

*Ah! The only day of the year dedicated to NOT taking ourselves so seriously.  
Seriously :)*



# APRIL 2016 AHS '63 Newsletter

## *These Foolish Things Remind Us of Us Edition*

*Austin, day 6 of Fool month, 2016. alllll day on the 1st, off and on, we were on the hunt for fun, tearing up and down the internet readyreadyready to be entertained. huh. fun and funny can be hard to find even on allfoolsday ...maybe we suffer some kind of genetic deficiency :) \*oh the terrible seriousness of it all\* but whoopie cushions and fake doodoo are still only half funny and still in great supply...and do you notice the whole culture of funny seems to have shifted more in the direction of "adult" humor? ok, well, sex is probably only a 6000 yr classic point of interest for poking fun \*smirkwink\* and it's sorta funnier and funnier the older we get. whatever. we were all brought up "nice"...often laughing when our friends laughed, funny or not :) and we still do it...LOL. but when your tickle box turns over inside and you can't help yourself. \*snortsnort\* it's just the best feeling. and it's catching...when a baby giggles everybody gets the giggles. but we have found something really foolcool in the last few years...self-humor \*oh my\* and we have jk rowling to thank for that as much as anybody else. especially we speak of the boggart-banishing spell: "[Riddikulus!](#)" [you hafta go click on that and watch the scene from Harry Potter or you're not gonna understand the rest of this, you preshuss dinos] ...true confession: we did indeed hie to B&N at midnight to buy book II with all of the OTHER 8-10 year olds. we loved it and do not shrink one smidge from our wildchildways. but now, hear the tale of yesterday's boggart [a special demon in Harry Potter, def: the thing you fear the most]. several weeks ago we were oh-so-charming with a veryverybizzy person at AISD and talked them into doing this thing...which was actually a big deal. but for some reason \*we slept?\* we forgot and friday morning (being the silly april fool) we cheerfully called up this same bizzypants person and started asking for this same big deal special thing alllll over again. \*aaaaack. our worst nightmare\**

*a truly smashing senior moment goofup...*

*and the second we realized why the other end of the phone was now bizzy AND*

*puzzled, prestochango! our clever badinage whooshes out the window like a farting balloon and up pops the most hated spectre of the silverhaired social planet—the boggart of embarrassment. caught practically nekkid. nowhere to run for cover. BUT. with a lurching heart and not missing more than halfabeat ,we pulled out our little inner magic wand and put rollerskates on that hairy8-leggedseniormomentsucker and laughed '\*oh gosh we talked about this weeks ago didn't we? yikes! okayokay so i owe you a box of donuts!\* ha. \*turns out, even bizzywigs are charmed and disarmed by stupid honesty and a free box of donuts ... riddikulus! man, we've got this down and brown four ways to Sunday. smackdab down.*

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*Internetty offerings of things for fools:*



**Samsung introduces Smart Pants Fridge Lock:** If the tension around your waist gets too high, the embedded ARTIK chip module will send signals to your refrigerator to prevent you from overeating. The fridge door lock can then only be

deactivated with consent from a designated person such as your mother or significant other. Click [HERE](#) for more info and (gasp) more trouser browser options.

# ***Why 4 FEET 8.5 Inches is Very Important.***

## **Railroad Tracks**

The U.S. Standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches. That's an exceedingly odd number.

Why was that gauge used? Because that's the way they built them in England, and English expatriates designed the U.S. Railroads.

Why did the English build them like that? Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the pre-railroad tramways, and that's the gauge they used.

Why did 'they' use that gauge then? Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they had used for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing.

Why did the wagons have that particular Odd wheel spacing?

Well, if they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break on some of the old, long distance roads in England, because that's the spacing of the wheel ruts.

So, who built those old rutted roads? Imperial Rome built the first long distance roads in Europe (including England) for their legions. Those roads have been used ever since.

And the ruts in the roads? Roman war chariots formed the initial ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels. Since the

chariots were made for Imperial Rome, they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing.

Therefore, the United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches is derived from the original specifications for an Imperial Roman war chariot. In other words, bureaucracies live forever.

So the next time you are handed a specification, procedure, or process, and wonder, 'What horse's ass came up with this?', you may be exactly right. Imperial Roman army chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the rear ends of two war horses.

Now, the twist to the story:

When you see a Space Shuttle sitting on its launch pad, you will notice that there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters, or SRBs. The SRBs are made by Thiokol at their factory in Utah.

The engineers who designed the SRBs would have preferred to make them a bit larger, but the SRBs had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad line from the factory happens to run through a tunnel in the mountains and the SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad track, and the railroad track, as you now know, is about as wide as two horses' behinds.

So, a major Space Shuttle design feature of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system was determined over two thousand years ago by the width of a horse's ass. And you thought being a horse's ass wasn't important!

Now you know, horses' asses control almost everything. 'Explains a whole lot, doesn't it?



HEH. Even though mostly fact, come to find out, the 'splaination is alllllll pretty much April foolin' but it's pretty good.

**Gotcha**

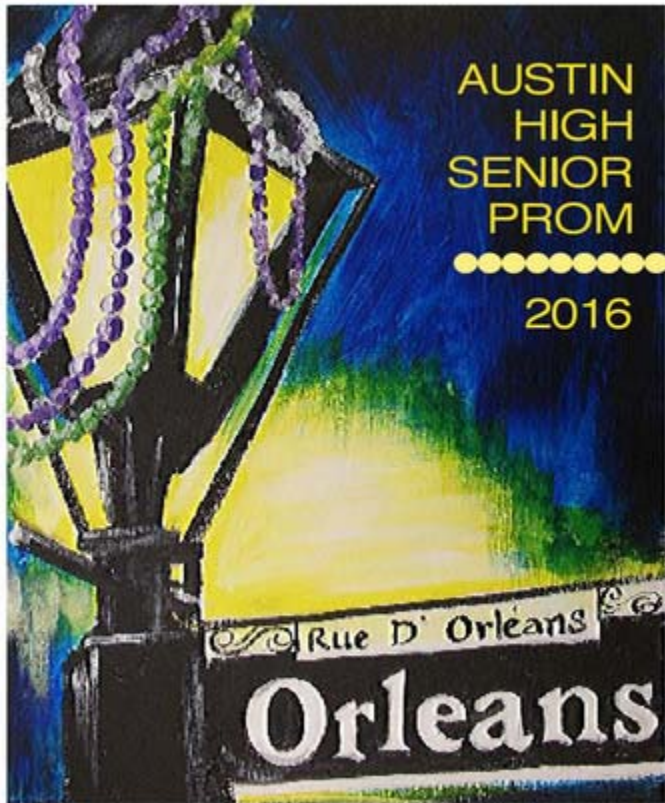
...got us too for about 4 minutes..okayokay5...thensnopedit..\*aaaaa\*...



### **THE LATEST FROM THE MAROON NEWSROOM**

THIS is gonna be a regular feature. It is our fave new link to maroon world, and if you wanted to know what the maroon girl lacrosse team did on April 1st, that little news item is right under your finger tips. [HERE](#) ... just scroll down and let your mouth smile as your eyes glaze over at all the

stuff they are up to. THIS WEEK? Prom T-Shirts. eh? 'way diff prom nite, and really cool, and the kids have been raising money for it all year (\$40 k so far)...



AUSTIN  
HIGH  
SENIOR  
PROM  
2016


Rue D' Orleans  
Orleans

# NOLA *kind*

**Saturday, May 14** 8:30 to 11:30 pm B

*Tickets*  
\$25 per person pre-sale  
\$30 per person at the door

*T-Shirts* →  
**ON SALE NOW!!!**  
\$20 each  
pre-order only



Would you like to help out Prom Night and sign up for something if you're in town? Go [HERE](#).

AND THIS LITTLE ITEM WAS JUST TWEETED FROM THE NEWSROOM: wanna do some good for a senior project? wouldn't you just shock 'em if you visited that little fadethetrade website and bought some tamales to help a maroon senior project to support the Austin Zoo?

The Maroon News Retweeted



[Austin High School @LoyalForeverAHS](#)

Don't forget to order tamales and help support the Austin Zoo! Visit <http://fadethetrade.weebly.com> to order! Now through April 8th. [#AISDproud](#)

THE AUSTIN ZOO is a rescue zoo, btw, taking animals from all over the newnited that are called in from state agencies and nonprofit orgs trying to place lions&tigers&bearsOhMy that "pet" owners no longer want...ITZA GREAT AUSTIN THING. So that's the hottest and latest TWEET from your alma mater! Wanna help? go [HERE](#) to the zoo page, click the button that says BUY TAMALES...and see

what these maroon SENIORS say they want to do for the zoo...and buy those tamales BEFORE SATURDAY. :) go do something foolishly good....now ain't that fun?\*\*\*



\*\*\*So, we didn't read the tiny print about where the tamales were actually going to BE but we bought some just to go through the process :) we soooooo fooled ourselves GOOD on this little project, and now we see we will need to go down to the school to RETRIEVE said one dozen vegetarian southwestern style tamales. In ROOM179. APRIL11 (that stands for fool me twice)... NEXT MONDAY. AFTER SCHOOL. HEH. OR, we can call down to the school and have them cart those suckers right up to the teachers lounge. \*soooooo funnnnnnny\* At least we did it ENTHUSIASTICALLY :)

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# AHS Ladies Luncheon Invitation

**SPRING LUNCHEON: Tuesday, April 26, 2016**

**At the AUSTIN WOMEN'S CLUB.**

**We will feature the Red Jackets and Band** so be sure and tell your classmates to come (especially former Red Jackets and Band Members!)

**PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK AND BELOW FORM TO:**

**Lynn Remadna  
1801 Rockmoor  
Austin Texas 78703**

**Please print out and return this portion of the invitation along with a check by Thursday, April 21st**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class of: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25 each                      Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

"Hug Fund", helping AHS students & Archives                      Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Bring any Red Jacket/Band Memorabilia and photos to share.**

**Special Prize will be given to the Class with the most ladies in attendance!!!**

Loyal Forever,  
The AHS Luncheon Committee





## CLAUDIA'S LITTLE APRIL FOOL BIRTHDAYS

- 04 Jimmy Wilson (45)
- 04 Warren Webb (45)
- 12 Mike Butler (45)
- 16 Linda Holliday Boyd (45)
- 16 Beck Maufrais Leggett (45)
- 18 Camey Spaulding Stewart (45)
- 18 John Yeager (45)
- 18 Mary Ann Mellenbruch Meigs (45)
- 21 Kelly (Marguerite) Jarrell Luedeke (45)
- 23 Charlie Morton (45)
- 25 Shirley Zenkner Scott (45)
- 28 Chuck Newell (45)
- 30 Larry Burk (45)

MISSED BIRTHDAYS DUE TO THE MAC ATTACK (thanks Rich for the diagnosis!)

JANUARY 22 BO ROTHCHILD (45)

FEBRUARY 1 BEN BERNAL (45)

JANUARY 7 KENT RIDER (46)

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#### JUST A NOTE

wow. just wow. you guys were wonderful.  
so many of you responded  
to the crisis of losing our bday data  
and sent in your birthdays and your  
sweet sympathetic notes  
and made us feel wildly loved & warm & wonderful.

amazing thanks especiallly to will berezovytch for going back through  
alllllll of his newsletter emails  
and copying every single one of the bday lists from last year and sending them along..  
and kent rider wrote in and volunteered to do the same thing..  
and HE was one of the ones whose 70th AND 71st bday was missed  
because he sent it in and then we LOST it...HAPPY BDAY LATE KENT (FEB 7/46)  
mmmmmWAH!!!

And here is the thankyoutickertape to the people who wrote in to send birthdays and fun notes...  
you guys are the best and if you wrote in and your name is missing..  
...wellthen... guesswho owes YOU a boxadonuts...with apologies and thanks:  
joe joe ben bo judy ben bonnie rebecca/ann kent betty ronny minajo suzanne ddra/ray  
mike alan marguerite wade lucile doug saundra linda carol rich bennett kathy bill jimmy

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## ***LOYAL FOREVER Y'ALL***

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You are on this list because you are brilliant & still drink from the fountain of youth known as Loyal Forever - the AHS Class of 63