

THE SHIPMATE

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 2011

Spring Luncheon

The next event we have is the Spring Luncheon which will be at 12:00 noon on March 15, 2011 at the Golden Corral Restaurant, Chesapeake Square. I'm sure most of you know how to get there. Anyway, its located off Portsmouth Blvd., Chesapeake. We have a room reserved for the group, and look forward to seeing everyone there. Mark your calendar now for March 15th.

Its time to send in your dues for 2011 if you have not done so. Dues are \$10 a year and should be sent to Cradock Admirals Retired, c/o June Dickinson, 829 Colony Manor Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23321. We would love to hear from you and would appreciate your writing a note letting classmates know what's happening in your life. We still have seven pictorials we need to sell. The class had a minimum number to pay for and all have been sold but the last seven. The price is \$25.00 each. This is a real keepsake as we will never have another 60th Reunion, nor will be ever look so young. Now I ask you, wasn't the Reunion a lot of fun? The committee did such a good job of getting it all together. Wish all of you could have been there!

If you have some pictures you would like to share, please let us know and Mae put them in the next issue of the Shipmate.

News from Classmates

Irma DeLauri, Chesapeake, writes: "Hi Y'all, Just received my album from the 60th reunion. It is great! I love the way the pictures were organized and the quality of the paper enhanced the pictures. There is just one thing. Who were all those "old" people who crashed our party? I recognized some of the people cause they haven't changed that much. I decided it would be inappropriate for me to name them, so will let it go for now.

Now for some gossip! Did you know we have an artist in our group who so far has not been recognized. She has talents she hasn't revealed to us. She does repair work on sculptures, ceramics, and other works of art. I know I have not seen all of her talents yet. However, I had a bust of John Wayne and took it to her. He was in awful condition, faded, chapped, and really ready for the dumpster. When I picked him up, he looked brand new. He is sitting on my dresser looking so handsome and bringing back memories or movies of long ago. If you want to know who this is, think - who has a John Wayne room in their house? That's all the help I'll give.

Getting back to the reunion, I was not sure I would be there, but thanks to the grace of God, I made it. Now I am praying to make the 65th and also for all of you. I know we will because we serve an awesome God! I also pray that each of you have a great year and hope to see in in March.

Now for an update on Whit - Pat and I went to see Whit at the VA Center in Hampton. He looked good and was happy to have visitors. He also said he appreciated all the cards he received after the last newsletter. It is wonderful when our friends remember or think about us. We all have such good memories of good times from the past. Cradock was a wonderful place to live in our growing years. Just wanted to update you on Whit and will continue to do so as we stay in touch.

In case you may have lost Whit's address, here it is: W. LeCompte, VA Medical Center, Bldg. 148 - D:160, 100 Emancipation Dr., Hampton, VA 23367."

Sue Palmer Moury, Bradenton, FL, writes: "Dear Classmates, Such good memories thinking about Cradock. A Happy New Year to everyone! We are fine here in Florida. Took a trip to the Naval Academy the end of May to see Cameron, our grandson, graduate. He wants to be a marine pilot and is in training for the next year. We are all so proud of him. Enjoy the Shipmate very much and thank you for those putting in all the work."

Jean Story Lamb, Jacksonville, FL, writes: "Once again, thanks to all who make the Shipmate possible. It's so good to receive all the news. Sure wish we could have seen the snow - for about 1/2 day - ha! We had 26 degrees, so it wasn't warm here."

Ann Butler Byers, Katy, TX, writes: "Many thanks to all who are involved in the Shipmate. It's filled with info about the people I spent a lot of my life with and enjoyed. Keep it coming please. So sorry I missed the reunion. It sounded so enjoyable. Best wishes to all."

Hugh and Vivian Smith, Williamston, NC, write: "We enjoyed the reunion and the breakfast. Both were so very nice. Maybe we can make the spring luncheon this year. Thanks as always for your hard work."

Reuben Norton, Conyers, GA, wrote that he had found an old Shipmate from 2003 and decided he would like to be on the mailing list so he sent in his dues. We had lost track of Claude. He actually called several of the classmates. It was so good to hear from him." (I had to look him up in the '49 Yearbook as I remembered him as Reuben.)

Art Creamer, Tappahannock, VA wrote that he looks forward to each issue of the Shipmate. "Heard recently from Edmond Barnette who lives in Cradock. He and I are about eight months apart, both 77, wow! Art and wife, Vonnice, took a combination cruise and land tour of Alaska in August. Awesome is the only word that comes to mind. Oldest granddaughter (28) married a doctor in November and her younger sister earned her B.S. in business (both at Va. Tech). All of those "smarts" just went over my head. Regards."

Mary Cox Crow, Gresham, OR writes: "Dear All Retirees: Since I cannot find my check register or record of dues paid for the year, I assume I didn't pay up yet. Sorry - lots of senior moments. Like most of you, I imagine, much of my time is spent either making appointments, or doctor visits, but then thank God I've got good doctors at Kaiser Permanente who help to keep me in good health. I did have a total hip replacement on November 9th. It was the second one on the same hip as the one I had done two years ago just wasn't right. The do-over job was much better - new doctor, of course. Took a while to realize I could be better. I've been in touch with Don and

Betty Newsome for the past years. Don and I graduated together in 1950. I also keep in touch with his sister Jean Newsome Babbitt. I used to practically live at their house growing up, so we consider each other family. They recently sent his Mom's sweet potato biscuit recipe to me which I plan to make tomorrow for our church dinner on Sunday. He says I used to eat them at his house, but I can't recall. I know I ate many a meal there and loved his Mom's cooking. Hopefully, if health permits, they may visit Oregon this summer, and me of course.

My major activities center around my church - Bible studies and great worship services at Orthodox Presbyterian Church. Don and Betty recently sent a large print copy of "My Utmost For His Highest" by Oswald Chambers - so thoughtful. Don is a very godly man and sings solos in his church. I've heard some on tape and I'm so proud of him. Enough, enough! Thanks for newsletters - so enjoyable. God Bless, Mary Cox Crow."

Martha Rhea and Henry Carter, Pawley's Island, SC, wrote a note in the early fall and it was overlooked and not put in the last newsletter. She writes: "We are so sorry we will not be able to be with you on the reunion day. You will be in our thoughts. I know you are going to have a glorious time catching up on what has been going on. We hope to be with you for the next get together. 2010 has not been a good year for Henry. He has a very, very rare kidney disease. The doctors here couldn't find out what his problem was so they told him he should go to a teaching center. We went to Wake Forest Medical Center in June. After many tests and meeting with doctors from many departments they made a diagnosis. We spent most of June in Winston Salem either in the hospital or as an out patient.

Now we go once a month for treatment. On the day of the party Henry will be having chemo treatment. Henry doesn't have cancer but they are trying the drug in hopes it helps. Keep us in your prayers please. We will be anxious to get the next newsletter because we know there will be lots of news from old friends. (Not really old!)

Cradock was a wonderful place to grow up. We have so many happy memories of classmates and friends. Wish we could be there so we could hug each and everyone. God bless you all."

Rhea, please let us know how Henry is doing now.

Mary Annarino reported she had sent cards to quite a few classmates in December and January. She sent Christmas cards to the teachers, get well cards to Lanier Simpson Cahoon (Nov.), Barbara Weikert McKinney, broken leg. Reuben Dowell, Chris Upton, Vernon England, Ruth Buck, Whitney LeCompte, Allen Schugeld, and Mary Cook, Mother of Audrey Brennan. Remember Mary who use to come to the meetings with Bill and Audrey? We need to know if you are sick or "broken."

We are really trying to keep our mailing list up to date. Any news items can be sent to me at maerthompson@cox.net. My mailing address is Mae Thompson, 4200 Summerset Dr., Portsmouth, VA 23703. Telephone No. is 757-483-6902.

Mark your calendars now for the Come Home to Cradock celebration which will be October 22, 2011 at Afton Square from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be lots of food,

meeting of friends and classmates, music, bands and more fun than you may have had in a long time. Think 68 degrees and sunny...Parade will be at 1 p.m. Visit www.cradock.org for more information. Class of '51 will be celebrating their 60th reunion.

Ruth Buck called this week to let us know Ben Sitterson, class of '49, is now home from rehab. Ben is recovering from complications of the kidneys and diabetes problems. He lives in Richmond with his wife Lucille.

Ruth says she has graduated from the wheelchair to a walker. "My right ankle suffered a stress fracture and I've worn a shoe, then a cast, then two more cast, and now a ski boot, knee high. Next doctor's appointment is March 17th. Thanks for the visits, cards, food, phone chats and prayers.

Lessons From A Wheelchair
Ruth W. Buck

Whatever you need is never where you are - and everything is beyond your reach.

There are no pockets for glasses, tissues, mints, cookies, books.

The chair is always too wide for doorways.

The chair doesn't go up or down the steps unless your helper is a strong, patient person.

There are no side mirrors for backing up.

There is no headrest or seatbelts - don't stop rolling quickly - be sure to put on brakes when stopping.

It doesn't turn on a dime or go around

corners easily.

Needs an attached reading light on left side.

When you drop something it always rolls under the chair, out of reach.

Ruth we wish you well. Keep a positive attitude.

Sue Palmer Moury's sister, Joanne Palmer Stainback, passed away on January 31. Joanne was born and raised in Cradock. Sue, we are so sorry for your loss.

True Understanding

We do not understand:
Joy.....until we face sorrow
Faith....Until it is tested
Peace...until faced with conflict
Trust....until it is lost
Hope....until confronted with doubt

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the luncheon at the Golden Correl on March 15th. Remember to let us hear from you.