

2017-18 Officers

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THE UNITOR

Linda Jackson, Editor
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The Unitor

Exchange Club of Tuscaloosa

Chartered February 9, 1923 • Affiliated with the National Exchange Club

www.tuscaloosaexchangeclub.org

Thursdays at Noon • Indian Hills Country Club • In service to community, state, and nation

TODAY: No Meeting at IHCC

June 21, 2018

We are touring the old Bryce Hospital building after lunch at noon.

George A. LeMaistre Society

Norman Agnew*
Eric Baklanoff*
Bill Barton*
James Brown*
Milton Collier
Martha Cook
J. Sydney Cook III
Robert Cotton
James Cowden*
Henry DeVasher*
Mitchell N. Drew*
Karl Elebash*
Charles DelGaudio
Samuel Gambrell, Jr.
Nan Glaus
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James Hulsey, III*
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Larry O'Neal
M.T. Ormond*
A.W. Patton, Jr.*
Robert Poellnitz
Joe Powell
Ralph Quarles
Lee Rearden*
David Reynolds*
M.L. Roberts*
Wright Ross, Jr.*
James Russell*
Glen Smith
Munny Sokol*
Russell Stockman*
William Tate*
Andy Tucker*
Walt Vornbrock*
Beasor Walker*
Ernest Williams*
Hoyt Winslett*
George Wright
Jim Zeanah
*deceased

"The University of Alabama is excited to host the Exchange Club on June 21st for a tour of Bryce Main. Please tell your members that the building is not air conditioned and to wear close-toe shoes.

"**Tim Leopard***, our Associate Vice President for Construction Administration, will be giving your tour; he is terrific and I believe your members will find the tour very interesting, both from the historic and construction perspectives. Your group will eat lunch at noon at **Bryant Jordan Hall** (which is in front of Bryce Main Hospital) and the **tour will be at 12:30**. There is plenty of parking around Bryce Main and nearby Capital Hall. -*Kathy Yarbrough*, UA Director of Principal Gifts, The University of Alabama

Note: Below are driving directions from DCH, since we all know its location.

***Tim Leopard** has been at the University since 2004. He has been involved in construction for 30 years, completing over \$3 billion of construction on projects including log cabins, automobile plants, condominiums, academic/educational projects, convention centers, and advanced treatment cancer centers. Tim works closely with campus partners on their immediate and long term space and project needs and to coordinate those with the University capital plan and priorities. He also oversees real estate and land management services and works to diminish the impact of construction activities on the campus community. He works with external partners such as the City of Tuscaloosa, Alabama Power, and state government to coordinate projects of a mutual benefit. He is a graduate of Purdue University with a degree in Construction Management.

Directions to Bryce & Bryant Jordan Hall:

- **From DCH Hospital** at 809 University Blvd. E., take University Blvd, toward UA and downtown.
- At redlight where you would turn left to go to Moody Music Bldg., **turn right onto 2nd Ave.**
- Go to **stop** sign and **turn left on 4th Ave. E.**
- **Go a short block and turn right onto Bryce Lawn Drive.** You will pass brick apt. buildings on each side.
- Go straight at the All-way stop sign, crossing Campus Drive. You will see Bryce Bldg. ahead (pictured below).
- at the next stop sign, **turn right on Kilgore Lane.**
- **Bryant Jordan Hall** with an interesting triangular-looking roof is on your right immediately.
- **Parking is on your left** across the street from this building where we will eat lunch.



Next Week: Business meeting

Easter Seals of West Alabama invites us to its **Tailgate Kickoff** fundraiser, hosted by Easter Seals Board member and 1992 National Champion team member **Kareem McNeal**. It will be at its new building on August 25, 7:00-10:00 p.m. The event features hors d'oeuvres, DJ and dancing, courtesy drink tickets, and a silent auction. Gameday attire. [No one under 21 admitted.] Tickets are \$40 each or \$75 per couple. For info, call **759-1211 ext. 229**.

Exchange Board Meets June 25

The next Club board meeting is June 25 11:30-1:00 at Bank of Tuscaloosa, Please email President **Betsy Jarnigan** if you want to put items on the agenda: bjarnigan@gmail.com

Americanism Activity

Exchange Col. **Nick Britto** (U.S. Army ret.) again coordinated the *Birthday of the U.S. Army* last Thursday in the new Federal Courthouse **Bev Leigh III** distributed Exchange Club miniature American Flags to the guests to promote Americanism for The Exchange Club. He also represented the Black Warrior Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, which cohosted the event.



Sam Gambrell & Penelope, his daughter's dog

Ed Note: Please submit a profile of a fellow member.

Profile: Samuel C. Gambrell, Jr. by Linda Jackson

After having lunch with Dr. Sam Gambrell for almost 20 years, I was not surprised to find out that he was on the All Atlantic Coast Academic Honor Roll or that he was an amateur military historian, but I was surprised to learn that he not only did research for NASA on space shuttle components, he won awards from his fellow professional engineers for it. He also pitched for the Clemson Tigers and he has a shooting trophy (M-1 rifle), which he won at Ft. Benning while he was a cadet.

He started life as a South Carolina farm boy, the youngest of four children. His father was a WWI soldier and Clemson alum who came home to be an ag teacher and school superintendant. Sam was born in 1935 in Owings, SC., a small farming community 25 miles from Greenville. He played basketball and baseball from boyhood on, pitching baseball in high school, and playing for local textile mill teams before he left for college. Like his brothers, he went to Clemson to study engineering.

He earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in Engineering at Clemson and his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army. At Clemson, then an all male military school, Sam was a Distinguished Military Graduate. He had also been on the Clemson Tigers baseball team and was named to the ACC Honor Roll for the Atlantic Coast Conference. He was a member of other honor societies as well: Phi Eta Sigma, Phi Kappa Phi, Scabbard and Blade, and ASAE. He married his college sweetheart, a Furman

graduate, right after graduation and entered the Army as a second lieutenant. They moved to Texas, where he trained at Fort Bliss. He was transferred to Norfolk, Va., to work on anti-aircraft artillery. Many of his Ft. Bliss classmates had been sent to Greenland, so he was happy, especially since he and his wife, Anne, had already started their family. He served in the US Army, 1957-1959, in the Air Defense Artillery Branch (Nike Ajax Missile). After active duty he was in South Carolina's National Guard and later the US Army Reserves for a total of twenty-eight years. He retired as a colonel, received the Legion of Merit and Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and held top secret security clearance.

Sam earned his PhD in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics from West Virginia University in 1965 and came to UA that June. He retired in 1996 as *Professor Emeritus of Engineering Mechanics*. For six years (1976-83) he was Assistant Dean of Engineering for Research and Graduate Studies and the director of the Engineering Placement Bureau.

He had research contracts with NASA, Naval Air Engineering Center, Army Missile Command, and Battelle Labs. His research related to arresting cables on aircraft carriers and large diameter wire rope on draglines. He had NASA contracts for stress analysis on space shuttle components for six years. In recognition of his research with NASA, he twice received the Zandman Award (1994 & 1997) from the Society for Experimental Mechanics. He was named an *Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics Distinguished Fellow*,

1989 *Professional Engineer of the Year* by the Tuscaloosa Chapter of ASPE (Alabama Society of Professional Engineers), ASPE *Professional Engineer of the Year in the state of Alabama* 1990, and 1991 ASPE *Professional Engineer of the Year in Education*.

Sam has been a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church (now Grace PC) since 1965. He played on the church softball team and was on several committees. He joined Exchange Club of Tuscaloosa at the invitation of **Bill Jordan**, who had hired him as a member of the engineering faculty. Sam served several years on the Foundation Board and was president when the James Brown gift was received and first being invested. He was named *Exchange of the Year* in 2004.

He has been a member of *Sons of the American Revolution*; *Sons of Confederate Veterans*; the *Descendants of Point Lookout Prison Association*; Military Order of Stars and Bars; Reserve Officers Association, West Alabama Officers Association; Military Officers Association of America, and others. He served several years on the Tuscaloosa Veterans' Memorial Park Committee and chaired the Park Projects Committee. For many years, he has been a Volunteer at DCH Regional Medical Center. He is an Alabama baseball and football fan and his hobbies are reading history, especially military history, doing family genealogy, fishing, collecting guns, and yardwork.

Sam has two daughters and a son, and six grand children including triplet grandsons. His wife of 58 years, Anne, died in 2015.