

The Next Stage

VOLUME 29, ISSUE 1

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

MARCH 15, 2024

Next Board Mtg:(2nd

Thu each quarter)

Jan 11, Apr 11, Jul 11,
Oct 10, 2024.

2:30 pm Faith
Presbyterian Church,
SE corner of
Whitesburg/Airport,
5003 Whitesburg Dr.

Dates to Remember:

2024

Sat. 4/13: Spring Bkfst
Trinity UMC Mission
Wing, 607 Airport Rd.,
HSV

2024

Summer Picnic: Sat.,
6/1, Green Mtn Trail.

Fall Lunch: **TBD**

Christmas Party: Sat.,
12/7, Magnolia Trace

Details provided closer
to date of event!

Stay tuned!

Want to volunteer to
serve on the Board?

Contact a Board
member. Easy/fun!

Contact appropriate
person if interested in
attending one of these
gatherings!

1st Wed: If
interested in Ladies
Luncheons, email
PattiKat5332

@gmail.com. Large
group or small, let's
not lose touch!

3rd Wed: Lunch @
Logan's/Balmoral Dr.
Email Jim Gasaway
@ djgas@att.net if
interested! Not just
an engineering
lunch...all invited!
Just let Jim know you
plan on attending.



NEW LOCATION FOR SPRING BREAKFAST!

Our Spring Breakfast will be a little different this year. Brookdale could not accommodate us because they are doing renovations. Your Board chose to substitute Trinity United Methodist Church

at 607 Airport Road in Huntsville.

Breakfast will be served at 0900 hours Saturday, April 13, at a cost of \$5.00 per person to cover the estimated cost. We need an accurate head count of expected attendees, so please have your reservations with a \$5.00 per person check to Charlie Thomas at HDAA, POB 4185, Huntsville, AL 35815-4185 by Friday, April 5, 2024.

Head East on Airport Road, turn right into the TUMC main parking lot entrance. Take an immediate left, then right to the entrance at the SE corner of the main building, under a covered walkway at the Missions Wing sign. Or, for closer parking, turn right off Airport Road into the main parking lot entrance and go straight to the end of the church, turning left and keep bearing left until you come to the rear parking lot, which is actually closer to the Mission Wing.

When you enter the building, just follow your nose straight ahead to the smell of breakfast being prepared by our own crew! The ambiance will be different, but the camaraderie will be the same. *Thanks to Ron Clements for the photos!*



From S. side of church



From N. side of church

We look forward to seeing you there!

ARE YOU BEING SCAMMED?

3 Common Scams:

- An unexpected call, email or text from "your bank" to transfer funds or provide personal information. Red flag: Could be an imposter. Check with your bank yourself.
- A business you trust emails new instructions for transferring funds to complete a purchase. Email/logo looks legitimate, but may be a scam. Check the business with numbers You have.
- You see an ad or are contacted to invest in a "great opportunity", promising low costs, high returns, easy riches. Sound too good to be true? It probably is.

Avoid becoming a victim: Do some research and don't feel pressured to take immediate action. Confirm sources by calling their publicly listed number before acting. Don't respond to requests unless you're absolutely certain of the source. Contact your banker/financial advisor/known, trusted resources if you have security concerns.

(Excerpt from Merrill Lynch Publication, dated 3/11/24)

CHRISTMAS PARTY CLASSICS



Patty Webb's photograph perfectly exemplifies the overall sentiment of attendees at our 2023 Christmas party! Joyful, satiated by an outstanding meal, and thoroughly captivated and relaxed by the exceptional entertainment provided by the Strings of Pearl. And, of course, visiting with dear friends as we got caught up on our lives. *What a perfectly wonderful evening!*

Alice and Ron Clements just keep on looking terrific, don't they? *Must be all the good living/activity! Keep it up!*

Faye and David Jones, in below photo, making rounds



to visit with friends. They, too, seem to have enjoyed the afternoon!

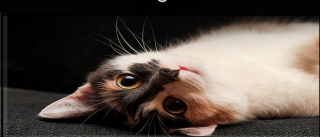
Strings of Pearl, 3 of the musical family shown below, were the perfect entertainment for the

evening. They played classic Christmas, popular music, tunes to appeal to the aerospace audience (Star Wars, etc.)...something for Everyone! If you missed them in 2023, we're trying to get them for 2024, as well. So definitely plan on joining us!



Thanks to Committee Chair Jan Kranert for such an outstanding event! More photos can be found on the HDAA FaceBook site. 🤗

Having at least one lazy day per week can reduce stress, high blood pressure, and the chances of having a stroke.



Perhaps that's why cats are said to have 9 lives... they sleep so much!

Sounds like a good place to me....but, we don't have humans to take care of us like we take care of cats!

Friends In The News...



Carroll Bobb (4th from left, above), and friends as they place flags/wreaths for veterans on grave sites at Union Cemetery (established 1834, lots of confederate graves), where Marie and some of her family are also buried. This is a continual ceremony each Memorial Day. It begins with the Pledge of Allegiance, salute, and Taps is played, and a speaker talks of service and sacrifice. At this particular service, veterans from the Army, Navy, Air Force (Carroll), Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Space Command were all represented. When participating in the 2023 Veterans Day ceremony, some Woodville high school students (helping to clean up the cemetery) asked Carroll if he was a veteran, and had he ever served in a conflict. He relayed his Viet Nam service (1968-69) and history about the long war, details of serving, and why we put the flags/wreaths on the gravesites. Carroll's history lesson was appreciated by the 15-16 students. Carroll has participated in these ceremonies for 10+ years, since several of Marie's family are in the cemetery. He has also helped one of her uncles get to Washington, DC to see the WWII Memorial, where his twin brother was honored as KIA. *Thanks for informing our youth of some important history, Carroll. Thanks, especially, for your dedicated years of duty, courage and sacrifice for this great Republic. Patriotic with a capital P!*

Sam Vance is a hard man to keep up with...but, Patti Wilson finally located him in his new home, living with his son and family. Lovely home on a lake with a pretty view. They had a nice visit recounting old times at Thiokol, and what a special company it was, and camaraderie the employees have maintained all these years after its closing ~29 years ago! *Exceptional company, amazing times, the Best of friends. Thanks for the visit, Sam!*



Atheism is a non-prophet organization. A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption!

KEEPING YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION PRIVATE

ATM SAFETY: Safeguarding Your Bank Identity

With all of the banking conveniences made possible with ATMs, Phones, and POS terminals, there is an increased need for security and personal caution. It's no longer enough to protect physical safety and your cash after a transaction at the ATM...now you must be aware of cameras and skimming devices that secretly steal your bank account numbers and PIN numbers. Here are some tips for safer transactions:

Protect your personal identification number (PIN). Never write the number on the card itself or on any other item that could be intercepted by others.

Be watchful for "skimmers": Do not swipe your card in machines that claim to clean, re-magnetize or renew your card. If the machine looks like it has been tampered with or has any loose parts, don't use it. This machine could be a "skimmer," which is used to copy identifying information from the magnetic strip on your card.

Be prepared to conduct your transaction before you approach the machine. Stand directly in front of the ATM so others waiting may not see your transaction.

Conduct your business quickly and leave as soon as you are finished. Do not loiter in the area.

Money should be put away as soon as you withdraw it from the ATM. Do not stand and count your money!

Never leave your receipt in the ATM machine or lying around. The receipt may show your account number or the account number of the individual and/or company's whose checks that you are depositing.

Use a well-lit ATM or night deposit. BE OBSERVANT! Try to have someone with you when you're banking at night. Be cautious of anyone who is lingering around the ATM or night deposit. Caution should be exercised when going to and from your bank. STAY ALERT!

SKIMMING THEFT

Credit card skimming is one of the most dangerous and rampant forms of credit card fraud today. Identity thieves have handheld magnetic readers that can be purchased on the Internet or improvised to glean personal information off the magnetic strip on credit card and debit cards. Data is transferred to other magnetic strips to make counterfeit cards. (*The thieves have been waiters, gas station attendants, and even store clerks.*) Even private automatic teller machines can be rigged to skim account numbers and PINS. To protect your cards:

Keep your eye on the ATM or credit/debit card: Avoid letting waiters, sales clerks, or gas station attendants disappear from your view with your cards. A handheld electronic device can be used to copy the data. Consider using cash.

Make Sure no one is looking over your shoulder when using your card. In this day of electronic gadgets, or a cell phone with photo capabilities can take a picture of your card to make a duplicate.

(This entire page reprinted from L.A.W. Publications,
www.lawpublications.net,
15000 E Beltwood Pkwy, Addison, TX 75001)

PROTECT YOUR CREDIT CARDS

Only give out your credit card information when you have initiated a purchase or reservation. Never give this information over a cell phone.

Do not lend out your credit card for others to use on your behalf.

Be sure that store clerks do not use your credit card to make extra imprints.

Protect your purse wallet against possible theft. Don't leave unattended in grocery carts, on the back of restaurant chairs, on the floor nearby, etc.

Store all charge slips and receipts in a safe place. Compare them against your monthly statement and report any apparent discrepancies.

Keep a list of all account numbers and phone numbers in a safe place for reporting lost or stolen cards.

LOST OR STOLEN CREDIT CARDS

Immediately report any lost or stolen cards to the issuing company. This will limit the unauthorized use of your card and allow the company to begin issuing you a replacement. At the time you report the lost/stolen card, you might ask the representative the last transaction/date of transaction listed on their records. (This may help you rest better!)

PROTECTING YOUR PIN

A Personal Identification Number is a method that is used by many companies to insure protection against unauthorized access to an account. The PIN is a confidential code issued to a person to permit access to their account. The PIN should be committed to memory and not given out to any one. The less people that have access to your PIN, the better!

Never write your PIN down on any ATM or long distance calling cards. It is not a good idea to write the PIN on a piece of paper and put it in your wallet. If the wallet is stolen, the thief will have access to your account to remove funds, charge debits, or make long distance phone calls.

TIPS FOR INTERNET SAFETY

- Only do business with companies you know/trust.
- Do your research. Company not known? Ask for a catalog to be sent to your home prior to ordering online.
- Check with your state consumer protection agency to see if company is licensed and/or registered.
- Fraudulent companies can appear/disappear quickly!
- Understand Exactly what you're purchasing. Know the offer/price/delivery date/quality of product and any cancellation/return policies/guarantees.
- Use a SECURE, encrypted browser when purchasing.
- Never give bank/credit card, personal information to anyone you don't know or haven't checked out.

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

Place
Stamp
Here

REMINDER: \$12 DUES FOR 2024 WERE DUE 1/1/24.

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY SUBMITTED, PLEASE CONSIDER
DOING SO. IT HELPS KEEP US SOLVENT. THANKS!



3/17—St. Patrick's Day
3/19—Spring begins
3/24—Palm Sunday
3/29—Good Friday
3/31—Easter!
4/22—Earth Day
Passover begins/sundown
4/24—Admin Profess Day
5/1—May Day
5/6—Holocaust
Remembrance Day
5/12—Mother's Day
5/18—Armed Forces Day
5/27—Memorial Day

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The Next Stage is the quarterly newsletter publication of the Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc. Distribution: approximately 75. Editor: Patti Wilson. Its address is POB 4185; Huntsville, AL; 35815-4185.

The 2024 HDAA Board consists of :
President/Ray Zimmerman, VP/Wayne McCain, Secretary/Cecil Stokes, Treasurer-Membership/Charlie Thomas.
Directors: (24) Bill Barnes, Tom Bryant, Ron Clements, Jim Gasaway, Jan Kranert, Mark Locker, Hermann Miskelly, Gerald Roberts, Patti Wilson;
(25) Bill Barnes, Tom Bryant, Ron Clements, Jim Gasaway, Jan Kranert, Hermann Miskelly, Ray Zimmerman, Mark Locker; **(26)** Bill Barnes, Ron Clements, Jim Gasaway, Ray Zimmerman, Mark Locker.

Ex-officio members of the Board: Historian (vacant) and Cecil Stokes/WebMaster.

Don't forget to join us at Trinity UMC for breakfast 4/13/24, served @ 9 a.m.!

Jim Gasaway, Jan Kranert, Hermann

In Fond Memory...

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

Julia Hass: Wife of Wesley Hass, who worked in R&D in Chemistry.

Joe Holley: Who worked in Manufacturing and Facility Engineering.

Dorothy "Dottie" (Dale) Hughes: Wife of Bill Dale, who worked in Program Management.

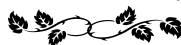
Ann "Pat" Lutz: Wife of Harwell Lutz who worked at TC/HD before and during his time in law school.

Jesse Murph: Who worked in Engineering, Analysis Section.

Juanita Roberts: Wife of Gerald, who worked in Engineering Design and Development.

Billy Yarbrough: Who worked in R&D, Chemistry Section/1950's.

Billy Ray Yell: Who worked in Quality Inspection and Control Lab.



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

Whatever method you choose, find a way to allow your feelings to move from within yourself to outside yourself. - James E Miller

Never apologize for showing your feelings. When you do, you are apologizing for the truth. - Jose' N. Harris

Listen....It is the greatest compliment you can give: that I am worth hearing. - Dona Hoffman