

THE SHIPMATE

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DECEMBER 2013

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Christmas Luncheon will be at Juanita and Woody's this year on December 14th at 12:30 p.m. This will also be a covered dish so please bring your specialty and/or dessert. Fried Chicken will be furnished by the Class.

The address is 1420 Bridgeport Trail, Suffolk, 23412. Direction are as follows: Route 17 across the Godwin Bridge, at the stoplight turn left on Crittenden Road. Go to the end and turn left on King's Highway. At the second street turn left. Their house is on the left.

If you are coming from Route 58, take the bypass at Route 10, come off ramp like going to Smithfield to Route 125, turn right on King's Highway at the old Country Store and the 7-11. Go to Bridge Point Trail, turn left.

In case you get lost, please call Juanita or Woody for directions. Their telephone number 757-630-7846. The Calling Committee will be calling to find out if you plan to attend. Just remember Saturday, December 14th.

What a wonderful time we had at the fish fry. We could not have had a more beautiful day! Lanier and Roy are great hosts. We had at least 40 people there and the food was great. Hopefully, we are fortunate enough to keep these social events going, so please try to attend next year.

Letters from Classmates:

JoAnn Bryant McDonough, 609 Spruce Glen Court, Lexington, SC 29072 asked that I pass her address on. She writes "I have had a very bad year - my husband died January 2 and my brother died April 1. Sold my house and have been living with my daughter and her family in South Carolina."

Reggie Sweat, Hickory, NC sent a picture of him and his beautiful wife Betty Lou Johnston who passed away in May 2012. He wrote "Just a note to say thanks for all the work you folks do that are still living in the Cradock area. I look forward to receiving each copy of the Shipmate."

Last year is still a blur to me. I've enclosed a picture taken just before Christmas 2011. She was more beautiful than the girl I fell madly love with during high school.

We moved 13 time during Air Force days. Shortly thereafter lived half way around the world for two years, endured all kinds of living inconveniences and she never complained the first time. Its no small wonder that I loved her more each year.

I stay busy with civic duties, church activities and driving "old folks" from church all over the southeast. Our largest bus is a 45-passenger diesel, and it is actually easier to drive than some of the smaller ones.

Hope to drop in sometime for a picnic or a quarterly get-together.

My best to all the 49'ers. Sincerely, Reggie." (Reggie, I will include the picture at a later time. Sorry.)

Mary Cox Crow, Gresham, OR writes: "I don't have any real important news but I want to thank you for the happenings in your part of the country. You have such thoughtful people who have concern for others - - your get-togethers for different occasions, the gift of the banner from Mary Knaggs Annarino,

the donation of Sir Christopher Cradock, the sending of those greeting cards which are so welcome by those in need of your thoughts and prayers. A praise to God for all those thoughtful people in this organization. Thank you for the Shipmate. I look forward to getting it in the mail.

My address has changed to: Mary Crow, 2038 N. E. 19th St., Gresham, OR 97030.

I worked on downsizing all year from a spacious house to a two bedroom apartment right on the golf course. I just sold my house earlier this month. It only took one week to close as someone came along with cash - what a relief! No more yard work, property taxes, home owners insurance, etc. I'm still downsizing though. It will take awhile - gave one truck load to my son and daughter-in-law (furniture), gave a truck load to Vietnam veterans, had a garage sale, etc., and I'm still boxing up things as I try to settle here in the apartment. I'm telling you these things to warn you if you are thing of downsizing don't put it off too long. Very difficult for an 80 year old.

The neighbors and all the people I've met here are friendly and very nice.

My white cat, J.J. seems to have adjusted very well - he is a people cat

and loves to visit. He got a window perch last week and loves looking out at the golfers. The view we have is just beautiful!

I didn't have to pay a pet fee up front - just needed a note from the doctor saying he was needed as my companion medically.

My church family was so good to me in my struggles to get moved. The deacons rented a U-haul and church family moved me. They also paid for the U-haul. I did serve them pizza, drinks and cinnamon buns and coffee. Love to all."

I talked with Al Lassiter and he said he and his family are doing well. A granddaughter recently got married.

Irma Delauri wrote a follow-up to her article that appeared in the March 2012 issue of the Shipmate.

"Hello Folks! Back in March 2012, I wrote a short essay on TO BE OR NOT TO BE. I expected to see many of your experiences, travels, family news, life in Cradock, etc. We have become slack in keeping the news flowing. All right Admirals, let's make all our teachers proud. We need to help Mae fill the newsletter with interesting and exciting news. It would be nice to hear from some of

you that have never written. Let's all help Mae!"

Sympathy cards were sent to the following:

JoAnne Bryant McDonough - loss of her husband and brother.

Family of Billy Femister. Billy lived in Valdosta, GA. He died of liver cancer July 30, 2013

The family of Billy E. Redmon. Billy passed away September 30, 2013. Billy lived in Chesapeake, VA.

Family of Leslie Foster Jolly, Portsmouth, VA. Leslie passed away in September 2013.

Family of Philip Latham, St. Rose, LA. Phil died September 9, 2013.

Thinking of you are Get Well cards were sent to: Herb Harlow, Vivian Beckman Williams, Pat Dawley.

I am asking Santa for a new computer. Sure hope he remembers. I am having major problems with this one. Just forgive the errors.

Hope to see you at the Christmas luncheon.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL.