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What Happened to the Huntsville Jaycees?

By John H. Allen and John H. Ofenloch

This essay is in three parts. Part 1 is an overview of the Jaycees and how they got started in the U.S., in Alabama, and in Huntsville. Part 1 also covers the Huntsville Jaycees from 1950 to 1960. Part 2 continues to chronicle the Huntsville Jaycees activities and accomplishments from 1961 to 1981. Part 3 spans the years from 1982 to its demise in the 2000s and explains how that demise came about.

Part 1



Top Row: (L-R) Bill Kling, Nickie Purser, Charles Button, Charles Thomas, Don Stanley, Rowdy Owens, Joe Fitzgerald, Tom Butler, Richard Elmes, Ron Creel, Ernest Kaufman, Dave Nagy, John Ofenloch. Bottom Row: Henry Oldham, Jeff Hymer, Bo Bohannan, John Parsons, Randy Morris, Walt Hennessee, James Overbeek, Dick Kitchens, Mike Maples, Fletcher Davis, Frank Childs, Rick Lighthall.

Once upon a time, there was nothing more American in every city and town than a service club.

For more than a century, the influence of religious, fraternal and civic organizations, and secret societies made communities stronger, more interesting, and more engaged. They included Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, Altrusa, Civitans, Shriners, SAR, DAR, UDC, ACME, Pythians, Optimists, Masons, Jaycees, and many more.

Today, they are all in decline. Some have even vanished.

This essay is limited to the Huntsville Jaycees, once one of the most powerful and useful community service organizations in Alabama. Originally the Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Jaycees was very important for young men interested in upward mobility. But as with many nonprofit organizations, the Jaycees no longer exist in Huntsville, and have all but disappeared in America. Here is a partial list of accomplishments of the Huntsville Jaycees during their heyday:

1. Established the North Alabama Kidney Dialysis Foundation
2. Established the Research Institute at UAH
3. Built a Missile Park (morphed into the Space & Rocket Center)
4. Developed the east side of Brahan Spring Park
5. Established the NE Alabama State Fair
6. Spearheaded diversification of area industries
7. Developed a program to alleviate the doctor shortage in Huntsville
8. Conducted a program that resulted in the giant Automatic Electric Corp. coming here
9. Sponsored Boy Scout troops that built the Space Walk Hiking Trail
10. Produced a white paper on water pollution in Alabama
11. Established the Pathfinder House for recovering alcoholics
12. Sponsored an annual Christmas party for underprivileged children.

How the Jaycees began in the United States

On October 13, 1915, the Young Men's Progressive Civic Association (YMPCA) was formed by a group of 32 men at the Mission Inn in St. Louis, Missouri, the birthplace of the Jaycee movement.

The YMPCA was the outgrowth of the Herculaneum Club that had been active since 1910. The Herculaneum Club was a social club that soon decided that its membership should turn to bigger things in the community. So, in 1915 the YMPCA was born.

In 1916 the YMPCA changed its name to Junior Citizens, from which evolved the nickname of "JC," later to be spelled out as "Jaycee." However, the name is also reputed to be derived from Junior Chamber, i.e., the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The Junior Citizens became the St. Louis Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1918, and the fame of its civic work was beginning to spread. Following World War I, the St. Louis group was swamped with requests from young men from other towns for information on how to start Chambers of their own.

Soon, the Jaycees were in nearly every city in America. The purpose of the organization was to capture the fullness of the energy these men, applied through clearly defined constructive channels toward a common goal for a greater America.

By 1980 the U.S. Jaycees had grown to include Jaycee chapters in more than 6,000 communities with a combined membership in excess of 300,000 members. It was the fastest growing young men's organization in the world.

How the Alabama Jaycees began

The Alabama Jaycees were first organized in October 1920 in Birmingham through the efforts of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. This first chapter

began with a membership of 220; the first president was Joseph P. Mudd.

Through the efforts of the Birmingham chapter, Gadsden and Anniston were also organized. A state organization soon followed in 1921, with Irvin Engle of Birmingham elected first State president. Two Huntsville Jaycees served as State president: W.H. Pierce in 1932, and Earl Cloud in 1953.

In 1963 the Alabama Jaycees dedicated their new headquarters in Anniston.

Alabama has furnished nine national vice presidents: Albert Boutwell, Wilburn Nolan, Milton Taft, Wayne Gentry, Bill Buffalow, Jimmy Grant, Frank Parsons, Johnnie Aycock, and Jim Scott.

The growth of the Jaycees in Alabama was indicated by the rapid increase in the number of chapters and total membership since 1951. In that year there were 34 chapters with a total dues collected amounting to \$4,433 and a state budget of \$6,000. In 1959, there were 60 chapters with the total dues collected amounting to \$7,000 and a state budget of \$18,000.

The Alabama Jaycees experienced tremendous growth in the 1969-70 years when membership reached an all-time high of 7,200 members, consisting of 135 chapters and a state budget of \$143,700. In June, 1970, the Alabama Jaycees marched No. 1 in the Parade of States in St. Louis celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the U. S. Jaycees.

How the Huntsville Jaycees began

Much of the following information was gleaned from notes written by a Jaycee committee organized by Jim Duncan.

There was already an ACME club in Huntsville which was a very active and lively organization. Also, there was a conflict in getting the "Downtown" prospects and the "Arsenal" prospects together. There was not much association between these two groups, nor with the

ACME club. With these three groups not interested in getting together, it was difficult to find members to organize a Jaycees chapter. But Huntsville attorney Earl E. Cloud Jr. sought help from Birmingham's William Irby, vice president of Dist. No. 3. Then Cloud called eleven of his friends, and together they organized the Huntsville Jaycees. The club was chartered on March 16, 1951, with twelve signatures and received Jaycee Charter No. 3002. Local physician Dr. William A. Kates Jr. served as first president.

Earl Cloud wrote the policies and bylaws for the organization, and Dr. Kates was elected to serve as the first president of the newly re-organized chapter. Earl Cloud served as 1st vice president, James A. Lane as 2nd vice president, Ted Penhall served as secretary, and Lewis Cicero as treasurer.

Dr. Kates also served as state director, Wilbur B. Nolen Jr., Montgomery, served as president of the Alabama Jaycees, and Richard 'Dick' Kemler served as U.S. Jaycee president.

In 1951 there were 34 clubs in the state and two assigned national directors, each having 17 clubs. Our assigned national director was Charles Parker from Decatur.

There were four District vice presidents. We were in District I, and our District vice president was Hayden T. Ford from Gadsden. The other clubs in District I were:

Athens	Decatur	Guntersville
Albertville	Florence	Huntsville
Boaz	Gadsden	Scottsboro

The terms of office locally were six months, so we did not get much accomplished the first term other than getting organized.

We found that the six-month term of office was just too short to get anything done. Earl Cloud was re-elected to serve another six-month term.

Bill Grant of Jasper served that year as state president, and Richard W. Kemler served as president of the U.S. Jaycees. The National Convention was held in Dallas, Texas.

The number of clubs in the state organization had increased from last year's 31 to 52 chapters throughout the Alabama. The U.S. Jaycees had more than 200,000 members. The Huntsville club membership had increased from 12 members to 80.

There were two state meetings: a mid-winter conference and the state convention. We were present at both these meetings.

And we had our first project for the Huntsville Jaycees. George Seibels Jr., owner of Jemison-Seibels Insurance Agency in Birmingham, and later Mayor of Birmingham, enlisted the Alabama Jaycees to help promote traffic safety. We were off and running. We decided on a Scotch reflector-tape project. We ordered red tape that reflected light, and set up places, such as gas stations and schools on certain dates and times, for children to bring their bicycles in and have about six inches of tape placed on their fenders.

We were very proud when we won a state award for this project, but amazed when we won a national award later that year at the national convention in Dallas. This project led to the construction of Huntsville's Safety City at Brahan Spring Park, which taught elementary school students about traffic, bicycle, pedestrian, bus and fire safety.

After our Scotch reflector-tape project, we held a turkey shoot, and hosted an air show at the old airport (now John Hunt Park), which was the new airport back then. We took the profits from these projects and bought blue jeans and shirts for the first Christmas party for underprivileged children, which was held at the V.F.W.

That year, since the clubs had increased throughout the state, we had three national directors with club assignments throughout the state. Huntsville's national director was Dwight McInish from Dothan.

Allen and Ofenloch: What Happened to the Huntsville Jaycees?

The clubs were divided into different districts this year. Huntsville was changed from District I to District IV. Other clubs in our district were:

Albertville	Florence	Jasper
Athens	Fort Payne	Russellville
Boaz	Guntersville	Scottsboro
Cullman	Decatur	Sheffield

September-to-March 1953, Walt Wiesman, President

The population of Huntsville was 16,500 and our membership had increased to 112 by this year.

Dwight McInish, of Dothan, served as president of the Alabama Jaycees from 1952-53. Horace E. Henderson, of Virginia, served as president of the U.S. Jaycees.

The Huntsville Jaycees met the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. at Clark Steadman's Restaurant. Harry L. Pennington served as 1st vice president, and Clarence E. Cobbs served as 2nd vice president. Macon Weaver served as state director.

The *Huntsville Jayceer* was the newsletter published by the club for members.

We held Bosses Night in November 1952, followed by a Christmas dance, and in January 1953, the Outstanding Young Man of the Year was selected from 17 nominees.

A quote from Walt Wiesman: "I burned Roberts Rules of Order, and gave everyone so much rope, that I let them hang themselves. Our meetings lasted until 11:00 p.m. We conducted such business as a request to take on a project to investigate a local coach for losing too many football games," Wiesman said.

Walt also has the distinction of being the only Huntsville Jaycee (and probably the only U.S. Jaycee) to have served as president before he was a citizen of the United States (he was a member of the von Braun rocket team). Walt got his citizenship in 1954.

March 1953 to September 1953, Clarence Cobbs, President

The population of Huntsville was 16,900. We had 78 members on roll. There were 56 clubs in the state organization.

Roland C. Thorneberry served the club as 1st vice president and Tony Guzzo as 2nd vice president. Harry Pennington served as state director.

The national convention was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Alabama Jaycees were represented there, driving 1953 red-and-white BelAire Chevrolets. Foster Haley and Earl Cloud represented Huntsville and drove cars donated for the trip by Archie Hill Chevrolet. Other dealers throughout the state loaned red-and-white cars to other clubs.

Earl Cloud, Huntsville past president, was elected vice president of the Alabama Jaycees at the state convention in Huntsville.

M.M. (Buster) Miles was elected president of the Alabama Jaycees. However, he became ill during his term, so Earl Cloud finished the term of office as Alabama Jaycee president.

We began this administration with the biggest and best state convention in Alabama. It was held in the garage at Russell Erskine Hotel in Huntsville. Four hundred and fifty Jaycees and wives heard Alabama U.S. Senator John Sparkman address the convention at the banquet to inaugurate new officers.

We also sponsored a Miss Huntsville contest and sent two talented young ladies to Birmingham with all expenses paid. One of our young ladies won a scholarship with a speech.

We also sponsored a "TVA Day Rally" and sponsored a Boy Scout Troop.

There were some 40 civic organizations in Huntsville hard at work in the interest of the Huntsville community.

September 1953 to March 1954, Alvin Blackwell, President

The state convention was held in Montgomery, and a mid-winter conference was held in Birmingham. Huntsville Jaycees were in attendance at both meetings.

At the state convention in Montgomery, we won 1st place in agriculture and conservation and our float won Best Float in the parade.

We had a V.O.D. contest, yearbook, and sale of rockets. We also joined with the Madison County V.F.W. to sponsor the annual Christmas party for underprivileged children, at which more than 200 youngsters received gifts of fruits, candy, shoes, and blue jeans.

We also sponsored Boy Scout Troop #4 under the leadership of the Scout Committee of the club, and the club also sponsored the Court of Honor for the troop, at which the scouts gave demonstrations of their abilities in various fields of activities. We also had the teenage Road-E-O and two turkey shoots. The Jaycees also sponsored Shooter Education, which featured events in rifle, shotgun, and trap shooting.

A delegation of five local Jaycees went to Mobile in October for the 1953 Southeastern Jaycee Institute. More than 500 leaders from all over the Southeastern United States were on hand. The annual meeting was held for the purpose of exchanging ideas and information on projects conducted by Jaycees in their communities. It also served as an informal training school for new officers throughout the states. Those attending from Huntsville were Jim Cleary, 1st V.P.; state Americanism chairman, Paul McClung; 2nd V.P., Earl Cloud; state V.P., Walter Wiesman; state J.C.I. chairman and past president; and Dr. William Kates, past president of the Huntsville club.

March 1954 to September 1954, Paul W. McClung, President

Frank Gardiner served as 1st vice president and Houston Adams served as 2nd vice president.

Two important changes took place during this administration. The **Huntsville Jayceettes**, for women, was chartered, and our club's term of office, beginning the following year, would be for one year instead of six months. This would allow a team more time to accomplish projects.

A quote from Paul McClung as to how the organizing of the Jayceettes came about: "We got them organized on a formal basis by hosting a dinner for the Jaycee wives and telling them: "We want you to organize. Frank Gardner and I were the only Jaycees there and we mostly just kept our mouths shut."

The July 10, 1954, state board meeting was held in Sylacauga. Huntsville reported a membership of 104.

Miss Mary Esslinger, sponsored by the Huntsville Jaycees, was crowned Madison County Maid of Cotton.

The 1954 state convention was held in Montgomery, April 10-12. Our float was a rocket with Jaycee spacemen, and we won Best Float. We also won 1st place in the State for agriculture and conservation.

The Jaycee national convention was held in Colorado Springs, June 14-15, 1954, and Paul McClung represented Huntsville.

1954- 55, Frank Gardiner, President

Buddy Bomar, Carl Moring, and Jim Cleary served as vice presidents.

During 1955, the permanent home for the National Jaycee president, called the Jaycee White House, was completed in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The materials for this home were donated by Jaycees throughout the nation.

Walt Wiesman, who served two years as JCI state chairman and one year as JC international chairman, was

presented the first JCI Senatorship for the state of Alabama.

The 1955 State convention was in Mobile. James Fail was the State convention chairman. Mobile had won the bid at a state board meeting in Decatur the year before. At this meeting,

Birmingham and Mobile presented bids to host the 1955 State convention. Mobile won by a very close vote of 31 to 28. A registration fee of \$13.50 for men and \$6.50 for ladies included a stag party on Dauphin Island, and for \$2.00 extra on Sunday morning, a deep-sea fishing cruise.

Walt Wiesman was appointed state nominating chairman for 1955.

At the January 15, 1955, state board meeting, president Gardiner reported a membership of 84.

The national convention was held in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1955.

A joint installation ceremony and banquet for the Jaycees and Jaycettes was held this year for the first time at Cambron's Aero Club, at which our state president, Charles S. Trimmier, was the principal speaker. The Huntsville Jaycettes were now well on their way, were a thriving organization, and stood ready to assist in the activities of the Huntsville Jaycees.

The latter part of 1954-55 the administration spent most of its time programming, organizing, and conducting the Alabama semi-pro baseball tournament, held July 1955, in Huntsville under the sponsorship of the Huntsville Jaycees.

In this setting the Huntsville Jaycee Club celebrated its fifth anniversary. The club had developed from a relatively small organization to an average membership of 100, with average attendance at regular meetings in excess of 60 percent.

The primary money-making projects of the club were the three turkey shoots over the course of the year, one in the spring and two on and around Thanksgiving (actual turkeys were not shot).

1955-56 - James R. Cleary, President

Population of the city of Huntsville had grown to 19,640 and the club membership had grown to 132 members.

Our biggest project of the year was the semi-pro baseball state tournament. We sent out letters to other Alabama Jaycee chapters asking for promotion of teams for this tournament.

National Baseball Week was proclaimed by Mayor R.B. Searcy for the week of March 19-26, 1955. Eight teams from throughout the state were entered. The winner of the Alabama tournament played the Georgia champion for the right to represent the region at Wichita, Kansas. The Huntsville Parkers defeated the Mobile team. Arab lost to Attalla. Huntsville then beat Attalla and went on to be the Alabama state champions.

The team then went to Georgia to play the Georgia Lumberjacks and won 6 to 4. Don Mincher was a member of the Huntsville team, and later went on to play pro-ball.

An appeal for donations was made to send the Huntsville Parkers to the Nationals after having defeated Ashland, Kentucky, 12-3 and Midland, Pennsylvania 4-1. The appeal resulted in donations of \$500. The Huntsville Parkers were eliminated by the North Platt Plainsmen of Nebraska 19-1, but came home as the 5th best team in the Nation.

At our underprivileged children's Christmas party that year, more than 210 pairs of overalls were given to area children.

The Sesquicentennial Celebration, commemorating the 150th anniversary of Huntsville, was held, and six safety programs were demonstrated to promote better driving.

1956-57 - John Higdon, President

In 1956 Huntsville had grown to estimated 52,333 citizens. Membership in the Huntsville Jaycees was 107.

Wally Fowler's All-Night Gospel Sing was sponsored by the Jaycees and was one of our money-making projects for the year.

We also sponsored an Art Festival of Movies, with proceeds going to buy blue jeans for the annual Christmas party for underprivileged children.

Thomas Fowler, a student at Huntsville High School, was the winner of the Voice of Democracy contest, sponsored by the Huntsville Jaycees.

The Jaycees also sponsored an Easter passion play, which was held on February 7-9, 1957.

Another of the Ways and Means Committee projects was the sale of picture post cards to publicize Huntsville, the Rocket City. We purchased the cards, which were sold to drug stores, restaurants, and other businesses from Florida to California for resale to the public. Our expenses were \$600, with an income of \$1,684. Co-chairmen of this project were James Sandlin and William Harrell.

1957-58 - Robert T. Lakebrink, President

The 1958 State convention was held in Huntsville, April 20-26.

The population of Huntsville was now 58,300. The Jaycee meetings were held at La Patee Restaurant with nominations night held at Dales Restaurant in the Towne House Motel. Meals were \$1.65, and members were billed in advance.

One of our projects was a Christmas lighting contest. The idea was to make the city more attractive during Christmas, and to make the people more aware of the

true meaning of Christmas. Prizes were given to residential and business winners.

The Clyde Beatty Circus was a Jaycee Ways and Means Committee project. We also had our annual turkey shoot, and a Halloween window painting project to provide a useful outlet for local youngsters.

A junior tennis tournament, a teenage rodeo, and a voice of democracy were held, the latter to inculcate in the youth of Madison County an understanding of the basic tenants of a democratic system.

The Jaycee members sponsored an "Atoms for Peace" exhibit downtown. The exhibit conveyed the theory of fission, explained the basic principles of atomic structure, and also demonstrated actual materials and instruments used in the field of atomic energy.

1958-59 - Arnold Hornbuckle, President

Ed Sorrels and Tom Younger served as vice presidents. The other elected officers included six directors and a state vice president. The president was responsible for a 15-man board. The roster we had to work with had 48 names, of which six were associate members at the beginning of the year. We ended the year with a membership of 103 Jaycees.

The Fall Conference held in Cullman set an all-time high for attendance at a meeting. And the Alabama Jaycee Convention in Mobile set a record high of more than 600 registered participants.

During Hornbuckle's tenure, the Alabama Junior Chamber of Commerce made some bold resolutions condemning anti-Semitic bombings of temples and synagogues in the U.S., and crafted a resolution calling for more financial aid for education.

We had a budget of \$3,640 this year, with an income from the state convention of \$1,021, being our largest money maker (revenue over expenses).

Our Halloween Candy Sale (selling Kraft caramels door-to-door), with a budgeted income of \$840, was the second biggest money maker. The budget for this administration

was the smallest in the history of the club, and we overspent by \$650. To say that we overspent our budget did not mean we were in the red, but rather, that we spent some reserve money due to the following contributions: \$300 for the proposed coliseum, \$100 for the YMCA, \$150 for the Hornbuckle campaign, and \$100 for the Milton Taft campaign.

At the end of this year, we had two candidates running for Jaycee President: Tom Younger and Harold Bee. This was the first time any money was spent on campaigning. Banners were used and refreshments served in the Victory Room at Russell Erskine Hotel.

Our meetings changed from Tuesday to Wednesday nights that year. We left the Russell Erskine Hotel and went to a local high school cafeteria, then to Michael's Restaurant. However, Michael's decided it did not want us there, so the only way we could get back in Russell Erskine was to meet on Wednesdays.

The Henry Giessenbier Award was given to the best chapters in their division, which were based on population in each state. Huntsville won its first Giessenbier Award.

A bit of humor happened toward the end of this administration: Tom Younger and Harold Bee were both running for president, and there was quite a bit of campaigning going on. Tom Younger and Harold Bee's boss (who was also a Jaycee) had been to Birmingham for a seminar, and on the way home a discussion of politics came up. Tom Younger asked Harold Bee's boss who he was going to vote for. "Harold Bee," was his reply. One story has it that the boss was then shoved from the automobile, but Tom Younger says that he asked to be let out of the car. At any rate his boss ended up a pedestrian on the other side of Cullman about 50 miles from home. He walked for almost two hours, and at 3:00 a.m., very cold and very tired, called Harold Bee, who came in the wee hours of the morning and picked him up near Cullman. Tom Younger had gone on home to bed.

A quote from Arnold Hornbuckle, in the 1958-59 President's Annual Report (which was by-the-way the first annual report ever made by a Huntsville Jaycee president), says "If I could leave only one recommendation with you, It would be to advise you always to take time to think before you speak, vote or act. I feel that too often in the past, we have been influenced by outside high-pressure promoters to go into projects that were not beneficial to the community or to this organization, and we would not have adopted them had we taken the time to consider the disadvantages as well as the advantages. Be ever willing to compromise. The organization of which we are a member is much larger than you or I. Regardless of differences of opinion, I would recommend that each of you always be willing to follow the expressed will of the majority. It is only through unity that we can build a stronger organization."

1959-60, Tom Younger, President

This was the first year we started our "missile juice" and hospitality room at state conventions. We got a large crock pot and had crossbones painted on it, bought some dry-ice and mixed up the juices. We carried this to the state convention in Mobile. The mid-winter conference was in Sylacauga in February.

In 1956, a letter to John Higdon from Walt Wiesman had stated that it was time for Huntsville Jaycees to have one big money-making project in lieu of several small projects. This letter proposed an annual fair. A committee was appointed to check out the possibilities of a fair, and there was a great deal of discussion on this new project possibility that year. There had been some earlier discussions on it.

A quote from Tom Younger: "This year we sponsored the first (and last) Tennessee Valley Sportsman Show on the Parkway City Mall parking lot. We had a big tent, and boats were displayed for one week. This was to be a money-

making project, but it rained every day of the week and attendance was poor, therefore, we made no money on the project. This was a good start for me in leadership training. After the project was over, we had a problem. It seems we had bought some asphalt and built a mound around the tent to keep the rain from coming in and Parkway City wanted this mound of asphalt moved. I called Jaycee members to help each afternoon, and even though I had promises to help, no one showed up. I would arrive with a shovel and a wheelbarrow and remove a little asphalt and haul it to the dump. One afternoon a Jaycee did show up — with a tractor and a blade. He proceeded to break up the asphalt and scatter it all over the parking lot. He left, and I spent the next few days sweeping the parking lot and then hauling the remains to the dump. We did not sponsor this project again!"

We had approximately 75 members on roll during the year; Mike Henry and Ray Lawrence served as vice presidents.

1960-61, Eugene McLain, President

We had approximately 150 Jaycees and were still meeting at the Russell Erskine Hotel twice per month, the first and third Wednesdays.

Ray Lawrence served as one of the vice presidents. The state convention was held in Montgomery.

We sponsored our Halloween candy sale, which was our biggest Ways and Means project, but it required a lot of man hours.

We also had our annual underprivileged children's Christmas party this year.

The fallout shelter, across the Parkway from Airport Road, was built by the Jaycees in conjunction with Civil Defense. We spent a lot of time promoting this project, and after its completion, we had a Jaycee, Bruce Grant, and his family, move into the shelter for one week without coming out. They carried enough food and supplies to last the week. We

received national publicity on this project and finished off our first decade in Huntsville.

This ends part 1 of 3 parts. Part 2, in the next issue, covers the Jaycees activities from 1961 to 1981 and includes the establishment of the Research Institute at UAH, the missile park (which evolved into the U.S. Space & Rocket Center), the Northeast Alabama State Fair, and the Jobs '70 Program.

About the authors:

John H. Allen is a long-time resident of Huntsville and is a former president of both the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society and the Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table. He once chaired the committee that created the Tree Commission, the Tree Ordinance, the Urban Forester position, and the Landscape Ordinance for commercial parking lots. He is the retired training manager of the Amana facility in Fayetteville, Tenn.

John Ofenloch, is a retired engineer and held executive management positions at both Brown Engineering and Intergraph Corporation. He was once president of the Huntsville Jaycees. He is a past president of the Kiwanis Club of Huntsville, was chairman of the board of the American Red Cross here, and was on the board of Huntsville Utilities. Most recently, he was president of LearningQuest.

Edited by Donna Pratt