. Cecil has password.)

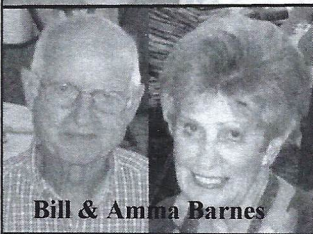


Liz & Sam Zeman



Rhonda & Mark Locker

Photos may also be found on the HDA FaceBook site, as well as the old HDA.info/photos site. Problems? Contact Cecil.



Bill & Amma Barnes



Juanita & Gerald Roberts

INTERVIEWED AT UAH YET?

Contact Cecil Stokes or Glenn Webb if you haven't! A project is under way to preserve/document the history of the Thiokol/Huntsville Division. If interested in sharing your perspective of that exceptional time and place that contributed so much to the propulsion industry, contact Cecil or Glenn, and they will schedule you for an interview. All are welcome! Share YOUR story, and let the future know how powerful TC/HD's contributions were. There's no denying it was exceptional, indeed.

FRIENDS IN THE NEWS....



Charlie and Anna Thomas recently enjoyed a relaxing afternoon of rafting on the Martha Brae River in Jamaica. What a great way to celebrate your 60th Anniversary! *Keep on staying young...and, Congratulations!*



Taking our hearts by surprise, you are perfection in our eyes!

Brenda and Jamie Neidert became proud grandparents in August! Harlan Malcolm Neidert came to the world at 8 lbs 1 oz and 21 3/8" long. Their son, Lucas and his wife, Sabra, currently live in Atlanta. *Congratulations to you all!*

Sam and Liz Zeman were in New Hampshire this summer and, after due deliberation and ensuring all affairs were in order and family notified, tried something most folks only do in the winter! They rode a ski lift at the Gunstock Mountain Resort in Gilford, NH. At times the lift was as high as 25' off the ground, but they held on and survived. *Keep on having fun, daredevils!*

In Fond Memory correction: Clinton Ratliff was a supervisor of designers, draftsmen and documentation in the TC/HD Engineering Department ~1958-1961. Apologies extended for the error.

A secret to happiness is to let every situation be what it is, rather than what you think it should be.

SLATE OF OFFICERS AND BOARD NOMINATED FOR 2017

(Highlighted names only to be voted upon at the annual Christmas Business Meeting.)

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer/Membership

John DeHaye
Jim Tucker
Cecil Stokes
Charlie Thomas

Directors: ('18) Tom Bryant
Don Royston
Joyce Royston
Don Wilson

Directors: ('19) Jim Gasaway
Paul McFall
Gerald Roberts

**Directors: ('20) Bill Barnes
Ron Clements
Roy Willis
Sam Zeman
Harold Whitesides**

Ex Officio: Jim Lee/Historian
Cecil Stokes/WebMaster

Retiring from the Board: Faye Jones, Sam Vance, Patti Wilson.
To those departing and to all who agreed to serve again...
THANKS for serving HDAA with your time and efforts!

A special word of Thanks to Jim Gasaway for doing such an outstanding job of recruiting! We all know that retired life is as busy as when we were working (or more so!)....just doing things we want to do when we want to do them! But, it's difficult to recruit new Board members, since no one wants to commit. The meetings are four times a year at 2:30 p.m., and are seldom longer than one hour. That's only Four Hours a Year! Why not consider serving on the Board? It's fun, productive...and you might even make an early dinner date afterward. Why not consider it!

Surround yourself with the dreamers and the doers, the believers and the thinkers. Most of all, surround yourself with those who see greatness within you, even when you don't see it yourself.

WHY IS SLEEP IMPORTANT?

Getting enough quality sleep at the right times can help protect your mental health, physical health, quality of life, and safety. Sleep deficiency can raise your risk for some chronic health problems. It can also affect how well you think, react, work, learn, and get along with others. It can improve learning, helps you pay attention, make decisions, and be creative. Sleep is involved in healing and repair of your heart and blood vessels. Ongoing sleep deficiency has been linked to an increased risk of heart disease, kidney disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and stroke. Sleep deficiency can increase the risk of obesity—it affects how your body reacts to insulin, can result in a higher than normal blood sugar level. Your immune system relies on sleep to stay healthy, and, if sleep deprived, you may have trouble fighting common infections. *Sleep is vitally important! So, have quality sleep time daily.*

[illegible]

If you are so tired during the day that you cannot function normally and, if this lasts for more than 2-3 weeks, you should see your family doctor.

Orbital ATK Demonstrates Tactical Solid Rocket Motor Manufactured Through Additive Manufacturing

Orbital ATK has successfully completed a series of static test firings of a prototype tactical solid rocket motor built with critical metal components fabricated by additive manufacturing, commonly known as 3-D printing. These tests marked the first industry demonstration of a 3-D printed complex rocket nozzle and closure assembly in a tactical rocket motor.

The motor was developed in partnership with the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. The prototype boost motors featured a high strength graphite epoxy composite case, a reduced sensitivity minimum signature rocket propellant, and 3-D printed components.

The test firings successfully validated boost motor and component performance across the full operational temperature range of -26 to +145°F, closely matching pretest predictions and meeting all test objectives.

Orbital ATK has been very successful in taking additive manufacturing out of the academic world and incorporating it into industrial design and operations.

As part of the Army's Missile Science and Technology Enterprise objectives, Orbital ATK and AMRDEC developed the prototype motor to demonstrate and mature new and emerging materials technologies to enhance system effectiveness and achieve insensitive munitions compliance for next generation weapons that will protect soldiers, troops, civilians, and assets from greater threats in all conditions. The work will continue for the next five years under the recently awarded Rocket Propulsion Technology II R&D contract.

(Excerpt from OrbitalATK.com/news-room, November 1, 2017.)

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

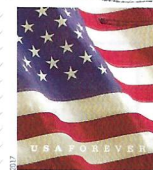
REMINDER: \$12 DUES FOR 2017 MUST BE CURRENT
TO ATTEND OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY!

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!



*May you be blessed
with the spirit of the season,
which is peace,
The gladness of the season,
which is hope
And the heart of the season,
which is love.*

Happy New Year 2018!



Cecil Stokes (pd 16)
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Huntsville, AL 35802

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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), Jim Tucker (19).

Contact Cecil for any questions regarding details of the HDAA Website and photos at Smugmug.com.

See you at Magnolia Trace Sat., 12-2!

*Great Friends, Delicious Food.
Scrumptious door prizes!*

We hope to see you there!

In Fond Memory...

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

Ophelia Millsaps Fulton: Wife of Robert (Tiny) Nance, Pilot Lines Foreman.

Warner Ryan Goodman: Father of Rene Goodman Seigh, who worked in IT. Rene's husband, John Seigh worked in Engineering.

James W. Hamner: Worked in R&D, Chemistry/propellant development.

Ernest A. Larose: Who worked in Propulsion Requirements/Cost Analysis.

Sam Mae Hazelrig, Jr.: Worked in Rocket Engineering of the Redstone Division in the late 1950s.

John Thirkill: VP/General Manager at TC/HD in the mid-1980's.

Mary Lou Thirkill: Wife of John Thirkill.

Virginia "Jo" Tipton: Worked as a Senior Buyer in Purchasing.

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 know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death.
They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make.
Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories
(and on our hearts).*

*We find comfort in knowing that our lives have been enriched by having
shared their (time and) love.*



- Leo Buscaglia