

The Next Stage

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 2

Newsletter of The Huntsville Division Alumni Association

MAY 12, 2025

Next Board Mtg:

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

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

Dates to Remember:

2025

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

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

Christmas Party: Sat.,
12/6, Magnolia Trace,
Act III Lounge.

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 an event!

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, so
Logan's has
appropriate amount
of food. 🤗

*If you have a
suggestion for an
event, don't hesitate
to contact a Board
member! We don't
want to lose touch
with you!*



main attraction in Huntsville. Regain your sense of self, tune out tech, and relish the peaceful calmness of being in nature.

A cost of **\$10.00/person** covers the estimated cost. We need an accurate head count of expected attendees, so please have your reservations with a \$10.00 per person check to Mark Locker at HDAA, POB 267, Trinity, AL 35673-0003 by Monday, May 28, 2025. Lawler's BBQ needs a specific head count to ensure enough food preparation!

BTW...the last few years, the weather has been "iffy"...so you might want to bring a light/water-repellant jacket just in case! (Paul McFall had extra jackets long ago, Lockers in '24!)

The picture at right is the chilly picnic last June.

Looking forward to seeing you on the trail!



...HDAA VIABILITY...

As most of you remember the Huntsville Division closed in 1995/96, and the HDAA has been operating for ~30 years. We started out with approximately 350 members, and over the years have dwindled to ~70 members, some of whom are no longer local. The Board has been working diligently to try and bring new/younger prior TC/HD employees, and former customers and supplier personnel, (as associate members), into the HDAA so it may continue into future years.

This hasn't been easy, since Many have moved on to other companies/jobs, and have allegiances elsewhere, many of us may have age-related health issues, or may have moved to be closer to other family.

This amazing group of TC/HD employees enjoyed one another's company for so many years, that 30 years later we Continue to have regular events throughout each year to share that remarkable camaraderie.

Let us know if you know someone who might like to join this fun, elite group!

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

BREAK OUT YOUR HIKING BOOTS!

Our summer picnic is scheduled to be held at the beautiful Green Mountain Nature Trail on Saturday, June 7, 2025. Committee Chair, Ron Clements, has reserved the pavilion from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with lunch being served ~12 Noon. So, come a little early, or stay later, and hike the trail. It's well maintained, and a

Northrop Grumman's Deep Space Advanced Radar Capability

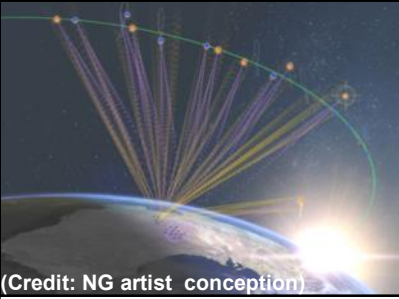


"The DARC program will field a resilient ground-based radar providing our nation with significantly enhanced space domain awareness for geostationary orbit," said Pablo Pezzimenti, VP, integrated national systems, Northrop Grumman. "While current ground-based systems operate at night and can be impacted by weather conditions, DARC will provide an all-weather, 24/7 capability to monitor the highly dynamic and rapidly evolving geosynchronous

(continued on page 2)

NG DARC (continued from Page 1)

orbital environment critical to national and global security.” DARC will augment the military’s space surveillance network as an additional sensor with increased capacity and capability to monitor deep space objects and eventually provide full global coverage. The initial DARC contract includes the design, development and delivery of a Site 1 system in Australia, expected to be completed in 2025. There will be a follow-on of additional sites strategically placed around the world.



(Credit: NG artist conception)

At left, Site 2 in the United Kingdom continues DARC’s path to become one of the world’s most advanced radars for tracking objects in deep space.

The DARC global network of advanced ground-based sensors will be hosted and operated by the United States, Australia and the United Kingdom in a partnership expanding beyond what individual nations could achieve alone in one of the most critical domains for future security.

This expands Northrop Grumman’s support for the U.S. Space Force’s Space Domain Awareness (SDA) capabilities in an increasingly contested domain. The UK site brings us closer to achieving global coverage of deep space, which is a critical mission for future security of the U.S. and its allies.

As a next-generation ground system enabling security and stability in deep space on a global scale, DARC will monitor objects in geosynchronous orbit 22,000 miles above the equator 24/7 in all weather conditions, providing full global coverage protecting critical U.S. and allied satellites.

(Excerpt from <https://news.northropgrumman.com/milsatcom/northrop-grumman-receives-second-darc-site-award>)

Protect Yourself from Identity Theft!

A credit alert on your credit file helps protect against the possibility of an identity thief opening new credit accounts in your name. When a credit grantor checks the credit history of someone applying for credit, the credit grantor gets a notice the applicant may be the victim of identity theft, and must take steps to verify the identity of the applicant.

You can also place a security freeze at each credit bureau so no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate the freeze. This prevents potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a freeze, potential creditors/other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze.

Equifax: POBox 105069, ATL, GA 30348, 888-378-4329

Experian: POB 9554, Allen, TX 75013, 888-397-3742

TransUnion: POB 2000, Chester, PA, 800-680-7289

Stay Safe/Secure!

Friends In The News....

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Terry Dillard, who worked in R&D Process Development and Hazards Testing; and Richard Morgan, who worked in R&D Process Development. *Great to have you join us!*

Breakfast Club Memories, 2025!

L-R: Alice Clements, Jackie Whitesides, Jan Kranert, Ola Ann Lee, Lorra Zimmerman.



Bill Barnes, Faye Jones, Gerald Roberts, David Jones.



Mark Horton, Ray Zimmerman, Cecil Stokes



Mark & Rhonda Locker, Richard Morgan



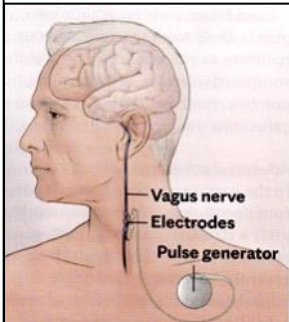
Tom Bryant, Harold Whitesides, Amma Barnes, Carole Bryant

Photo of Ron Clements, Committee Chair, with dishpan hands on HDAA FabeBook page. Thanks, Ron!

See You Next Year!!

Special Report, Mayo Clinic 2025: A New Future After Stroke

In 2021, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a new therapy, called a vagus nerve stimulation (VNS), for stroke survivors of all ages who continue to experience weakness, stiffness, and limited mobility in an arm or hand. Originally developed to treat epilepsy, the implanted device looks and functions like a pacemaker.



However, instead of sending electrical signals to the heart, VNS directs electrical impulses to the vagus nerve. This 1.5-foot long nerve connects the brainstem to the heart, lungs, stomach, pancreas, intestines, and many other organs and tissues. By stimulating the nerve, the device can jump-start new connections among brain cells, helping people regain function.

The device is one of many recent treatment and rehabilitation advances that have transformed the outlook after stroke. New medications, devices, surgical equipment and treatment protocols are helping save more lives than ever before, and to reduce the severity of stroke-related disability.

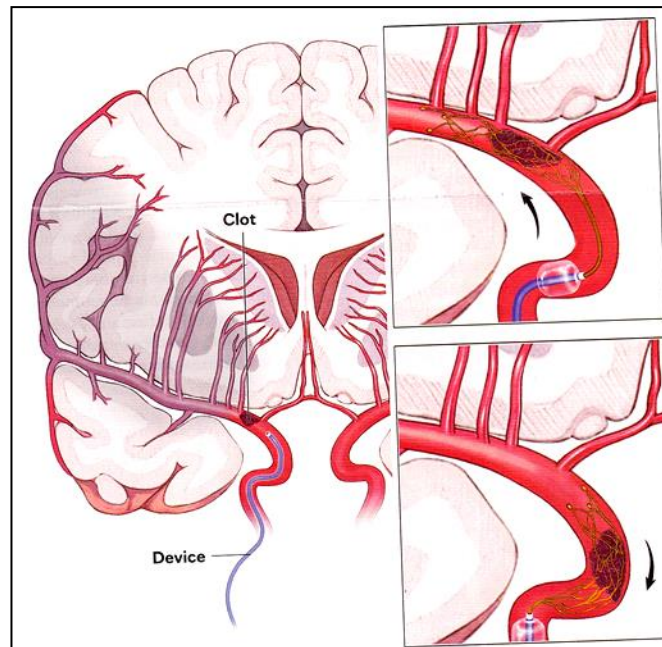
"We are in the dawn of an exciting era in stroke recovery," says Safer Keser, M.D., a vascular neurologist at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. "So many devices and technologies are nearing approvals or in the pipeline. Ultimately, the damage that happens to the brain is permanent. That doesn't go away, but our therapy options are rapidly expanding, and there is more and more hope as the months/hears go by."

One procedure to remove/reduce clots to the brain are intravenous (IV) medicines that can dissolve clots and restore blood flow to the brain. If done within 4.5 hours of a stroke, clot-busting medication can increase survival and improve recovery of function. Those older medications were more slowly infused into the patient's system, which slowed treatment. A newer medicine, tenecteplase (TNKase), is given in one dose as an injection, which saves time, and may be more effective at restoring blood flow. It may completely eliminate a clot.

If that doesn't completely remove a clot, a new procedure (thrombectomy) may be suggested. This is a minimally invasive technique, where a dye is injected into a blood vessel through a small tube (catheter), showing the blood vessels on images of your brain. Guided by live images, a surgeon threads a catheter through an artery to the blockage in your brain. A device on the end of the catheter (in the above image at right, a wire snare) will grab or vacuum out the clot.

When done within 24 hours of a stroke's onset in people with a significant amount of savable tissue, surgical clot removal can dramatically reduce disability and improve future quality of life.

The brain is composed of billions of neurons (nerve cells that collect/process/send information) as well as a complex network of electrical circuits that allow these cells to communicate. Once a stroke starts, the brain can lose



~1.9 million of these cells each minute. For every hour without treatment the brain can lose as many cells as it naturally does in nearly 3.6 years.

KNOW the signs: difficulty with speech; swallowing problems; memory loss; reduced or double vision; difficulty understanding others; weakness in the face, arm, or leg; numbness or loss of feeling in the face, arm, or leg; unsteady standing and walking; lack of coordination; headaches. ACT FAST: minutes can count! But...many good new medicines, procedures, and therapies are on the horizon for a better quality of life for more stroke victims. Just remember that time is of the essence, and keep a healthy lifestyle. Protect your brain like you should protect your heart!

(Excerpt from Mayo Clinic Special Report, May 2025)

If the below depiction has been seen before, please forgive. It Never fails to bring laughter! And, if you've used these exercise balls in a class, you'll laugh Harder! Never lose your sense of humor. That is a very clever 1st grader!



This picture was given to a grade 1 class and the children were asked to suggest a headline.

The winning entry was:

'Never swallow your bubblegum.'



The Next Stage

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!.*



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
7/4—Independence Day

Label Here



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MAY 12, 2025

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.

Please join us at the Green Mountain Trail on Saturday, June 7, 10-3, lunch being served about 12 Noon! Love to see you.

*Don't forget hiking shoes
and a light jacket...just in
case!*



In Fond Memory...

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

James Douglas Buckley: Son of Jim Gasaway, who worked in Rocket Engineering.

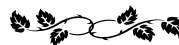
Barry Bullington: Son of J.H. Bullington, who worked in R&D, Development Section and Operations, Production Engineering.

Angele McCauley: Wife of R.C. "Foots" McCauley, who worked in Program Management.

Suzanne "Sue" Modisette Terry: Wife of Walt Terry, who worked in R&D, Development, and Operations, Process Engineering.

James "Jim" Williams: Who worked in Facilities Engineering.

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



May the sun bring you new energy by day, may the moon softly restore you by night, may the rain wash away your worries, may the breeze blow new strength into your being, and may you walk gently through the world and know its beauty all the days of your life.

—Apache Blessing

You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, smarter than you think. — Christopher Robin, Winnie the Pooh

And, loved more than you know. — God

