

U.S. Coast Guard Academy Class of '53 Newsletter May 2013

About this Newsletter: The Class of '53 Newsletter is published "as soon and as often as we can get around to it". Its purpose is to keep members of our class informed about our classmates' lives and activities, and to occasionally provide some tid-bits of trivia and information.

Because not all of our classmates are members of the Alumni Association, and not all of our classmates have e-mail, and the deadline for articles for our class notes section in The Bulletin is almost two months before it's published, there will be, from time-to-time, duplications and gaps in what is included here, what is sent by e-mail or "snail-mail", and what appears in The Bulletin.

Send items for The Bulletin and this Newsletter to: Wee Smith, 19 Coachman Pike, Ledyard, CT 06339 - Tel./FAX 860-464-8425 or e-mail to jdsbridge@aol.com.

Sheila Babcock (1933-2013)

In March, Darrell Babcock shared encouraging news about Sheila's battle with lung cancer. Sadly, however, on April 6th, Sheila lost that battle. In part, her obituary said:

"Upon graduation from Cathedral High School in Hartford, Sheila attended the School of Nursing at Middlesex Hospital in 1952 where she met Darrell Babcock who was attending the Coast Guard Academy. Upon Darrell's graduation they married on January 2, 1954 in Wethersfield, CT. Their mutual love and bond only strengthened as Darrell's career led them to work abroad in Venezuela and Saudi Arabia. She was unafraid to embark on new challenges which complimented her bold spirit and she was always eager to learn and thrive in a variety of cultures. Sheila loved to share her experiences especially with her loved ones and instilled the importance of understanding our diverse world.

Sheila and Darrell have five children, Mark, Amy, Robert, Jennifer, and Darrell, seventeen grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Sheila's unconditional love of her family and her adventurous and confident persona will

be sorely missed. May the bright lights of her eyes shine in eternity.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggested donations to the Odyssey Hospice, 100 I-45 North, Suite 300, Box 103, Conroe, TX 77301, www.odsby-health.com.

Darrell can be reached at 144 Twilight Place, Woodlands, TX 77381, Tel. 926-273-7752, e-mail: babcocksr.darrell@yahoo.com.

'53LX (60th Reunion) Status Report

We're going to have an excellent turnout for '53LX!

As of April 30th, 65 of those on our Class of '53 mailing list had returned their questionnaires to indicate their *probable* intentions about attending our 60th Reunion. 37 classmates were still to be heard from.

These 29 indicated "**Definitely Yes**": Paul Arnold, Roger Bascom, Bob Benson, Dick Bowers, Dan Briganti, Bill Bruinsma, Bill Clark, Dan Colussy, Ed Cope, Rick Cueroni, Wendell Driggers, Hank Fisher, Ralph Hill, Norma Hintze, Roger Holmes, Bernie Hoyland, Clay Hughes, Jimmy Irwin, Bill Lehr, Gerry Lipsett, Roger Madson, Barbara Mann, Ed Nelson, Hal Olson, Bill Reilly, Nina Rowland, Wee Smith, Dimpy Spadafora, and Glenn Young.

These 16 indicated "**Probably Yes**": Ken Barrett, Barbara Bates, Mike Boggs, Jim Grabb, Meris Hatfield, Nancy Howland, Bob Iden, Joe Kelly, Bill Kohl, Dick Littlefield, Roger Mowell, Jim Shelton, Tom Sing, Ilma Striker, Dave Stryffeler and Bob West.

Bob Benson and I are in the process of putting the final touches on the plans for '53LX. A firm schedule and registration form for '53LX will be in the mail by early June.

'53 LX "Golden Tide Rips" Addendum

Since 2003 when Gerry Lipsett published "*GOLDEN TIDE RIPS CGA '53*" for our 50th reunion, many changes have occurred in our class, (e.g., 18 have moved; five classmates have married; and, sadly, 29 classmates and 13 wives have died). We've also found three classmates for whom we did not have pages in "*GOLDEN TIDE RIPS CGA '53*". Gerry has offered to publish an Addendum for "*GTR CGA '53*".

Not later than July 15th, please return the enclosed "*GTR '53 LX Addendum Questionnaire*" in the stamped return addressed envelope provided.