Beardshall Merry Christmas Letter

MS: 109 Gleneagles Drive, Hattiesburg MS 39401 (601-544-7896) VA: 8150 Little Creek Hwy, Dublin, VA 24084 (276-228-5991)

December 23, 2022

What We Did in 2022

Events of 2022

- Jan—March 2022 We spent the winter months in H'burg with visits from Walt Krupnak and Marty Spellicy
- January/April 2022 At the beginning of 2022 we had a very nice visit from Walt Krupnak, one of Elmer's crewmen from the Navy. He had come to Hattiesburg to help a friend who was buying a plane in the area and together they would ferry it back to their home in Klamath Falls OR. Elmer and Walt spent several days reminiscing about their time in VS-29 in San Diego. In April we had a visit from Marty Spellicy, one of my colleagues at USM. I continued to work on my book entitled: Places Our Ancestors Called Home basically finishing the work on Elmer's side of the family. I have decided to make it an electronic book and will be detailing how you can access it as soon as we put it online. In 2023 I will be writing the part about my side of the family: the Hardys, Penleys, Mays, Wohlfords. I have done most of the research so it is a matter of starting to write.
- May 2022—Time to return to the beautiful mountains of Southwest Virginia.
- May, opened everything up. Jeff and Sally Hinebaugh, former residents of Little Creek and Elmer's biking friend, came up from Florida for several days. They rode the New River Trail and some other favorite LC rides. I had lunch with my high school friend, Carolyn Bane, and we toured the Black House in Blacksburg. We returned to Hattiesburg at the end of May.
- June 2022—Three of our grandchildren graduated on June 11 2022. Anna Michael from Univ of Washington (Seattle). Brooke and Bryce Beardshall from Early Challenge High School in Houston TX
- June 2022— Coincidentally we had three (3) graduations to attend on June 11th. Linsley and Ryan's daughter, Anna, graduated from the University of Washington (Seattle) with a degree in Physiology. She is applying to Vet School and hopes to begin in the Fall of 2023. In the meantime, she is working as a veterinarian assistant in Seattle. The 2nd and 3rd graduations were for Bill and Amydell's twins: Brooke and Bryce. They attended the Challenge Early College High School in Houston that provided them with the opportunity to get both a high school diploma and an associates degree at the Houston Community College (West Loop Campus). Since we could not be in both Seattle and Houston at the same time, we drove to Houston for Brooke and Bryce's graduation. We are very proud of all three since they excelled in their work at their respective schools. Brooke and Bryce are both attending their father's alma mater: Texas A & M University. Bryce is in the Corps of Cadets and majoring in Engineering. Brooke is majoring in Biology. On our way to Houston we stopped in Beaumont and had dinner with Elmer's friend and neighbor from Clintonville, Lucille Johnson Keith.
- July 2022—We stayed in Hattiesburg to watch the streaming version of the Tour de France.
- July 2022— Upon our return to Hattiesburg from Houston, we decided to remain in Hattiesburg through the month of July. We enjoy watching the Tour de France and we get it streaming here in Hattiesburg. The streaming version has no commercials and you get a much better idea of the French (actually they started in Denmark this year) countryside. It is almost as good as being there! When the tour was over we headed out for several months at our cool mountain cabin. Enroute we stopped for a visit with Bill and Lois Queen at their summer home in Cherokee, NC.
- August 2022-We returned to Virginia for our summer stay in the cool mountains.
- August—October 2022 Our time in Virginia this year was interesting as usual. We visited with my brother and his daughter Kim and husband Matt, at his river house in Floyd, made a few trips to tour some of the sites (museums, historical societies and cemeteries) associated with my genealogy research. We took in festivals, homecomings, and reunions held annually. However, we mostly enjoyed the beautiful Fall that the mountains of Virginia offer. This year was the very best we have experienced. The colors were intense and they lasted a long time. Linsley was able to come for a visit while the Fall Colors adorned the mountains.
- October 2022—We enjoyed the most beautiful Fall we have ever experienced in Bland County VA

Beardshall Happy New Year Letter

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Late October 2022— We traveled to the University of South Carolina in Columbia to meet with the men who were in Elmer's NROTC Unit that graduated in 1960. They had to delay their 60th reunion by 2 years. Prior to attending I prepared a Reunion Book that chronicles the lives of these 27 men during their Naval and post Naval Careers. You can review the Reunion and the Book by clicking on the link in the picture pages. The returning men from 1960 were given a tour of the NROTC facility and attended a pass in review by the current USC-NROTC unit. On our way to Columbia we stopped in Fort Mill SC to have lunch with Marge and Mark Ullmer. We had not seen them for many years.

November 23 2022: The day before Thanksgiving Elmer went for a ride on his bicycle in our neighborhood. About 4 miles into the ride he had an encounter with a pit bulldog that ran in front of his bike and caused him to wreck. He has a broken leg and ankle. At this writing he has undergone 2 surgeries, the 1st to insert a cage-like device to hold the bones in place and the 2nd to set the bones. He has had a full leg splint, a cage with a wrap and a splint below the knee. Next week he hopes to get a boot splint. He gets around using a wheel chair and must keep it elevated and iced most of the time. He is looking at 8 weeks before he can put any weight on the leg. We have a leash law in our neighborhood, BUT people often cheat and let their dogs loose when they are around thinking they can control them which they often cannot. Fortunately, he likes to read and can work on his computer projects so he is adjusting as well as can be expected.

I am really thankful that Cheri and Charles Wendland built such a handicapped accessible house that we purchased from them in 2020. It has made Elmer's recovery much easier.

December 2022—Today Elmer and I are celebrating our 61st wedding anniversary. We were married on December 23, 1961 in my hometown of Bland Virginia. We feel so fortunate to have shared this many years together.

The kids and some of the grandkids are coming right after Christmas. Then it's on to 2023 and we start all over again! Here's hoping for a happy, healthy year for everyone.

We haven't really made any plans for 2023 but are hoping that Elmer will recover from his broken leg and be able to ride again. I will, of course, be continuing to work on my book. I am hoping to get started on our story—Places We Have Called Home.

If all goes well, we will return to Virginia in May. If you find yourself in Hattiesburg and/or Virginia, please stop by and see us.

The following page has links where you can see more about the graduations, the SCNROTC Reunion and other items referred to in this letter.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Ann and Elmer Beardshall

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Links to Pages of Interest in this Newsletter:

Anna Michael's Graduation

https://www.elanbcs.com/AnJRM/AnnaMichaelGrad.pdf

Brooke and Bryce Beardshall Graduation Activities

https://www.elanbcs.com/BnB/BrookeBryceGraduation2022.pdf

University of South Carolina NROTC 60th Reunion

Report on Reunion:

https://www.elanbcs.com/USCNROTC/USCNROTC22/USCReunionPostOp.htm

Reunion Booklet

https://www.elanbcs.com/USCNROTC/USCNROTC22/xFinal2022USCUSNROT 1025202 2.pdf

Bill Queen's Summary of the 60th Reunion

https://www.elanbcs.com/USCNROTC/USCNROTC22/BillQueenPost.htm

Tour of the Alexander Black House in Blacksburg

Alexander Black House.pdf

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Ann and Elmer Beardshall

Our Contact Information:

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Ann's Cell (601-402-8784)

Elmer's Cell (601-310-9885)



Walt Krupnak, crewman in VS-29, visits H'burg



Walt & friend ferry plane—H'burg to Klamath Falls



Marty Spellicy & Ann discuss old and new times



We stopped in Cherokee NC to visit the Queens enroute to VA



Jeff Hinebaugh & Elmer ride up Little Walker Mt. (Note: Elmer is not in the picture, falling way behind.)



Sally Hinebaugh picking up Jeff and Elmer at NRT

Year in Pictures 2022—Graduation



Anna Michael Graduation University of Washington (Seattle) June 11, 2022



Graduation Party Pumpkin House June 10, 2022



Bryce and Brooke Beardshall Graduation Challenge Early College High School June 11, 2022



Pre-Graduation Luncheon with Grandparents
Houston Racquet Club
June 11, 2022



Alexander Black (Queen Anne House) in Blacksburg



Wonder what to do with old cut glass? Try a bouquet!



Trip with brother Sam Hardy to Botetourt County VA Historical Society in Fincastle to explore our Hardy family roots.



Bridge across the James River in Botetourt originally built by our great grandfathers after the CW



Wilson Warehouse-goods stored here after being shipped from Richmond to Buchanan VA. Returning boats carried produce and foods from Buchanan to Richmond on the James River—Kanawha Canal. Our 2nd great grandfather Hardy and great grandfather Hardy were boatman on the Canal in the mid 19th Century.



Waiting in Kim and Matt's beautiful backyard waiting for Kim to get home from work after our day in Buchanan.



We arrived at the gate in Little Creek in May.



Our one deer that will eat out of a cup is still there.



Childhood friend, Carolyn Bane, with Vincent and Joann Groseclose at Robertson Hollow in Rural Retreat where Carolyn often takes me to lunch when she isn't fixing a delicious lunch at her house. I so enjoy our visits!



Brother Sam and Rita Tickle Roberts visit us at our cabin. Rita grew up with us in Bland so we have lots to talk about!



Fall in Southwest Virginia—pictures don't do it justice. So beautiful this year.







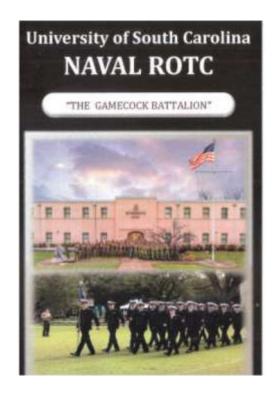
60th (really the 62nd reunion) Reunion Book



Elmer's Page in the Reunion Book



USC NROTC Class of 1960



Current USC NROTC "Gamecock Battalion" Passes in Review



Visiting with Lucille Johnson Keith in Beaumont TX



Lunch with Marge and Mark Ullmer in Ft. Mill SC



The Accident—Pit Bulls and Bicycles don't mix!



Surgery # 1 put a cage around ankle—screwed in 5 places—Very painful!



Surgery #2—removed cage, set the broken bones and put on splint.



Current Status—maybe a boot splint tomorrow

TODAY IS OUR 61st WEDDING ANNIVERSARY 12/23/1961—12/23/22







Our Parents Sam & Helen Hardy Norma and Elmer Beardshall SR







Our Grandparents Howell Hardy Susan Beardshall Jane Linsley