

Genesis 2Day

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2022

A Message from Our Class Leaders Greetings G2!

Hope all is well, classmates. In case you haven't heard, U.S. Army retired Lt. Gen. Darrell K. Williams, a 1983 graduate of Hampton University, has replaced Dr. William Harvey as the 13th president of Hampton University.

Since taking the reins on July 1, 2022, President Williams has been traveling around the country meeting with alumni and raising money for Hampton U. Wendell had the opportunity to meet President Williams who expressed that he wants to establish good communication and good relationships with Hampton alumni. As part of his initiatives, he immediately expanded the WiFi broadband on campus to help the students and visitors with greater bandwidth while on campus. He also replaced the previous food service company with another company that provides better food options.

Hampton University Homecoming will take place October 20-22, 2022. G2 will have a class suite at the Embassy Suites Hotel with refreshments and space to meet and greet friends and family. The suggested donation is \$50 per person to cover the suite and refreshments for the entire weekend. It's a good place to chill out and network. You may pay via CashApp: \$1989G2, Zelle: hug2finance@gmail.com, or PayPal: \$1989G2. All funds collected are solely for Homecoming. We hope that you can join us.

Our annual fundraising campaign for G2 began on July 1, 2022 and will run through June 30, 2023. As in past years, we have a giving goal of \$30,000. The goal is to set up pledges that will help us to not only reach our \$30,000 goal, but to also meet our participation goal of at least 40% of the class donating back to "Our Home By The Sea" that we all love so dearly. Below, please find the various suggested pledge levels, and do not feel constrained to the levels. We, the fundraising committee, will always accept more.

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Class giving pledge amounts:

At least 15 G2 classmates donate \$1,000 for a minimum of \$15,000

At least 20 G2 classmates donate \$500 for a minimum of \$10,000

At least 50 G2 classmates donate \$100 for a minimum of \$5,000

At least 100 G2 classmates donate \$50 for a minimum of \$5,000

With the above commitments, we will raise a minimum of \$35,000. We ask the remainder of the G2 classmates to donate at least \$19.89. This will help to build up our participation rate. If you intend to participate, please send an email to genesis2fundraising@gmail.com and let us know what pledge level you prefer. If anyone has any ideas for fundraising or would like to be a member of the committee, please let us know at the above-referenced email (Tracy Reviere Copeland and Brian Williamson, Fundraising Chairpersons).

We hope that you will continue to keep donating to Hampton. If you haven't started, please consider giving back. We know that we can say that Hampton has created a great path for us to become successful. You can donate \$19.89 monthly or whatever and whenever you decide. We have new leadership, and he has a new vision for the future. It will require all of us to contribute financially to help Hampton University achieve that goal. In 2024, we will host our 35th Class Reunion. Details are forthcoming, but please start planning to attend and help us achieve our class giving goal of \$80,000.

Many thanks to the G2 newsletter team (Anita Bransford Bankhead, Elaine Lawrence-Green, Kimberly West, and Camille Pinder) for publishing this edition of Genesis 2Day.

Peace and Blessings,

Krista Lewis

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Wendell Holmes

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G2 on the Move



How did you get started in real estate and why?

I was introduced to real estate at the age of 13 by my grandfather, the late Rev. Dr. Clarence M. Morgan, Sr. My grandfather was a well known developer and brick mason in the Virginia Beach area. In the early 70s, my grandfather and father, the late Clarence M. Morgan, Jr. built a 24-unit complex known as Morgan Terrace. Sadly, my father was gunned down in 1975 by a Virginia Beach police officer in his own backyard. My grandfather was determined to continue his real estate legacy and introduced me, my siblings and first cousins to property management of our 24-unit apartment complex.

At the age of 16, I was collecting rents, paying expenses, and taking tenants to court who did not keep up with their monthly obligations as well as explaining to them the importance of making your rent your first obligation to pay. The funny thing is I was still living home under the comfort of my mother and father's mortgage. My grandfather took it a step further by sending me and our family crew to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) classes during the summer. We were literally four kids in class among some of the most experienced property managers and the few minorities in the sessions.

While at Hampton University, I was a mathematics major and chose to pursue information technology. In 1989, I decided to accept a position at IBM as a programmer analyst. After five years of employment with IBM, I decided to venture into the telecommunications sector of information technology and subsequently worked for MCI, Verizon, and QWEST Communications until I was laid off due to the downfall of information technology positions during the 9/11 tragedy. Unable to find an information technology job, I decided to hone my real estate skills and obtain my Maryland Real Estate License in 2002, District of Columbia Real Estate License in 2003, and Virginia Real Estate License in 2004.



G2 on the Move

How long have you been a licensed realtor and what roles have you held (including real estate office) and what's your jurisdiction (where you're licensed to sell homes)?

I began my real estate career as a realtor in 2002 when I obtained my Maryland Real Estate License. The following year, I obtained my District of Columbia Real Estate License, and in 2004 my Virginia Real Estate License. My prior experience was in property management in 1980 while in middle school at 13 - years-old.



What advice would you give those who have a desire to enter into the field?

The real estate field is built on perseverance, hard work, good customer service, building relationships, and generating repeat business. It is truly a job of faith, because you only get paid when you sell a home. Every state has their own licensing requirements. It takes time to brand yourself and strategically build a business. I recommend keeping a stable stream of income as you build your business while initially building your real estate business. Affiliate with a brokerage firm that is focused on training new agents. Don't ever give up. With solid training, determination, and consistency; the sky's the limit.

How many homes did you sell in 2021 and 2022 to date?

I had my biggest year in real estate during the pandemic, having 30 transactions and over \$9 million in sales. In 2021, I had 18 transactions and was a little shy of \$8 million in sales. To date, I have had 13 transactions this year and I'm on track to having 20, which will total more than \$7 million.

G2 on the Move

Would you provide an outlook on the housing market--where we are now and what's projected?

The interest rates will continue to rise as well as the cost of renting. When a true recession hits, I believe the interest rates will begin to decline. However, I recommend purchasing a home in this climate, and if you are considering selling your home, now is the time to sell. As interest rates rise, the market will cause the cost of homes to decline. Eventually, the interest rates will decline again, and current homeowners will be able to refinance their home at a lower interest rate.

What advice or resources would you give potential homeowners such that they receive the best home buying experience?

I would recommend getting with an active real estate agent to guide you through the process. A realtor should be able to introduce you to a few reliable lenders that can review at your credit score and provide the best finance options.

What are some of your most notable awards and how do you rank among realtors in the DMV?

I have been in the top 10 realtors in sales in my office out of 400 realtors for the past three years. For the past three years, I have been awarded the Greater Capital Association Realtors Bronze Award. I am in the top 15 percent of area realtors, and the majority of my business is built on repeat business and referrals. It is always my goal for my current and past clients to think of me first when thinking about a real estate purchase. I work hard for my clients and am determined to assist them in obtaining their goals.

As an award-winning realtor, what fuels your drive and determination to stand out among your contemporaries?

My drive and determination is based on a simple concept: I LOVE MY JOB! Purchasing or selling a home is the largest transaction most people will do. I do not take it for granted that my clients are entrusting me to provide exceptional service for meeting their real estate goals.

What does it take to become a top seller?

To become a top seller, you have to build your business on professional service, trust, hard work, continuous training and coaching, and interpersonal skills.

For your real estate needs in the DC Metropolitan Area, feel free to reach out to Alethea directly, a trusted and reliable realtor.

Alethea Morris

Fairfax Realty, Inc.

Serving MD, VA, and DC

240-305-4893 (direct)

301-794-9400 (office)

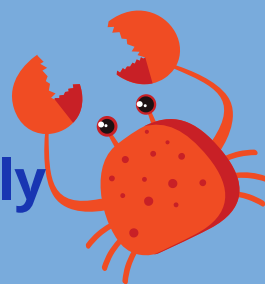
240-334-4856 (efax)

AletheaYourRealtor@gmail.com





*Happy Birthday,
Classmates!!!*



**Happy Birthday to all June, July
and August Birth Babies!**

**Season's Come and Go
Where Has G2 Been Hanging, You Never Know
Sorry we missed the Summer 2022 Edition**



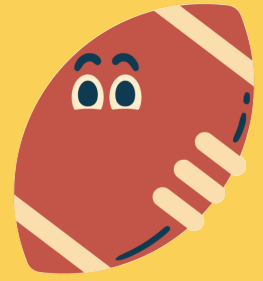




Happy Birthday,

Classmates!!!

Happy Birthday to all
September, October, November
Birth Babies!



IT'S HOMECOMING SEASON

<https://home.hamptonu.edu/homecoming/>

CLICK THE LINK TO GET
MORE EVENT INFO

<https://tinyurl.com/yp7ndv34>



*Hey G2
Classmates!*

IT'S FINALLY HERE! WE ARE HEADING DOWN THURSDAY TO OUR HOME BY THE SEA TO ENJOY THE 2022 HAMPTON HOMECOMING WEEKEND! IT IS STILL NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE YOUR DONATIONS. OUR G2 SUITE PATROL IS PUTTING TOGETHER THE FINAL PLANS FOR ANOTHER ENJOYABLE HOMECOMING! IF YOU PLAN ON COMING THRU, PLEASE SEND YOUR \$50 SUGGESTED DONATION OR WHATEVER YOU CAN. WE WILL BE AT THE EMBASSY SUITES OCT 20-22. DONATIONS ARE TOWARDS THE SUITE, FOOD AND DRINKS.

Cashapp \$1989G2
Zelle hug2finance@gmail.com
PayPal \$1989G2 (could be a fee)

Thank you,

Let's Stay in Touch
Update Your Contact Info
Here:

<https://www.hugenesis2.com/>

G2 on the Come Up

The community and culture of black cigar smokers is booming! Not only do we have two classmates who own their very own cigar line but have garnered quite a large and loyal following in such a short period of time among not only Genesis II and the Hampton University community, but vast geographic areas as well.



Genesis 2Day caught up with *Kimberly Boyd Jenkins and Wendell Holmes*, proprietors of two very successful, black-owned cigar lines, Pink Smoke and 1868 Smoke, respectively. Find out why they selected this line of business and how they manage to stay relevant in the cigar lifestyle game.

Hurry! Don't walk, run to place your order of preference at Pink Smoke and 1868 Smoke. Be sure to tune in to the Chix & Stix podcast on YouTube, and be on the lookout for the next Smoke and Sip social coming to a venue near you.

Pink Smoke ~ There is an untapped market of female cigar smokers. My partner, Dr. Micaela Dartson and I wanted to make it not so taboo while keeping it classy.



When did you start your business?

Pink Smoke ~ I started in October 2021 during COVID when so many families were sharing their living spaces around the clock. I sat with my husband outside while he smoked and we talked. It was a nice and different kind of connection. It was also how I connected through Zoom with a couple of Sorors who also took up cigar smoking.

How did you come up with the company name?

Pink Smoke ~ My partner and I belong to the same organization, and we chose one of the two colors to represent what we share in common with a touch of femininity.

What is unique about your company?

Pink Smoke ~ Our company is an all female and black-owned cigar company with proprietary blends you won't find anywhere else in the world. We offer chocolate, cranberry, and my signature cigar blend Red Bone and Red Bone X. The medium/mild 9-leaf blend comes from Mexico, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Columbia. The heavy body cigar is also a 9-leaf blend from Colombia and Nicaragua. My partner, Micaela's signature cigars are Micaela in Your Mouth and Sweet Sticky Thang. Both blends are heavy body cigars. Another non-infused cigar is called Pink Sugar that has sweet notes from the binder being sprayed with molasses during the rolling process. All cigars are hand-rolled by a Cuban roller, free from pesticides and preservatives.

How would you describe your company's success so far?

Pink Smoke ~ My partners and I have been very blessed and successful thanks, in large part, to our HBCU communities, social media presence, and publicist, L GROUP PR. Our website is www.PinkSmoke4u.com. We also produce a YouTube blog called Chix & Stix.

Will you offer a G2 discount?

Pink Smoke ~ Yes, our classmates can receive a \$2 discount off of a purchase of two or more cigars.

1868 Smoke ~ I decided to get into the cigar industry because I was helping to promote Kim Jenkins' line, Red Bone Cigars. As I was helping Kim, she suggested I get my own line of cigars. I am also a cigar smoker and wanted to have my own business. After much research, I decided I wanted my own cigar company and will eventually pass the business on to my son.



When did you start your business?

1868 Smoke ~ I launched 1868 Smoke on November 1, 2021.

How did you come up with the company name?

1868 Smoke ~ I came up with 1868 Smoke because I originally wanted a cigar group only for Hamptonians. I realized that I needed to think big and reach a larger crowd. As a proud alumnus, I wanted to represent Hampton, so I used 1868 because of the year Hampton was founded. I added Smoke for the cigars, hence 1868 Smoke.

What is unique about your company?

1868 Smoke ~ My company is unique because the tobacco is from Nicaragua and it is not sprayed with any chemicals, so it is organic. Unlike most cigars that are rolled by machines, 1868 cigars are hand-rolled by a special cigar roller. Since 1868 cigars are rolled with organic tobacco, it will not leave the smoker with a bad aftertaste.

How would you describe your company's success so far?

1868 Smoke ~ My brand, 1868 Smoke, has been pretty successful thus far. The sales have been very strong as a result of my online presence and website, www.1868Smoke.com. I have been asked to be the sole cigar vendor at three events sponsored by different social organizations. 1868 Smoke and Pink Smoke have had two successful Smoke and Sip socials. My high school in Connecticut used 1868 as their cigar vendor for their summer golf outing. And I have been selling out my supply as quickly as I get cigars in stock.

Will you offer a G2 discount?

1868 Smoke ~ I would offer my G2 classmates a discount on cigars. The discount would vary based on the size of the order.

Genesis 2Day Team

Anita Bankhead

Wendell Holmes

Elaine Lawrence-Green

Camille Pinder

Kimberly West



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