



LANGLEY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

December 2021



LAA Holiday Luncheon

December 14
11:30 AM

Olde Port Cove Clubhouse
116 Chinquapin Orchard
Tabb, VA



By Dan Palumbo, Vice President

The LAA Board has decided to hold the Holiday Luncheon this year on December 14th at the [Olde Port Cove Clubhouse](#) in Tabb, off Calthrop Neck Road in the Olde Port Cove subdivision.

We have contracted with Donis Anders to cater the luncheon. You may remember Donis from her time running the cafeteria at NASA Langley. She is now operating The Corner Bistro at The Hamptons, located at The Hamptons Golf Club. The dinner will be buffet style and there will be servers. Doors will open at 11:30 AM with dinner served at 12:00 noon. The luncheon menu is shown at the right.

The luncheon will cost \$35 per person. Look for an email from me to make a [reservation using the online form](#). We have met our minimum requirement to confirm our luncheon date with Donis, so the Luncheon is definitely happening! I am looking forward to

gathering with everyone. If you want go, and I urge you to come, registration will be open until December 7th. Please pay before December 14th as we won't be accepting payment at the door.

You can submit your payment via a direct transfer to the LAA account ([click for instructions](#)) or you can [mail a check to Geoff Tennille](#).

With regard to COVID-19 precautions, we are following Virginia state recommendations. If you are not vaccinated, please wear a mask when not eating.

For further information, visit the LAA website at www.larcalumni.org or [click to view the event flyer](#).

If anyone is interested in helping decorate the Clubhouse (including teardown after dinner), please let me know at dlpalumbo@live.com. Your assistance is greatly appreciated! ♦

LAA Holiday Luncheon Menu

Salad

Pre-plated salad at each seat

Entrees

Smoked turkey breast with pan jus citrus

Herb baked salmon over wild rice

Vegetables

Whole baby carrots

Whole green beans with rosemary garlic butter sauce

Cheese and chives mashed potatoes

Bread

Rolls and butter

Drinks

Iced tea, coffee and ice water

IN THIS ISSUE

LAA Holiday Luncheon.....	1
From the President.....	2
Treasurer's Report	2
Hall of Honor Class of 2022	3
Favorable Winds.....	3
Virginia AeroSpace Business Association	4
LAA Board Nominations for 2022.....	4

2021 LAA OFFICERS

President

Damodar Ambur

Vice President & Programs Chair

Daniel Palumbo

Treasurer & Registered Agent

Geoff Tennille

Secretary

Richard Ross

Communications Officer

Richard Hueschen

COMMITTEE CHAIRS & OFFICIALS

Membership Committee

Michael Marcolini

Nominating Committee

Daniel Palumbo

Hall of Honor Committee

Duncan McIver

Website & Newsletter Committee

Olaf Storaasli Richard Ross
Wayne Richie Richard Hueschen

Langley Representative

Melanie Robinson

Immediate Past President

Roger Ferguson

Bylaws Committee

Linda Bangert Peter Jacobs

LRKC Ad-Hoc Committee

Marilyn Ogburn

LAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2022

Linda Bangert Sharon Stack
Charles Cockrell Bill Tennis
Pete Jacobs Ray Whipple
Anthony Pototzky

Class of 2023

Manjula Ambur Doug Morris
Geoff Tennille Richard Hueschen
Richard Ross

Class of 2024

Vicki Crisp Jaroslaw Sobieski
Charles Laney Olaf Storaasli
Michael Marcolini

From the President

By Damodar Ambur, President

It is that time of the year to recognize and celebrate all of our blessings. I am profoundly grateful for the health and safety of my family, friends, and Langley Alumni Association colleagues, particularly in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. My heartfelt thanks to all the Officers, Board members and other LAA members, whose inputs and excellent work helped us to have a successful year even with challenges due to the pandemic, and for better positioning LAA for the future. I appreciate the speakers who were readily willing to share their knowledge and experiences at our monthly meetings. I enjoyed the informal conversations with members in virtual and face-to-face meetings.

My second term as the LAA President ends this year. It has been gratifying to serve you as the Vice President and President over the past four years, and I am grateful for your support. I am proud of what we accomplished during this time, including the publication of this newsletter.

Each year presents us with opportunities to contribute to our association, to strengthen the ongoing and planned activities, and to initiate new ones that benefit our members. Depending on your interest, please take time to support LAA activities and the incoming Leadership Team. As the past President, I will continue my participation in the LAA activities.

I cordially invite you to join us at the LAA Holiday Luncheon at the Olde Port Cove Clubhouse in Yorktown on December 14th.

Wishing you *wonderful holidays* and a *happy and healthy new year*.

Damodar ♦

Treasurer's Report

By Geoff Tennille, Treasurer

Just a reminder: any LAA member who paid annual dues for 2021 has until December 31, 2021 to upgrade to a paid Lifetime Membership for just \$90, instead of \$100. Similarly, any member who has paid through 2022 can upgrade for just \$80, and members who have paid through 2023, 2024 or 2025 can upgrade to a paid Lifetime Membership for \$70, \$60 or \$50 respectively. If you are interested in upgrading, please send me an e-mail at gtennille@cox.net to verify exactly how much you would owe.

I have a bit of bad news and a bit of good news. The bad news is that our application for tax-exempt status filed with the IRS in April was denied, but the good news is that the IRS returned our \$275 filing fee. The IRS stated that LAA's Employee Identification Number (EIN), which the LAA acquired in 1987, was not recognized, but the IRS did not provide a formal letter at that time to explain the details of its denial of our application.

When I applied to the IRS for a new EIN, I was told that the IRS had 60 days to explain why our tax-exempt application was denied. Our old EIN indicated that the LAA was affiliated with the Government; however, it was not clear exactly what that implied.

In early November, we received the letter from the IRS confirming that the EIN was invalid. While we have already filed for a new EIN, we are still unclear on why our EIN from 1987 is invalid.

All recent checks for paying membership fees have arrived payable to the Langley Alumni Association or LAA and I have had no more trouble with deposits. Thanks to everyone who heeded my warning about checks made out to me personally. ♦

Hall of Honor Class of 2022

By Duncan McIver, Hall of Honor Chair

The Langley Research Center NACA and NASA Hall of Honor (HoH) was conceived by The Langley Alumni Association (LAA) and the NASA Langley Research Center. It is continuing to solicit nominations for the Hall of Honor (HoH) Class of 2022 through January 14, 2022. The Hall of Honor recognizes those researchers, managers, and support personnel whose individual contributions have had the most sustained and far-reaching influence on the leadership, direction, mission, and capabilities of the NACA Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory, the NASA Langley Aeronauti-

cal Laboratory, and the NASA Langley Research Center. Their work at Langley must have enabled unprecedented and fundamental advances in either a scientific, engineering or support field and made significant and impactful contributions to NASA missions and the United States' aerospace industry, for civil or military aircraft, spacecraft, or atmospheric sciences.

Honorees of the first two Classes, 2015 and 2017, are posted on both the LAA website (<https://larcalumni.org>) and the NASA website (<https://www.nasa.gov/Langley/hall-of-honor>). Nomina-

tion guidance for the Class of 2022 is posted on the LAA website. An experienced team of LAA and NASA Langley professionals will choose the 2022 Class from among the nominees. The third HoH Induction Ceremony for the 2022 Class is planned for July 2022.

For additional information, please send inquiries to info@larcalumni.org. The deadline for nominations is January 14, 2022, and the HoH team hopes that all active and retired NASA employees consider candidates for this important honor and proceed with a nomination. ♦

Favorable Winds

By Olaf Storaasli, Website Committee Chair

Fortunately, our A-rated LAA website is “sailing along,” providing members with timely information, all for \$49.95 per year.

Our previous [14,298 weekly intrusion attempts](#) by China is gone, leaving just 394, as shown in the figure below.

Click on ['21 Events](#) in the LAA website menu to view videos and slides of

most LAA talks in case you missed a meeting. You can also view the LAA newsletters, officers, projects, new members, obituaries, general membership and Board meeting minutes, website updates, and more.

I asked Steve Pierce, our website host and CEO of HDL, to introduce himself to our members. Although he is busy, he immediately responded with

[this news article](#) you'll enjoy. Beside cyber expertise, Steve and my HPE (Cray) colleague, Dave Strenski, are solar power experts responsible for hundreds of municipal and home installations in Ypsilanti, MI. We're indeed fortunate to have Steve, an innovative, talented expert “behind the scenes” to host our LAA website, albeit for only \$49.95 per year. ♦

Top 10 Countries Blocked

Country	Total IPs Blocked	Block Count
United States	16	213
Czech Republic	2	51
Netherlands	1	46
Russian Federation	4	36
India	2	13
Australia	3	9
Singapore	7	9
Germany	3	9
Brazil	3	5
Hong Kong	2	3

Access attempts blocked, November 1–8, 2021



<http://larcalumni.org/>
 Fri, Nov 5, 2021 8:07 AM -0700
 Vancouver, Canada
 Chrome (Desktop) 90.0.4430.212

GTmetrix Grade	A
Performance Score	97%
Structure Score	93%
Largest Contentful Paint	1.0s
Total Blocking time	0ms
Cumulative Layout Shift	0.01

LAA website speed rating by GTmetrix

Virginia AeroSpace Business Association

By Dick Hueschen

The Virginia AeroSpace Business Association (VASBA) is the premier statewide nonprofit trade association representing all aspects of the aerospace industry in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Founding membership includes more than 25 companies, nonprofits, and individuals representing many facets of the aerospace industry with the intent to make VASBA an effective advocate to federal, state and local policymakers. VASBA holds a variety of events to provide networking opportunities for participants with active and retired colleagues, industry leaders, and government representatives.

The three main goals of VASBA are:

Heighten Awareness and Communication

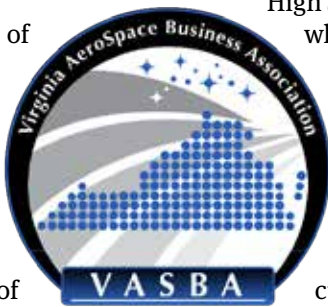
by promoting aerospace sector interests across Virginia, increasing national awareness of Virginia aerospace activities, develop communities with interest in and knowledge of aerospace, and provide the aerospace community and policy makers with a unified message.

Promote Business Development and Increased Economic Growth,

striving to increase business opportunities for industry, government and universities and improve the overall economic health of the region and the state.

Cultivate the Aerospace Workforce and Promote Professional Development

by offering professional networking and workforce development opportunities; and by reinforcing STEM related activities, leading to an expanded and highly skilled future aerospace workforce for the Commonwealth.



As an example, each year VASBA provides sponsorship funds for K-12 STEM-related activities, and scholarships to students pursuing engineering degrees, at both two- and four-year schools. Last year, our donations totaled over \$24,000, distributed over nine colleges and universities and seven K-12 STEM programs. These funds are only possible because of the efforts of our membership and the money we bring in from their dues and such events as our annual Gala. To learn about one example of a STEM program that has benefited from our support, please enjoy this video, [DAA Video](#), provided by the Denbigh High School Aviation Academy, which highlights the exceptional work that they are doing, and news of their recent facility move.

If you haven't been to one of our pre-COVID luncheons, (or one of our current virtual monthly presentations), or have not attended one of our Galas, (the next one is planned for the first quarter of 2022), we would appreciate you giving them a try. Please visit our website at www.vasba.org, explore the site, and consider completing the membership form and sending it in. We already have many LaRC alums as members, including two past Center Directors, and are always hoping for more to join. If you have any questions, feel free to email us at info@vasba.org. ♦

LAA Board Nominations

By Dan Palumbo, Nominating Chair

As Nominating Chair of the LAA, I have petitioned the membership several times for volunteers to serve on the Board. So far, only two members have stepped up, Dave Hinton and Melvin Ferebee. This is below the minimum of five required by our By-Laws. The Board has taken steps to amend our By-Laws to lower the minimum so we may still operate. You will hear more about that under a different heading.


Active members of the LAA may nominate a member to serve on the Board. You may even nominate yourself! You have until two weeks before the January 11th Annual Meeting to nominate someone or to volunteer yourself.

Please send your nomination to me at dlpalumbo@live.com. The membership will vote to approve the nominees at the Annual Meeting. Please consider serving on the LAA Board.

The slate of Officers of the Board for 2022 is:

- Dan Palumbo, *President*
- Vicki Crisp, *Vice President*
- Geoff Tennille, *Treasurer*
- Rick Ross, *Secretary*
- Richard 'Dick' Hueschen, *Communications Officer*

The new Board will vote to seat the Officers at the Board meeting immediately following the January 11th Annual Membership Meeting. ♦



LANGLEY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The LAA Newsletter is published quarterly. Please submit articles for publication to rick.ross@verizon.net no later than the 10th of February, May, August, or November for publication the following month. Please contact mhueschen@gmail.com to subscribe or unsubscribe.