

Jan. 4, 2006

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The letters came about 2 weeks ago and I want to finish this and get them on their way before we leave for Florida. We plan to leave next Monday and arrive on the 12th. We plan to be there until Feb. 12th. If any of you need me my cell phone should be on. It is 248-763-7248.

Today is Carolyn's birthday and we are trying to tie up a lot of loose ends. Carolyn has been so busy with the giving tree at church. It is all consuming from Oct 1st to Dec. 25th. Then she had to do the annual report for the conference. We finished that this morning.

Elaine, I talked to you the other day and you sounded so good. I am so happy you are in your new rooms and have new and re-newed furniture. You deserve to enjoy life to the fullest.

Joe, now you don't have an excuse to not put in a garden. I enjoy mine each year.

Sis, work only when you feel like it. If there is a choice between work and fun, pick fun.

Jan, we talk often so I can't think of anything I haven't asked you.

Frank, the one thing I like about the computer and e-mail is that when they ask a question I can reply with a one liner and not have

to write a whole letter and address and mail it. That saves me time. Yes, I do cover the Diocese of Gaylord.

John, keep the good spirits and kick out the bad. The bad ones are a pain in the butt.

Marty, I know you are looking forward to your turn in Florida. Your time will come. I see that the temperature in Tampa today is higher than Phoenix.

All our family is fairly healthy now. Brian's back surgery was successful and he is beginning to be able to pick up the children again.

Jeff, Emi, and Alisa are going to go to Japan again. Jeff has to work there for 5 weeks. They will leave on Feb. 12th which is the day we start back from Florida. We won't see them for about 2½ months.

Well I better close this for now and get it into the mail. God bless all of you. I love you.

Your loving brother
Jim.

Hi folks:

1-25-06

Its now time to start getting these letters on their way. I am using a new computer and I am not sure that I will like it but here goes. I just read the letters again and not to much is new since the last time most of us talked.

Elaine talks about having the reunion again and Coyles in West Branch sounds good to me. If you guys can figure a date, lets go for it. I will plan on seeing Elaine as I plan to deliver these letters along with some extra envelopes for her. Elaine talks about being grateful for our health. Our diet has a lot to do with it and God has a big part to do with it, and I can attest to that.

Joe, I really like that new car. Maybe someday when I get rich, I will have one. I am a firm believer that the gas prices will never go below two dollars from now on. I understand that the St. Petersburg area had no damage from the bad storms that raked the south. That is pure luck. Did you get all the trees down that you wanted to get cleared out.?

Sis, how did John and Gayle like Van Ettan lake? I would like to spend some time up there if I knew someone who had a cottage at a reasonable price. I found out that when a person has a heart attack, he or she does not want anyone around as they feel very sick. I never thought about that before until I was in the hospital flat on my back. I will be more aware of that from now on when I go to visit someone in the hospital. I will program myself to call first and see if it is the patients wishes to have visitors. Doesn't that sound realistic???

Jan, you and I touch base with each other about every three days on the computer so we pretty well know if anything is going on. I had not heard of Curt Dingledein's death.

Frank, that colored picture that is floating along with the letters needs to be updated as that stomach on the front of me is gone. I am down to 170 now after coming out of the hospital at 193. A steady diet of low cal foods sure makes a difference. No salt also helps to keep the fluids off your body. How is bamby and babies doing? I must get up there one of these days. Thanks for the joke page. I will be sending you some new ones as soon as I get them.

John, I can't imagine how it feels to have spirits visit. I have not been that lucky. My mother in law hung little bags of something, possibly moth balls on her shrubs and the deer stayed away. Have any of you heard of such a thing???? Sorry about the deer hunting, but they are killing them with cars down here even in the last few weeks.

Jim, you are in Florida now, I believe around the Naples area. I envy both of you but in eight weeks, I will also be down there laying on the beach or walking the beach or eating out, whichever. I am tempted to call you, but I am sure it would make me lonesome for the warm weather, and I want to stay happy. I plan to go down for three months next year, but I am not sure Sonda can stay away from the grandchildren for that

and I will be down here.

long. I may have to fly her home for a refresher at the grandkids home. We shall see what happens with that.

I couldn't keep this all on one page so, I will close for this time. See you all when warmer weather hits this neck of the woods. Love you all.

Best to you. Sonda and Marty

II

Things are now 100% settled - in stone.
Our main gal Sue Putnam has been fired -
and we are so devastated we want to cry.
After 23 yrs or more. Company cut back
or sack!

This is not a very cheery letter but
then its "LIFE" what can one do? It may
take some time to get it on its way - the
letter that is, no more mail service in the
front office or banking. I'm sure going to
miss that service.

I guess I'll say for this time, "God Bless
each and everyone", and maybe some warm
weather we will think of a way to meet?

Love & Prayers
from one who cares,
Elaine

2-1-06

Dear Family..

I've gone thru these letters 3 times, I'll be keeping them 'til Easter! It's "hami" like having you here. I've been cooped up with a bad cold - can't get the medicine changed - antibiotic and it's going against me! My hr is "run ragged":

About next get together, I only want what is best for us. Don't want to get a loan for gasoline.

It hasn't been too bad weather wise - what do tomorrow bring? We haven't had much snow at all, doesn't last, too warm! Hope you and yours stay as healthy as God will allow, it's alot to ask.

Marty stopped in last Fri with these letters and a wonderful loaf of SPATZ white bread - what a great surprise. I wish he would get my address correct, 600 Maple Vista Rm 34!

Saw Sis & Rog yesterday - they are so busy all the time. I sure appreciate their impromptu visits. Saw Jan & Jean a week ago. They also are busy, busy!

This apt. Frank is not the pent house - but it sure is a better step for me. I'm about over buying any furnishings. Never know when one would have to move again!

Cadillac, ML
Feb. 13, '06

Dear Family:

February has turned out to be real winter, while Jan. was milder than normal. We have had snows several times and then melting down to very little except for
or
plow~~er~~ blown piles.

We all seem to be healthy for our age, but with medication. The children are getting their share of ills and repair operations. Nothing earth shaking to report.

We haven't gone on any long trips and fuel prices have been all over the map. Ludington area had 1.96 last week, while our low est was 2.21 and higher. We tried to use our banked time-share but nothing is open in the Florida area due mostly the influx of tourist from those that normally went to hurricane damaged areas around the Gulf. The monthly rental trade demands 2,000 /, which is too steep for us. This is high rent season, summer would be lower, when all snow-birds would be busy at home. There is good prices for all year rentals for seniors or handicaps, with state assistance.

Son Ron is going thru a job change period, while his twin is planning marriage this spring. The others are very busy. It appears that other families are quite similare in this regard.

It seems that we get the family news quite regular with our electronic communication. Between that and calls from the more urgent news we seem almost in the same town.

Jan you are getting famous with your book sales. I hear that Laniny-a is getting the credit for the more unus-ual w-eather. I have an unusal jumpy machine, maybe it has something to do with the operator. Keep up the "Senior Humor", I enjoy it the same as the others of us who have reached such advanced age.

Eve-ry one has that reunion picture OK Thanks snyway. We took out six trees, from 2" to 40" at the stump, but it doesn't seem like much. There is still too much shade for gardening. We plan on a half-barrel on the stump of a 30" stump for cherry tomatoes. We had five stumps ground up, to eventually make a better lawn.

Jim and Carolyn should be on their way north, and Marty & Saunda getting ready to leave for their vacation. While the rest of us just wish and chatter our teeth.

It appears that the deer hunting has gone sour much like the odd weather this past year. All of the north is complaining about the apparent lack of deer.

Coyles of W. Branch would be fine and quite central located, we have no problem.

Jackie's sister has moved back to Grand Rapids from Albuquerque following their retirement, They are renting while trying to find the right place to buy. We had a visit with them last week.

The Olympics is our excitement for this part of the winter.

Gods love to you all

A handwritten signature, possibly reading "Lee", is written in ink below the typed text.

Feb. 27, 06

Hi Guys + Gals,

February is gone and March is Spring. Its time to cheer up and look forward to flowers + gardens and all that good stuff. We are excited about going up north for uncle Dan's 100th Birthday. Its on March 11th at the American Legion Hall in Oscoda. Our plan is to see Frank's + John's for lunch and do the Birthday in the Eve. With any luck at all we should get a nap at the motel in between. Its getting so we have to have our rest.

So sorry we missed you Marty. Thank you for the good Bread. So happy your well again. The letters are so good. Its like we are having a nice visit.

Jim + Carolyn its nice the got a vacation and grand that you can get away. Thanks for the great advice.

Frank and John I expect to see you real soon. We will catch up then.

Jan + Elaine I talk to you both regularly. Just ate breakfast ^{with} Elaine this morning. ~~Fun~~ Fun. We lost some of the roofs of both barns in a wind storm and had new ones put on. Thanks God for insurance.

Darlene + Jeff are expecting their second child this summer. That will be our 11th Great Grand Child. We have 18 Grand Children, with 8 Grandspouses. Christmas is a blast. We are truly blessed as you all are.

Hope you all enjoy Grandma's apion. It sure reminds me of Moms.

Hugs + Kisses to all of you. See you at the reunion.

Love you
Sis, Rog
+ all

ROUND ROBIN

#47

MARCH 25, 2006

DEAR ONES:

IT'S TIME I GOT BUSY AND GET THESE BACK IN THE MAIL. I HAVE SEVERAL OTHER PROJECTS WAITING FOR ME BUT THIS HAS TO GO BEFORE I GET UNTO THEM. I JUST FINISHED A GENEALOGY PROJECT. I HAVE THE MARTIN FAMILY BACK ABOUT 10 GENERATIONS. I DIDN'T INTEND TO DO THAT BUT SOMEONE ON THE INTERNET WAS CLAIMING THAT ELAINE WAS THE 6TH DAUGHTER OF JIM AND SARAH MARTIN AND I BEGGED TO DIFFER WITH THEM. IT TURNED OUT TO BE TONY ULEWICZ WHO IS A SON-IN-LAW OF JOYCE MARTIN. WE EXCHANGED SOME PICTURES AND OTHER DATA AND ARE THE (BEST OF FRIENDS NOW). FELLOW GENEALOGISTS TEND TO HELP EACH OTHER ANY WAY THEY CAN. I GUESS JOYCE AND HER DAUGHTER AREN'T MUCH INTERESTED IN DEAD PEOPLE.

CHUCK, VIC, ROB AND ANDY GOT BACK FROM BIKE WEEK IN DAYTONA BEACH. CHUCK WAS EXHAUSTED. IT WAS TOO MUCH TOGETHERNESS FOR TOO LONG. THEY WERE GONE 10 DAYS. HIS ONCOLOGIST STARTED HIM ON CHEMO PILLS BY MOUTH AFTER HE GOT BACK. HE WAS NOT FEELING GOOD FOR A FEW DAYS. HE STILL HAS (2) TUBES WHICH DRAIN INTO BAGS. HE HAS TO FLUSH THEM EVERY DAY. I THINK HE DOES A GOOD JOB BECAUSE HE HASN'T HAD ANY INFECTIONS FOR SOME MONTHS. THE ALTERNATIVE IS UNTHINKABLE SO WE ALL COPE AS BEST WE CAN.

SINCE MY LAST LETTER - WE HAD ANOTHER RECORD BREAKING BOOK SALE- WE MADE OVER \$22,000.00 ON THIS ONE. THE NEXT ONE IS IN MAY.

WE EXPECT TO GO TO IMLAY CITY WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK. WE ARE HAVING SOME CHAIR CUSHIONS RE DONE BY THE SAME GUY THAT DID ELAINE'S CHAIR. WE WILL VISIT THE GIRLS AND PICK UP THE CUSHIONS ON THE SAME DAY. GAS - YOU KNOW.

FRANK - IT WAS NOT ON YOUR ACCOUNT THAT WE DIDN'T GET TOGETHER LAST SUMMER. IT WAS JIM AND MY TURN BUT WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS IN STORE FOR US WITH CHUCK AND SECONDLY SIS WAS HAVING A LARGE GROUP FROM HAWAII FOR SEVERAL WEEKS SO WE THOUGHT IT BEST TO SKIP IT.

I WAS SURE THAT ALL WERE INFORMED. THIS SUMMER IT IS AGAIN JIM AND MY TURN. I NEED TO TALK TO HIM AGAIN AND GET SOME BULLETINS OUT. FRANK - MY STRESS TEST DIDN'T TURN UP ANYTHING. OTHER THAN THE USUAL AGING COMPLAINTS - ALL IS WELL.

SPEAKING OF OLD AGE - I LIKE THE STORY OF THE OLD LADY THAT SCHEDULES CRUISES BACK TO BACK TO BACK THE YEAR ROUND. SHE SAYS THE ACCOMADATIONS COULDN'T BE BETTER AND IT'S CHEAPER THAN A NURSING HOME. FRANK - DID YOU REPLACE ALL OF YOUR SHRUBS???? THEY SHOULD COME BACK ON THEIR OWN.

I EXPECT CAROLINE IS ALMOST BACK TO NORMAL. I DON'T SEEM TO VISIT WITH THEM VERY OFTEN LATELY.

MARTY- I KNOW YOU ARE SUNNING YOURSELF IN FLORIDA TODAY BUT I BELIEVE WE WILL BE GOING WITH ELAINES IDEA OF COYLE'S IN WEST BRANCH. IT SEEMS THE BEST LOCATION FOR THE MOST.

I'M SURE JACKIE IS HAPPY TO HAVE HER SISTER BACK AND FAIRLY CLOSE. I CAN'T IMAGINE HAVING ONLY ONE SIBBLING. WE WOULDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO TALK ABOUT.

LOVE TO ALL OF YOU - I'M GOING TO CLOSE AS I HAVE TO GET SUPPER GOING FOR JEAN AND CHUCK. JEAN WENT TO MASS ALONE TODAY AS I AM SINGING WITH THE GROUP TOMORROW. AFTER MASS - HE NEEDS TO STAY TO HELP WITH CLOTHING DONATIONS TO THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL TRUCK.

JAN

Jan and Jean

Janice Marion

After Christmas, a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent their holiday away from school. One child wrote the following:

We always used to spend the holidays with Grandma and Grandpa. They used to live in a big brick house but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Florida.

Now they live in a tin box and have rocks painted green to look like grass. They ride around on their bicycles and wear name tags because they don't know who they are anymore.

They go to a building called a wrecked center, but they must have got it fixed because it ! is all okay now, and do exercises there, but they don't do them very well. There is a swimming pool too, but in it, they all jump up and down with hats on.

At their gate, there is a doll house with a little old man sitting in it. He watches all day so nobody can escape. Sometimes they sneak out.

They go cruising in their golf carts.

Nobody there cooks, they just eat out. And, they eat the same thing every night ---early birds.

Some of the people can't get out past the man in the doll house. The ones who do get out, bring food back to the wrecked center and call it pot luck.

My Grandma says that Grandpa worked all his life! to earn his retardment and says I should work hard so I can be retarded someday too.

When I earn my retardment, I want to be the man in the doll house. Then I will let people out so they can visit their grandchildren.

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4-21-06

Dear Sisters & Brothers

I guess I better get on this letter before I start getting phone calls, things have been slow around here the past few months (that's for me - Betty has been as busy as a one armed paper hanger, if she is not cleaning the house she is out raking the yard or planting her flowers it wears me out just watching her.

I have had a bad time this spring, we had bug get in the house somehow - it starts out with a sore throat & runny nose that went through all of us then I have to carry it one step farther and almost ended up in the hospital on the 5th. and have been popping pills ever since but can seem to shake it as you can tell by my writing.

John, I imagine you have been out on that new lawn mower by now and I'm sure the Tigers are keeping you busy.

Jim you sure have a lot of iron in the fire all the time, that must be what keeps you young, how did Brian hurt his back?

2

Marty you must be getting back into jogging again or is that not in the plan anymore, I wish I could get down to 170, I'm ~~pushing~~^{up to} 197, I'm keeping track of my sugar with blood testing daily its about 120-100, ~~and~~ cholestrol is high taking meds for that, Bombi was just here to get a hand out.

Elaine-

sounds like you are having your share of hard knocks like the rest of ~~us~~ us nobody said life would be fair, we play the cards we are dealt and hope everything works out in the end, as far as the Family Reunion - Coyle's would be fine with us, hope I will be up to it Time will tell.

Joe: sounds like you may not be going on Vacation for some time, gas ~~is~~ now 289.9 and going one way nothing goes down anymore, we should be getting better types of fuel right here than these arabs could us their oil over there people for breakfast, a bear was in just up the rd. last night.

(over)

(3)

Sis just reread your letter grandmas.
apron was great and yes it sure did
bring back a lot of memories, we were
so glad to see you and Rodger a good
visit was had by all.

Jan I'm sitting trying to think of
something new to write about, its 4:00 P.M.
70° on a nice sunny day with a nice
breeze - its one of those days that makes
you feel great to be alive, too bad they
can't all be like this maybe one day
they will be (God willing.)

I'm sending along this adit of
Lawrence Kuenzli they lived on Evaders
Rd. across from Joyce Dugildine, his
wife Verna is your cousin the daughter
of Mike and Bertie Lee at the top of
the big hill

Great storys going keep it up.

all our best wishes and
prayers
Betty & Frank

May 5, 2006

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I have just recently received the latest family news letter so here we go.

It has been suggested that we have a family reunion in Houghton Lake this fall. Since it is in the center of all the Dumont activities, cost wise and mileage wise, it is a good idea. Last time we had two vehicle breakdowns in the week before. If there is anything that would destroy any trip that would be it.

We seem to be averaging one spirit experience per month so far this year. I believe we had 14 or 15 last year. Cousin it is just doing this to get my goat and my attention. Last year I was within two feet of a spiritual faceoff.

There is not much excitement happening up here. The cops is looking for Eddy Woods grandson for several crimes. That family sure has had a great deal of troubled times. Now that the turkeys are nesting we do not expect to see thirty five together until late fall.

I look foreward to the funnies in the family letter. I bet you all wish you could all feel like twenty year olds and still receive social security checks. The tigers great playing and the stock market upward trend is making high heating cost and gas prices bareable.

It looks like a few of you has still got adventure as ~~a~~ means of relaxation. That idea was a holdover for the Vikings, some of my brothers and sisters somehow inherited those genes. I guess Frank and I lucked out in that area.

Will have to close for now and may God Bless each and every one of you.

Your Loving Brother,

John

JOKES FOR THE OLDER CROWD

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office.

"Is it true," she wanted to know,

"that the medication you prescribed has

to be taken for the rest of my life?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her.

There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied,

"I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition

because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'."

An older Jewish gentleman was on the operating table

waiting surgery and he insisted that his son,

a renowned surgeon, perform the operation.

As he was about to get the anesthesia

he asked to speak to his son.

"Yes, Dad, what is it?" "Don't be nervous, son;

do your best and just remember, if it doesn't go well,

if something happens to me .

your mother is going to come

and live with you and your wife...."

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you

stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

The older we get, the fewer things seem
worth waiting in line for

Some people try to turn back their odometers.
Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way.
I've traveled a long way and some of the
roads weren't paved.

When you are dissatisfied and would
like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

You know you are getting old when everything
either dries up or leaks.

I don't know how I got over the hill
without getting to the top.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging
is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Ah, being young is beautiful,
but being old is comfortable.

Old age is when former classmates are so gray
and wrinkled and bald, they don't recognize you.

If you don't learn to laugh at trouble,
you won't have anything to laugh at when you are old.

First you forget names, then you forget faces.

Then you forget to pull up your zipper.

It's worse when you forget to pull it down.

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground
with sticks, it was called witchcraft..

Today, it's called golf

Two old guys are pushing their carts around Wal-Mart
when they collide. The first old guy says to the
second guy, "Sorry about that I'm looking for my
wife, and I guess I wasn't paying attention to where I
was going."

The second old guy says, "That's OK, It's a
coincidence. I'm looking for my wife, too. I can't
find her and I'm getting a li ttle desperate."

The first old guy says, "Well, maybe I can help you
find her. What does she look like?"

The second old guy says: "Well, she is 27 yrs old,
tall, with red hair, blue eyes, long legs, big bust,
and is wearing short shorts. What does your wife looklike?"

To which the first old gu says, "Doesn't matter,
--- let's look for yours."

When I got home last night,

my wife demanded that I take her out to some place expensive.

So I took her to a gas station !!!!!!!

\$

Lord,

June 4, 2006

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Well I have held on to these letters for long enough so here goes. I am sure you are all enjoying this summer weather now. I am sitting outside and really enjoying it. Carolyn is down at Brian and Sandra's house babysitting. She does a lot of that now.

Since we returned from Florida I have had one trip to Jackson Miss, one trip to Covington, Ky., one trip to St. Louis, and one trip to Evansville, In. all for St. Vincent de Paul. I have a little break now but will go to Indianapolis at the end of August.

I have my garden all in now. It is doing great. I still have to cover part of it with leaves to keep out the weeds. We have always said that the corn should be knee high by the fourth of July. Well mine is knee high by the fourth of June this year.

I have been working on getting the electricity out to my back garage and wiring the garage. It is approved now and now I am building shelves and arranging it. We are really enjoying the deck this year.

I have not heard of anyone doing some traveling this summer. I guess our next trip will be for the family reunion next month. I am looking forward to seeing all of you then.

Carolyn and I flew to Phoenix in April for a few days. Karen and John moved into their new home. Meghan and Emily will be spending much of the summer here in Michigan (part with us and part with John's family in Battle Creek.)

Marty, I am glad you are pepping the weight down. I weighed 172 this morning. I spend one hour a day for 4 days a week on the tread mill. When I am traveling I can't exercise enough and I get up around 180. I don't feel good then. Working on the garage and garden also helps now.

The main reason I have not mailed these letters earlier is that I have been waiting for the results of a biopsy on my prostate. The results were good (no cancer and no pre cancer). Thank you Lord. We are blessed with good health. I will send this now and get it in the mail. God bless all of you. We will see you next month in Houghton Lake.

Your loving brother,
Jim & Carolyn.

HI DUMONTS +++++

I HAVE HELD ONTO THESE LONG ENOUGH, SO HERE GOES.

TALKED TO ELAINE YESTERDAY, AND SHE SOUNDS SO GOOD. WOW, WHAT HOSPITALS CAN DO WHEN THEY REALLY TRY.

JOE, I TALKED TO YOU ABOUT 10 DAYS AGO. SINCE THEN, ELAINE HAS BEEN IN AND OUT OF THE HOSPITAL AGAIN. YOU MENTIONED THAT YOU HAD A LACK OF DEER UP THERE. WE HAVE THEM COMING OUT OF OUR EARS HERE. WE HEAR TWO TO THREE CAR-DEER ACCIDENTS PER DAY ON THE SCANNER. DO YOU WANT ANY?

SIS, YOU ARE RIGHT ON ABOUT THE GRANDMA'S APRON. IT WAS SO GOOD. THE GRAND CHILDREN AND GREAT GRANDCHILDREN ARE PILING UP FAST ARE THEY NOT. YOU ARE SO BLESSED.

JANICE, I TALK TO YOU ON E-MAIL SO OFTEN, AND ALSO TODAY BY PHONE. NOT MUCH NEW HERE. HOPE CHUCK IS HOLDING HIS OWN AND STAYING HEALTHY.

FRANK, I WAS SURPRISED TO SEE THAT LAWRENCE KUENZLI WAS 89. WOW, HOW TIMES FLY. SORRY TO MISS YOU WHEN I WAS UP TO OSCODA AND MIKADO. I WENT UP THERE TO CHURCH, THINKING I WOULD SEE YOU THERE, BUT BETTY WAS THE ONLY ON AT MASS THAT DAY. THEN I HAD TO BEAT IT BACK TO OSCODA AS THE CLASS WAS GOING ON THE PADDLE WHEELER BOAT OUT OF FOOTE SITE. THAT WAS GREAT.

PAGE TWO---

JOHN, THOSE SPIRITS ARE MAKING A REGULAR HABIT OF VISITING YOU. I GUESS THEY LIKE YOU OR SOMETHING. THEY MUST NOT LIKE ME AS THEY DON'T SHOW UP HERE AT ALL. IF YOU FIND ANY WITH MONEY, SEND THEM DOWN.

JIM, WE HAVE THREE WEEKS SCHEDULED NEXT YEAR AND MAYBE MORE, WHO KNOWS. I JUST TALKED TO YOU ABOUT 15 MINUTES AGO SO YOU KNOW ALL THAT I DO. STAY OUT OF THE POISON IVY, YA HEAR.

GOT TO GET THESE IN THE MAIL. BYE ALL.

SONDA AND MARTY

YOU ARE RIGHT ON ABOUT THE GRANDMA'S APRON. IT WAS SO GOOD. THE GRAND CHILDREN AND GREAT GRANDCHILDREN ARE FILLING UP FAST ARE THEY NOT. YOU ARE SO BLESSED.

LAURENCE I TALK TO YOU ON E-MAIL SO OFTEN, AND ALSO TODAY BY PHONE. NOT MUCH NEW HERE. HOPE CHUCKY IS HOLDING HIS OWN AND STAYING HEALTHY.

FRANK, I WAS SURPRISED TO SEE THAT LAWRENCE WENNELI WAS 89. WOW. HOW TIME FLY. SORRY TO MISS YOU WHEN I WAS UP TO ORCADA AND MIKADO. I WENT UP THERE TO CHURCH, THINKING I WOULD SEE YOU THERE, BUT BETTY WAS THE ONLY ONE AT MASS THAT DAY. THEN I HAD TO BEAT IT BACK TO ORCADA AS THE CLASS WAS GOING ON THE PADDLE WHEELER BOAT OUT OF FOOTY SITE. THAT WAS

GREAT

July 20, 2004

Dear Dumonto:

I must get these in motion. I'm doing more every day getting my strength back! Thanks for cards, ~~prayers~~ and wishes.

My penmanship is to be not desired — thought I could ace it!

What I could write about isn't news, hope you are all doing good for the summer 2006.

We have no "old order" here, every one is new, even to the handy-men! It was awful giving up familiar faces — we relied every day to take us thru some of the rough times.

It's too bad we are so spread out in the state but maybe that helps us to appreciate each other better, please God.

I think our average for reunions is quite good, most don't try for yearly get togethers

Frank thanks for making it a great letter and I wish I could do as well.

Love & Prayers
Elaine

Cadillac, MI 2006
Aug. 5

Dear Family:

This is Family Reunion Day, so it is my best chance to get this letter in print.

We have our health in normal check, but son Joe is in the hospital with "Sepsis" as of last evening. The dictionary describes as blood poisoning by bacteria. Much as you get with food poisoning. Probably from the wrong medication for a stomach ailment he had aggravated very recently. It appears that it was caught in time to treat effectively. It appears that it is easily spread and, untreated, it can kill you.

Nephew Carl Gonser has a restricted esophagus, just recently discovered, that nearly ~~choked~~^{ch} him on a piece of meat. One of his aunts had the same problem most of her adult life. It is treated by stretching the ~~throat~~^{throat} in several stages.

The rest of the family has only normal ageing ills, that we know of.

We are not planning any long trips until December time share time. Fuel prices may cancel that.

We hope that our unusual hot sticky weather is about over. Our July was hot and dry, but April thru June was wet. The wild berry crop is lower than normal, probably due mostly to low moisture in July, but also to late frosts in the spring and the forest are shading out the plants, Forest fire control also is cutting ~~down~~^{down} the wild blue berry crop to ~~near~~ near nothing.

Tyler Dumont ^{ANDREA} and Great Grandson ^{Joe} ~~have~~ have moved to Baltimore MD for the next two years, so we will see very little of him, but he is doing well.

We are very pleased to read of all the families good news and wish for much more of the same. Hope to see all of you at the reunion today, but I ~~hear~~ hear that Elaine and Franks family will not be able to attend. Sorry, but I predict that more of the same is in our future.

We love all of you and your's

Joe & Jackie

8-10-06

My Dear Family,

We were so happy to see all of you this week at the Family Reunion. Frank you were a sight for sore eyes as was everyone.

Elaine was so sorry to miss the good time, company, food etc. She would like to go in with me for the next one and it makes good sense as we are so close.

Joe + Marty are closer too.

We took Elaine to the heart Dr. today and got a wonderful report. Her problem was caused by her surgery and all is well.

We had a good trip home from the Reunion. Nothing like all the road blocks on the way up! We tried to see our new Great Grandson, but Mom + Baby had already on home from the Hospital. We have seen him now and he is a beautiful 8 lbs 5 oz. bruser. Lucas is his name and Mom and Dad are very proud as is his Sister. He is our 11th Great.

2. Frank sent Elaine all these jokes and she wanted me to pass them on to all of you. I'll be seeing Jan soon and I've just seen all of you so I'll make this short and get them on their way.

We are going to try for a trip up north soon. It just didn't do it for us to be so rushed. It's nice to go to Church in Midado and to see all those Folks. Jan, Chuck is always in our prayer. Joe we are praying Joe's condition also.

Love + Prayer for all:

Sis, Ray
+ all

ROUND ROBIN

#48

August 29, 2006

DEAR ONES -

THE DATE UP ABOVE REMINDED ME THAT DAD WOULD BE ABOUT 113 YEARS OLD RIGHT ABOUT NOW. I WONDER IF THEY KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN HERE.

I'VE HAD THE LETTERS OVER 2 WEEKS SO I'M GOING TO TRY TO GET THEM IN THE MAIL FOR TOMORROW. I HAVE TO BE AT THE EYE CLINIC AT 7:00 A.M. THEN I WILL BE SOMEWHAT BLURRY FOR A FEW DAYS. AT LEAST IN THE LEFT EYE. THE RIGHT EYE SEEMS PRETTY GOOD NOW. BESIDES I HAVEN'T FELT GOOD FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS. MY BOWELS ARE STILL MESSED UP FROM THE ANTIBIOTICS THE DENTIST HAD ME TAKE EARLY THIS MONTH.

CHUCK IS NOT SLEEPING HERE YET. HE SEEMS A LITTLE BETTER SOME DAYS. ALL THE HOSPICE FURNITURE HAS BEEN HERE FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS. I BELIEVE HE WILL STAY NEXT DOOR UNTIL THE STAIRS REALLY GET TO HIM. I THINK HE DOESN'T WANT TO LEAVE ASHLEY OVER THERE ALONE. RYAN WAS HERE FOR 5 DAYS THIS MONTH. CHUCK CAN'T EAT MUCH. HE IS SKIN AND BONES. A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO HE SAID HE WEIGHED 112 LBS. I'M SURE HE IS DOWN MORE NOW. I'M ENCLOSING A COPY OF (IF TOMORROW STARTS WITHOUT ME). CHUCK SENT IT TO ME BY E-MAIL ABOUT A WEEK AGO. IT SURE IS A TEAR JERKER. I SENT IT TO MARTY BUT THE REST CAN READ IT AS IT GETS TO YOU.

I HAVE READ ALL OF YOUR LETTERS AGAIN AND ENJOYED THEM AGAIN. SIS, ROGER, ELAINE AND JIM AND CAROLYN HAVE ALL VISITED RECENTLY. ONE COMMENT, JIM IS OUT OF TOWN AS MUCH AS HE IS HOME. HE CAME OVER WITH SOME RASPBERRY SHOOTS YESTERDAY. MOST OF THE OTHERS HAVE DIED. I BELIEVE OUR PLOT HAS TOO MUCH COMPOST IN IT.

THE DEER HAVE ALMOST RUINED A YOUNG APPLE TREE.. WE ARE GOING TO TRY LIQUID FENCE. MY PEARS ARE ALMOST READY TO PICK. I HOPE THEY WAIT UNTIL THE WEEKEND. AS SOON AS A FEW FALL - I PICK ALL OF THEM AND LET THEM FINISH IN THE GARAGE. WE ONLY GOT A FEW PINTS LAST YEAR. THERE SHOULD BE MORE THIS YEAR. CHUCK REALLY LIKES THEM CANNED.

JOE AND JACKIE - I HOPE SON JOEY IS BACK TO NORMAL.

I HAD GOOD INTENTIONS TO CALL A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO. IT JUST PLAIN SLIPPED MY MIND UNTIL I READ IT IN YOUR LETTER. MY MIND IS NOT WORKING ON ALL CYLINDERS THESE DAYS. I'VE COME CLOSE TO RUINING SOME RECIPES LATELY. I LEFT OUT THE TAPIOCA IN TAPIOCA PUDDING ONE DAY. WE DRANK WHAT AMOUNTED TO CUSTARD. YESTERDAY I HAD TO SCOOP THE TOP LAYER FROM THE LASAGNE BECAUSE I FORGOT A LAYER OF NOODLES.

JEAN IS BUGGING ME TO CHECK A MOWER HE'S INTERESTED ON E-BAY. I HOPE TO DO BETTER NEXT TIME.

LOVE TO ALL -

Jan & Jean
JAN AND JEAN

P.S. Since I started this letter I found out why I've had a terrible battle with ~~diarrhea~~ (sp). My dentist put me on an antibiotic for an infected tooth. Antibiotics kill bad bacteria but also kill all your good bacteria in your colon. I'm now on Imodium A-D and a probiotic that replaces good enzymes. I had to discover all this on my own. Remember - Doctors are just practicing.

Jan

I hope I'm on the mend.

I have 20/20 vision in both eyes now. The left eye is still blurry but will clear up soon.

JOKES FOR THE OLDER CROWD

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office.

"Is it true," she wanted to know,

"that the medication you prescribed has

to be taken for the rest of my life?"

"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her.

There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied,

"I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition

because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'."

An older Jewish gentleman was on the operating table

waiting surgery and he insisted that his son,

a renowned surgeon, perform the operation.

As he was about to get the anesthesia

he asked to speak to his son.

"Yes, Dad, what is it?" "Don't be nervous, son;

do your best and just remember, if it doesn't go well,

if something happens to me .

your mother is going to come

and live with you and your wife...."

Aging: Eventually you will reach a point when you

stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

The older we get, the fewer things seem
worth waiting in line for

Some people try to turn back their odometers.

Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way.

I've traveled a long way and some of the
roads weren't paved.

When you are dissatisfied and would
like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

You know you are getting old when everything
either dries up or leaks.

I don't know how I got over the hill
without getting to the top.

One of the many things no one tells you about aging
is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Ah, being young is beautiful,
but being old is comfortable.

Old age is when former classmates are so gray
and wrinkled and bald, they don't recognize you.

If you don't learn to laugh at trouble,
you won't have anything to laugh at when you are old.

First you forget names, then you forget faces.
Then you forget to pull up your zipper.
It's worse when you forget to pull it down.

Long ago when men cursed and beat the ground
with sticks, it was called witchcraft..

Today, it's called golf

~~~~~

Two old guys are pushing their carts around Wal-Mart  
when they collide. The first old guy says to the  
second guy, "Sorry about that I'm looking for my  
wife, and I guess I wasn't paying attention to where I  
was going."

The second old guy says, "That's OK, It's a  
coincidence. I'm looking for my wife, too. I can't  
find her and I'm getting a li ttle desperate."

The first old guy says, "Well, maybe I can help you  
find her. What does she look like?"

The second old guy says: "Well, she is 27 yrs old,  
tall, with red hair, blue eyes, long legs, big bust,  
and is wearing short shorts. What does your wife looklike?"

To which the first old gu says, "Doesn't matter,  
--- let's look for yours." ~~~~~

When I got home last night,  
my wife demanded that I take her out to some place expensive.

So I took her to a gas station !!!!!!!

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Lord,

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## *Sunday*

### IF TOMORROW STARTS WITHOUT ME

A few weeks ago a woman was killed in an auto accident. She was very well liked, so the office shut down for her funeral and it was on the news and so on. On the day the workers came back to work,

They found this poem in their e-mail that the deceased woman had sent on Friday before she left for home.

"If tomorrow starts without me, And I'm not there to see,

If the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me;

I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today, While thinking of the many things, We didn't get to say.

I know how much you love me, As much as I love you, And each time that you think of me, know you'll miss me too;

8/21/2006

But when tomorrow starts without me,

Please try to understand, that an angel came and called my name, And took me by the hand

And said my place was ready, In heaven far above, And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.

But as I turned to walk away, A tear fell from my eye, For all my life, I'd always thought, I didn't want to die.

I had so much to live for, So much left yet to do, it seemed almost impossible, that I was leaving you.

I thought of all the yesterdays,

The good ones and the bad, I thought of all that we shared, And all the fun we had.

If I could relive yesterday, Just even for a while, I'd say good-bye and kiss you and maybe see you smile.

But then I fully realized, That this could never be, For emptiness and memories, would take the place of me.

And when I thought of worldly things, I might miss some tomorrow, I thought of you, and when I did, My heart was filled with sorrow.

But when I walked through heaven's gates,

I felt so much at home. When God looked down and smiled at me, From His great golden throne,

He said, "This is eternity, And all I've promised you." Today your life on earth is past, but here life starts anew.

I promise no tomorrow, But today will always last, and since each day is the same way, There's no longing for the past.

So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart, For every time you think of me, I'm right here, in your heart "

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I've had the letters for some time so I better get them going, The weather is getting down chilly at night and in the daytime to I guess.

I was glad to see all of your guys at the reunion except for you Elaine we will get you next year down there somewhere.

Betty's family were here from the 14<sup>th</sup> thru the 20<sup>th</sup>. for their Family Reunion, her sis. Edna & Gail from Mar. and her sis Mary & Carl from Az. and of course Laura from Ball Waterford, we had good visit and they took us out for dinner the night before they left - Birth day & Anniversary.

John, I talk to you all the time ~~so~~ so I'm not going to scribble any more than I have to.

Jim, you talk about ~~Exercise~~ <sup>Exercise</sup> Betty is not here now she is down ~~th~~ to Chuck's General and I have been going out to the mail box to get the paper and the mail I walk a little ways and stop, that's just about more exercise than I can stand.

over To SAVE SPACE.

Marty, while you were hear at Mass was  
our new priest here? he is Peter Eke a long  
ways from where he was born Africa, I  
am having the darndest ~~at~~ time of thinking  
of something to write about.

Elaine, thanks for calling on my B-day.  
on the 25th, it was so good to hear from  
you, your voice was so strong you  
were great, did somebody new take over  
Casa Maria and brought in new goeple?

Joe, we had wild blue berries over here  
for as far as you could see, Betty and the  
boys went out several times to pick, lots  
of blue berry pie's

Sis, I know travel plans have to be trimmed  
with gas prices being what they are, but  
there getting better 218.9 in Escoda yesterday.

Jan, you mentioned about Dad, it gives  
me a strong feeling as im writing this Chucks  
funeral is today, I bet they do know what  
is going on down here, they laugh when we  
laugh and they cry when we cry, Jan I  
think you and Jan need a break.

All Our Love and Prayers Betty & Frank

P.S. the letter from Chuck was truly a task-joker

October 11, 2006

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I have had the family letter for a whole week; now that I have a little quiet time I will respond. My last family letter was dated May 5th of 2006.

Frank, those jokes sure are enjoyable. They are in the same class as the stock market and Detroit tigers.

Perhaps we can have the family reunion in Tawas again next year with Elaine as honorary chairman. Atleast the road construction should be a minor problem.

Last deer season the four of us got skunked, this year looks no better. The DNR must think a depleted deer herd makes hunters happy campers. One thing is certain fresh air and exercise is sure a change for the better.

We have had good health this past year but am concerned about world events beyond our control. These enclosed jokes help lighten these concerns.

There was a accident in front of the farm a couple of weeks ago with three people injured. Plans were in the works last year for a garage on the north side of the farmhouse. Perhaps this will be next years plans instead.

As you can see not much excitement is happening up here in Gods country. In case you do not know where God's country is drive north from the Alcona county line, just ask brother Frank.

I will have to close for now, may God bless and protect each and every one of you.

Your Loving Brother,

*John*

Nov. 7, 2006

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We have a rainy day today so this is a good time to get these letters finished. Health wise we are all doing fine. I hope this finds you all feeling great. I am sitting in our nook and am enjoying the little bit of color that God has provided for us. Carolyn ordered an oak table and benches for the nook and they arrived this <sup>past</sup> month.

I arrived home Sunday night from Indianapolis. We had a 5 day intensive program there. It was a combination leadership training and retreat.

Elaine, I have seen you and talked to you quite a bit lately so you know all I do. I will see you in another day or so.

Joe, it was good seeing you and Jackie at the family reunion and at Chucks funeral. You need to concentrate on getting all of your family healthy.

Sis, I think your idea of you and Elaine going together on a family reunion is good, even if it is not next year.

Jan, you and Jean are always in my prayers. I haven't talked to you since I got home so I will probably do that later today.

Frank, I realize that exercise is difficult



for you but do as much as you can, all bodies need some.

John, you mentioned the shortage of deer now but I was amazed at how many deer I saw killed in this past week while driving to Indianapolis and back.

Marty, it has been a couple of weeks since I have talked to you. Retirement is getting close now. I hope and pray that you will enjoy a long one.

Carolyn and I are planning to drive to Boston for Thanksgiving. We will leave on Wednesday and come back on Saturday.

My next meeting is in St. Louis on Jan 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. I will return on the night of the 20<sup>th</sup> and leave for Florida on the 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will be staying in La Bell which is about 25 miles inland from Ft. Myers.

I wish all of you an enjoyable Thanksgiving and a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year. God bless you all.

Your loving brother  
Jim & Carolyn.



DEAR DUMONT'S

WELL HERE GOES. I HELD THESE FOR THREE WEEKS AND SONDA HAS READ THEM SO I WILL FINISH THEM AND GET THEM READY TO GO AND MAKE A SURPRISE VISIT TO MY SISTERS IN IMLAY CITY.

ELAINE, I HAVE NO NEW NEWS EXCEPT THURSDAY, NOV. 30TH IS MY LAST DAY TO WORK SO, THROW AWAY MY OFFICE NUMBER AS YOU WON'T FIND ME THERE ANY LONGER.

JOE, WE MAY SEE YOU IN FLORIDA IF YOU POSTPONE TILL JANUARY, OTHERWISE JIM AND CAROLYN WILL BE DOWN CLOSE TO WHERE I AM GOING AND WE PLAN TO SEE EACH OTHER DOWN THERE. WHAT IS TYLER DOING IN MARYLAND?

SIS, I HOPE YOU HAD A NICE BIRTHDAY PARTY AND I WILL BE DOWN TO TAKE YOU GIRLS OUT TO LUNCH SO I WILL SEE YOU SOON. YES, I WILL BRING BREAD.

JANICE, I HAVE SWITCHED ALL MY DOCTORS BACK UP HERE EXCEPT DR. BADALAMENT SO I WON'T GET DOWN AS OFTEN AS I SHOULD. APRIL OR MAY IS MY NEXT VISIT. THANKS FOR THE JOKES FOR US OLDER FOLKS. HOW IS JEAN HOLDING UP? YOUR E-MAILS ARE COMING THRU DAILY WITHOUT FAILURE.

FRANK, IT WAS GOOD TO SEE YOU AT THE REUNION. FROM THE SOUNDS OF YOUR LETTER, YOU PLAN ON GOING TO IMLAY CITY NEXT YEAR FOR THE REUNION. THAT WILL BE NICE. I AM STILL WALKING AT LEAST TWO AND ONE/HALF MILES PER DAY FOR FIVE DAYS A WEEK AND SOMETIMES SIX. IT IS GOOD FOR THE BODY AND THE HEART. THANKS FOR THE JOKES.

FR. BAUX WAS STILL THERE WHEN I WAS UP. I NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD LEAVE. DID I SPELL HIS NAME RIGHT?

JOHN, I JUST LOVE YOUR LETTERS. THEY ARE SO NEAT AND WELL SPACED. DID YOU DO ANY BETTER THIS DEER SEASON? THE COVER DOWN ON THE FARM SHOULD BE PERFECT FOR THE DEER TO THRIVE IN. ITS SURPRISING TO HEAR THAT AN ACCIDENT HAPPENED IN FRONT OF THE FARM. I WONDER WHAT DISTRACTED THEM.

JIM, I KNOW THAT YOU ARE ON THE ROAD AGAIN. YOU ARE BECOMING A FREQUENT TRAVELER SINCE YOU RETIRED. AFTER YOU GET DOWN TO FLORIDA, LA BELLE IS NOT TO FAR, WE CAN PLAN SOMETHING. MY ADDRESS IS 9715 HARRELL AVE. #35, TREASURE ISLAND, FL 33706 TILL I GET A PHONE INSTALLED, USE MY CELL# 989 295-8256 THAT WILL BE GOOD TILL APRIL 5TH, AND THEN I WILL BE HEADING NORTH.

WELL, ITS TIME TO CLOSE AND GET BACK TO WORK. BYE ALL. LOVE

SONDA AND MARTY