

# The Next Stage

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

Place  
Stamp  
Here

REMINDER: \$12 DUES FOR 2018 WAS DUE 1/1/18.  
YOUR ADDRESS LABEL INDICATES LAST DUES RECEIVED  
FROM YOU. THANKS!



Labor Day—Sep 3  
Patriot Day—Sep 11  
Autumn Begins—Sep 22  
Columbus Day - Oct 8  
United Nations Day—Oct 24  
Daylight Savings Time Ends—Nov 4  
Election Day—Nov 6  
Veterans Day—Nov 11  
Thanksgiving, Nov 22

Never miss an opportunity  
to thank a Veteran!

# The Next Stage

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 3

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

AUGUST 17, 2018

## BROOK DALE @ JONES FARM DOES IT AGAIN!!

The fall luncheon is set for Brookdale Place/Jones Farm, 2815 Carl T. Jones Drive SE, Huntsville. Bill Barnes, Committee Chair, and Amma have been taking care of arrangements for this popular event, to be held on **Saturday, 9/8**. 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 **again** this year! **Cost to our members/guests will be \$0 per person!** *GREAT negotiating, Bill/Amma!* And, thanks to Amma for setting it up.

In order to have an accurate head count for Brookdale, please submit reservations to HDAA, by Monday, September 3, 2017. Bill indicated they need to know who is coming by email/[wwbarnes@knology.net](mailto:wwbarnes@knology.net) or by phone at 256-881-4537 (leave a message if you miss them).

*Hope to see you there! And, THANK Brookdale for doing this!?*  
*We owe a multitude of thanks.....to them and the Barnes!*

## Vice President Pence Announces A New Military Force for Space

The Trump administration plans to create a U.S. Space Force, as Pence commented in a joint appearance at the Pentagon with Defense Secretary James Mattis, to “restore America’s proud history of leadership in space. Space is essential to the nation’s security and prosperity.” The Department of Defense will marshal space resources into a space force (SF). The SF will protect our economy through deterrence of malicious activities, ensure our space activities meet national security requirements, and provide vital capabilities to joint and coalition forces.

Four steps are required to begin reorganization of the military for the Space Force.

**Establish a Space Development Agency (SDA)** to develop and field space capabilities at speed and scale. The Air Force has already begun to transform its Space/Missile Systems Center.

**Develop a Space Operations Force** to provide expertise to combatant commanders and the SDA, and surge expertise in times of crises.

**Create governance and support functions of the Space Force**, such as a civilian reporting to the secretary of defense to oversee growth/expansion of the new branch.

**Stand up a U.S. Space Command** led by a 4-star general/flag officer responsible for directing the employment of the Space Force.

*(Excerpt from “Space News,” dated 9 August 2018.)*

## Acquisition of Orbital ATK Approved, Renamed Northrop Grumman Innovation Systems

Orbital ATK will become Northrop Grumman’s fourth business sector, named Northrop Grumman Innovation Systems along with sectors: Aerospace Systems, Mission Systems, Technology Services. With the addition, Northrop Grumman’s sales for 2018 should reach \$30B. Blake Larson will serve as corporate VP and President of Northrop Grumman Innovation Systems. The company will have to supply solid rocket motors “on a non-discriminatory basis under specified circumstances,” the FTC ruled.

Ensuring competition in the solid rocket motors industry is a key issue for the Defense Department because only two manufacturers remain in the business: Orbital ATK and Aerojet Rocketdyne.

The merger is coming to fruition as both companies move to increase their NASA and military space business. Orbital ATK in April unveiled a new intermediate to heavy lift rocket that was designed deliberately to compete for national security launches. Northrop Grumman recently secured a sole-source Air Force contract to develop next-generation missile-warning satellites.

*(Excerpt from “Space News,” dated 5 June 2018.)*

## Next Board Mtgs:

(2ndThurs each qtr)  
Oct 18, 2018

**2:30 pm** Faith Presbyterian Church,  
SE corner of Whitesburg/Airport.  
*Come join your Board to see the gears turning!*

## Dates to Remember:

**2018**  
-Fall Dinner 9/8, Brookdale Place  
-Christmas Party 12/1, Magnolia Trace  
**Mark your calendars now!**

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

Hope you’ll join us!

*Our special group is like none other, so it’s important to see one another as much as possible. Come build some great memories!*

## Monthly:

**1st Wed:** Ladies lunch, 11:00, Gibson’s BBQ/S. Mem. Pkwy. Call Faye 256/551-0126 for details.

**2nd Tue: Call Bill 256/650-5400 for details and get a breakfast or lunch bunch going again! Bill’s hungry! 😊**

**3rd Wed:** Lunch at Logan’s/ Balmoral, 12:00. Call Jim 256/353-7199 for details.

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THE NEXT STAGE

AUGUST 17, 2018

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 2018 HDAA Board consists of President John DeHaye, Vice President/ vacant, Secretary Cecil Stokes, Treasurer/ Membership Charlie Thomas, and Directors: Tom Bryant (18), Don Royston (18), Joyce Royston (18), Don Wilson (18). Jim Gasaway (19), Paul McFall (19), and Gerald Roberts (19). Ron Clements (20), Bill Barnes (20), Roy Willis (20), Harold Whitesides (20), and Sam Zeman (20)

Ex-officio members of the Board: Vacant/ 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! Remember to Friend HDAA to get notices.

**See you at Brookdale on September 8, 2018!**  
**Don’t forget to thank Brookdale for their generosity!**

## In Fond Memory...

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

**Betty Birdwell Johnson:** Who worked in the Pilot Lines (Mfg.) in the 1960s.  
**Rosa Karabinos:** Wife of Andy, Martin Marietta Customer Resident Rep.  
**John Nelson:** Who worked in the Materials Testing Lab.  
**Bill Oetjen:** Who worked as in Quality, Process Control and Testing.  
**Amy Wright Ricks:** Mother of David Ricks, who worked in Production Engineering.

They will be sorely missed by us all, since they truly touched our lives.

*I wish for you an imperfect life—and all the wonder that living can bring... the wealth that comes from knowing loss, the tears that find their way to laughter, the joy that grows after the rain, and the love, felt deepest by those who have been carved by pain.*

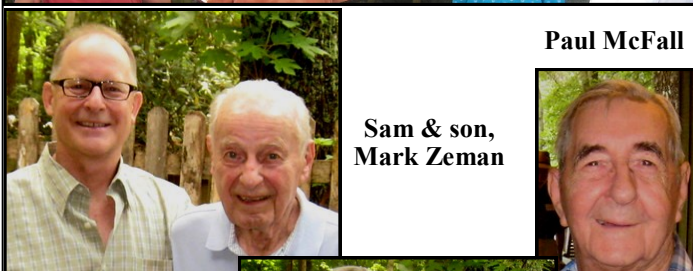
*I hope that you can value this imperfection, hold on to it, so it gives you such comfort that you will dare embrace the beauty of all the imperfect lives that surround you, and then you will be perfectly free to step to the beat of your own imperfect heart, and you will have **truly lived**.*  
*- Native American Blessing for the Grieving*

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright. I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun more. I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive. I wish you enough pain in life so even the smallest joys seem bigger. I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting. I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess. I wish you enough hellos to get you through the final goodbye.  
**I wish you enough.** (Thanks for sharing, Nita Boyd!)



**THE ALLURE OF GREEN MOUNTAIN NATURE TRAIL STILL DRAWS US!**

With near-perfect weather, beautiful scenery, serenity that abounds, who can stay away? Add to that the delicious meal provided by Lawler's BBQ, dear friends from our Thiokol family, and you have a fantastic memory to add to your collection. It's always great to see everyone, and often seems as though we don't have enough time to linger and simply chat. But, it appeared a good time was had by all. *Lauds* to Ron Clements and Glenn Webb for hosting another fantastic event!



**FRIENDS IN THE NEWS....**

**Dave and Yvonne Flanigan** have both recently been through some serious health issues...but, seem to be coming along quite nicely in their recoveries. Daughter, Kellie, and her family have been taking good care of them, even bringing a favorite pet, Buttons, to visit Dave for a little pet therapy in his rehab room. More detailed information can be found on the HDAA Facebook timeline. Not a "friend?" Ask Cecil to "friend" you so you can keep up to date with what's happening with a lot of our Thiokol family. Shown below are Buttons, left, and Dave, right. They both appear to be very happy.



*Labor of love, Kellie and Crew .... Earning your angels' wings!*



**Barbara Hunter Smith, Patti Wilson, and Jeanne Hightower** (L-R) recently enjoyed a delicious breakfast at Gibson's BBQ, sharing many wonderful stories and memories of all the decades at Thiokol/Huntsville Division and other divisions about "Dad", bosses, and husband, respectively. What a wonderful way to spend a leisurely morning: good food, dear friends, countless stories! Shown below, L-R, Barbara, Patti, Jeanne. *Need to do more frequently!*



*At this point in our lives, many of us may have health issues, or know of loved ones and friends who may have problems. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers, and remember to stay in touch. Your outreach to them just may be the ray of hope and light in their lives that will give them encouragement to face problems more positively with renewed strength.*

**Health Revelations ...Harvard Health Letter...**

Recent research shows calcium supplements may increase your risk of heart attack, and may not reduce your risk of some fractures. It is thought that calcium supplements may increase blood levels of calcium, which can cause arteries to stiffen and blood pressure to rise. Some believe women should get between 500-700 mg of calcium each day and 800-1000 IU of vitamin D. At this rate, you should be able to get all or most of your calcium from food! (Post-menopausal dosages may differ.)

Foods high in healthy unsaturated fats (olive oil, fish, nuts) have been linked to lower rates of both dementia due to Alzheimer's disease and mild cognitive impairment (MCI—the stage of memory loss that often precedes dementia).

A recent study showed exercising at peak capacity for 45 minutes just 4 times a week has the power to halt—and possibly reverse—cognitive decline. Exercise might be more effective than any approved medication for avoiding Alzheimer's. Yet another reason to exercise!

Petroleum jelly is one of the most effective moisturizers, especially when used right after bathing. Not on your face? Reach for creams/lotions that contain humectants that bind water to skin, helping softening effects last longer. Take good care of your skin—it holds you together!

Confusion is often the only symptom older adults may exhibit when they have a urinary tract infection (UTI), which can make diagnosis difficult. A Harvard-affiliated Brigham Women's Hospital urologist says the best line of defense against UTIs: Drink plenty of fluids to help flush out bacteria in the urinary tract. You'll know you're drinking enough fluids if your urine is almost clear in color.

*(Excerpt from Harvard Health Letter spring edition Special Report)  
(As always, check with your personal physician before making any changes.)*

**ON-LINE TC/HD PHONE BOOKS**

Cecil Stokes has diligently been putting available old Thiokol/Huntsville Division phone books on line, to help refresh our memories about prior coworkers' names and work locations. Thanks to Dale Hutchens, the range of TC/HD phone books now visible on line has been expanded into 1997. This is a small directory of folks at Thiokol/Marshall Space Flight Center at the time, and does include several previously at the Huntsville Division.

There are now files of 25 Huntsville/Redstone Division phone books and a large combined file at:  
<http://hdaa.info/HD-phonebooks/>

The large indexed summary file is located at:  
[http://hdaa.info/HD-phonebooks/1959-97\\_HD-phonebooks\\_bookmarks\\_7.pdf](http://hdaa.info/HD-phonebooks/1959-97_HD-phonebooks_bookmarks_7.pdf)

The range covered is now 1959-1997. **MISSING ARE PHONE BOOKS FOR THE YEARS 1949-1958, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1980, 1983, 1989, 1993, AND 1994.** If you have any of the ones noted above (and are willing to lend them to Cecil for scanning), please let him know. They will then be accessible to everyone!

**Also, if you have any old organizational charts, he can scan those in, as well, helping to further build a TC/HD database for our use.**

(Note from Editor: Can't tell you how often I, personally, refer to these online phone books. They are tremendously helpful in verifying name spelling and work locations for the newsletter!)

*Look forward to hearing from you!*

**Huntsville Police Share Active Shooter Guidance**

Taking time **now** to think about the unthinkable can mean the difference between life and death. Between 2000 and 2017, 250 active-shooter incidents occurred in the U.S., according to the FBI, claiming 799 lives and wounding 1,418. Of those events, 42% occurred in businesses, 20.8% in schools.

Consider three actions when faced with an active shooter: Avoid, Deny Access, Defend.

**To avoid the attacker:** Be aware of your surroundings. Do not hesitate to act if in a dangerous situation. Pay attention to others' reactions. Know where the closest, safest exits are. If running away from your assailant, consider cover and concealment, trying to place objects between you and the attacker. Consider that a window may be your closest exit—a fall from a two-story window may be better than a gunshot wound.

**To deny the assailant access:** If in a room with a door, close it, lock it, barricade it (if it opens inward), or find a way to prevent the door from opening (if it opens outward). Turn out lights, stay out of sight, silence/turn off electronic devices that may give away your location. Line up near the door, not away from it, if assailant is able to gain access to your location.

**To defend yourself:** Use whatever is available to defend yourself: scissors, etc. Attack vulnerable areas: eyes, throat, groin. Remember: if you feel your life is threatened, you have the right to defend yourself.

When faced with an assailant, you may not avoid, deny access and defend in that order. Pick your best option.

Call 911 when in a safe location. When law enforcement arrives, follow their commands, keeping hands up and visible at all times.

On another note, if pulled over by a police officer: Signal to pull over, finding a safe place to do so. Turn on emergency flashers, slow to 20 mph. If not sure it is actually law enforcement, call 911 and follow same protocol. Dispatcher will confirm/deny if law enforcement. Remain in vehicle. Keep hands visible at all times. If dark, turn on interior lights. Communicate all actions (ID from pocket, glove compartment, etc.). Show respect. If have a conceal permit/weapon, inform the officer. Don't argue! If you feel mistreated, get officer's name/badge number and report them when stop is complete. Signing a ticket is NOT an admission of guilt.

*(Excerpt from Redstone Rocket, 7-3-18. Contact your precinct for additional information. HPD Officers Johnny Hollingsworth and Dwight Atkinson presentation at a RSA project office.)*