

THE SHIPMATE

VOLUME 12 - ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2012

SPRING LUNCHEON

The Spring Luncheon will be at 12:00 noon, March 15, 2012, at Lillian's Restaurant on George Washington Highway, Chesapeake. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend.

It's time to send in your dues for 2012 if you have not done so. Dues are \$10.00 per year and should be sent to Cradock Admirals Retired, c/o June Dickinson, 829 Colony Manor Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23321. We would appreciate it if you would write a note to let classmates know what's happening in your life. It seems harder and harder to get items for the Shipmate, so it is up to you to keep us informed. Also, if you have pictures you would like to share, send them for the next newsletter. You can send articles with your dues or e-mail articles to me at maerthompson@Cox.net or mail them to me at my home address, Mae Thompson, 4200 Summerset Dr., Portsmouth, VA 23703. This is a plea if you want the Shipmate to continue with items of interest.

Mary Annarino reported she sent cards to the following classmates recently:

Eugene Brickhouse was hospitalized, followed by rehab and therapy. He is at home now in Alexandria, LA.

Allen Schugeld is now at home recovering. Allen is on a walker and has to use a wheelchair for the time being.

Lynear Cahoon is recovering from her injury in December.

Mary Annarino wants to know if anyone has an address for Elizabeth West. We usually send the teachers cards for different occasions but we have lost track of Miss West.

News from Classmates

Ruth Buck sent us a picture of her grandson, Griffin Cooper Pace, taken with his eight point, 135 pound buck, brought down with two shots. Griffin, age 10, is the youngest in the club to claim a buck. Griffin enjoys hunting with his father, Russ, and brothers Rayedon and Chase. The family was guest of the Menherrin Valley Hunt Club of Boykins, VA.

Griffin is a fifth grade student at Carrsville Elementary School, Carrsville, VA, and is on the Principal's List with straight A grades. On his 11th birthday, March 23, he will receive the mounted deer head and a framed picture of his accomplishment.

(cont'd)



A. B. Clair, Class of '49, wrote on February 14th "I have sad news today that my dear friend of 70 years, Lester S. Fagg, went to be with our Lord Jesus on December 30, 2011. There will be a memorial service for Les on February 25th in Surfside Beach, TX.

It has been many years since Les lived in the Cradock area. I remember him as a popular student who lettered in football and track. He graduated in the Class of 1949."

Lester Baker (Fagg) passed away at his home. Four children and a number of grandchildren survive him.



LESTER FAGG
Les

Monogram Club 3 years, Hi-Y 1 year, Bible Club 1 year,
Track 2 years, Football 4 years.

Eleanor Guthrie Jackson, Class of '49, sent greetings for all the Retired Cradock Admirals. Eleanor lives in Swansboro, NC.

Do any of you ever wonder about someone we knew at school and what they are doing now? Well, I do. Recently I called Frances

Robinson Hedge Copper to ask her to write an article for the Shipmate. Many of you will remember her although she graduated in '48. Frances painted our portraits when we had our senior pictures made at O'Neal's Studio on High Street. She is the sister of Virginia Robinson Gunnin, Class of '50. Frances responded with the following article.

"I graduated in 1948 from Cradock High School in the first class from Alexander Park. Cradock was our rival, and we did not look forward to going there. I credit the principal and teachers in helping it work. Before school started they had all the officers of all the clubs come over and wanted our help. We worked together to eliminate small problems before they became big ones.

When I graduated I had been working three years, most of them at Roses Dime Store. I decorated the store and windows. Sometimes worked after the store closed to finish. I also did artwork and was going to O'Neal's Studio to let him correct them. Four months after I graduated Mr. O'Neal gave me a job, and I learned to paint like he wanted. I painted a lot of graduation pictures and large portraits. I did this for 20 years. The last 15 years I painted at home when my children were growing up.

I always enjoyed going to school and learning, so all this time I took classes on different subjects and during the last year of art work I got my Real Estate License. I then went to work selling real estate. Two years later I got my Broker's License in Virginia and North Carolina. If you remember, a lot of jobs were closed to women at that time and there were few women in real estate. That became very apparent to me when I went to my first

million dollar banquet and the first nine people were all men. I decided I would be the first woman to hit the top of that club. I gave myself five years to do this and became the first woman in the Tidewater area to do this. I also was the first woman to be salesperson of the year.

By this time I was a single mother with two children, two dogs and a house to support. That was my motivation. In high school I was voted 'Most Likely to Succeed' and I like to say it only took me 27 years to prove them right.

My real success has been my family. I have two great daughters, six grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. I moved six years ago to Wilmington, NC to be close to my daughter. I live next door to her and it's great to be near her family. Her husband is like the son I never had."



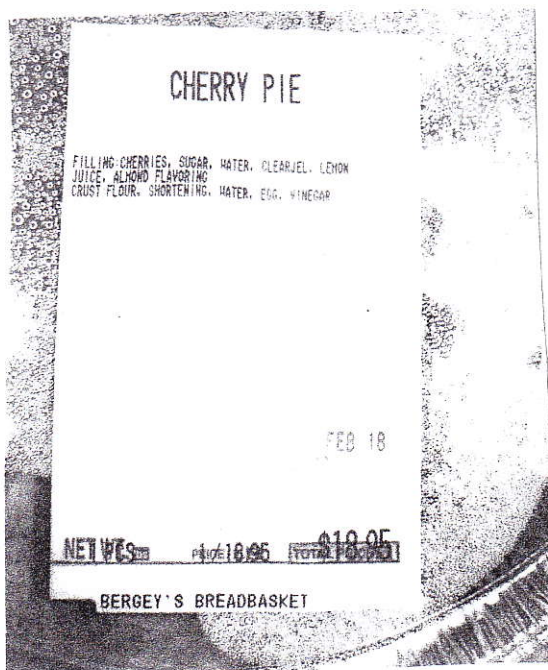
FRANCES MAE ROBINSON
Frances

Yesterday Janie Evans puts the information on the Cradock web page, told me the place to go for Cradock news is Cradock alumni and friends on Facebook. Bernie Kirsch keeps an active update of Cradock and Portsmouth history.

I haven't heard anymore regarding the restoration of the Afton Theater. Anyone with an update please let me know.

News Flash!!

Remember some time ago I wrote about the Fugal Shopper? Well, she really blew it this time. Would you believe she paid \$18.95 for a cherry pie? Everyone at the table laughed so hard when she told it. Frank was even amazed, so Miss Fugal Shopper e-mail me the receipt. Here it is. Sure hope it was as good as she thought it would be.



Looking forward to seeing everyone at Lillian's on March 15th at 12:00.

**STAY HEALTHY AND HAVE A
WONDERFUL SPRING!**

Mae Thompson
Editor