



FOCUS

GATEWAY TO THE COMMUNITY

CLASS 41 November 4-5, 2021

Special thanks to our 2021-2022 COMMUNITY TRUSTEES



Booz | Allen | Hamilton





LEADERSHIP

GREATER HUNTSVILLE

MISSION & VISION

Identify, educate, inspire, and connect leaders to build a better community.



An inclusive community of enlightened and engaged servant leaders.



LEADERSHIP STAFF



Shannon Drake, President & CEO
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Katelyn Sides Baker, Program Director Alumni, Focus & Spark
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LEADERSHIP
FLAGSHIP



CONNECT
EMERGING LEADERS



MANAGEMENT
BUSINESS LEADER ACADEMY



FOCUS
GATEWAY TO THE COMMUNITY



ALUMNI
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INSPIRING THE FUTURE



LEADERSHIP GREATER HUNTSVILLE

2022-2023 PROGRAMS



FLAGSHIP CLASS 36

Dates: August 2022-May 2023
Apply by: April 1, 2022

Tuition: \$4,850
Contact: Shannon Neblett
sneblett@leadershipsv.org

LEADERSHIP FLAGSHIP

Annual ten-month program designed for established leaders who typically have 15+ years of demonstrated leadership experience and proven success over significant business operations. Flagship provides in-depth knowledge of our community and facilitates small group projects that give back.



CONNECT CLASS 25

Dates: August 2022-May 2023
Apply by: April 1, 2022

Tuition: \$3,500
Contact: Julia Cherry
jcherry@leadershipsv.org

CONNECT EMERGING LEADERS

Annual ten-month program designed for emerging leaders who are passionate about our community and ready to fully invest. Connect provides professional development segments, jam-packed program days, and links groups of participants to non-profits and organizations that will benefit from their involvement and perspective.



FOCUS CLASS 43

Dates: November 3-4, 2022
Apply by: September 16, 2022

Tuition: \$1,600
Contact: Katelyn Sides-Baker
kbaker@leadershipsv.org

FOCUS

GATEWAY TO THE COMMUNITY

An interactive, two day program designed for individuals who are new to the region, want a refresh on what's happening throughout our community or desire to dig into the Leadership Greater Huntsville experience through a smaller time commitment. Focus introduces participants to the challenges and possibilities our area faces through a fast-paced, immersive experience.



MANAGEMENT ACADEMY CLASS

Dates: August 2022-May 2023
Apply by: April 1, 2022

Tuition: \$3,350
Contact: Taralyn Caudle
tcaudle@leadershipsv.org

MANAGEMENT BUSINESS LEADER ACADEMY

Annual ten month program designed for leaders who manage significant, high-impact teams. Management Academy functions in a classroom setting and exists to enhance the value of even the best managers. By exposing class members to local thought leaders and analyzing results-driven systems, Management Academy serves as the premier business leadership training academy in our area.

IDENTIFY

EDUCATE

INSPIRE

CONNECT

Leadership Greater Huntsville

320 Pelham Avenue, Suite 402, Huntsville, AL 35801

Phone: 256.489.2281 | www.leadershipsv.org | Fax: 256.512.0156

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CHRIS ROBINSON, F-5, C-3, L-27
Talent Management Specialist/Diversity Equity
and Inclusion, HQ Army Material Command

Administration Vice-Chair:

MAIKE DEMARIA, L-34
Founder/CEO, Capabilitix

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LEADERSHIP

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Special Thanks to Our 2021-2022 LEGACY LEVEL MEMBERS

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Dr. Amanda Barnes, C-21, MA-10
Drew Battle, C-11, MA-6, L-33
Lauren Battle, C-17
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Vincent Boles, L-25
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Julian Butler, L-32, F-37
Paula Cushman, M-1
Jim Diehl, F-22, L-26
Shannon Drake, L-25, MA-11
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Hank Isenberg, L-28
Courtney Johnson, C-18

Kyla Kelly, C-17
David King, F-10
Diana King, F-36
Carey Miller, F-29, L-28
Shannon Neblett, L-23
Kelli Powers, L-33
Jennie Robinson, L-13
James Ross, F-37, L-33
Ashley Engles-Ross, F-38
Annie Saylor, L-33
Tim Strait, F-40
Sherry Stutts, M-4
Tammie Terry, L-23
Nilmini Thompson, L-34
Taron Thorpe, L-25
Nick Vickerson, MA-11



JACKIE ALBRECHT

Special Agent | Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)-Retired

Jackie Albrecht fulfilled her childhood dream and was sworn-in as a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in 1980. At the time, Jackie was the youngest agent in the FBI and one of less than 300 women who had ever held the position of Special Agent. During her 30-year career, Jackie served as a Supervisory Special Agent, undercover agent, and grief counselor. The majority of her career involved working counterintelligence operations and espionage investigations. Jackie retired from the FBI in 2010 and now volunteers in local and international mission fields. She has led 6 mission trips to Costa Rica to construct a children's orphanage. She is a board member for the Huntsville Inner City Learning Center, works Walk to Emmaus teams, and attends Cove Church. Jackie's husband, Ken, is a retired Federal Special Agent from NASA. They have been married for 21 years and live in Scottsboro.



YOLANDA ALEXANDER

Director/Systems Engineering and Integration | DoD

Ms. Yolanda Alexander has 34 years of engineering experience as a Department of the Army civilian. She has served as the Systems Engineering and Integration Director for multiple U.S. Army Project Offices leading a diverse team of engineers in hardware and software development, modeling and simulation, analysis, and component integration. She has an undergraduate degree in Physics and a Master of Science degree in Management. She is married and has two adult children.



CHASE BELK

Associate Financial Analyst | Twickenham Advisors

Chase Belk, Associate Financial Analyst at Twickenham Advisors, graduated from Furman University in 2019 magna cum laude with a B.A. in Business Administration. Following graduation, Chase moved to Nashville, Tennessee to attend Vanderbilt's Owen Graduate School of Management. There, he graduated with Honors from the Master of Accountancy program, specializing in Finance. Subsequently, Chase moved to Boston, Massachusetts to begin his professional career as a Business Valuation Consultant at KPMG. While in this role, Chase began to pursue his CPA license, ultimately passing all four sections of the examination. In his current role as an Associate Financial Analyst for Twickenham Advisors, Chase will assist in portfolio management, investment analysis, and trading. In his free time, Chase enjoys playing tennis and golf, cooking, and reading. His favorite books are Open by Andre Agassi, Wise Blood by Flannery O'Connor, and The Terminal List series by former Navy SEAL Jack Carr.



ERIN HUELSKAMP BOHN

Orchestra Director | Asbury Church

Noted as "startling revelatory" and "electrifying," composer/flutist/director Erin Huelskamp Bohn serves as Artistic Director of Opera Huntsville, Orchestra Director for Asbury Church in Madison, AL, and a select member of the Huntsville Music Board. Notable past projects include serving as Artistic Director for the Sunshine City Opera Company, stage directing with Bentley University and Harvard's Lowell House Opera, assistant stage directing for Commonwealth Shakespeare Company's Shakespeare on the Common, and composition performances at the Oberon in Boston, the Lorelei Ensemble, and the Huntsville Master Chorale. Erin served as a faculty member of music theory at Boston College and a visiting lecturer at Bentley University and The Boston Conservatory. She holds an M.M. from The Boston Conservatory and B.M. from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Erin continues to serve as an active arts supporter and volunteer in the greater Huntsville area. (www.erinhuelskamp.com)



GINA BUBLITZ

Senior Service College Fellowship | Defense Acquisition University (DAU)

Ms. Bublitz has held numerous key program and platform integration positions during a career with Government and Industry that spans more than 25 years. She most recently served as the Army's Aircraft Survivability Equipment (ASE) centrally-selected ACAT I Product Manager for Missile Warning. Prior to joining ASE, she was the centrally-selected Product Director, for the Light Helicopter Product Office. In this capacity, she was responsible for life-cycle management of the UH-72A Lakota as well as divestment of the OH-58 A/C, OH-58-D and TH-67 aircraft. She began her Government service at PEO Intelligence and Electronic Warfare Systems (IEW&S) as a Systems Acquisition Specialist for the Counterintelligence (CI)/Human Intelligence (HUMINT) Automated Reporting System. Other notable assignments include the Soldier portfolio Team Lead and Soldier Protection and Individual Equipment Department of Army Systems Coordinator (DASC).



CLAY COLEMAN

Account Executive | Simple Helix

Clay is a dynamic and exceptionally creative marketing/sales professional who consistently provides effective marketing results that are supported by a driven and goal-oriented perspective. He is highly experienced in the field of marketing and has produced strategic and successful marketing campaigns/programs to grow all companies he has worked with. He is a professional speaker who influences people of all levels. He has great charisma and fosters a good working relationship with end-users, partners, co-workers, and management. He is highly capable of training marketing professionals by using both contemporary and non-traditional means.



BRANDY CONWAY

Senior Philanthropy Officer | Athens State University

Brandy Conway is the Senior Philanthropy Officer in the Office of University Advancement at Athens State University. Originally from North Alabama, Brandy joined Athens State University in March of 2021. She has spent the last 15 years in Austin, Texas, and has over 17 years of experience in branding and marketing. Although new to the world of fundraising, she is no stranger to helping organizations meet fundraising goals. She has been heavily involved in several fundraising events with various non-profits, such as the Dell Children's Medical Center and the Ronald McDonald House. In her role at Athens State, she supports and collaborates with all departments within the University, community stakeholders, corporations, and various organizations to help them meet their objectives and goals. Brandy holds a Master of Business Administration from Jacksonville State University. Married with two boys, Brandy finds solace in running and enjoys spending time with her family.



LISA COX

Executive Director | The Autism Resource Foundation, Inc (of North Alabama)

Lisa is a great communicator, with a strong work ethic and passion to help others. Moving a few times to support her husband's career, she recently relocated to Huntsville and has shifted gears into the nonprofit sector. Lisa is the Executive Director of The Autism Resource Foundation in Huntsville. Her array of experience includes: assisting executives, management, financial services, marketing and promotions, customer service, and volunteering within the communities she has lived in. At New York Life, she served on their "Volunteers for Good" committee at the Cleveland Service Center, 2010 – 2013. Interesting facts: Lisa studied abroad at Universitaet Leipzig, Germany while attending Ohio University; she is an internationally ranked pinball player; she was a disc jockey on 88.3 FM "The Sting" in Cleveland from 2001 – 2005; she loves to travel. In her free time, Lisa enjoys being outside, and spending time with her husband and dog.



ANDREW D'AMICO

Planning Coordinator | Bridgeworth Wealth Management

Andrew D'Amico joined the Army National Guard at 17 yrs old as a Cavalry Scout and later commissioned in the Active Army as an Aviation 2nd Lieutenant when he graduated from Auburn University. During his military career he served with the 101st Airborne Division, the 25th Infantry Division, the 96th Civil Affairs Battalion, the Army Staff at the Pentagon, Human Resources Command, and Army Materiel Command. Additionally, he has combat assignments to Afghanistan and Iraq, and an operational assignment to Jerusalem. Andrew is a child advocate for Compassion International and a youth mentor for 11th grade guys at Summit Crossing Community Church where he and his family are active members. Andrew holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology from Auburn, and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Andrew currently works in the wealth management industry with Bridgeworth Wealth Management.



DEBBIE DICESARE

Director, SSCF Huntsville Seminar | Defense Acquisition University (DAU)

Ms. Deborah DiCesare is the DAU Senior Service College Fellowship (SSCF) Huntsville Seminar Director, and a DAU certified Executive Coach. She is responsible for the planning and execution of the SSCF curriculum to the Military Education Level-1 (MEL-1) standard, coaching the fellows, guiding the fellows' research, teaching, and engaging with the acquisition community to ensure continued program success. Prior to joining DAU in 2016, Ms. DiCesare worked for the Army for 23 years. She possesses a Bachelor of Science in Physics and a Masters in Global Business and Leadership. Ms. DiCesare is married and has twin daughters in college.



BOB DUFFY JR.

Human Capital Manager | Deloitte

Bob Duffy is a Human Capital Manager at Deloitte Consulting. He and his wife Amanda and their four children live in Madison, AL. Bob served as a US Army Infantryman and Force Manager over 20+ years including recent Pentagon assignments on the Army and Joint Staffs as well as serving with the 82nd Airborne Division, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and other prestigious units. He is passionate about people analytics, the future of work, and solving complex organizational challenges.



MATT EDWARDS

Data Scientist II | Pilot Flying J

After working as a research assistant at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Matt joined Pilot Flying J to refine his executive level strategic thinking and help the company outperform its competition. Prior to joining Pilot, he focused on operations and expansion at a local vacation rental startup, leading to acquisition by the largest property management firm in the US. Matt enjoys fast paced, high stakes environments where he can wear many hats, and he is a strong believer in the power of data-driven decision making and analytical transformation. Matt values humility, grit, collaboration, and growth, and he looks forward to building relationships and giving back to the community as a new resident of Huntsville.



BILL ENGLISH

Product Director | US Army PEO Missiles and Space

Mr. William "Bill" English's significant work experience includes 6 years with General Electric Power Systems, and 20+ years with the Department of Defense. Bill holds a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering and a Master of Science in Electrical & Computer Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Bill and his wife, Dr. Jennifer English, moved to Madison, AL in 2000 to be closer to family. Bill and Jennifer have two children in college: Jeff is attending UAH, and Mary is attending UAB.



CINDY FREDERICK

Deputy PM for Manned/Unmanned Aviation & PEO AVN G5 Futures Support | SAIC

Cynthia (Wymann) Frederick has been dedicated to serving the US Army and DoD for over 25 years. She served in the US Army as one of the first AH-64 Apache pilots and has been an Aviation SME support contractor to PEO AVN, DEVCOM and TRADOC for 13+ years. She loves her job and loves the mission she serves—Supporting our Warfighters.



CHERYL GEIGER

Director of Community Relations & Events | Huntsville Hospital Foundation

Cheryl Geiger serves as the Huntsville Hospital Foundation's Director of Community Relations and Events. She works primarily with corporate sponsors as well as overseeing all Foundation signature events. Before joining Huntsville Hospital Foundation in 2017, Cheryl worked for five years as a logistics and marketing manager at ITT labs. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from The University of Alabama in Huntsville. Cheryl has been a volunteer for many groups such as the Early Works Museum, Crush Wine Festival and Manna House. She also loves to travel, cook, bake, read and spend time with her three children.



SYMMETRIS GOHANNA

English Instructor/Composition Chair/QEP Director | Calhoun Community College

Symmetris Jefferson Gohanna currently serves as the department chair for Composition at Calhoun Community College and the Quality Enhancement Plan Director. She has a PhD in reading from Alabama A&M University and has been an educator, mentor, and scholar for over 24 years. Dr. Gohanna also has extensive leadership experience as a regional accreditation specialist and an advocate for students and faculty. Her areas of expertise include online course and curricular design, faculty professional development, and leadership. She is also active in the Huntsville community as an ally for Faith and Finances, a program by Cornerstone Initiative.



TARA GUIFOIL

Sr. Configuration Management Analyst | Aerojet Rocketdyne

Tara Guilfoil was born and raised in Sacramento, California. She is a graduate of UCLA and began her career at Aerojet Rocketdyne in 2009. She excelled in her career while pursuing volunteer work in the community. She was a Big Sister in Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Vice President of the Sac Bruins Alumni Organization, and supported organizations like Habitat for Humanity and Girl Scouts. In 2018, she moved to Huntsville to advance her career. She has continued her volunteer work with the Boys and Girls Club and Joyful Blessings. In 2021, she graduated with an MBA from Alabama. Her hobbies include reading historical biographies, true crime podcasts and cheering for the UCLA Bruins and New England Patriots during football season.



SAMI HABCHI

Executive Vice President | CFD Research Corporation

Sami Habchi, Executive Vice President at CFD Research. Mr. Habchi obtained his Master Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Louisiana State University in 1985 and has been with CFDRC since 1987. Mr. Habchi is responsible for the management and technical direction of the Aerospace & Defense Solutions division. Mr. Habchi manages aerospace technology development, transition, commercialization and helps identify technology partners and builds strategic alliances to insert resultant technologies into national programs of record. Mr. Habchi is a recipient of a NASA Technology Transfer Award. He has been a member of National Space Club -Huntsville Board of Directors since 2015 and was membership chair during 2018-2019. He also serves on the University of Alabama Huntsville College of Engineering Advisory Board since 2010, and on the AIAA Committee of Standards since 2002.



TESS HALBROOKS

VP Controller (through 9/17/21) - New position as of 9/20/21 - Accounting Transformation Lead | GameStop

Tess is an accounting executive who has served in accounting leadership roles in the public and private sector. In her most recent role as Vice President and Controller at GameStop, Tess led the global accounting organization with a focus on process improvement, streamlined business support activities and enhanced financial controls. Prior to GameStop, Tess worked for other large business entities and in the external audit practice for PwC. Tess held leadership roles in the Women's Leadership Council at GameStop with a focus on developing and retaining women through various mentoring and cohort programs. Tess relocated to Huntsville from North Texas in mid-2020 with her husband Chris and their two sons, Luke and Benjamin.



LISA HAMMITT

Chief Technology Officer and Executive Vice President | Davidson Technologies

Lisa Hammitt joined Davidson as Executive Vice President for Artificial Intelligence and Data Analysis with over 25 years of industry experience. Hammitt now serves as Davidson's Executive Vice President & Chief Technology Officer. She has previously served as the Global Vice President of Data and AI at VISA. Prior to that, she served as vice president of marketing of Salesforce Community Cloud where she spearheaded strategy and charted out industry-led use cases that drive community adoption and reach. Before Salesforce, Hammitt headed mergers and acquisitions in information management and cloud computing at IBM and HP. She received B.A. degrees in economics and French from the University of California, Berkeley, and completed graduate coursework in artificial intelligence at Stanford University.



JASON HEDDY

Senior Strategist | Maximum Technology Corporation

Jason started at Maximum Technology in 2019 and has previously worked within the government providing contracting and acquisition support for nearly 20 years. During that time, he served as an unlimited contracting officer working as a Subject Matter Expert providing cradle-to-grave acquisition support for government agencies including Air Force ACT1 Programs to billion-dollar Army services contracts. At Maximum Technology he provides strategy, business development and contracting support. Outside of work, Jason is an active member of the National Contract Management Association – Huntsville Chapter and a volunteer at the Highlands Church. Jason has lived in Madison, AL for the last ten years and enjoys spending time outdoors and spending time with his two girls (Ryleigh and Brooke).



LISA HIRSCHLER

Division Chief | AMCOM

Ms. Lisa Hirschler is the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM) Advanced Manufacturing (AdvM) Lead. In this position she directs efforts to institutionalize the Aviation and Missile Enterprise AdvM parts development and qualification process. Prior to her current position, she served as the Army' Aircraft Survivability Equipment Associate Program Manager for the Common Missile Warning System and Future Missile Warning System. In this role, she successfully developed, monitored and managed programs valued in excess of \$300M. Lisa has over 25 years of leadership, logistics and finance experience in both the US Army and industry. During her career she has personally provided acquisition analysis and sustainment strategies for over twenty programs in Aviation, Missile, Special Operations and the Missile Defense Agency. She and her husband Coby reside in Guntersville, AL. They have two sons, Carson, a senior at Auburn University and Jackson, a freshman at the University of Alabama.



HEATH JONES

Firefighter/NREMT | City of Huntsville, Fire & Rescue Division

Heath Jones has served as a Firefighter/NREMT for the City of Huntsville's Fire & Rescue Division since January 2016. He's currently on Special Assignment as a Hazardous Materials Technician within the departments Special Operations Division. Born at Huntsville Hospital, Heath has lived in Madison County all of his life. He is married to his wife, Amelia, who is a Nurse Practitioner at Huntsville Hospital Spine and Neuro Center. Heath and his wife live in the same community Heath grew up in and served for the last 15 years at the Toney Volunteer Fire Department. He rose within their ranks as a firefighter to Lieutenant and then to District Chief before being elected as their President in 2015. Heath's passion has always been to serve his community and to provide aid to those in need.



KIM KEITH

External Relations Specialist | NASA Marshall Space Flight Center

Kim welcomes the opportunity to use her skill set and energy in service to her community. As an external relations specialist at Marshall, she works with a broad array of local partners in industry, community, and academia to promote Marshall's mission and activities. In doing so, she has served as a past board member of the Marshall Association, whose members include Marshall Space Flight Center civil service employees, retirees and contractors, provides informal networking and community-building opportunities for members. In addition to an annual college scholarship competition, the MA sponsors a speaker program addressing topics of interest to Marshall Center employees and partners. Kim is also a member of the Huntsville National Space Club and graduate of Leadership Huntsville's Connect Class 15.



COLLIN KELLER

Associate | Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

Collin Keller is an Associate at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP practicing in the areas of corporate and commercial real estate law. Collin is a native of Huntsville and graduated from Grissom High School before attending Auburn University for his undergraduate degree and the Alabama School of Law for law school. Collin is active in the Huntsville Bar Association and the Alabama chapter of the ALS Association.



SHAWN LESTER

Lead Associate | Booz Allen Hamilton

Shawn moved to Huntsville in 2019, relocating from the Washington DC Metro area. She graduated from Florida Institute of Technology with a bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering and started her career at Kennedy Space Center on the Space Shuttle Program. She moved to the Washington DC area where she began her consulting career with Booz Allen Hamilton while earning her master's degree from Mercyhurst University. She continues to grow her career at Booz Allen out of the Huntsville office. Recently, Shawn has assisted with STEM efforts within her office and the local community. She is a member of Women in Defense – Tennessee Valley Chapter as Mentorship co-chair where she will focus her efforts on mentorship and women retention in STEM related career fields.



ERIC MORGAN

Senior Program Integrator | deciBel Research, Inc.

Eric Morgan is currently the Senior Program Integrator on a large modeling and simulation contract at deciBel Research supporting the Missile Defense Agency. He joined the deciBel team after over 24 years in the United States Air Force, where served as both an acquisition/program manager and aircraft maintenance officer. Eric is a hands-on, highly motivated leader with extensive experience managing cross-functional teams and solving complex problems across myriad organizations. His most significant skills include project management, engineering management, and logistics. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from California State University, Chico, multiple masters degrees, and a current PMP® certification. Eric is inspired daily by his wife and their three children. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, travel, exercise, and coaching youth sports.



BEN PHILLIPS

Senior Manager | Torch Technologies

Ben Phillips and his wife, Becca, have been in the Greater Huntsville Area for 23yrs. His three children were born and raised in Huntsville. He has served as both a Deacon and Elder in the PCUSA church since 2004 leading areas of Christian Education, planning and executing Stewardship drives, and financial tracking. Mr. Phillips has supported multiple youth organizations including the North Alabama Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) through refereeing across all ages from 2013 until 2019 including local, regional, and state tournaments. He has also volunteered at Alabama Youth Ballet Theater as the Stage Manager from 2017 to 2020 for the annual Nutcracker performances and the two other annual productions. Professionally, Mr. Phillips works at Torch Technologies. He has been leading teams of technical staff for 14yrs and large contract program management over the past 4yrs.



ELIZABETH PHOUMAVONG

Senior Subcontracts Manager | Torch Technologies

Elizabeth graduated from Faulkner University in 2012 with a Bachelors of Business Administration degree. She is a seasoned Contracts/Subcontracts professional with over 12 years of contracting experience and over 15 years of management experience. Elizabeth is currently work at Torch Technologies as a Senior Subcontracts Manager and coordinates all of the company employee morale events. Elizabeth has been a member of the local NCMA (National Contracts Management Association) Chapter since 2009 and has served in many roles within the chapter (Board Member, Hospitality Lead, Secretary, Programs Chair, and Executive Vice President). She is also actively involved in many community activities with Torch Helps and Torch in Action Committees.



GARY POMAJEVICH

Principal | Booz Allen Hamilton

Gary grew up in a military family, born in Boston and spending his early years in Japan and Colorado before settling in the Washington DC metro area. His family roots are in Montana, the grandson of a wheat farmer and carpenter. He completed graduate school at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA in Engineering. Gary now calls Huntsville home after a recent move here with his company, Booz Allen Hamilton. In Huntsville, he has found a nice blend of rural, small town Montana and urban northern Virginia. Gary was introduced early in life to servant leadership through his father and the Boy Scouts of America, ultimately achieving Eagle Scout. At the University of Delaware, he was active in the national service fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega. Gary enjoys spending time with his wife Judy, and visiting with his three sons: Matthew, Peter, and Sam in Seattle, Montana, and Texas respectively.



NAKIA REDMON

Comptroller | Aviation and Missile Command

Prior to her Senior Service College Fellowship selection, Dr. Nakia E. Redmon served as the Comptroller for the US Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM). As Comptroller, Dr. Redmon successfully coordinated, executed, and reconciled AMCOM's one billion dollar annual OMA (Operations & Maintenance, Army) reimbursable and direct operating budgets. Prior to this appointment, she was the Army Working Capital Fund (AWCF) Comptroller where she spent 12 years of her financial career from an intern to Division Chief. More than half of her career in government service has been devoted to supervision; managing anywhere from 10-85 employees, 9 supervisors, and several contractors. She currently resides in Madison, AL with her husband, James Jr. and their two beautiful children, James III (Trey) and London.



BRANDON RUSSELL

Associate Director, Global Supply Chain | Raytheon

Brandon Russell recently moved from Warsaw, Poland to serve as Raytheon's Global Supply Chain Program Manager for Huntsville. Brandon started his professional career as a US Army Aviation Officer (Chinooks) retiring in 2015. He then transitioned to strategic business consulting with the Boston Consulting Group leading work streams in a variety of government, financial, and manufacturing cases with a final engagement managing Cabinet-level Presidential Transition Teams in 2016. Brandon then moved to Raytheon leading domestic and international major subcontracts for the Patriot Programs—to include an expat assignment from 2018-2021 in Poland. Brandon is originally from Michigan. He graduated from West Point (1997) with a BS in Political Science/Systems Engineering. He completed his MBA from Boston University (2009). He is married to Jeneil and has two daughters, Rhema (17) and Hope (15). Their family passion is traveling the globe. He and his family attend Westminster Presbyterian Church in Huntsville.



JACK SEARS JR.

Vice President | Parsons Corporation

Jack Sears is an Aerospace and Defense executive with over 30 years' experience. He currently serves as Vice President of BD and Growth for the Defense Sector of Parsons. He also sits on the Board of Directors of Space Micro, Inc. and previously was Chairman of the Board at KinetX Aerospace, Inc. Mr. Sears founded the 501(c)3 organization Caring4Kids, was Vice-Chairman of Operation Homefront, and has been a member of numerous industry boards. He holds a BS in Business Management from San Diego Christian College and an MBA in Finance from University of Redlands.



RAINER STEINWANDT

Dean, College of Science | The University of Alabama in Huntsville

In January 2021, Dr. Rainer Steinwandt joined The University of Alabama in Huntsville as Dean of the College of Science. Before, he served as Chair of Florida Atlantic University's Department of Mathematical Sciences and as Director of FAU's Center for Cryptology and Information Security. His Ph.D. (Dr. rer. nat., 2000) and M.S. (Dipl.-Inform., 1998) degrees in computer science are from the University of Karlsruhe in Germany. For a project in cryptography, Steinwandt and his project partners received a 2018 NATO Science for Peace and Security Partnership Prize.



CHAD TERWILLIGER

Architect/Project Manager | Ward Scott Architecture

Chad is an architect with Ward Scott Architecture, he relocated to Huntsville from Indiana in September of 2019 to assist in the opening of the second office for Ward Scott. Since then he has worked on a number of northeast Alabama projects including the new Innovation and Career Academy for Jackson County schools, as well as numerous RFP's for other local projects.



HENRY THORNTON

External Relations Officer | City of Huntsville

Henry Thornton is the External Relations Officer the City of Huntsville. He functions as part of the Office of the Mayor, and has a wide-ranging portfolio that includes working on the City's relationship with the state and federal governments. Before his recent return to Huntsville, Henry held a variety of jobs in the political arena including on political campaigns and in the media. Henry is an avid Atlanta Braves fan and an Episcopalian.



JOHN WALDEN

Product Support Manager | Project Office for Aircraft Survivability Equipment

Mr. John Walden assumed his current duties as Product Support Manager and Chief of Logistics in the Product Manager Office for Infrared Countermeasures in July 2015. Mr. Walden attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, graduated Cum Laude, in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Professional Aeronautics. In 2015, Mr. Walden became a member of the Army Acquisition Core and is certified level III in the Life-Cycle Logistics and Program Management career fields. Mr. Walden's DA Civilian Awards include the Commander's Award for Civilian Service in 2015, 2017, and 2018. His U.S. Army awards include Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with 8 oak leaf clusters, and numerous Campaign and Service medals. He currently resides in Elkton, TN with his wife Melissa, three children (Hannah, Elizabeth, and Oliver) and six Grandchildren.



PAIGE WALKER

Project Manager | US Army

Ms. Paige Walker is currently in the Army's Senior Service College Fellowship. Prior, Ms. Walker served in several Acquisition Management roles for the Army Hypersonics and Air Defense programs responsible for cost, schedule and performance. Ms. Walker was the lead for Air Defense Science and Technology (S&T) for Combat Capabilities Development Command Aviation and Missile Center (CCDC AvMC) with primary focus on development of future missile systems. Ms. Walker also served for twelve years in commercial industry at Parker Hannifin Corp. and BASF Chemical in a variety of management and leadership roles. Ms. Walker received her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering in 1998 from The University of Alabama in Huntsville and an Executive Master of Business Administration in 2012 from the University of Alabama. She currently resides in Madison, AL with her husband, Lee, and son, Stuart. Her daughter, Savannah, is a junior at the University of Alabama.



KIM WILLIAMS-BLASS

Deputy, Director - Environmental, Safety and Health | Teledyne Brown Engineering, Inc.

Kim Williams Blass is a native Huntsvillian and a graduate of J.O. Johnson in Huntsville, AL and a graduate of Birmingham Southern College, in Birmingham, AL. Kim is a member of Bethany Baptist Church and volunteers as a Trustee for the Church. Kim also volunteers as a Board Member for the Living Acts Bold and Biblical Non-Profit 501c(3) organization. Kim works as a professional Environmental, Health and Safety Deputy Director for Teledyne Brown Engineering in Huntsville, AL and has been employed there for the past 30 Years. Kim is a life-long learner and being a Huntsville native, is a proud advocate of Huntsville and what it has to offer anyone willing to contribute to the greater whole. Kim enjoys hiking, boating, waterskiing, pickleball, travelling and cooking with her husband, Charlie and their faithful and crazy 5-year old, 95-pound, white Labrador Retriever, KC.



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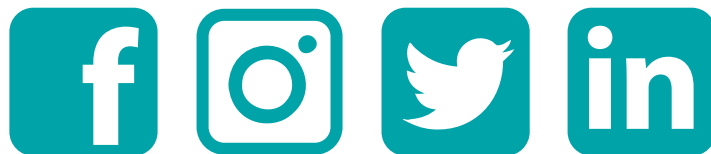
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