

STARS & STRIPES

A Quarterly Publication of **First American Bank**
and Trust

SEPTEMBER 2021

On Deck with Jim Henderson

As the play-by-play voice of an NFL team – as I was for the New Orleans saints for nearly 30 years – the pre-season is a thankless but necessary slog. In its midst one of your duties is to emcee the touchdown club's "meet the Saints" luncheon. Held in a massive downtown hotel ballroom in front of perhaps 1000 well-lubricated Saints fans, you must keep the agenda on pace. With a 90-man roster sitting below you, part of your job is to introduce each one with a quip or entertaining nugget from the player's bio. Easy enough for Drew Brees...more of a challenge for some third string center from Cortland State who will probably fade into Saint's history by the weekend.

Additionally you had to introduce the yearly winner of the club's Pete Rozelle award – usually bestowed on an old-timer for his contribution to the NFL's history one year late in the Jim Mora era. It was given to original Dallas Cowboy President Tex Schramm. As he shuffled to the dais for his acceptance remarks it was obvious, he was in infirm health. And judging by the fistfull of handwritten pages he carried, we were to be treated to a long and tedious response.

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I was seated in the first seat to the left of the lectern perched on the second level of risers. Shortly into Schramm's remarks, a couple of things concerned me. First of all, no one in the audience or on the stage was paying any attention to the poor man as they talked among themselves and re-traced their steps to the bar.

As I was within an arm's length of him to Schramm's left, I thought I should at least feign being attentive out of respect. As I sat next to him with my head about level with his belt buckle, I was alarmed to see there was no belt buckle and a sartorial disaster could await.

Schramm's pants were beltless, sansabelt slacks, held up by a fatigued band of elastic. As he leaned forward grappling with his speech, his pants slid down from his ample stomach on their way south where his aged hips and butt offered little resistance.

As he tried to continue reading, his pants fell all the way to his ankles. I slid from my chair and crawled to his aid. Looking downward at me, the poor man said off-mike, "my God...nothing like this has ever happened to me!" Looking up in a stage whisper I replied, "just keep talking, no one's seen this!" On my hands and knees, I hoisted one pantleg at a time above his knees where he could snag his waistband and tug them back to their previous vicinity.

I low-crawled back to my seat and surreptitiously returned to my post. Saints team President Bill Kuharich who was seated to my left had seen the whole search and rescue. I met his wide-eyed, mouth agape look with one of my own.

Long before Janet Jackson's Super Bowl wardrobe malfunction shocked millions of NFL fans, a future hall of famer had experienced one of his own. In 2003 he took his secret to the grave.

We were honored to respectfully share it.

God Bless,

Jim Henderson

**Congratulations to the winners of the
Quarterly Stars & Stripes Drawing!**



Glen Nelson of St. Rose
Cheryl A Hammel of Metairie
John M Schmitt of Mandeville
Susan Campbell of Laplace





The **Team Spirit Award** is presented to an employee who provides excellent customer service and promotes teamwork.

APRIL



Kim Hymel

MAY



Gail Dawson

JUNE



Lisa Williams

If you would like to nominate an employee for providing excellent customer service, please do so by emailing krichardson@fabt.com or by mail to:

Team Spirit Nomination
First American Bank
PO BOX 550
Vacherie, LA 70090

*We are looking forward
to hearing from you!*

**In observance of the upcoming holidays,
all offices will be closed on:**

Labor Day

Monday, September 6th

Columbus Day

Monday, October 11th

Veterans Day

Thursday, November 11th

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 25th

All offices will close at Noon on Friday, November 26th



Top row left to right: Kathy, Kendra, Angia, Tracey, Donald, Erica, Dora
 Bottom row left to right: Latricia, Nicole, Brent, Ronnie, Rhonda, Tori

On Thursday, June 17th, we celebrated with the Team Spirit award recipients of 2020. Each month an employee who provides excellent customer service and promotes teamwork is recognized.

Nominations are accepted from you, our customers, and employees.

Thank you for reading this publication of Stars & Stripes!

To register for a Visa Gift Card from First American Bank, please complete the information below and return to any First American Bank office or mail to:



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Please return by October 31, 2021 to be eligible for this drawing.
 Winners will be announced in the next quarterly publication of Stars and Stripes.

