

# ENCORE

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



**Fall**

**November 2024**

## In This Issue

Presidents Message	2
Luncheon RSVP	3
Membership 2025 Form	4
Speaker Bio's	5
Financial Report	
Spring Photos	6-7
Directions	8
Meeting Schedule	



*"May God Bless  
America"*

*"In God We Trust"*

## *Pam Huff Leads The BHSRO Fun and Frolic at Summer Meeting*



Pam Huff, former television news anchor for NBC 13 and ABC 33/40 spoke at the summer quarterly meeting sharing her career experiences.

## President's Message



### Another Thanksgiving

Another Thanksgiving is on the way! Then comes Christmas, New Years and a birthday somewhere sliding in there. We are all rounding the bases on the baseball diamond of life. Since I plan to live to be 100, I am currently racing between second and third base hoping I don't get thrown out early by a great centerfielder.

So, what are you thankful for this year? Good health? Great friends? Wise investments? A beautiful family? A solid roof over your head? Your church home? Groceries on the table? Another year older?

I recently read an interesting comment from an elderly pulpit minister that most in our group would heartily endorse. "I know of no greater fallacy, or any thought more wrongly believed than the statement that youth is the happiest time of life. "

As we advance in years, we really grow happier, if we live intelligently. Solving problems, facing difficulties and accepting responsibilities strengthen and enrich the mind and adds to the variety of life. To live abundantly is like climbing a mountain or a tower. To say that youth is happier than maturity is like saying that the view from the bottom of the tower is better than the view from the top. As we climb, the range of our view widens immensely.

Many years ago in the hospital Emergency Room, a stooped old farmer and a sprightly young farmer chanced to meet. The young man jokingly said to the older one, in his usual braggart way: "Why don't you walk straight like me? That is no way to grow old. It is only a habit – at least that is what I am told."

The old man gave him a knowing look and responded: "My dear young friend, have you examined your fine wheat field, and noticed the heads that bend? If not, just look them over closely at the harvest time. You will find the heads that are quite empty are standing tall and high, and the heads that are filled bend low, awaiting the reaper's sickle – their time is short. Years

wrinkle the face, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul"

I am thankful that we have many folks in our BHSRO group who are always enthusiastic. You might remember in August Pam Huff told the full room to focus on the 3 F's in retirement. "Faith, Family and Future are the keys" she said. "In retirement you now have time to work on all three". Amen to that!

We are excited to let you know that retired Secret Service Agent, Ken Valentine, has agreed to be our guest speaker on Wednesday, November 13. Ken helped provide protection for President Clinton, President Bush and President Obama.

You can read more about Ken's career elsewhere in this newsletter. You will also find a luncheon sign up form. 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.



**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.**





## Fall Luncheon

Make your reservation for Wednesday November 13, 2024

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

- When:** Wednesday November 13, 2024,  
**Where:** Haynes Auditorium— Princeton BMC  
 Parking available behind building.  
**Menu:** Turkey and Dressing with Gravy, Green Beans, Macaroni & Cheese, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls, Peach Cobbler, Sweet Tea and Lemonade  
**Speaker:** Retired Secret Service Agent, Ken Valentine

**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  
Fall Meeting  
November 13, 2024*

**Complete form and return along with your check by November 6, 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

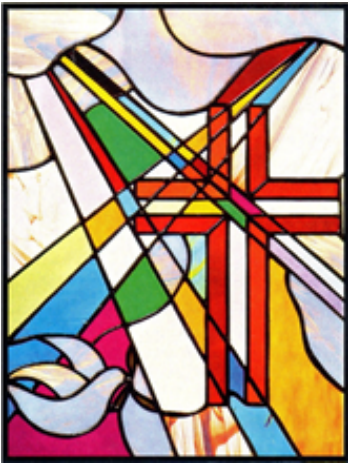
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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 2025 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 of hospitals news and activities

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

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

[www.facebook.com/bhsro](http://www.facebook.com/bhsro)

**2025 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: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Membership Dues</b>	<b>\$ 25.00</b>
<b>Associate Dues</b>	<b>\$ 15.00</b>

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 Fall Speaker

## Ken Valentine

Before working in the Alabama banking industry and security solutions, Ken Valentine served in the U.S. Secret Service for 24 years. During that time, he helped protect three different presidents, ready to take a bullet for them at a moment's notice.

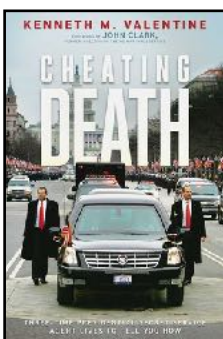


Valentine joined the Secret Service in 1996 after a rigorous interview process that took over a year and had one in 10,000 odds of being successful. He was soon placed on the presidential protection detail under the Clinton administration in 2000. He continued to serve under the Bush administration and for President Barack Obama.

The job is to go out and ensure whatever the president wants to do can be done safely," Valentine said. "If we have to say no, you better be able to back that up with, well, why can't you make that safe and secure?"

Valentine's book includes many personal stories from his time working with presidents, but he described it as more of a manual for leading a Godly, more "abundant" life.

"'Cheating death' was a term we used in the Secret Service. It was a way to remind ourselves how important the mission is," he said. "You show up to the White House everyday for work, it might be easy day after day after day when nothing happens to forget how important your mission is. So it was a good way to remind each other in a playful way of the importance of paying attention to detail and keeping your head in the game. We're not cheating the other team; we're cheating death."



# BHSRO Financial Report

Period Ending September 30, 2024

<b>Cash Balance - June 30, 2024</b>	\$ 2,190.44
Receipts:	
8/14/24 Luncheon	\$ 990.00
Membership	\$ 430.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	\$ 1,420.00
Disbursements:	
Luncheon 8/14/24	\$ 738.85
Door Prize	\$ 25.00
Table Decoration	\$ 31.28
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	\$ 795.13
<b>Cash Balance September 30, 2024</b>	\$ 2,815.31

## RENEW Your 2025 Membership

**It is time to renew your 2025 membership.**

It's time again to renew your membership for 2025. You can send your renewal form with your Fall 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 a door prize ticket.*

The BHSRO ENCORE is published four times a year.

Items for publication are accepted on board approval, available space and subject to Post Office regulations for our class of mail. Please submit articles via email to Ron Koonce, Editor at: [ron.koonce@gmail.com](mailto:ron.koonce@gmail.com)

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



*Baptist Health System Retiree Organization  
Since 1991*

# BHSRO 2024 Summer Meeting



*Baptist Health System Retiree  
Organization  
Since 1991*

## *Baptist Health System News*

### *Orlando Health Acquisition*

Orlando Health, Inc., purchased Tenet Healthcare's majority interest in Brookwood Baptist Health in Birmingham, Alabama. Brookwood Baptist Health was formed in 2015 following a merger agreement between Tenet Healthcare and Baptist Health System. Orlando Health, a private, not-for-profit healthcare organization, will manage day-to-day operations of Brookwood Baptist Health in partnership with Baptist Health System. Baptist Health System will remain in the partnership and it will remain a faith-based organization.

"We are honored to further Brookwood Baptist Health's mission of extending the healing ministry of Christ. There is a need and opportunity for a private, not-for-profit, faith-based healthcare system in this market," said David Strong, president and CEO Orlando Health. "We believe this is a new day in healthcare for our organizations and look forward to making Brookwood Baptist the best healthcare system in Alabama."

"We are pleased to have Orlando Health join Brookwood Baptist Health as a majority and managing partner. They have a proven track record in delivering high-quality healthcare services and are well positioned to invest in our community. We are excited to welcome them to Birmingham and to jointly support the faith-based mission of Brookwood Baptist Health," said Amy Allen, president and CEO of Baptist Health System.

# *Directions to Princeton 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 near end of the rear lot will provide access to this entrance. This entrance is also accessible from Tuscaloosa Avenue with no parking.



***Future Meetings***

**Board Meetings**

**January 15, 2025**

**April 16, 2025**

**July 16, 2025**

**October 15, 2025**

**Luncheons**

**February 19, 2025**

**May 21, 2025**

**August 20, 2025**

**November 19, 2025**