

The Next Stage

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 1

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

MARCH 10, 2025

Next Board Mtg:

(2nd Thu each quarter)
Apr 10, Jul 10, Oct 9,
2025.

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

Dates to Remember:

2025

Sat. 4/5: Spring Brkfst
Trinity UMC Mission
Wing, 607 Airport Rd.,
HSV. Served @ 0900!

2025

Summer Picnic: Sat.,
6/7, Green Mtn Trail.

Fall Breakfast: Sat, 9/6
TUMC, Served @ 0900!

Christmas Party: Sat.,
12/6, Magnolia Trace
Details provided closer
to date of event!

Stay tuned!

*Be sure to mark your
calendars Now. We
don't want you to miss
out on the food & fun!*

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

1st Wed: Have no
responses, so will
delete this post in
future publications.

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.

*We don't want to
lose touch with you!*



SPRING BREAKFAST @ TUMC AGAIN!

Our Spring Breakfast will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church again, 607 Airport Road in Huntsville. Go to the Missions Wing on the East side of the church, which should take you to the right place. Just follow the wonderful scent of a home-made breakfast prepared, once again, by our own members!

Breakfast will be served at 0900 hours Saturday, April 5, at a cost of **\$7.00** per person to cover the estimated cost. We need an accurate head count of expected attendees, so please have your reservations with a **\$7.00** per person check to Mark Locker at HDAA, **POB 267, Trinity, AL 35673-0003** by Monday, **March 24, 2025**.

Last year's breakfast was like a family affair, with many members graciously donating their time and cooking expertise for the benefit of all....then even cleaning up! Our membership is very special that way, don't you think?

We want to see you...and, don't want you to miss out on seeing everyone else, so COME JOIN US!



Thank You, Charlie! Welcome, Mark!

As most of you know, Charlie Thomas served on our HDAA Board as Treasurer and Membership Chairman for Many Years. He has decided to retire from that position and pass the torch to Mark Locker.

Charlie, HDAA membership extends their most heartfelt **THANK YOU** for your many years of exemplary service to All of us: keeping us out of the red, balancing budgets on a monthly basis (can you call Uncle Sam and give some lessons?), keeping track of our constantly changing membership. You've gone above and beyond, and we truly appreciate All you've done! Welcome aboard, Mark! Don't be overwhelmed, it will fall into place eventually. In the meantime, it would be appreciated if all members could ensure HDAA has your most current address and phone number (most used). We need to be able to get in touch in case of any last minute event changes, etc. And, to make sure we don't lose track of you. You're vitally important to us!

Please note new address: HDAA, PO Box 267, Trinity, AL 35673-0003 (closer to Mark). Keep us posted and up-to-date on how we can reach you when a need arises. We'll do likewise!

Northrop Grumman Secures \$1.4 Billion Contracts to Advance Air and Missile Defense Capabilities

Huntsville, AL—12 Feb 2025 —The U.S. Army's Aviation Missile Technology Consortium awarded Northrop Grumman (NG) a \$481M, five-year contract to expand software development for the Integrated Battle Command System (IBCS). This includes \$347.6M dedicated to Poland's defense initiatives and \$133.7M for the U.S. military and the Guam Defense System. NG will lead collaborative efforts with specialists in artificial intelligence (AI) and model-based systems engineering to boost the software development capacity of IBCS, and will integrate Polish sensors and the United Kingdom's Common Anti-Air Modular Missile System (CAMS).

Under a second contract, valued at \$899.6M, NG will deliver IBCS as the single command and control system for Poland's WISLA medium-range and NAREW short-range air defense programs.

Kenn Todorov (VP and GM, Global Battle Management and Readiness at NG) stated, NG continues to support the U.S. Army's

(continued on page 2)

NG \$1.4B contracts awards *(Continued from Page 1)*

interoperability vision for a single integrated air picture to modernize air and missile defense through innovative development and deployment of IBCS software and hardware. Expanding IBCS capabilities will keep the U.S. Army and U.S. allies, such as Poland, ahead of evolving threats and capabilities, giving warfighters more decision time to save lives."

Poland's operational integration of IBCS further enhances interoperability with U.S. forces, creating one of the world's most advanced air defense systems.

(Excerpt from news.northropgrumman.com/news/releases/northrop-grumman-secures-1-4-billion-in-contracts)



NG produces major end items, like the Engagement Operations Center (EOC) for the U.S. Army in Support of Poland at its manufacturing center in Huntsville, AL. (Photo Credit: NG)

And God promised men that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the world. Then He made the earth round....and laughed and laughed and laughed...



Editor note: Can totally relate. A 7-year old grandson who lived across the street would happily receive a phone call from me, and saunter over to help us with whatever cell phone issue we had. When they moved... we were so sad!

Friends In The News....

Carroll Bobb, below, doing what he enjoys most:



spending time with family! The soda shop now serves primarily ice cream and sandwiches. *But, building memories is the best treat of all! Keep enjoying the good life, "Pops."*

June and John Marlin get ready

to head to the Sub-Deb Ball, 1955.

This is what's fun to remember: the times that seem like yesterday, but how quickly those 70 years do pass! (BTW: John noted on this FB post that June's mom had made that dress for June. Remember those days?) 😊



Brenda Turner, at right, doing what she loves best, enjoying beautiful grands and great-grands! *That's the nice part of getting older, isn't it? All the time in the world to be around those you love the most!*



Take a moment to share Your favorite memories of fun times spent with those You love. Your Thiokol family would love to see how you're doing in this Next Stage of our lives.

Winter days will soon be over.....



Be a reflection of what you'd like to see in others! If you want love, give love, if you want honesty, give honesty, if you want respect, give respect. You get in return, what you give!

unknown

Things To Remember If Stopped by a Police Officer...

Every year in the United States, more than 100 police officers are killed in the line of duty and thousands more are injured or assaulted. For this reason, police officers place a great deal of emphasis on officer safety and survival. Certain safety practices are instilled in police officers from the first day of their careers.

Although these procedures maximize officer safety, they may seem standoffish, impolite, or offensive to law-abiding citizens who may not consider such precautions necessary. Although a citizen may not have any intention of doing harm, police officers usually maintain a defensive posture until they feel there is no risk of confrontation or injury.

IF YOU ARE PULLED OVER...

As far as police are concerned, there is no such thing as a "routine" traffic stop. Every stop has the potential for danger. Following these guidelines will help put the officer and you at ease:

- Safely pull over to a place out of the flow of traffic as soon as the police officer activates the emergency lights.
- If there does not appear to be a safe place to pull over immediately, signal your intention to pull over and proceed slowly to a safe or well-lit area.
- Remain in your vehicle. Exiting your vehicle does not assist the officer and may be perceived as a threat.
- Stay calm and keep your hands visible on the steering wheel.
- If you have passengers, ask them to sit quietly with their hands visible.
- Avoid sudden movements or ducking in the seat: these actions can unnecessarily alarm the officer.
- If it is dark, turn on your inside light when you pull the car over. This will reduce the officer's concern about possible threats from within the vehicle.
- Communicate your actions in advance by telling the officer what you will be doing before you move.
- If requested, you must give the officer your driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance. Tell the officer where they are before you reach for them.
- If the officer asks you to step out of your vehicle, comply in a calm manner. Give the officer approximately 2-3 feet of "personal" space as a safety zone to do his/her job.
- If you are issued a citation, you will be asked to sign it. **Signing it is not an admission of guilt, but an acknowledgement that you have received the citation.** Innocence will be determined in court.

WHY STOP ME?

Innocent individuals may be offended or angered because an officer has stopped them. Although the delay might be inconvenient, the officer usually has a good reason. Always be respectful.

If stopped on the street:

- You might be walking in the vicinity of a recent crime.
- Your clothing may be similar or identical to that worn by someone suspected of a crime, or you may match the description of a person suspected of a crime.
- The officer may be looking for a potential witness to assist in an investigation.
- The officer may think you need assistance.
- Someone may have called the police complaining that you look suspicious.
- You might be acting in a manner that the officer considers suspicious.
- Likewise, there are various reasons why a police officer might stop you while you are driving.
- The officer may want to warn you about a potentially dangerous situation.
- The vehicle you are driving may have an equipment violation.
- The vehicle you are driving may match the description of a vehicle used in a criminal act.
- You may have committed a violation.
- Always be courteous, truthful, and do exactly as the officer asks, without argument.
- Always have your hands visible to the officer.
- Do not make sudden moves
- Answer the officer's questions to the best of your ability.
- Don't get in the way if an officer is taking someone you are with into custody. You could be arrested for interfering.

This information was provided as a public service by the Huntsville Police Department and the Huntsville Community Watch Association, and can be found online.

If you feel an officer has acted inappropriately, or feel that you have not been treated fairly, politely ask the officer questions to clarify, but do not argue the issue. Once the incident is over and the officer has left the scene, you may call your local precinct, Internal Affairs, the Citizen's Advisory Counsel, or after hours complaints may be taken by a field supervisor at 256-722-7100.

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The Huntsville Division Alumni Association
P.O. Box 267
Trinity, AL 35673-0003

Place
Stamp
Here

REMINDER: \$12 DUES FOR 2025 WERE DUE 1/1/25.

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



3/17—St. Patrick's Day
4/12—Passover Begins Sundown
4/13—Palm Sunday/Passover
4/18—Good Friday
4/20—Easter!
4/22—Earth Day
4/23—Admin Professional Day
5/1—May Day
5/11—Mother's Day
5/17—Armed Forces Day
5/26—Memorial Day
6/14—Flag Day
6/15—Father's Day
6/19—Juneteenth

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The Next Stage is the quarterly newsletter publication of the Huntsville Division Alumni Association, Inc. Distribution: approximately 70. Editor: Patti Wilson. Its address is HDAA, POB 267; Trinity, AL; 35673-0003.

The 2025 HDAA Board consists of:
President/Wayne McCain, VP/Terry Dillard, Secretary/Cecil Stokes, Treasurer -Membership/Mark Locker. Directors:
(25) Bill Barnes, Tom Bryant, Ron Clements, Jan Kranert, Hermann Miskelly, Ray Zimmerman, Mark Locker; (26) Bill Barnes, Ron Clements, Paul Fisher, Jim Gasaway, Ray Zimmerman.

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



Don't forget to join us at Trinity UMC for breakfast 4/05/25, served @ 9 a.m.!

Look forward to seeing you there!

(We love a man with dishpan hands!)



In Fond Memory...

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

James R Clements, Jr.: Son of Alice and Ron Clements. Ron worked in Programs as a Project Director.

Jaqueline Cobb: Husband, Bernie, was in Rocket Engineering 1958-1960. Jackie worked at the Huntsville Division in the early 60s.

William E. "Buddy" Duffey: Worked in Rocket Engineering, then Program Management.

Waite Dikes: Worked in the Control Lab, then moved to the Army Propulsion Lab after TC/HD closed.

Corrie English: Husband, Hill, worked in Engineering/Advanced Design.

Lana F. Davis: Husband, Gary, worked in Quality/Inspection.

Michael Fling: Worked in Engineering/Advanced Design.

Jean Marie Thomas Mangum: Husband, Grafton "Bert" worked in Programs as a Project Director.

George McCanless: Worked in the Technical Management/Advanced Concepts Integration Department in the early 1960s.

Felton Norris: Worked in Data Base Administration.

Bobby Wayne Pillow: Worked in Quality/Inspection.

Taylor North: Niece of Sharon Sears. Sharon worked in Production/Manufacturing.

Johnnie Marie Swaim: Wife of W. D. "Bill" Swaim, who worked in Plant Engineering/Maintenance.

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