

HPI/HPE RETIREE CLUB OF HOUSTON

NEWSLETTER
September 2025

The HPI/HPE Retiree Club of Houston provides opportunities to gather with the friends and coworkers you knew during your working career.

Houston Skyline, Summer 2025

Planning Committee



LEADER: CARLOS FERNANDEZ

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

KAREN BROWN

JAN FRAZIER

HERMAN DE HOOP

MIKE MAGLOTHIN

JACKIE DILLEMUTH

PETER MARTIN

MICHAEL DUHS

DEBBIE THOMPSON

HPI/HPE RETIREE CLUB OF HOUSTON

How to stay connected and informed of activities

<i>Website</i>	<i>Facebook Group</i>	<i>Email/Evites Distribution</i>
 http://www.hprchou.com/		 mailto:carlosfernandez@fernandez.net

Message from Carlos

Dear Houston HP Retiree Club members,

The first thing you noticed when you opened this newsletter is a fresh look and expanded content. Neat! Right? We are grateful to Karen and Jackie on the planning committee for making this transition. The frequency of the newsletter will increase, instead of a quarterly newsletter we are moving to an every-other-month pace. We hope this provides timelier information for you.

We are now moving rapidly from the summer to the fall and in no time the end of the year is just around the corner; for the planning committee this is a time when we have firmed up our calendar for the rest of the year with a variety of events for us to learn, meet, and enjoy; with four months to go we have two seminars, two day trips, a social, and a volunteering opportunity. Please check the upcoming events page for more information. We are looking forward to your continued enthusiastic participation, the last three-day trips were at capacity with 100% participation from those of you that RSVPed.

Planning efforts for 2026 has started. Yes, 2026! Our annual member survey is a key component in our planning process; we use your feedback and ideas to brainstorm next calendar year's program. I hope you have had the opportunity to reply to our brief four question survey. In the next newsletter we will report on the survey results once we summarize them.

I want to extend my appreciation to the coordinating committee members for their contributions to the club with their talent, their time, and their passion to serve.

Please share this newsletter with others you think will be interested in reading it.

Take care.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

SEPT 4

FBI Cybersecurity Seminar /
Lunch Spring Creek BBQ

SEPT 23*

Houston Ship Channel Boat
Tour / Lunch at The Original
Ninfa's

OCT 14

Happy Hour at Los Cucos

OCT 23

End of Life Planning
Seminar / Lunch at Spring
Creek BBQ

NOV 14*

Kids Meals Volunteer Event

DEC 4*

Botanical Garden Lights

JAN 5

Tax Seminar / Lunch

**PRECINCT 3 BUS
TRANSPORTATION; PICK UP
AT TRUSTMARK BANK,
VINTAGE PARK*



RECENT TRIPS

Behind the Scenes at KPRC Houston

Article & photos by Jackie Dillemath

Our visit to the KPRC studios in Houston offered a fascinating glimpse into the fast-paced world of broadcast journalism. A highlight of the day was meeting Derrick Shore, co-host of *Houston Life*, the station's vibrant afternoon lifestyle show. His energy and warmth made the experience especially memorable as he shared insights into the show's production and community focus.

Guiding us through the studio was Mariah Gardner, Special Events Executive Producer, whose expertise and enthusiasm brought the tour to life. From the control room's wall of monitors to the sleek anchor desk, every corner buzzed with precision and creativity.

The experience deepened our appreciation for the teamwork behind each broadcast and the station's commitment to connecting with Houstonians. Big thanks to the KPRC team—and especially Mariah and Derrick—for the warm welcome and inspiring look at local media in action!

Following the tour, our group enjoyed a wonderful lunch at Tejas Brewery.

KPRC Studios, 8181 Southwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77074



A Day of Flight and Flavor

Lone Star Flight Museum & Saint Arnold Brewing Company

Article & photos
by Jackie Dillemath

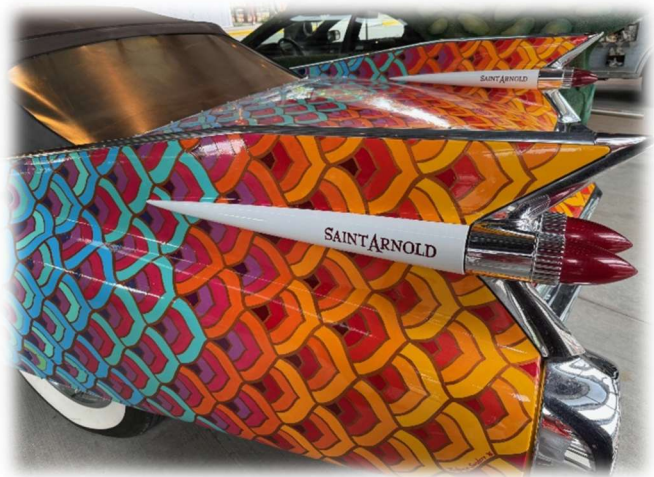
Our recent outing was a perfect blend of history, aviation, and Houston hospitality. We began at the [Lone Star Flight Museum](#) at Ellington Field, where a docent-led tour brought aviation history vividly to life. With close-up access to vintage aircraft spanning decades—from WWII warbirds to Cold War jets—we explored the evolution of flight through expertly curated exhibits and personal stories housed in the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame.

After soaring through the skies of history, we touched down for lunch at [Saint Arnold Brewing Company](#), Texas' oldest craft brewery. The beer hall's decor is a feast for the eyes: vibrant murals, stained glass, and whimsical touches that reflect the brewery's creative spirit. One standout feature is their fleet of **Art Cars**—hand-painted vehicles designed by local artists, including Houston graffiti legend GONZO247. These rolling canvases inspired the brewery's popular **Art Car IPA**, a tropical, citrus-forward brew that pairs perfectly with their hearty pub fare.

From propellers to pints, the day was a celebration of ingenuity, artistry, and Texas pride.

Lone Star Flight Museum, 11551 Aerospace Ave. Houston, TX 77034





A Day of Culture and Connection

Article by Debbie Thompson

photos by Carlos Fernandez

On [August 14](#), the HPI/HPE Retiree Alumni Group enjoyed a wonderful bus trip to the [Museum of Fine Arts, Houston](#) at 1001 Bissonnet St, where we enjoyed a tour of the Kinder Building's contemporary and modern art led by our incredibly knowledgeable decent, Sherry. Some of the artists and works viewed and discussed were among Grupo Mondongo's "Polictico de Buenos Aires", Ron Mueck's "Woman with Shopping", Tone Vigeland's "Wall Piece I", Alice Neal's "The Family (John Gruen, Jane Wilson, and Julia)". One of the most memorable was Frida Kahlo's "Memory the Heart" which depicts her struggle between her Mexican and German heritage's.

After our museum visit, we were off to lunch at Houston's most iconic cafeteria, Cleburne Cafeteria, located at 3606 Bissonnet St, where southern comfort food abounds. Some of the many main dishes enjoyed were meatloaf, fried fish, chicken fried steak, and turkey and dressing. Of course there were salads and side dishes galore. If you haven't tried the desserts, it's a must! Everything from German chocolate cake, carrot cake, bread pudding, and apple pie. Then it was back on the bus home...until next time!

Museum of Fine Arts and Cleburne Cafeteria



NEWS FEATURES

**Texas Master
Gardener Program
Volunteers
Supporting the
Texas A&M AgriLife
Extension Service
since 1978**



The Texas A&M AgriLife extension service and the Harris County Master Gardeners are pleased to offer the **GREEN THUMB Gardening Series of Lectures** free online.

Second Monday, 10am-11:30am (online)

Houston Community College @Home Gardening Series

Register in advance to receive the link:

[CLP Gardening - Community Learning Program](#)

Third Tuesday, 11am-noon (online)

Harris County Public Library on Facebook Live

No reservation required but must have a Facebook account to access the online event:

[Harris County Public Library | Facebook](#)

To view past recordings, go to: [Green Thumb Series - Harris County Master Gardeners](#)



MAIN: ExxonMobil Campus

8790 Hammerly Blvd., Houston, TX 77080

Phone: 713-695-5437

Fax: 713-695-7544

Website: [Kids' Meals Inc. - End Childhood Hunger Today](#)

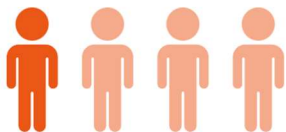
Kids' Meals

NEW LOCATION - 8790 Hammerly Blvd.



1 in 4

Houston preschool-aged children live unsure of their next meal.



Our Retiree Club is proud to continue its tradition of service by volunteering with Kids' Meals on November 14th.

Kids' Meals' mission is to end childhood hunger by delivering free, healthy meals to the doorsteps of Greater Houston's hungriest preschool-aged children. Through collaboration, they also connect families with vital resources to help break the cycle of poverty.

Each week, it takes hundreds of volunteers to prepare and pack thousands of meals—and we're honored to be part of that effort. This year, we're not just lending our hands—we're bringing heart, energy, and a shared commitment to uplifting our community.

Together, we believe small actions can make a lasting impact. Whether it's a sandwich, a smile, or a moment of care, every gesture counts. We look forward to rolling up our sleeves and making a difference—one meal at a time.

Kids' Meals Contact Information

General: info@kidsmealsinc.org

Volunteer: volunteer@kidsmealsinc.org

Financial Donations: donate@kidsmealsinc.org

Food & In-Kind Donations: info@kidsmealsinc.org

Client Help: clients@kidsmealsinc.org

Fundraising Events: events@kidsmealsinc.org

Wine Tasting Basics: Savor the Story in Every Glass

Wine tasting is more than sipping—it's about slowing down, tuning in, and letting each glass tell its story.

Whether you're exploring a bold red or a crisp white, the process unfolds in thoughtful stages: prepare, observe, engage, and reflect....



Preparation: Setting the Stage

Opening the Bottle

Use a **waiter's corkscrew** for precision:

- Cut the foil cleanly below the lip
- Insert the corkscrew slightly off-center and twist until one curl remains
- Use the double-hinged lever to ease the cork out smoothly
- Wipe the neck to remove sediment or tartrate crystals

Breathing & Decanting

Letting wine breathe enhances aroma, flavor, and texture:

- Young reds benefit from 30–60 minutes of breathing or decanting
- Older reds may need gentle decanting to remove sediment
- Whites rarely need breathing, though oaked varieties (e.g. Chardonnay) may open up with 15–30 minutes of air

Decanting tips:

- Pour slowly into a clean decanter, watching for sediment
- Use a wide-bottom vessel for young reds; a narrow one for delicate wines
- Taste as it breathes to find the ideal moment to serve

Choose the Right Glass

Glass shape affects aroma, temperature, and taste:

- **Red wine glasses:** large bowls and wide openings
 - *Bordeaux:* for structured reds like Cabernet Sauvignon
 - *Burgundy:* for delicate reds like Pinot Noir
- **White wine glasses:** narrower bowls and longer stems
 - *Sauvignon Blanc:* for crisp whites
 - *Chardonnay:* for fuller-bodied whites

Enjoy the journey..... (Wine Tasting con't)

Observation: Look

Hold your glass at an angle over a white surface.

- **Red wines:** deep ruby to garnet—age and intensity
- **White wines:** pale straw to golden—freshness or richness

Engagement: Swirl & Sniff

Swirl gently to release aromas. Inhale deeply.

- **Reds:** dark fruit, spice, leather, earth
- **Whites:** citrus, floral, stone fruit, butter

Engagement: Sip & Savor

Take a small sip and let it coat your palate.

- **Red wines:** tannins from grape skins create structure and depth
- **White wines:** bright acidity and refreshing finish from skinless fermentation

Cleanse Your Palate - Reset your taste buds between tastings:

- **Neutral carbs:** plain bread or unsalted crackers
- **Sparkling water:** lifts residual flavors
- **Mild cheese or rare roast beef:** neutralizes tannins
- **Crisp fruits:** apples or pears refresh without overpowering



Flavor Origins: Barrel Aging

Barrel aging adds secondary flavors and texture:

- **Oak barrels:** vanilla, clove, smoke, coconut
- **French oak:** subtle spice and elegance
- **American oak:** bold vanilla and coconut
- **Toasting levels:**

Light: floral, vanilla

Medium: caramel, spice

Heavy: espresso, smoke

Flavor Origins: Soil & Terroir

Soil composition shapes grape character:

- **Limestone:** bright acidity, minerality
- **Clay:** bold, concentrated flavors
- **Volcanic:** smoky, mineral depth
- **Sandy:** fruit-forward ripeness

Minerals and microorganisms influence aroma and texture

Finally – Reflect and Discover

What lingered? What surprised you?

Wine tasting is personal—there's no wrong answer, only discovery.

There are 13 minerals that are essential for human life, and all of them can be found in wine. Coincidence? **I think not.**



Compaq + HP Inc. + HPE Timeline with Acquisitions & Legacy Impact

Year	Event / Acquisition	Details	Legacy Impact
1982	Compaq Founded	In Houston, TX by Rod Canion, Jim Harris, and Bill Murto.	Birth of a PC innovator; set standards for IBM compatibility.
1983	Compaq Portable	First IBM-compatible portable PC.	Pioneered mobile computing and compatibility.
1987	Acquires Tandy's PC Division	Expands consumer PC reach.	Strengthens retail and consumer market presence.
1997	Acquires Tandem Computers	Fault-tolerant servers for enterprise use.	Forms backbone of HPE's mission-critical systems.
1998	Acquires Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC)	\$9.6B acquisition adds enterprise hardware, software, and services.	DEC's Alpha and VMS tech influence HPE's high-performance computing.
1999	Acquires Microcom	Adds remote access and modem technologies.	Enhances connectivity and remote infrastructure.
2002	HP Acquires Compaq	\$25B merger creates world's largest PC maker.	Compaq brand lives on in HP's consumer lines; enterprise tech feeds into HPE.
2008	HP Acquires EDS	Expands enterprise services.	Builds HPE's global IT services foundation.
2010	HP Acquires 3PAR & 3Com	Adds storage and networking capabilities.	Strengthens HPE's data center and networking portfolio.
2011	HP Acquires Autonomy	Software acquisition for big data and analytics.	Early push into AI and enterprise search.
2015	HP Splits into HP Inc. & HPE	HP Inc. focuses on PCs/printers; HPE on enterprise infrastructure.	Compaq's legacy bifurcates: consumer tech in HP Inc., enterprise DNA in HPE.
2015	HPE Acquires Aruba Networks	Wireless networking and edge solutions.	Builds on Compaq's networking roots; expands secure mobility.
2017	HPE Acquires Nimble Storage	Flash and predictive storage.	Enhances HPE's intelligent storage offerings.
2019	HPE Acquires Cray	High-performance computing systems.	Extends DEC's supercomputing legacy into exascale.

Year	Event / Acquisition	Details	Legacy Impact
2021	HPE Acquires Zerto	Data protection and disaster recovery.	Strengthens hybrid cloud resilience.
2023	HP Inc. Acquires Poly	Video/audio collaboration tools.	Expands HP's remote work and conferencing solutions.
2023	HPE Acquires Athonet	Private 5G networks.	Advances edge connectivity and telecom infrastructure.
2025	HPE Acquires Juniper Networks	\$13.4B deal boosts AI-native networking.	Positions HPE as a leader in secure, intelligent cloud networking.

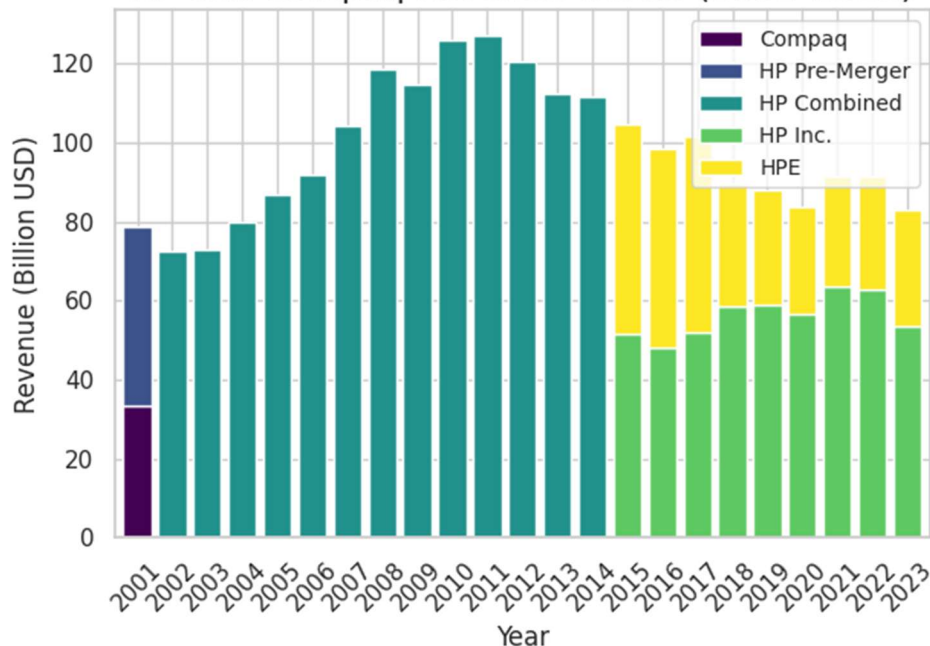
Our work made a major impact—market and tech alike.....

As retirees of Compaq, HP, HP Inc., HPE, and the many companies that became part of our journey—including Digital Equipment Corporation, Tandem, EDS, 3PAR, Aruba Networks, and others—we take great pride in the role we played in shaping the company's growth and technological evolution.

Together, we advanced PC innovation through portable computing, high-performance workstations, enterprise desktops, and early wireless breakthroughs. We built fault-tolerant systems, scaled global infrastructure, and laid the foundation for today's cloud and enterprise platforms.

Our contributions were not only technical—they were deeply personal. We helped define a culture of excellence, collaboration, and resilience. That legacy lives on in every product, every service, and every new generation that carries our work forward.

HP and Compaq Revenue Trends (2001-2023)



Fall Events

In and Around the Houston Metropolitan Area

September

- Woodlands Waterway Square Labor Day Festival – Sept 1
- Old Town Spring Farmers Market; Fridays in Sept
- Houston Jazz Festival, Miller Outdoor Theater – Sept 20,
- Wunderlich Farm Farmers Market – Sept 28
- Concert in the Park – Northshore Park; 2505 Lake Woodlands Drive – Sept 7, 14, 21, 28

October

- Original Greek Festival – Oct 2–4 at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral
greekfestival.org
- Bayou City Art Festival Memorial Park – Oct 10-12
- Houston Quilt Festival – Oct 4–12 at George R. Brown Convention Center
Quilt Festival Houston – Quilts
- Houston Oktoberfest – Oct 24 at Saint Arnold Brewing
Saint Arnold Brewing Company

November

- Dia de los Muertos Parade & Festival – Nov 2 at Sam Houston Park
- Houston Zoo Lights – Begins mid-November through January
- Houston Ballet Nutcracker Market – Nov 13-16 at NRG
Houston Ballet | Nutcracker Market
- Texas Renaissance Festival – Weekends through November in Todd Mission
Enchanting Entertainment, Adventures & Attractions | Texas Renaissance Festival

December

- A Christmas Carol – Dec 4 at Lone Star College, University Park
LSC-University Park Visual & Performing Arts |
- The Night Before Christmas – Dec 3 at Alley Theatre
Night Shift Before Christmas - Alley Theatre
- Dickens on the Strand 52nd Annual Festival – Dec 5-7, Strand Historic District, Galveston
Dickens on The Strand - December 5-7, 2025 | #GalvestonHistory

HP/HPI/HPE

RETIREE RESOURCES

HP Inc. Retiree Benefits & Enrollment

- **[MyHPBenefits.com](#)**
 - Enroll in HP retiree coverage
 - Access plan documents and provider directories
 - Get help via the “Need Help?” button for live support
- **HP Benefits Center:**
1-800-890-3100
Hours: Mon.–Fri., 6 a.m.–6 p.m. PT

HPE Retiree Benefits & Enrollment

- **Annual Enrollment Guide:** Covers healthcare options, Medicare eligibility, and how to enroll.
- **Toolkit Access:** Visit [MyHPERewards.com/retiree](#) for benefits, discounts, and virtual healthcare.
- **Contact Info:**
HPE Benefits Center: 1-844-537-5304
Hours: 8 a.m.–8 p.m. CT, Monday–Friday

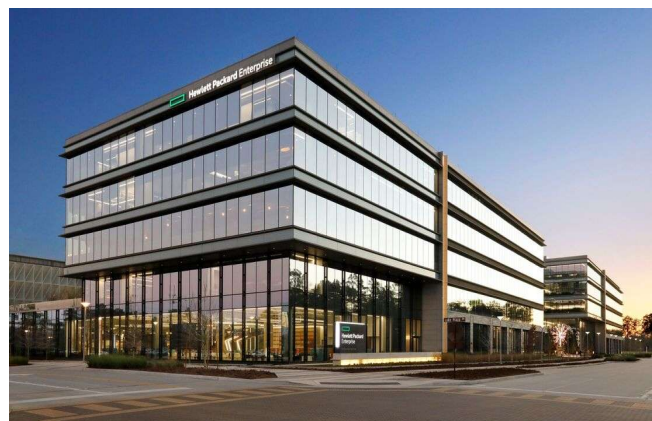
Clubs / Alumni Groups / Discounts

Clubs/Alumni Groups

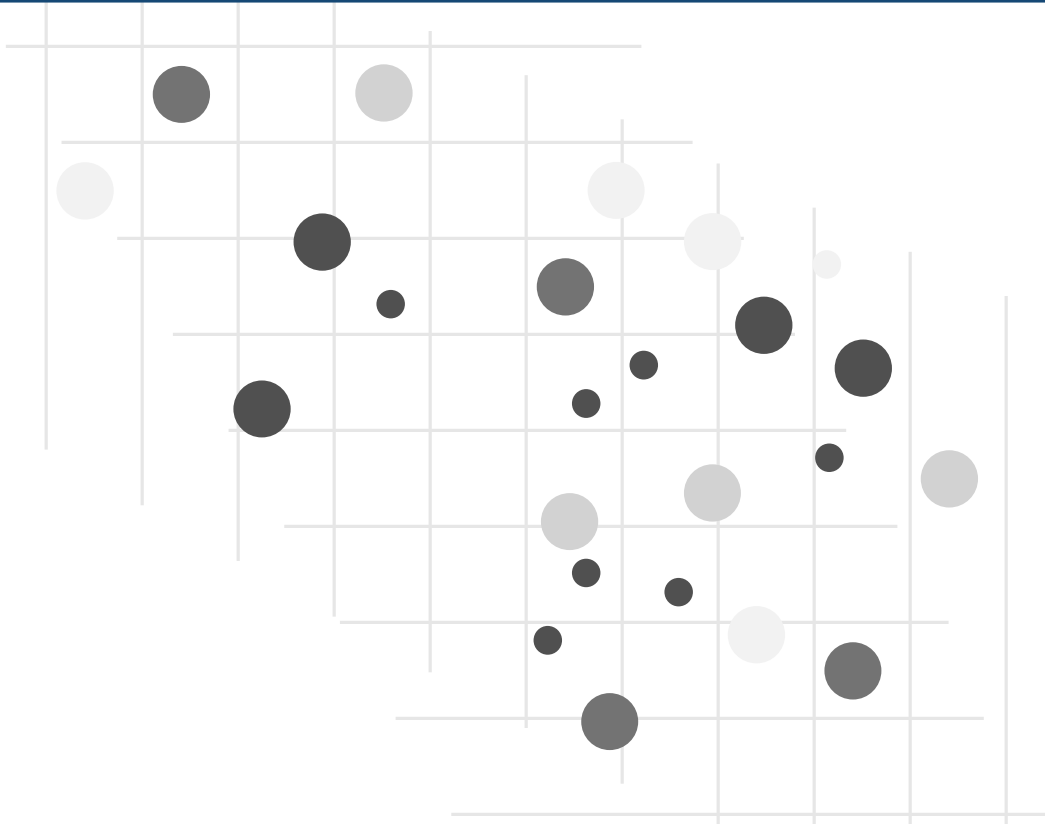
- **HP Continuum:** Central hub for benefits, discounts, and retiree news
[HP Retirees Official Site](#)
- **Alumni Group:** [HP and HPE Alumni.](#)
- **Compaq Computer Community Facebook Group:** [Compaq Computer Community Facebook Group](#)

HP Discounts

- www.beneplace.com/hp_employee/



**Thank you from the
HPI/HPE Retiree Club of Houston
Planning Committee**



**Next newsletter publication
November 2025**