

THE SHIPMATE

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 3

JUNE 2013

SUMMER PICNIC

It's time for our summer picnic and Rudy and Alice Simpson have invited us back to their lovely home. The date is Wednesday, June 26th, at 12:30 p.m. The Simpsons have the perfect place to host his event so let's pray for perfect weather for this fun time together. Their address is 114 Monitor Road, Portsmouth; telephone number 757-393-6631.

The Calling Committee will call to remind you. Please bring a covered dish and lawn chair. The Class will provide fried chicken. Your presence will make this so special!

At the Spring Luncheon we had 34 present. This was a good number, but if you were not there, you were missed. Maybe you can come to the picnic or fish fry coming up in the Fall.

You are probably wondering why you are so late in receiving this newsletter -- well I could not use the computer until my eye healed. I had cataract surgery on one eye and had to wait for that to heal - also I was late getting a date for the picnic. Everyone told me how simple the eye surgery would be but I somehow got an abrasion on the eye which made it super sensitive to light. Everything is healing okay now but for a few days I thought I would always have poor vision in that eye. Enough about that but I had to offer some excuse. Right!

NEWS FROM CLASSMATES

Barbara Weikert McKinney sent the following e-mail. "To be or not to be!!! I have always told all my friends about the members of Cradock High -- how well they look, act and keep on going .. I also agree it came from the lives we lived as children. This is kinda funny. My daughters, daughter-in-law and granddaughters decided to walk the Shamrock 8K and just bond .. sometimes the girls have a hard time getting together. It was really great as we had a lot to catch up on. We were all notified of the results of our standings .. get ready to laugh!!!! I CAME IN FIRST IN MY AGE GROUP (80 & over)."

Barbara McKinney
Bib #: 24984

Overall Results	Age Group Results	Gender Results
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Time 1:30-07	Group Women 80 & Older	Gender F
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Place: 7815	Place: 1	Place: 4735
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Finishers:8026	1	4893
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Congratulations, Barbara!

Jean Story Lamb, Jacksonville, FL: "Thanks for reminding of dues. We continue to look forward to Shipmate. Your functions during the year sound like fun. Wish we were near

so we could participate. Love to all.”

Gwen Riffle Clements, North Canton, OH:
“Sorry I haven’t sent in my dues. I do enjoy reading what is going on in the area. I was in Cradock visiting my 97 year old brother in March. It was cold. I expected some Springtime weather. Spent some time with Beverly Byrd - enjoyed lunches and shopping!

Thanks for news of what’s going on.”

Patt Daniels Andersen, Newport, MN write:
“Thank you all for the nice Shipmate articles and updates you send us all. My husband and I were in Cradock in February - I wanted to tell you all how nice I found Cradock and how thankful I felt I had the opportunity to attend and graduate from such a nice and comfortable environment as Cradock.

We were visiting our daughter, Marcee Andersen, who for the last year has worked at Tidewater Community College in Virginia Beach as a Dean. She drove us all around Portsmouth and we were amazed at High Street and all the shops there and what they gave done. I loved seeing the Cradock High School now the Middle School so well preserved and the Parkway and all the homes so pleasant. It has a nice feeling.

We found our former home at 250 Battery Park Road. It has been kept up beautifully - we took pictures! The house number of the home is larger now and changed. Brentwood is fully developed. When we were living there, there were few homes; that lawn our Dad had to mow in front of the house seems so much smaller now!!

It grieved me to see the “new” CHS standing empty - windows broken, with the engraved

name on the front door so bravely bannered - a type of standard for that community. I thought of Emmy, my friend at James Madison - who graduated, took her first teaching job at the “new” school. She later married a classmate of ours - and has since deceased. These are thoughts from the past.

Hello to everyone. Sincerely, Patt.”

Barbara Clark Odell, Kingston, MA writes:
“Greetings from foggy, rainy Massachusetts. Slowing down and getting more forgetful. Have never been this late to send in my dues.”

Edward Brooks, Smithfield, VA wrote:
“Just a short note to report that my wife, Mona, passed away March 25, 2013, at home. We were married 57 years. It has been very hard adjusting to being alone in a five bedroom house, but I have plenty of work to keep me busy. God Bless.”

Mona Haught Brooks is survived by her husband, Edward Brooks; a son, Terry and his wife Terri Sue; two grandchildren; two great grandsons, her sister Nancy Kornhaus and several nephews and cousins.

Mickey Riggs, Bowling Green, KY wrote:
“Thanks so much for what you do with the Shipmate to keep us Admirals up to date on what is happening to the folks we shared perhaps the very best years of our life with. My Margaret loved to get the Shipmate and read all about old classmates and friends and their activities and “going ons”. Every time through the years when we came home, the very first place we went to was Cradock, our old high school and down on the Square to

check out Reds, the pool hall, etc. We were married in the Baptist Church off the Square by Reds and we visited that church every time we were home. Life was good in those years and we were lucky in the atmosphere in our school and the teachers we had. Miss Credle and her "zeros don't average", Mr. Hogan, Phoebe Weaver, the whole bunch to include George the janitor at our school. How most of us did not know George was a preacher at the small colored church in Portsmouth. Great years and great memories plus Super Classmates!

Nick Cardomin, No. 2 boss in the Atomic Energy Commission, Fred DeJarnette, who was the principle inventor of the re-entry system for the Space Program - we really had some great folks!!

Again, thanks for what you do in keeping the memories alive and well. We are all old now but it would be great to have some kind of simple get together of the '49, '50, '51 and '52 Admiral group. We could all hobble in on our canes and remember when we didn't need them. Tell lies about the old days, orange hair, etc.

I'm sending you a small check for my dues, plus a little more to fund the expenses I know you incur putting the Shipmate out. You all do a great job and we love you for it --"Go Admirals". My best to Mae and June."

Mickey, we do get together four times a year and would love to have you attend our socials. The Picnic is coming up June 26th and the Fish Fry will be in October. We have a Christmas Luncheon in December so please plan your next trip to the area when we have a get-together.

Bill Brennan, Point Harbor, NC sent in a picture with his wife and daughters celebrating his 80th birthday. He wrote "When I read in the Shipmate about the old folks arriving at the ripe old age of 80, I thought I would let know what a great 80th birthday I had in January.

It was the middle of the afternoon a couple of days before my birthday and I was perched in my chair watching TV. The doorbell rang and I went to the door, opened it, and what a surprise! There stood my three daughters who had gotten together and flew from Michigan to spend the weekend with us. The shock was so great I almost suffered another heart attack. What a great weekend we had! We hit all of the great restaurants on the outer banks. I am including a picture."



Sue Palmer Moury, Bradenton, FL writes: "Dear Good Friends, I am enclosing my 2013 dues. Glad 2012 is over for it was hard for us. Roger, my husband of 56 years died September 25th. He had Parkinsons with heavy body. He was at home for eight years and I was his caretaker given with love. It got to be too much for me so my children and I put him into a place for dementia,

which was only a mile away from home, so I could see him every day or so. After two years he just stopped eating and gave up.

In May (4th) I had a breast cancer operation and my daughter from Honolulu came to be with me, plus my granddaughter. I'm back to playing golf and line dancing so guess I'll live a little longer, God willing.

I love getting the Shipmate. I still live in our home with my dog, Timmy. What a blessing to have him. God bless you all. Love."

Shirley Fagg Boneau, Collinsville, IL writes: "Enclosed are my 2013 dues. I live in a senior retirement community. There are two 3-storied buildings in our group, with 52 apartments in each building. We are like a great big family with every size, shape, color and religion. We are aged 62 to a 100 year old lady who can still get on a bus to go to bingo, does her own cooking and housework. She is amazing. I am 81 years old, so-so health, living with Arthur and running around with Ben.

Hello to all of our alumni. I wish I could attend the next reunion."

Hugh Smith, Williamston, NC, writes: "It's hard to believe that spring is almost here! Enclosed is a check for our dues. We're sorry to be late but at our age time slips by faster it seems.

I was sorry to hear of Bud Keever passing. I cherish the memories of the many good times we had at old CHS. I feel that each of us lost a very good friend. My sympathy on their loss to his family.

Speaking of friendship, the following quote is a favorite of mine and Viv's: "Friendship is a relationship that has to formal shape. There are no rules, or obligations, or bonds as in marriage or family -- it is held together by neither law nor property nor blood; there is no glue in it but mutual liking. It is therefore rare."

Arthur Creamer, Tappahannock, VA wrote: "Sorry to be late on 2013 dues. As Irma wrote in the February issue - many of us are turning the big 80! My lovely bride years, Vonnie, pulled a fast one on me. Saturday, February 9th, four days before my 80th. About 62 friends from several churches showed up in our church (Methodist) social hall. I didn't have a clue until she parked in our church parking lot with all those cars. It sure is better to have them than not have them. So far arthritis hasn't been around although my seventh month of shingles has gone from painful to aggravating.....doctor said could last 18 months.

Sorry to hear about those passing away. Remember, the Lord said to the thief.... "Today you will be with me in paradise." No one else can make and fulfill promises like that! Praise, Honor and Glory to His name!

Would you believe that renewed by CDL (for 8 years) as I am a substitute school bus driver here in Essex County? My friend,, Edmund Barnette, still lives in Cradock at 112 Ericsson St., right behind James Hurst Elementary School. Think he turns 80 in October. Hi, Edmund.

Will see my 17 year old grandson, Jake Waterman, receive his Eagle Scout Award March 9th at Aldersgate UMC in Chesapeake."

Art sent a picture of him and Jake. We always take great pride in our grandchildren's achievements.



DETERMINATION *Betty Cummings Klise*

Good for Irma! Remember the old saying, "If you don't toot your own horn no one will toot it for you?" Well, we are at that age when we are allowed to sit back a bit and say, "well done." That does not mean that we can stay sitting! No indeed. That determination Irma wrote about demands that we jump up (or at least, rise slowly) and move on to the next challenge, and we are old enough to know that there will ALWAYS be more challenges.

I am so proud of the courage and stamina that I see in so many of our classmates. Most of us have been through those terrible, dark hours when loved ones have moved from this life to the next. Many have

suffered illnesses that would have overwhelmed lesser souls. We have raised families and proven to be strong enough to survive all of THOSE storms. Some have weathered difficult financial times. Our age group even fought in or sent loved ones to fight in awful wars.

Still I see those big, bright smiles and receive those wonderful hugs whenever we meet. I feel a sense of great strength in these people even if eyesight may be dimmed or limbs are not as strong as when we last met.

Yes, Irma, I firmly believe that the values we were taught in our homes, in our beloved school and in our churches have made us who we are today, a tough, determined, loving, grateful, God worshipping bunch of youngish fogies. And yes, we can pride in who we are because this crowd is also humble and we will never forget those who helped us along the way. We know that we are not perfect, mind you, but we are people who are still determined enough to keep trying, and trying and trying!! Thanks to Cradock and all that it stood for.

Mary Annarino sent cards to the following classmates:

Thinking of You Cards to Billy Redmon, Carrie Lee Spears Myers, Shirley Lyon Hartung, Mae Thompson

Sympathy Card to William J. Jonak in the loss of his beloved wife Joyce Overton Jonak. Joyce passed away at her home on May 10, 2013, of pancreatic cancer. She was surrounded, in death as in life, by her loving family. We will all miss Joyce.

Sympathy Card Geraldine Cole Byrum in the passing of her husband, Isaac Richard

Byrum. Richard attended the luncheon in March with Gerry.

Sympathy card to Juanita Bowen Wood whose sister Joyce Johnson died February 25, 2013. Joyce was usually at any event hosted by Juanita and Woody. You will remember her from the Christmas Luncheons.

Please let us know of anyone we should remember with a card. Mary does such an excellent job with this task. Thanks, Mary.

Remember to send any news for the Shipmate to Mae Thompson, 4200 Summerset Dr., Portsmouth, VA 23703, or e-mail maerthompson@cox.net; or include it with your dues to Cradock Admirals Retired, c/o June Dickerson, 829 Colony Manor Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23321.

Everyone seems to enjoy the letters and pictures.

Hoping to see you on the June 26th at 12:30 p.m.

Again, my apologies for the tardiness of this newsletter. Any errors are mine exclusively.

Your Editor-In-Chief,
Mae Thompson

P.S.

I called Patt Andersen to find our which classmate married her friend Emmy. It was Herb Harlow, Class of '50.