

**University of Alabama
National Alumni Association
East Tennessee Chapter**

**Minutes for Friday, June 17, 2016 Luncheon Meeting
Cherokee Country Club**

2016 Officers

President:	Bob Bland	865-408-2563	rbland2563@charter.net
Treasurer:	Marianne Goodwin	865-560-0452	mgoodwin1@comcast.net
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Secretary:	Bill Campbell	865-448-9387	bbala1970@aol.com
Immediate Past Pres.:	Chris Lambert	865-384-4285	christopherclambert@gmail.com

Members met at 11:30 AM and President Bob Bland called the meeting to order at 11:50 AM with 31 people attending. Pat Polis gave the invocation.

Secretary and Membership Report: Bill Campbell

- Bill introduced 4 new attendees: Megan Whitten; Katy Brown (Bob's daughter); Waris Wade; and John Bierchen. Megan and Katy work together at Comcast. Waris is a friend of Ronnie McKenzie and works for Norfolk Southern Railroad.

Sports Committee Report: Charlie Schilleci

- Charlie introduced our guest speaker (John Bierchen). John is the new head coach for the BAMA Ice Hockey Team. He grew up in Florida, and attended the University of Alabama where he played for the hockey team. John showed the attendees pictures of the new BAMA hockey jerseys and talked about the 2016 schedule. The team practices and plays all home games at an ice rink in Pelham, AL where attendance normally totals about 1,000 fans. The team participates at the collegiate 1A level which is the highest level below the NCAA level. Since hockey at the 1A level is considered a "club" sport, the team receives no funding from the University of Alabama. John emphasized that his main objective as the new coach is to get the recognition needed to raise the team to the NCAA level where it would begin receiving funding support from the University of Alabama. John spends much of his time travelling around the US and Canada recruiting players; funding for these trips and all other expenses are covered by private donations, by the players who pay to attend the University or by John himself.

Scholarship Committee Report: Lanny Payne

- Lanny proudly recognized Bill and Ginny Morrow for the endowment of a new scholarship to the University of Alabama for the ETUA alumni association. Bill and Ginny have been tireless contributors to the success of ETUA over the years which included Bill's tenure as a past President of the association. Thanks to this endowment ETUA is one giant step closer to achieving our objective of one million dollars in total endowments.
- Diane McCarn talked about the upcoming Student Send-Off party which will be held on June 28 at Café 4. Diane is expecting about 41 area students to attend. As a recent BAMA graduate, Megan Whitten has volunteered to attend along with a small number of ETUA members.

Treasurer's Report: Marianne Goodwin

- Marianne summarized the Chapter expenses for the fiscal year. Based on income received from the banquet in May, Marianne was able to transfer \$1,000 to the ETUA endowed scholarship which brings the endowed total to slightly over \$90,000.

Riverboat Committee Report: Gene Chunn

- The Riverboat Cruise is the main fund raising event for the Chapter. Our objective is to sell out both cruises; in the past, we have had difficulty filling our quota for the second cruise. However, this year a much more intensive effort is being made to do so in hopes of bringing in between \$10,000 and \$11,000 which goes directly into our ETUA endowed scholarship along with matching funds from the University of Alabama.

President's Report: Bob Bland

- Bob reminded attendees that there will be no meeting in July due to the officer leadership training in Tuscaloosa which occurs July 14 – 16.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM with a ROLL TIDE!!!!

The next meeting will be held on August 18th at 6:30 PM at the Cherokee Country Club.