

# ENCORE

*Published specifically for the retirees of the Baptist Health System*



**Summer**  
August 2024

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*"May God Bless  
America"*

*"In God We Trust"*

## Listen... Summer Is Here



"Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer  
Dust off the sun and moon and sing a song of cheer..."

It was 1963 and the incomparable Nat King Cole sang the song all the way to Number 6 on Billboard's Top 100 hits. My hunch is that once you hear it you will probably be singing it the rest of the day. I did.

As the story goes, there was a man living close to Berney Points, just a smidgeon west of Baptist Princeton. It was during the Depression and he was frantically looking for a job so he could feed his family. He heard of a job opening at the telegraph office working for Western Union, so with hope in his heart, he rushed to apply. As he entered the outer lobby, there sat at least 50 other people who had arrived seeking the same job. They all knew Morse Code and were just as qualified as him. Disappointed he took a number and drifted over to the corner and stood leaning against the wall.

As he stood there in the crowd, he could hear the low murmur of the employees talking in the inner office and the soft...dit dah dit dit dah of someone sending a message. Suddenly his mind focused in on that tapping and he started translating the message: dit dit dah ..If anyone in the outer lobby...dah dah dit dit dit...can hear

this, then come on in and ...dah dit dah dit... you will have a job.

Suddenly, the man jumped up and ran into the inner office to find the boss tapping out the message with a spoon on a steam pipe. He, above the other 50, was the one to get the job. The message was loud enough for all, but only one heard it.

Listen to this! Our next BHSRO luncheon will be one you will want to hear. Now retired newscaster, Pam Huff, will be our special guest. You can read more about Pam's broadcast career elsewhere in this newsletter. You will also find a luncheon sign up form for Wednesday, August 14. The doors open at 11:00am, buffet lunch at 11:30am followed by fun and frolic. We promise to have you on your way by 1:00pm.

**Now a test.** What does 88 mean in Morse Code? You can hear the meaning at lunch on August 14 in Princeton's Haynes Auditorium.

**P.S. Available on the east side of Haynes Auditorium (the side of the building facing the parking deck) is a ramp for easy access to meeting. You are invited to use that entrance and avoid the steps.**

## Directions to Meeting Location - Haynes Building

### From I-65 North

- Take I-65 North to the Green Springs Avenue Exit (#258)
- Turn left at the top of the ramp onto Green Springs Avenue.
- Turn right onto Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive and go 1.6 miles until you reach the Princeton campus on your left.



### From I-65 South

- Take I-65 South to 20 West/59 South toward Tuscaloosa
- Take the Arkadelphia Road Exit (#123) and turn left at the top of the exit ramp
- Follow Arkadelphia Road 1.7 miles until you reach the Princeton campus

### From I-20/59 West

- Take 20 West/59 South to the Arkadelphia Road Exit (#123) and turn left at the top of the exit ramp
- Follow Arkadelphia Road 1.7 miles until you reach the Princeton campus

### From I-20/59 East

- Take 20 East/59 North to the Arkadelphia Road Exit (#123) and turn right at the top of the exit ramp
- Follow Arkadelphia Road 1.7 miles until you reach the Princeton campus

### From Downtown Birmingham

- Go West on 6th Avenue South to Elmwood Cemetery.
- Turn right onto Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive and go one mile until you reach the Princeton campus on your left.

**Parking-** Turn off Lomb Boulevard onto Tuscaloosa Ave. heading west with Princeton BMC on the right. Entrance to Parking Deck will be the first street on the left across from entrance to East Wing Parking lot. Arrangements have been made to have reserved parking on the ground level and additional parking available in lot immediately behind the Haynes Building. Enter the lot by driving through the ground floor of the deck, follow drive around to the left. The entrance to the lot will be to the right. We are asked not to park in spaces that are designated for "Job Applicants".

Please reserve the spaces at the near end of the lot for those that have mobility issues.

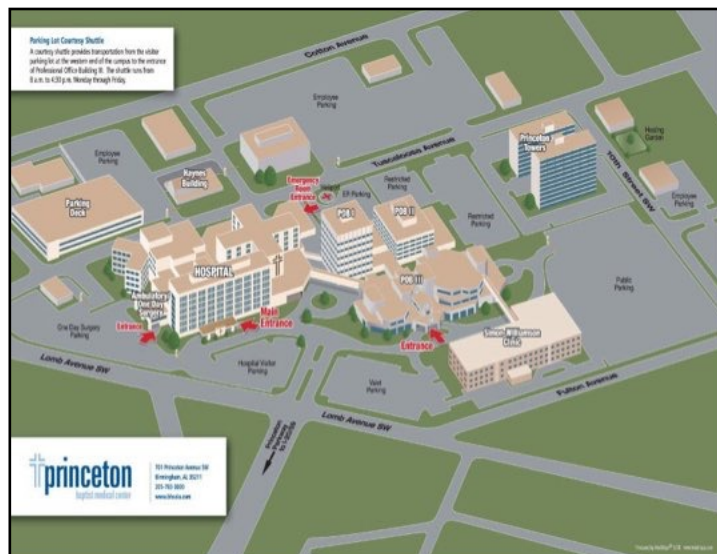
- ***Identify yourself as BHS Retiree upon exiting deck for complimentary parking.***

### **Handicap Parking/Access—Parking Lot Behind Haynes**

- Parking is provided in the lot immediately to the rear of Haynes Building.
- Enter Haynes with one step to level access through the back entrance located adjacent to the parking deck. Sidewalk from the rear end of the rear lot will provide access to this entrance. This entrance is also accessible from Tuscaloosa Avenue with no parking.



## Map of Princeton Campus



## Financial Report

Period Ending June 30, 2024

**Cash Balance - March 31, 2024** **\$ 2,952.80**

### Receipts:

5/15/24 Luncheon	\$ 540.00
Membership	\$ 175.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 715.00</b>

### Disbursements:

Luncheon	\$ 726.64
Door Prize	\$ 25.00
Table Decor	\$ 33.72
Donation BHS Foundation	\$ 500.00
Website Fee	\$ 192.00

**Total Disbursements** **\$ 1,477.36**

**Cash Balance June 30, 2024** **\$ 2,190.44**

## Future Meetings

### Board Meetings

October 9, 2024

### Luncheons

November 13, 2024



**Summer Luncheon**  
**Make your reservation for Wednesday August 14 2024**

Fellowship begins at 11:00 AM with lunch served at 11:30 AM

- When:** Wednesday August 14, 2024,  
**Where:** Haynes Building - Princeton BMC  
(East side of the hospital adjacent to Parking Deck. See directions on Page 2)  
**Menu:** Lasagna, Penne Alfredo, Garden Salad, Garlic Bread, Banana Pudding,  
Sweet Tea and Lemonade  
**Speaker:** Pam Huff is a former television news anchor for [NBC 13](#) and [ABC 33/40](#).

**Reservations are required to allow us to provide for adequate seating and meal servings.**  
**(See reservation form below)**

*Princeton Haynes Auditorium*

***Baptist Health System Retiree Organization***  
***Summer Meeting***  
***August 14, 2024***

**Complete form and return along with your check by August 7, 2024**

Make checks payable to BHS Retiree Organization and mail with form to:

Thea Benson  
Baptist Health System, Inc.  
Ridge Park Place  
1130 22<sup>nd</sup> St. South, Suite 3200  
Birmingham, AL 35205

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Members: Please make reservations(s) for: [ ] Myself -@ \$15 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Guest & Spouse Reservations: [ ] I'm bringing \_\_\_\_\_ guest @ \$15 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ (Please add amounts above & write one check for total due)

\_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_



*Do You Know a retiree who is  
NOT a member of BHSRO? Invite  
them to join for 2024 and their  
first LUNCH IS FREE!*

*Enjoy benefits of membership:*

- First time new members receive their first lunch free
- Receive quarterly issues of the ENCORE Newsletter
- Fellowship with fellow retirees at quarterly luncheon meetings in February, May, August and November.
- Door prizes, and a \$25 cash prize drawing at each meeting
- Receive informative updates by management on Brookwood Baptist hospitals news and activities

Contact Us [www.facebook.com/BHSRO](https://www.facebook.com/BHSRO) At Email: [bhsro4102@gmail.com](mailto:bhsro4102@gmail.com)

Visit Website: [www.bhsro.com](http://www.bhsro.com)

**2024 Membership Enrollment/Renewal Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ (Year Optional) Retirement Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Will spouse become an associate Member? ☐ No ☐ Yes Spouse Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues	\$ 25.00
Associate Dues	\$ 15.00

Make checks payable to BHS Retiree Organization and mail with form to:

Thea Benson  
Baptist Health System, Inc.  
Ridge Park Place  
1130 22<sup>nd</sup> St. South, Suite 3200  
Birmingham, AL 35205





## BHSRO Summer Speaker Pam Huff

**Pam Huff** is a former television news anchor for [NBC 13](#) and [ABC 33/40](#).



She earned a bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism at West Virginia University in [1975](#), and then worked at WSAZ-TV in Huntington, West Virginia and in Tampa, Florida. She and her husband, Bill, visited [Birmingham](#) where he was considering law school. They were convinced during that visit to relocate. Huff was hired in [1977](#) to succeed [Wendell Harris](#) as evening news co-anchor on [WAPI-TV](#). She was the first woman to anchor an evening newscast in the Birmingham market.

In 1996 Pam left Channel 13 for the newly-created WBMA 33/40. She co-anchored the "[Good Morning Alabama](#)" program and was awarded a regional Emmy in [2007](#). In [2011](#) she created her own afternoon magazine program, [Focus @ 4:00](#). She later resumed working as a news anchor for the station's 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM newscasts.

In [2022](#) Pam was diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer and underwent surgical and chemotherapy treatment. She retired from the station in May [2024](#).

### 10 FUN FACTS

1. You can't wash your eyes with soap.
2. You can't count your hair.
3. You can't breathe through your nose, with your tongue out.
4. You just tried no. 3
6. When you did no. 3 you realized it's possible, only you look like a dog.
7. You're smiling right now, because you were fooled.
8. You skipped no. 5
9. You just checked to see if there is a no. 5
10. Share this with your friends to have some fun too! :-)

## BHSRO Makes Donation to Baptist Health Foundation



Paul Lawson, BHSRO President, presents a check in the amount of \$500 to Amanda Robinson, Baptist Health Foundation Development and Marketing Coordinator.

## RENEW Your 2024 Membership

**It is time to renew your 2024 membership.**

It's time again to renew your membership for 2024. You can send your renewal form with your Summer Luncheon meeting reservation. See page 4 for the Membership form. Do not miss out on the benefits of being an active member.

*Only paid members are eligible for luncheon door prizes. Sign-in on your arrival to receive*

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Phone: 205-222-4495  
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# BHSRO 2024 Spring Meeting



*Baptist Health System Retiree Organization  
Since 1991*



# From first hospital bought in 1921 to recent partnerships, BHS continues to provide care

About a century ago, Alabama Baptists had a burden — they wanted to get involved in health care so they could minister to the state's hurting. So they earmarked \$100,000 and chose a location for a Baptist hospital — Selma. For state Baptists, it was a start.



But Birmingham Baptists couldn't shake the burden they had for the "great need" in their own area, said Chris Crain, executive director of Birmingham Metro Baptist Association. A Selma hospital, while great, wouldn't help people in their own city.

## **First facility**

So on Oct. 22, 1921, representatives of the association signed a contract to buy Dr. W.C. Gewin's privately owned infirmary in Birmingham's West End. For \$245,000, they acquired a 90-bed hospital, part of which was a house. They also got the services of a part-time pharmacist, a part-time pathologist and a medical staff of 77 doctors. A seven-year-old nurses training school with 12 students also came as part of the deal. And suddenly Birmingham Baptists were in the hospital business, kicking off a ministry that's still going today.

In 1922, that original facility, Birmingham Baptist Hospital (now called Princeton Baptist Medical Center), merged with Montclair Hospital to become the start of Baptist Health System.

"The desire of the association in forming the hospitals was to extend the healing hand of Jesus Christ to the Birmingham area through excellent health care," Crain said. "Without a doubt, the desire of the association in forming what became Baptist Health System was to advance the gospel."

## **So what does BHS look like today?**

Over the past 98 years, the system has changed a good bit, and at one point it had 10 hospitals under its umbrella.

For the second half of the 20th century, BHS was one of the largest health care providers in Alabama.

But starting in 2003, a money crunch forced it to sell off six of its Baptist medical centers. That helped get things back on track, according to then-CEO Shane Spees. By 2008, things were leveling out and looking up.

## **The legacy today is strong.**

Throughout the system's history, BHS hospitals have made an impact, pioneering treatments

like cutting-edge cardiac procedures. In 2006, one of its hospitals — Trinity Baptist Medical Center — was the site of the first robotic mitral valve repair in the state.

## **Mobile clinics**

Then in 2011, BHS employees were on the front lines of disaster relief help, setting up mobile clinics in four communities devastated by tornadoes.

That same year, three BHS hospitals were named among the nation's best in quality treatment for needs such as heart failure, pneumonia and surgical care.

For all of its history, BHS directly owned and operated hospitals in its local area until a change came in 2015. At that time, it was operating four hospitals — Princeton Baptist Medical Center, Shelby Baptist Medical Center in Alabaster, Walker Baptist Medical Center in Jasper and Citizens Baptist Medical Center in Talladega.

## **New partnership**

In October of that year, BHS formed a partnership with Tenet Healthcare Corporation out of Dallas, Texas. As laid out in the agreement, the two would own the four Baptist hospitals together along with Brookwood Baptist Medical Center in Birmingham, said Amy S. Allen, BHS president and CEO.

The joint venture — called Brookwood Baptist Health — is 70 percent owned by Tenet and 30 percent by BHS and is managed by Tenet.

Under the joint venture arrangement, all five hospitals maintain the Christian ministry of Baptist Health System and the Birmingham Metro Baptist Association," Allen said. "So not only does the Christian ministry remain in our previous hospitals, but it also has been expanded to Brookwood. We continue to ensure strong pastoral care programs at all five hospitals and to ensure that clinicians can practice their profession in a Christian environment."

Additionally, Baptist Health Foundation, a separate legal entity that supports Baptist Health System and Brookwood Baptist Health, provides additional support and resources to families and patients in need.

The tie to its parent organization, BMBA, is still strong. The association approves all of the members of the BHS board of trustees and has three members on the board.

*Source: The Alabama Baptist*

## *Remembering Members from the Past*



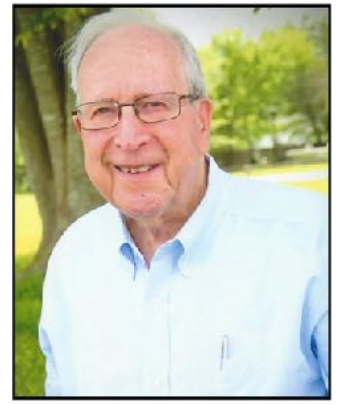
Jim Choate



Marcia Warren



Don Landers



Drew Dorris



Polly Clark



Dorris Wilson



Amy Loftin



Zellean Maddox



Anne Belle Johnson



Wayne Freeman

*In Memory of Fellow BHS  
Employees That Have Passed  
Recently*

**William Hynson**

**Mary Long**