

# Huntsville TRA Retirees GAZZETTE.

Join us if you can this Tuesday 11:32 AM 12 April 2022 - RED LOBSTER East University Drive in Huntsville by the Sea.

Hello again. We approach 20 years. Last month another post-COVID higher attendance (not high from drink) with 11 attendees now with three (3,3,3!) tables.

## ***A Little News of Semi-Interest***

- Reading: fourth COVID shot coming, Israel reports: this shot is short-lasting...
- Pharmacies will soon or now provide “free” test kits to those with full Medicare and supplemental, reports the news.
- Huntsville reapplied for Federal Grant partial assistance to build a giant walking “sky” suspension bridge that will cross Memorial Parkway connecting the Constellation development behind Von Braun Center downtown, with Lowe Mill, and provide a “city crown” visual feature. Support towers and cables and a curving structure is attractive and unusual - it’s true purpose is as a visual not-rocket theme feature. I don’t know yet, mid-way ascents? patrols? motorized rides? Will they connect it to the St Louis arch? Extend it to Laceys Springs? Stay tuned.
- ***The International Space Station completed its 22d year*** staffed with engineers and scientists, last Fall, circling the earth every 90 minutes, about 140 miles up, what’s the hurry? Speed “forward” cancels out falling to Earthing the orbiting path, creating “free fall” as gravity is cancelled inside. Objects orbiting further away have less Earth pull so must orbit more slowly to equal the falling and form a circle. The Moon is a quarter million miles up, orbits in a month. Falling speed is the same no matter the object’s weight. Space Station travels at 17,500 MPH. The Space Station manufactures its own pure water and clean air nothing is brought up. Food arrives dehydrated to save weight, ***Northrop Grumman provides one of the delivery vehicles***, and water is added aboard because they have plenty of water, manufactured on board by *scrubbing* what they have, into atoms and reassembling them to air and water in a machine aboard. All this can be seen visiting the prototype mock up at the Space Museum. To launch a payload into low orbit, the rocket pusher must achieve a speed of 17,500 MPH in 62 miles, hence a lot of noise. The rocket and tanks fall to earth and there really isn’t “a big rocket to the moon.” Once beyond 62 miles the front payload part just keeps going into the vast vacuum. But. NASA reports carbon compounds ***collecting above the atmosphere***, stray molecules that can over time slow and lower or crash low earth satellites. And in fact, the Space Station is boosted out a little periodically. These carbon compounds perhaps leak to space above more polluted Earth spots but not from Alabama? SURPRISE. There is absolute proof, since 1880s, the official average temperature at all the AL points of measurement, although varying greatly, ***the average temperature has not increased here*** in all that time. Despite oceans rising a bit. This is not my opinion or anyone’s. I don’t care. Hard to swallow religiously perhaps, and there certainly is measured warming at more polluted places. Possibly some excessive greenhouse gases are escaping to low space and that is measured. We don’t know about a lot of things. One final odd fact not opinion, the percentage of power-generation sources in the whole world coming from clean solar and wind, although increasing in amount, is getting **less** shares not more. The US is only 4.5% of world population, most other places are rapidly increasing their comfort now, high rise apartments, AC, appliances cars, India, China, Indonesia, Africa... World percentage of power generation from coal is greatly increasing, year after year. This is easily found officially online. Cheer up.

*Is anyone interested in helping or attending a brief safe blind cheap-wine tasting and soft drink testing with hors d’oeuvres party at my access 1826 meeting place, to raise donations to Ukraine relief? Let’s say offered to just your various group members not to the public. Let me know. Just idea at this phase.*

*Seats were still available for the annual Space Center fund raiser dinner with moon astronaut speaker, April 20, formal, \$300 each.*

**SEE YOU TUESDAY your good news day!**