

Langley Alumni Association (LAA) General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, June 10, 2025



Larcalumni.org

2025 LAA Officers

President: Kathy Ferrare (757 880-8676)

Vice-President and Programs: Charlie Dunton (757 876-1830)

Secretary: Mary DiJoseph (757 217-5511)

Treasurer: Ray Rhew (757 880-5817)

Communications Officer: Richard Hueschen (757 868-6453)

2025 Committee Chairs and Other Officials

Membership Committee: Dave Hinton

Nominating Committee: Susan McClain

Hall of Honor Committee: Vacant

Website and Newsletter Committee: Rick Ross

IT Committee: Roman Paryz

Langley Representative: Jessica Friz and Virginia Morgan

Past President: Dan Palumbo

Registered Agent: Geoff Tennille

Board Members-at-Large By Class

2026

George Allison
Charles Cockrell
Kathy Ferrare
George Finelli
R. Wayne Richie
Ray Rhew

2027

Rich Antcliff
Mary DiJoseph
Susan McClain
Craig Ohlhorst
Tony Pototzky
Geoffrey Tennille

2028

Mark Ballin
Charlie Dunton
Odilyn Luck
Roman Paryz
Liliana Richwine
Eric Rissling

LAA General Membership Meeting – June 10, 2025

11:30 PM to 1:00 PM

- **Welcome & President's Report:** Kathy Ferrare
- **Secretary's Report:** Mary DiJoseph
- **Treasurer's Report:** Ray Rhew
- **Communication Report:** Dick Hueschen
- **Committee Reports:**
 - **Membership:** Dave Hinton
 - **Website and Newsletter:** Rick Ross
- **Vice President's Report:** Charlie Dunton
- **Speaker:** *Chief Gary Bright, NASA Langley Chief of Protective Services*
Linda Bangert (LAA Member) will share her experiences with the NINETY-NINES
- **Next Meeting:** July 9, 2025 – Picnic / B2102 Cafeteria / RSVP by 6/23/25
August 12, 2025 - Sierra Space Dream Chaser (2nd Tuesday of the Month)
- **Adjourn:** Board Meeting next – *All LAA members are welcome!*
Nov 11th General Membership & Board meetings are moved to Nov 18th

President's Report

- ***LAA Health: Growth in Membership (May +4/June +4), \$18k***
- ***May Board Meeting:***
 - ***New Activity -- Requests from members to inform LAA on useful resources***
 - Example: National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)
 - Way for members to talk about resources at our monthly meetings
 - Easy template: History/purpose; LAA benefit, member experience, website
 - *Have a resource to share...email Kathy (Kferrare@verizon.net)*
 - ***Supporting NASA Langley employees***
 - ***Sending invitation email to LAA members on Thursday Pizza Talks***
 - ***Phishing emails -- Please be vigilant -- NO LAA Board Member will ask you to buy anything***
 - ***Successful FDRF tour on May 15th - 45 people attended***
- ***Picnic: July 8th (4:00-7:00 pm / B2102 Cafeteria)***
- ***Volunteering - several opportunities this summer! Please think about helping!***

Secretary's Report

- May 2025 Board Meeting Minutes approved & posted to Box
- Attendance lists posted to Box
- 48 members attended in person and 26 on-line
- Summary of Meeting
 - Many volunteer opportunities at VESS and VASTS in July

PLEASE SIGN THE ATTENDANCE SHEET BEFORE YOU LEAVE!

Treasurer Summary for April 2025

- **May 2025 Summary**

- **Organization Share** **\$25.00**
- **Money Market Savings** **\$15,448.33**
- **Smart Checking** **\$2,604.36**
- **Total** **\$18,077.69**
- **Decrease (from April):** **\$47.98**
 - **Income:**
 - **Interest**
 - **Expenses**
 - **Website hosting service (HDL - \$49.95/year)**

In Memory Of Individuals June 10, 2025



**William "Bill"
Derby, 93**



**Dr. Christopher
"Chris" Moore, 64**



**William "Bill"
Matthews, 91**



Ronnie Perry, 78



Gregory Wichorek, 89



Dr. David Kratz, 70

Membership Report – Dave Hinton

Four new members:

- **Timothy Berkoff** who retired in 2024 from the Lidar Science Branch, Science Directorate with 10 years LaRC service. Tim resides in Port Haywood, VA with his spouse Christina.
- **Melissa Johnson** who retired in 2025 from the Cybersecurity and Privacy Division (matrixed to Aeronautics Research Directorate for the past 4 years) with 8 years service. Mellissa resides in Hampton with her spouse Jack.
- **James Plant** who retired in 2024 from D325 Structures and Materials with 37.5 years service. Jim resides in Norfolk with his spouse Cindy.
- **Steve Sandford** who retired in 2014 from the Space Technology and Exploration Directorate (STED) with 28 years service. Steve resides in Yorktown with his spouse Amy.

REAL ID requirement May 7 – Feedback to Dave on your experience with the revised processes is welcome.

Be sure to sign the attendance sheet!

Website & Publications

- Continuing to make enhancements to the website
- June newsletter published and on the LAA website
 - *Thanks to all who contributed articles!*
 - *Unique vacation planned this year...think about an article for our September newsletter...send pictures also!*

Vice President Report – Membership Involvement

Viking Mars Missions Education & Preservation Project (Dan Palumbo)

- Rachel Tillman, Founder and Director of the Viking Mars Missions Education & Preservation Project will be at Langley in July for the purpose of acquiring any information or memorabilia related to the Viking project that could be contributed to their archives.
- ***Request: If you have information, stories or memorabilia that you would like to contribute, please contact Ms. Tillman directly as soon as possible in preparation for her visit.***
- Ms. Tillman's email address is: Rachel@thevikingpreservationproject.org
- **Update:**
 - Ms. Tillman mentioned she has received several inquiries from LAA members. *Thank you!*
 - Langley is looking into having a Sigma Series/Colloquium with Ms. Tillman in mid-July timeframe. More to follow.

Vice President Report – Membership Involvement

Your NASA experience and guidance would be invaluable in helping grades 11-12 students design a sphere event mission focused on Earth's systems and climate variability.

July 2025: Virginia Earth System Science Scholars (VESSS)

- **Request #1: Seeking mentors for 5 Sphere Teams per day**
- **Dates:** Monday, July 7th & Monday, July 21st
- **Time:** 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

- **Request #2: Seeking final panel participants**
- **Dates:** Thursday, July 10th & Thursday, July 24th
- **Time:** 12:15 PM to 2:15 PM

Vice President Report – Membership Involvement

July 2025: Virginia Aerospace Science & Technology Scholars (VASTS)

- **Request:**
 - Seeking mentors to help our students design a hypothetical human mission to the Moon and on to Mars this summer
- **Dates:** June 23-26, July 14-17, & July 28-July 31
Note: each set of dates is 3 groups of students
- **Times:** Drop in any time 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

***Please sign-up for VESSS/VASTS volunteer opportunities via the Microsoft Form due June 15th
(email from Richard Hueschen on May 31 has the link)***

Vice President Report – Upcoming Events

July 8, 2025: *Annual LAA Picnic / B2102 Cafeteria*

Please RSVP by June 23rd (microsoft form link sent from Richard Hueschen on 6/4)

August 12, 2025: *Sierra Space Dream Chaser*

- *Walt Engelund — Deputy Associate Administrator for Programs — Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD) — From the HL20 to Dream Chaser*
- *Mike Jeffries — Principal Aerospace Engineer – Sierra Space will speak about Dream Chaser, Sierra Space’s runway capable space plane.*

September 9, 2025: *Scientifically Calibrated In-Flight Imagery (SCIFLI)*

- *Jennifer Inman of Langley’s Aerothermodynamics Branch will speak on their use of telescopes, both ground and flight based, to obtain engineering quality data on spacecraft during launch and reentry.*

October 14, 2025: *Katrina 20th Anniversary Presentation*

- *Dave Throckmorton, Deputy Center Dir of Stennis Space Center at the time of Katrina, will share his experiences involving Katrina at both Stennis & Michoud. NASA Langley representative to talk about current activities.*

Today's Speakers

Chief Gary Bright

NASA Langley Protective Services

Linda Bangert

The Ninety-Nines and the History of Women in Aviation



Back-Up Details for VESSS/VASTS Volunteer Activities

Vice President Report – Membership Involvement

July 2025: Virginia Earth System Science Scholars (VESSS) Program

- **Request #1: 5 Sphere Teams per day**
 - Seeking mentors for the Summer Academy
 - ***Your NASA experience and guidance would be invaluable in helping grades 11-12 students design a sphere event mission focused on Earth's systems and climate variability.***
- **Location:** In-person engagement takes place at NASA Langley
- **Dates:** Monday, July 7th & Monday, July 21st
- **Time:** 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

- **Request #2:** Seeking representatives to participate on the final Panel
- **Location:** In-person engagement takes place at NASA Langley
- **Dates:** Thursday, July 10th & Thursday, July 24th
- **Time:** 2:15 PM to 2:15 PM

- **VESSS Contact:** Dr. Jennifer Penland (jpenland@odu.edu).

Vice President Report – Membership Involvement

July 2025: Virginia Aerospace Science and Technology Scholars (VASTS)

- **Request:**
 - Seeking mentors to help our students design a hypothetical human mission to the Moon and on to Mars this summer
 - ***Your NASA experience and guidance would be invaluable in challenging students grades 11-12 to design a human mission to Mars in just a few days helping grade 11-12 students design a human mission to Mars***
- **Location:** In-person engagement takes place at NASA Langley
LaRC Bldg 1212: Rooms 200, 205, & 210
- **Dates:** June 23-26, July 14-17, & July 28-July 30
Note: each set of dates is a unique group of students
- **Times:** Drop in any time 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- **Contact:** Ian Cawthray (icawthra@odu.edu)

We also look to our mentors to help provide career input to students hoping to enter the aerospace workforce. Your specific career path and feedback to students can make a huge difference in their lives!