

Langley Alumni Association (LAA) Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 11, 2026



Larcalumni.org

2025 LAA Officers

President: Kathy Ferrare (757 880-8676)
Vice-President and Programs: Susan McClain (757 285-3778)
Secretary: Jill Marlowe (757 209-2131)
Treasurer: Ray Rhew (757 880-5817)
Communications Officer: Richard Hueschen (757 868-6453)

2025 Committee Chairs and Other Officials

Membership Committee: Amy Radford
Nominating Committee: Neil O'Connor
Hall of Honor Committee: Mary Beth Wusk
Website and Newsletter Committee: Rick Ross
IT Committee: Roman Paryz
Langley Representative: Eileen Nelson and Mariya Georgieva
Past President: Dan Palumbo
Registered Agent: Geoff Tennille

Board Members-at-Large By Class

2027

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

2028

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

2029

Mike Fremaux
Wes Goodman
Jill Marlowe
Neil O'Connor
Amy Radford
Ray Whipple
Dave Young

LAA Board Meeting – August 11, 2026

11:30 PM to 1:00 PM

- **Call to Order & President's Report:** Kathy Ferrare
- **Vice President's Report / OSTEM Activity:** Susan McClain
- **Secretary's Report / LAA Spirit Wear:** Jill Marlowe
- **Treasurer's Report / Ad Hoc Committee-Donation Guidelines/Process:** Ray Rhew
- **Communication Report:** Dick Hueschen
- **Committee Reports:**
 - **Membership:** Amy Radford
 - **Website and Newsletter:** Rick Ross (pass)
 - **Information Technology:** Roman Paryz
 - **Hall of Honor:** Jeff Antol for Mary Beth Wusk
- **Old/New Business:**
 - **Ad Hoc Committee – Retirement Protocols (NASA/LAA):** Kathy Ferrare
- **Next Meeting: September 8, 2026 – LAA General Membership & Board Meetings**
- **Adjourn**

President's Report

Work-in-progress activities

- Retirement Celebration - finalizing documentation/expenses (postage)
- Hall of Honor

Thank you to Neil O'Connor for volunteering to be the Nominating Committee Chairperson

- ***Need 2-3 Volunteers to join this committee as soon as possible!***

Vice President Report – Membership Involvement

- LAA Picnic was a huge success! 64 people in attendance. Members enjoyed looking at the LAA Spirit Wear also!
- NASA Langley's "Stars, Stripes, and Supernovas – Symphony Under the Stars" event brought employees, families, and community members together for an evening filled with music, connection, and celebration.
- Viking special events at the Virginia Air and Space Science Center and NASA Langley's Viking Symposium. Thanks to Walt Engelund for presenting!

Vice President Report – Upcoming Speakers

August 11, 2026 – Stephanie Letourneau, Wetlands Watch. Rising Tides and Real Data: Community Science and Nature-Based Climate Resilience

September 8, 2026 – Steve Gayle, Acting Associate Center Director, Update to the State of the Center

October 13, 2026 – Bryan Barmore, Master Naturalist Program

November 10, 2026 – Neil O'Connor, NASA Langley's Air Traffic Operations Lab

December 8, 2026 – Holiday Luncheon

January 12, 2027 – Bobby Berrier, Vice President of Membership, CNU's Lifelong Learning Society

February 9, 2027 – Ruth Amundsen, Norfolk Solar Solutions

March 9, 2027 – Dr. Trina Dyal, Director, NASA Langley Research Center, State of the Center

2027 Potential Speakers

- Jennifer Inman – SCIFLI work on Artemis II launch
- Dragonfly Project

Secretary's Report

- **June 2026 Board Meeting Minutes & attendance lists approved and on Box**
- **Significant Motions, Actions & Discussions from last meeting:**
 - DISCUSSION on whether to do **annual review of by-laws and policies/procedures**, since an extensive review/update was just completed; ACTION to Kathy to send email to members annually soliciting any desired changes after which a decision will be made on whether discussion/modifications are needed
 - DISCUSSION on **LAA Spirit Wear** on clothing options and proposed order collection process. ACTION to Jill to investigate adding a 2nd version of the logo with no background, and changing the polo to a cotton/poly blend shirt; MOTION (by Jill, 2nd by Rick) to proceed with sale in July pending completion of ACTIONS passed unanimously.
 - DISCUSSION on **Ad-Hoc Donation** committee report. MOTIONS (by Ray, 2nd by several) to approve criteria as presented, to approve the 2027 and beyond timetable for deliverables and future donation decisions, and to donate \$1.5K this year VASC for student participation in Viking event.
 - DISCUSSION on **Retirement Celebration** becoming annual event; Board generally not in favor due to workload and expectation branches will resume formal recognition, but are in favor of an LAA “welcome aboard” smaller scale (recruitment) event for annual class of retirees. ACTION previously assigned to Rich to propose next steps for Ad-Hoc retirement protocols committee, to include celebration recommendation.
- **No motions**

PLEASE SIGN THE BOARD ATTENDANCE SHEET BEFORE YOU LEAVE!

Action: Spirit Wear

- DISCUSSION on **LAA Spirit Wear** on clothing options and proposed order collection process. ACTION to Jill to investigate adding a 2nd version of the logo with no background, and changing the polo to a cotton/poly blend shirt; MOTION (by Jill, 2nd by Rick) to proceed with sale in July pending completion of ACTIONS passed unanimously.
 - ACTIONS completed: substituted alternate 60/40 cotton/polyester polo & developed modern version of logo
 - Thank you to Amy for developing/managing Excel order forms & Ray for tracking payments!
 - July group order completed: 24 orders for 39 total items for net fundraising profit = \$191 for LAA
 - Suggestion at picnic to offer patches so people could add to NASA jackets, etc.
 - \$10/patch if purchased in batches of 12
 - President authorized 1st batch of 12 to see how they sell (Aug order)
 - Will close August group order on 8/31 and assess whether to do Sept order or shift to single orders (on Embroidery by Sherri website)
 - Suggestions?



Action: Ad Hoc Committee - Donations

Proposed Investment Approach

- **Current Accounts and returns**
 - Organization Share \$25.00 (0%)
 - Money Market Savings \$4,560.68 (0.05%) (minimal return)
 - Smart Checking \$2,286.03 (0%)
 - CD \$15,201.43 (3.3%) (\$495 return)
 - Total \$22,073.14
- **Proposal – starting in 2027**
 - Organization Share \$25.00 (0%)
 - Money Market Savings \$4,762.11 (0.05%)
 - Smart Checking \$2,286.03 (0%)
 - *Investment Account \$10,000 (10-12%) (\$1K - \$1.2K return)
 - CD \$5,000 (3-4%) (\$150-\$200 return)
 - Total \$22,073.14

****Balances as of July 31, 2026 – minor changes expected by January 2027**

Action: Ad Hoc Committee - Donations

Proposed Investment Approach

***Investment breakdown (presented previously)**

- **Vanguard, with a non-profit organization declaration, as the company has typically the lowest expense ratios in the industry**
 - **60% (VTI - Vanguard's total market index ETF which holds about 3600 equities)**
 - **30% (VCIT – Vanguard corporate bond index fund that will offer ballast for any future market reduced returns)**
 - **10% (APPL)**

Action: Ad Hoc Committee - Donations

Proposed Investment Approach

	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
	2026	2026	2027	2027	2028	2028	2029	2029	2030	2030
Beginning Balance	\$19,982.08		\$22,000.00		\$17,275.00		\$17,450.00		\$18,325.00	
Ending Balance	\$20,357.08		\$17,275.00		\$17,450.00		\$18,325.00		\$19,500.00	
Income	\$2,150.00		\$2,750.00		\$2,750.00		\$2,750.00		\$2,750.00	
Dues	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00	
Interest	\$400.00		\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00	
*Donations/Events	\$250.00		\$250.00		\$250.00		\$250.00		\$250.00	
Expenses	\$1,775.00		\$7,475.00		\$2,575.00		\$1,875.00		\$1,575.00	
Non-Discretionary	\$275.00		\$5,975.00		\$1,075.00		\$375.00		\$75.00	
Web Site	\$50.00		\$50.00		\$50.00		\$50.00		\$50.00	
SCC	\$25.00		\$25.00		\$25.00		\$25.00		\$25.00	
^Membership/New	\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	
SWAG	\$0.00		\$300.00		\$0.00		\$300.00		\$0.00	
**HoH	\$0.00		\$5,600.00		\$0.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	
***IT	\$200.00		\$0.00		\$1,000.00		\$0.00		\$0.00	
Discretionary	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00	
Donations	\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00	

*Target for additional donations through one time gifts from members and or sponsor events to raise funds (additional \$ for picnic, holiday luncheon...)

**Amount for HoH expenses that occur every 5 years

***Amount for IT backup hardrive in 2026 and new computer in 2028.

^For 2023 this is the holiday party and picnic carryover from 2022 when most of the funds were collected but expense occurred in 2023.

- Notional budget supporting minimum \$1,500/yr donation – conservative interest return
- High probability donation level can be increased based on historical investment returns and options for additional revenue during the year
- Increased 2027 beginning balance based on current funds available (currently ahead of prediction)

Membership Committee Report

- Membership Committee Initiative Updates
 - New LAA video
 - Turned charts into a mp4 file
 - *Need to add a voice over using drafted script*
 - Looking for volunteers to be interviewed
 - 3-4 people – 10+ years, 5 years (*have a volunteer*), 1-2 years
 - Questions to answer:
 - Why you joined
 - What you enjoy the most about being a member
 - Please let Amy know if you are interested

IT Committee Report

- **A LAA Spirit Wear Shared Mailbox has been created**
 - Orders sent to laaspiritwear@larcalumni.org are forwarded to
 - Amy Radford at amyradford@larcalumni.org
 - Jill Marlowe at jillmarlowe@larcalumni.org
 - Kathy Ferrare at kferrare@larcalumni.org
 - Roman Paryz at rwparyz@larcalumni.org

Hall of Honor Updates

- On-line application is technically ready to go!
- Selection Committee kick-off meeting August 12th.
- Final mods to on-line application, LAA website, and social media will be completed prior to August 31st.
- Coordinating advertising campaign.
- Going live September 1st!



NASA LANGLEY
Tradition of Innovation
Since 1917

Nomination call for
NACA and NASA Hall of Honor Candidates
Online submission Opens September 1, 2026

 Supersonic Flight Research Engineer	 Computational Aerodynamics Leader	 Mission Support Trailblazer	 Atmospheric Science and Climate Research
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"A Few Faces of Innovation" - NASA Langley

Help recognize individuals whose contributions have had lasting impact on NASA Langley's mission, leadership, scientific achievement, engineering excellence, and innovation.

Who will inspire future generations?

Learn more about eligibility and nominations



<https://larcalumni.org/the-langley-research-center-naca-and-nasa-hall-of-honor/>

Old Business – Retirement Protocols (NASA / LAA)

- **Outstanding Action from LAA Board Meeting: Retirement Protocol Question (Rich Antcliff)** – What is the protocol policy that NASA follows for retirements (album, certificates, party)? Should the LAA have one?
- April 2026 Update: Retirement Celebration – May 1st @ 3:00 pm
 - 75+ RSVP's received inviting 90 guests / estimating for 300 personnel
 - Completed and in graphics/printing: Celebration program, certificates, retiree gift
 - Announcement to Center personnel placed on Inside Langley. Flyer/Names also sent to Langley organizations.
 - Announcement sent to LAA members, request for one-day badges for LAA members (not retirees/guests to be celebrated), and request for volunteers
 - RSVP for a one-day badge and/or plan on volunteering due Fri, April 17
 - Need ~30 volunteers
 - Motion/Vote Passed - Estimated Cost: \$400
 - LAA bringing in the food/paper products.
 - Food: Cake, Water, Candy & Mints; Paper Products (unused can be used for the picnic)
- May 1st Retirement Celebration was a HUGE Success!
 - Received several Thank You notes from the retirees. Enjoyed by all.
 - Thank you so much to everyone that participated in making this event so wonderful!
 - Approved Budget: \$400 / Initial Expenses: \$370 (waiting on one more expense)
- June Update: Investigating next steps needed by LAA
- **August Update: Working with Langley to understand current process since DRP**

Old Business – Donations

- **President/Treasurer to discuss forming Ad Hoc Committee for Donations: Recommend process for soliciting and evaluating donation opportunities (Ray Rhew – January 2026 Action).**
- Develop a process for researching and selecting opportunities to donate LAA funds that align with our mission, including the following Guidelines:
 - for funds needed by the LAA for non-discretionary and discretionary categories to enable determining funds available for donations
 - for acquiring funds other than membership dues
 - for determining donation fund level
- April Update:
 - Team – Rick Ross, Bill Tomek, Dave Young
 - Met with Bonnie Murray – NASA LaRC OSTEM
 - Provided and discussed several ideas for volunteering as well as donation opportunities
 - Plan to develop consolidated list to review at next team meeting – April
- May Update
 - Met with Melvin Ferebee – Virginia Air and Space Center
 - Provided and discussed several ideas for donation opportunities
 - Developed summary charts on findings and recommendations
- June Update: Presented criteria, process (2026 & beyond), & next steps
- **August Update: See Ray Rhew's charts**

Old Business – Spirit Wear

- **Langley Alumni Association 40th Anniversary – February 2027**
 - Other NASA Alumni organizations have used their anniversaries to raise funds for donations/scholarships by selling their alumni merchandise (shirts, t-shirts, hats etc).
 - Interest in organizing this type of fundraiser
- June Update: See Jill Marlowe's charts for details.
- **August Update: See Jill Marlowe's charts for details**

Old Business – OSTEM NASA Langley

- **April 14 Board Meeting:** Discussion that LaRC is not accepting STEM engagement volunteer opportunities due to lack of staff led to an ACTION for Susan McClain to contact LARC lead to find out how LAA can support STEM volunteer opportunities.
- May Update: Susan reached out to Bonnie Murray. Will meet with her on May 12th.

June Update:

- Met with Bonnie Murray on May 12th to understand new agency priorities
- Scheduling follow-up meeting to better understand LaRC needs for STEM requests and how LAA can meet them.

Old Business – Investing LAA Funds

- **Further investigate the hybrid approach and investing with Vanguard and report back to the board. Unanimously approved by all present and on-line. (Ray Rhew – Jan 2026 Action)**
 - **Initial contact made with Vanguard (preliminary options discussed)**
 - **More details on AIAA investment approach provided (summary below)**
 - **Established an Investment Portfolio**
 - maintain a minimum of 50% of its assets in high quality fixed income securities (includes investment grade corporate bonds, U.S. Treasury and government agency bonds, and mortgage-backed securities) and a minimum of 25% of its assets in common stocks of companies with expectations of above average growth and/or sustainable dividend payout.
 - shall be realized through investment in high quality mutual fund(s) as opposed to a stock portfolio. The selected investment portfolio shall have an expense ratio less than 1% (less than 0.5% if possible).
 - Eighty percent (80%) of all dividend and capital gain distributions for the fiscal year (Oct. 1-Sept. 30) preceding a scholarship award shall be applied toward a “Futures in Aerospace” scholarship(s).
 - Twenty percent (20%) of all dividend and capital gain distributions each fiscal year shall be reinvested
- **Feb 2026 Update: Plan to continue discussions on Vanguard account opening and access procedures. Will hold action request until Ad Hoc committee objectives are completed.**
- **August 2026 Update: See Ray Rhew’s charts**

Back-Up Charts on Outstanding Old Business Items

Back-Up Charts on Outstanding Actions – Retirement Protocol (Prior Month Info)

- **Retirement Protocol Question (Rich Antcliff)** – What is the protocol policy that NASA follows for retirements (album, certificates, party)? Should the LAA have one?
 - Nov 2024 & April 2025 Updates: Contacted NASA Langley Human Capital Ofc – The employee's organization decides.
- Jan 13, 2026: Action for President to determine approach for DRP Retirement Party: Possibly ad-hoc committee or Program Committee to lead.
- Feb 2026 Update: Ad Hoc Committee, Retirement Protocols (NASA/LAA), was established.
 - Rich Antcliff is the Committee Chair. Expanding scope to include short/long term activities. Committee Members: Rich Antcliff, Jill Marlowe, Sharon Monica Jones, and Christina Moats-Xavier
- March 2026 Update: Retirement Celebration – May 1st @ 3:00 pm Reid
 - Finalized initial plans with Steve Gayle (Office of the Director).
 - Invite will go to employees who retired January 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026.
 - Celebration Activities- Employee recognition, Class of 2025 photo, & light refreshments
 - LAA members and Center employees will also be invited.

Back-Up Charts on Outstanding Actions – Donations (Prior Month Info)

- **President/Treasurer to discuss forming Ad Hoc Committee for Donations: Recommend process for soliciting and evaluating donation opportunities (Ray Rhew – January 2026 Action).**
- Motivation – LAA Bylaws Purpose:
 - Assist the LaRC to maintain contact with Alumni to the mutual benefit of the LaRC and the Alumni.
 - Encourage and facilitate Alumni involvement in activities benefiting students from elementary school through college to increase the students' ability to succeed in all educational opportunities.
- Develop a process for researching and selecting opportunities to donate LAA funds that align with our mission, including the following Guidelines:
 - for funds needed by the LAA for non-discretionary and discretionary categories to enable determining funds available for donations
 - for acquiring funds other than membership dues
 - for determining donation fund level
- Feb 2026, Update: Ad Hoc Committee established in January; Ray Rhew – Committee Chair. Requested volunteers at Feb General Membership Meeting
- March 2026 Update – Committee members met to discuss options
- April Update:
 - Team – Rick Ross, Bill Tomek, Dave Young
 - Met with Bonnie Murray – NASA LaRC OSTEM
 - Provided and discussed several ideas for volunteering as well as donation opportunities
 - Plan to develop consolidated list to review at next team meeting in April