

# Huntsville TRA Retirees GAZZETTE.

*Join us if you can this Tuesday 11:36 AM March 8, 2022 - RED LOBSTER East University Drive in Huntsville.*

Don't forget, this is bag pipe month do bring yours and wear kilts. Don't worry you won't be the only one. This year we'll once again attempt to pipe for surprised restaurant attendees the traditional MacTavish at the Battle of Loc Scotchtap. Persons without pipes may again use your single reed duck call. Q: What is better than the sound of bagpipes? Best submittal wins a Scot-made bottle of imitation Sour Mash "whiskey" sic.

– More attendance. Last month a new post?-Covid attendance record 12 persons, the limit of Red Lobster's two long tables. Another table is to be added this time the larger set running east-west at about the same dining spot, increasing capacity to 16 if we continue to grow now or later. The former front meeting room seating was still not available due to the continued labor situation.

– Boom Town. More getting-boring Huntsville growth news.

-FACTOID: Huntsville, AL is larger than every TN city except its largest nearby Nashville musical city and Memphis. HSV passed Knoxville and the rest. And to be clear, that did not include Laceys Springs with Huntsville. They did have a census person there, the local racoon meat cutter, but this effort went astray when the count rose above 18.

Previously HSV annexed, a tiny river front portion (in Morgan County) directly across from Ditto Landing, now has a modest new conference center overlooking the river and marina opposite.

My new rumor is, that new homes will be built in the Laceys Springs area I know not where filled with trailers, farm fences, abandoned trucks and boats, and rural look places that may be comfortable and ramshackle. At this point I shall tastefully avoid Laceys Springs "humor" such as their supposed annual wondering pig, duck, chicken and wife roundups. I'm sure everyone there are good people no offense intended. Good taste and appearance isn't everything. They may not play bag pipes enjoying instead an evening of dueling banjos. But it looks, very different, to visitors from the very adjacent state's largest city with more standard housing. I must add there are quite beautiful mansions back a ways if you can make it through Whisky Holler. Hopefully the future meeting of our two communities will bring no repeat of the Hatfield's and McCoy's unpleasantness. We shall see. A great potential lies there. Somehow. That area's former discount gas stations are abandoned, a rusting legacy treat.

– Huntsville area growth: apparently city retains a department perhaps of city owned utilities that continually annexes private parcels as they can into the city. This now extends to the west of I65. These annexations are published in the Huntsville Times legal announcements section. A large parcel with a shopping component and home sites is in annexation progress at "Harvest" area NW of central HSV. Huntsville is now about 44% the area of Los Angeles.

– New larger Huntsville City Hall is rising quickly caddy corner from the old square courthouse was a parking garage there, goodbye. A pseudo traditional style to blend with

the true antebellum downtown, will have entrances top and bottom streets with internal connections, and new parking.

– New restaurants galore, I tried Domaine South also on the square good food and wine I tried. Menu, wine list confusing helper is nice. Don't order salad with burger was a grazing thing do the fries. It's across from the square in the 60s? tall building back to cliff, says HSV Times, enter double doors below on lower side street keep going in. Pleasant place. This has also or will have a roof bar I think, and wine shop. There are many new places to eat. The Learning QUEST adult classes include a Dining Out monthly event to different places and always there, at least five NGC-TRW retirees hello. The next LQUEST semester classes available early July recommend very interesting topics. Dining Out is normally filled quickly best to peruse catalog online and sign up by mail before their registration event I think always also on second Tuesdays best sign up earlier. Classes are held at the main library, online with Zoom (a choice often), at the new south library, and occasional other places.

– Business News

– The TRW proposed and won very complex James Webb Space Telescope launched successfully to LaGrange 2 gravity node spot about 1 million miles out from Earth orbiting the Sun with Earth. Now we can report Webb correctly unfolded its 50' sun shield from its tiny capsule, and world's largest space telescope mirror a large composite of 18 gold-plated discs now working and being aligned to form a space telescope around 100 times more powerful than Hubble. It is astounding. It will "see" much closer to the edge of the universe in and beyond the visual light band width to read black hole activities and distant temperatures as well as detailed new visuals. Because of its distance away from Earth it can be used by world astronomers with far time than Hubble which much of the time is view-blocked by the Earth and the Moon. The Sun will block some views part of the year those skies coming into view later in the Earth year and Webb's.

– The NASA DART launched literally a dart attempting to deflect a meteor for practice, should a meteor ever be headed for Earth. This meteor is not a danger to Earth but is a test of a deflection method. The encounter should occur this September. Nothing is easy, this is aimed to hit and deflect a 530 foot meteor-moon that orbits a 2500 foot top-shaped center meteor. Orbiting meteors are not uncommon but we don't want to be hit by such a thing. Again, no danger to Earth now, and NASA and the space community maintain constant vigil of such things. Largely these objects orbit the Sun after many years, not in circles more like the Pluto system in oval orbits.

– Recommended reading to keep up: Great newer publications the Huntsville Business Journal is packed with local and Huntsville-related business news, free at city newsstands such as near Drake's bar and Jason's, and all over. 256 Magazine another excellent source often at the same newsstands free. Subscriptions are available. You can also subscribe to the national TRA "No Name Gazette" with Northrop-Grumman news as well as retiree events and to locate NG retirees, a national list of contacts is available. Send \$10 to try one year 6 issues to TRA PO Box 1276, Redondo Beach CA 90278.

**SEE YOU TUESDAY!**

