

# THE SHIPMATE

Volume 12 Issue

September, 2012

Another Summer Picnic has come and gone. Rudy and Alice Simpson are most gracious hosts and each year it's more enjoyable. Thanks for all your hard work in making this event so special. I never go across the West Norfolk Bridge without looking over your way. Wish more of you could have attended the picnic.

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Fall is upon us and we are looking forward to the fish fry at the home of Lynn and Roy Cahoon. Roy has been fishing his little heart out. He set the date before the picnic so please mark your calendars now for Saturday, October 6th 4:00 p.m., rain or shine. Bring a covered dish (vegetable or dessert) and a lawn chair. The address is 409 Harper Court, Chesapeake. If you need directions the phone number is 757-485-3903. The food is always delicious and it's fun talking with everyone, and hearing what's going on with them.

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Come Home to Cradock will be October 20<sup>th</sup>. Sunday, October 21, 2012, Cradock Baptist Church will celebrate the 96<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church. There will be special music and recognition during the 11:00 worship service followed by a covered dish luncheon. Everyone is welcome and the '49, '50 and '51 group will plan to sit to-

gether and stay for the luncheon. Please make plans to attend. The address of the church is 96 Afton Pkwy.

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The best thing about doing the newsletter is hearing from you. The worst thing is meeting deadlines other than computer problems! It seems the time just gets away from me. So please accept my apology for being so late in getting this newsletter out. I really need to hear from you, nothing too much, just to stay in touch, if you want to continue this letter. My e-mail address is [maerthompson@cox.net](mailto:maerthompson@cox.net) or send a note to my home address at 4200 Summerset Dr., Portsmouth, VA 23703.

Dues are to be sent to June Dickerson, 829 Colony Manor Rd., Chesapeake, VA 23321.

## News from Classmates

Eleanor Guthrie Jackson, '49, Swansboro, NC, writes: "Can't remember the last time I sent any dues so please let me know if I owe any more. I turned 80 last November and sometimes I forget little things. Thankfully I am in good health. I still drive anywhere I want to go, and do my own shopping and errands. I go bowling once a week and occasionally my son (who lives with me) and I go dancing. He also does the yard work and helps

with the housework. My other son lives a block away so I see him often. My daughter also lives nearby so she is in and out all the time. One granddaughter is also in the neighborhood but the other four are spread out over the country – one in New York State, two in Seattle, and one in upstate North Carolina which makes it hard to see them much. There are five great-grandchildren. Some I haven't seen yet, so I have a quite and busy life. I love receiving the Shipmate and catching up on the news about my old friends and classmates. We 49ers have sure led interesting lives and it really saddens me that our numbers are shrinking. My condolences to all those who has lost someone. Thanks to Mae and June for doing such a good job keeping us informed on all the news and activities.

Norma Gibbs Mallison, Ruckersville, VA sent an e-mail entitled "Group the Family" which tells the story about a widow woman who had a daughter she loved dearly. They were very close.

The daughter grew, married and had a family. Over the years they stayed in touch. Time went by, and the daughter became more involved in the bustle of life. Things got so hectic that she did not take time to stay touch with her mother. The mother was a loving mother, but she was old. She did not want to spend her days grieving over the "lost" daughter so she wrote:

"I know you are very busy and therefore I will be brief. No matter where you go or what you do I will always LOVE you. However if you are too busy to stay in touch then I cannot allow myself to "be concerned" for you. Best always Mother.

Short version: why not be joined by the class of 1952. They are the last part of the old Cradock High and Elementary School! We grew up together, literally, all one family so to speak. They asked to be included so why not? On the logical side of it all, we have lost enough classmates that we should surely have the room to open the door. Matter of fact we could use the younger blood, energy, dues, and LOVE of the 1952 group of classmates. Yes, Mickey, I too believe in "strength in numbers". I even personally hold dear many Cradock alumni as my close family. I will always love Cradock and what it gave.

My final statement: I am not running for any re-election, or any new office. All utterances are entirely mine. Best always.

The England Family sent a note of appreciation to everyone for the prayers, cards, phone calls, e-mails and visits during Vernon's illness and passing. Vernon had a special place in his heart for all the Cradock Retired '49,'50 and '51 classmates. He looked forward to all the lunches, picnics, fish fry's, and Christmas parties.

Joyce Overton Jonak was so excited about skydiving to celebrate her 'big' birthday – was even trying to get someone to go with her at the picnic. Well, she changed her mind. She was disappointed nobody else wanted to go. Maybe it was for the best. She can go with Frank Johnson on his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. He says he is planning to do it again. Joyce sent in pictures taken at the picnic. Thanks, Joyce.

Irma Woodard DeLauri has a new address and e-mail. It's 705 Tallahassee

Dr., Chesapeake, VA 23322. Her e-mail is [irmade@mail.com](mailto:irmade@mail.com). Phone us 757-642-1712.

"Greetings Admirals, words could never express my appreciation to you all for the love and support extended to me and my family during our recent loss. Although Patrick was sick for a long time, we never expected him to pass on so quickly. I know that the Lord knows best and when He is ready for us, it is our time. Pat enjoyed his time with the "Admirals" and loved bringing me to our gatherings. He often spoke of many of you and with such fond memories. I will treasure your friendship and keep each of you in my thoughts and prayers. Thank you again for the calls, cards and expressions of love. Irma DeLauri"

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Mary Annarino sent cards to the following:

Frank Johnson is recovering from a fall. He was hospitalized a couple of days.

Thinking of You card to Billy Redmond who is in Churchland House Assisted Living.

Get Well Card to Barbara Ferebee Johnson who recently had surgery. Barbara would like to thank everyone for the prayers, e-mails and cards. She said she still has a long way to go to recover from the vertigo problem and asks you keep her in your prayers.

Sympathy cards to the families of Joyce Whitehurst Cooke, Eugene Edward Brickhouse, Vernon England, Joan Anderson Callahan, Margaret Ann Duke Riggs.

The following was submitted by Ann Rowe Holland.

"I would rather have a little rose from the garden of a friend than flowers strewn around by casket when my days on earth must end.

I would rather have a living smile from one I know is true than tears shed 'round my casket when this world I bid adieu.

Bring me all the flowers today whether pink or white or red.

I would rather have one blossom now than a truckload when I'm dead.

Author unknown

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Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Cahoons on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

The pictures are from the June picnic.

Hope everyone had a great summer!



