



LEADERSHIP  
VESTAVIA HILLS

Leadership Vestavia Hills Newsletter

Spring 2016

Leadership  
Vestavia Hills

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2015-2016

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**Spring Baseball Clinic with the  
Birmingham Barons**

**Regions Field**

**Tuesday, May 10**

**10:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Leadership Vestavia Hills is gearing up for the annual LVH Spring Baseball Clinic with the Birmingham Barons for Vestavia Hills students with disabilities. This year's clinic will be held at Regions Field - even more exciting for our VH students. We need your help. **Please consider volunteering for the Spring Baseball Clinic.**

**Advisory Committee Chair  
Brian Wolfe**

For Edits or Information to  
include in future Alumni  
Newsletters  
Please contact  
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Professional players from the Birmingham Barons will be on hand to teach and assist the students with their baseball skills and learn more about the game. This will be a great opportunity for some of our local Vestavia school students with disabilities to learn more about the game of baseball from professional players right here in Birmingham. This is always a fun and exciting event for all.

LVH will be assisting the players and the students at their baseball stations to ensure that the clinic runs smoothly.

If you are interested in volunteering to help out at this event, please be at the fields at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2016. Hopefully it will be a beautiful spring day for baseball, and you will certainly be glad that you helped out and made the day for the students a little brighter. This is something you will enjoy doing and we hope that you are able to be there on May 10.

**To volunteer, contact Brent Irby at (205) 824-7767 or [birby@mhcilaw.com](mailto:birby@mhcilaw.com).**



# WING DING

## HOT WING CHALLENGE & FESTIVAL

# HOT WING

## CHALLENGE & FESTIVAL

**SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2016**

**VESTAVIA HILLS CITY HALL**

**11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Live Music from Rollin' in the Hay**

***TEAMS, VOLUNTEERS & SPONSORS  
NEEDED***

The 5th Annual Wing Ding 2016 Hot Wing Challenge, sponsored by Leadership Vestavia Hills, is set for Saturday, June 4, 2016, 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Vestavia Hills City Hall, 1032 Montgomery Highway. Benefitting a local charity, this event is a great time for the whole family as local teams of chefs compete for the title of Wing Ding Champion. In addition to the chance to sample the area's best wings, there will be live entertainment, children's activities, other foods and beverages.

Cost of admission is \$5.00 and free admission for children 8 and under.

For information on how to enter the competition and register a team, contact Lilla Hood at 205-585-7564 or email [hoodcreate@me.com](mailto:hoodcreate@me.com).

Additionally, for information on sponsoring and advertising, contact Lilla Hood at 205-585-7564 or email [hoodcreate@me.com](mailto:hoodcreate@me.com).

## **MEMBER PROFILE CHRIS ECKROATE**



Chris Eckroate (Class of 2015) has been the owner of Caprine Engineering, LLC, a consulting engineering firm since it was founded in October 2015. After graduating from Auburn University with a bachelor of science in civil engineering, Chris worked at a multi-disciplined architectural and engineering firm for over 17 years. Chris is a member of the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce and serves on the LVH Board of Directors. In addition, he was the LVH Projects Committee Assistant Chair for the 2015-2016 class and will assume the role of LVH Projects Committee Chair for the 2016-2017 class.

Chris has enjoyed a successful career in the field of civil engineering and has completed many notable projects. He was the lead civil

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engineer on several developments on the campus of Auburn University, including:

- Sewell Hall Athletics Dormitory Demolition
- South Donahue Residence Hall
- South Donahue Parking Facility
- The Wellness Kitchen
- Watson Fieldhouse

In addition to the projects at Auburn University, Chris has assisted the City of Vestavia Hills with the planning and re-development of Wald Park and Altadena Valley Country Club. Locally, he was the lead civil engineer on many high-profile projects across the region, including:

- Bass Pro Shops (Leeds, Alabama)
- Acme Brick, formerly Jenkins Brick Corporation (Brompton, Alabama)
- Lane Park Re-development (Mountain Brook, Alabama)
- Patchwork Farms (Vestavia Hills, Alabama)

Chris' success in the field of civil engineering has been recognized in many ways. In addition to the projects noted above, his awards include:

- NAIOP - Alabama Chapter, Overall Design Engineering Award for Jenkins Brick Corporation (2007)
- Association of Builders and Contractors, Birmingham Chapter - Excellence in Construction Site Award for Bass Pro Shops (2008)
- Cahaba River Society - Watershed Conservation Development Award for Bass Pro Shops (2008)
- Green Resource Center, Green Gauge Report - Recognized for limiting the environmental impacts and protecting open spaces for Bass Pro Shops (2008)
- South Central Construction Magazine Award - Best private architecture and best green building project for Bass Pro Shops (2009)
- NAIOP - Alabama Chapter, Overall Design Engineering Award for Bass Pro Shops (2009)
- Birmingham Business Journal - Top 40 Under 40 (2009)

Born in Montgomery, Alabama, Chris moved to Cahaba Heights in 1998 and was there when that area was annexed into Vestavia Hills. In 2005, Chris married his wife, Melanie, and remained in Cahaba Heights until 2013 when he moved to Coventry off of Rocky Ridge Road. Melanie is a corporate accountant for Southern Nuclear and a graduate of the University of Alabama. Melanie and Chris have 2 daughters - Olivia (4 years old) and Charlotte (1 1/2 years old) - who both attend South Highland Child Development Center. Their family is a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church.

Chris enjoys water skiing, scuba diving, snow skiing, sporting clays, quail hunting, exercising, and spending time with his family, especially at the lake. Related to water skiing, Chris skied at Calloway Gardens in the md-90s and was a part of a show team based out of Lake Jordan during his senior year of high school and

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throughout college. He had the opportunity to scuba dive at the Georgia Aquarium and spent his bachelor party in New Orleans during the weekend that Hurricane Katrina made landfall.

# LVH Calendar

May 10

Spring Baseball Clinic  
with the Birmingham Barons

Regions Field

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

June 4

Wing Ding

Vestavia City Hall

11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

\$5.00 - children 8 and under are free

Live Music from Rollin' in the Hay