

1-10-07

Dear Families:

Best time I get off my duff and get these in the mails! What a great group of mail - thanks for all of "it" and too, thank you for your holiday things and messages. For me it was very quiet and the way I need it - I've had my time..

This a.m. Roy picked me up to go to Sis's shop for a set and back in time for our Communion service at 12:00, housekeepers were here when I got back, they vacuumed ^{my} ~~my~~ door mat which was full of Coarstarch, good dry cleaner, try it! Sis swears by it.

It was ~~actually~~ actually nice to see the new snow Mon. A.m. I thought the forces forgot my home state. Everything is covered today. Very chilly.

I thought I would be sending a pic of our Dad, but then I hear Ethel Rose send everyone the same. I think he was very young before Navy duty.

Nancy is my first God child, Marion twins third and fourth, Michelle my second! And so it goes.

Nothing new to write about, Casa Maria is getting used to a whole change of regime. Trying to get acquainted with the changes!

My prayers to each and everyone is that God will be with all, all 2007 and beyond
Love, Elaine

Cadillac, Mi.
Jan. 17, '07

Dear Family:

It is a cold winter day and I can't get excited about anything, for some reason. It hit -2 this morning. The coldest night for this season. We have had over 30" of snow to date, never more than 4-5" at any one time. The ice fishermen are just able to get on the lakes with some safety.

The family all seem to be in good health for our state in life. Snow shoveling and blowing haven't been much of a problem so far. My arth^heritis~~is~~ hasn't been much of a problem. Son Joe, seems to have recovered from ^his problem, but has to be very careful with what he eats. That problem is bothering most or all of us, if the truth be known.

Grand-son Tyler of Baltimore MA is working as a civil engineer and ^{great} grandson Joe is growing like a weed. They seem to like the Area. We don't like the big city problems and the high cost of living in that region.

Our trip to Orlando in Dec. was quite un-eventful except for excessive road traffic in the Atlanta area. The area just north of the city must be traveled at night from now ^{on} ~~due~~ to excessive truck traffic.

I think we will try the Texas coast for our next trip. I hear the cost and traffic should ~~be~~ be less than the Florida region. Grand daughter Mandy is getting ~~married~~ married in Hawaii in August. There is to be reception when they return. More on this next letter.

We had a couple of deer in our yard last night looking for plants to nibble. This is very unusual for this time of year. We have very few rabbits so very little damage. Lots of black squirrel. Wild turkey have been around also.

Nice to hear from you-all and hope to see you all at the reunion. Stay healthy and happy for your state in life.

Love

Joe & Jackie

1 - 22 - 07

Hi Loved Ones,

I just got the letters a couple of days ago, but I've read them twice already. Once on Sunday and I read them to Rog as we drove to go to church with Mike at Suncrest. He became a Catholic since we became his guardian. Your all right about "If tomorrow starts without me." I just can't read it without crying.

I have been having an attack of arthritis, but it's not mine and I refuse it. I just take a hot bath and a triple tylenol and with help I get dressed and manage to do what a must. I'm on Celebrex once a day. It's better to keep moving, but also to rest. I expect to be all better soon.

I wanted to get the letters ready so Jan can take them when she comes for her perm tomorrow.

Jan + Jean it was the best thing you could
have done to get your sweet puppy Smokey.
who can cry with such a Happy camper around
Joe + Jackie so glad your health is holding
up and also your childrens.

Elaine I'm glad you got over your bout of
the Flu, and got the letter off. I'll
see you soon. We talk on the phone alot.
Jim you sure do travel alot. Hope you can
hold up. John wanted to buy us ticket to
Hawaii in March but we had to decline
until I get this attack under control. I
could never stand that long plane ride
we will go later. Lisa expects our 12th great
grandchild (a girl in Feb.). It would
have been nice but not possible.

John I agree to do put a nice letter out
but I really love them all. Miss you all.

Frank Its sounds so good that you want
to come this way for the next reunion.
Praise God for your improvements.

Marty It was great to go to lunch with you
Elaine and I enjoyed it very much. Hope you
enjoy your retirement.

God Bless
you all
Jo + Roy

Dear all of our Loved Ones-

Now that I have my income tax out to the man - I will get back to this letter business. Before I started this, I got pictures out to those that requested them. I gave my computer room a good cleaning. That was one of my New Year's resolutions. I haven't gotten to my other one - that being go through numerous files to discard non-essential data of genealogy research. I've been at this for years and I'm running out of file space.

Sis and Elaine are both ailing. Elaine has had a sinus infection and fell down at home. She has some bruises and injured her foot so that she can't get her shoe on. She is getting around as best she can. Sis has a mystery problem - she thinks it is arthritis in her joints. At times she can hardly get up or stand up for long. It doesn't sound like arthritis to me. She has a bath routine she does so she can do her ladies in the beauty shop. She declined to go to lunch with us when I was there recently. You know she isn't well when she gives up lunch to go to bed. She has an appointment with an arthritis specialist on the 21st which is now 2 days away on (Ash Wednesday). She also cancelled a trip to Hawaii. I'm praying she gets to the real problem soon.

Frank - I just read over your letter. The cartoons are funny but it sure takes awhile to read them all. Take care and go slow on the exercise.

John- Your letter reminded me that last August after the reunion dinner - Jim, Carolyn, Jean and I drove out to the farm. We went to the door but the guy that answered said his wife was getting ready to go to work so didn't invite us in. We did look around front and back. You would never recognize it if you didn't know better. We did take some pictures - why - I don't know.

Jim, Elaine said you would be back from Florida in a couple of weeks. About the first week of March. I'm glad both you two and Marty were not in the path of that tornado. I did call

Sonda to find that out. Try to stay in the safe zone from now on.

Marty- We are all glad to hear that Sonda has retired and will be commuting between Freeland and Florida at this time of the year from now on. I know you are very pleased with that too. Stay well and duck all those hurricane's and tornado's. Jean is doing well. Smokey is a great joy for both of us. He weighs about 10 lbs. now. He is forced exercise and grief therapist. I haven't been down on the floor so much since the kids were small. His major interests are napping and playing ball. Unfortunately, several pieces of furniture allow this ball to roll under so we do a lot of on our knees for that. Jean will tell you that I'm cranky but things will get better down the road.

Elaine - We talked a couple of days ago so I haven't anything new for you.

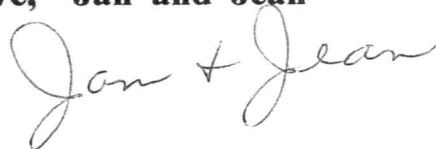
Joe- Your letter and the cold temperatures made me think maybe we will have a real short winter and by May it will be spring like. That is my hope. Our choir was planning a tour to Ireland this year but it was cancelled. Not enough people were interested.

Elaine - that is a nice picture of you, Joyce and Nancy. I may try to make a copy before I mail the letters.

Sis, I'm waiting patiently to hear what your specialist has to say. I hope he doesn't just fluff it off and does a good checkup. Sometimes I wish they would get a real job with exact answers.

God bless and keep all of you well and happy.

Love, Jan and Jean

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jan + Jean". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed names "Jan and Jean".

3-8-07

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I got the letters a while ago so better get them on the road again, it looks like the weather is starting to brake now, the past couple of wks. have been tough, we have done better than most in our area, we lost power last thurs. at 10:10 P.M. and it didn't come on until 2:30 A.M. Fri., I went to bed thinking that it would be on shortly but at 4:30 A.M. it was getting pretty cold in here, so we woke up.

David and had him start up the generator so we had heat and water thank God.

John: I talk to you quite often, how many turkeys are you feeding now? the more you feed the more they will come.

Jim, seems you are as busy as ever, did you guys have any trouble with those storms in Fla.? we have had the best weather here than anywhere in the country.

Marty, sounds like you are having a great retirement good for you guys, Fr. Boks he like you retired to fish & golf. & he handles a funeral some times
funeral

~~Elaine~~ Elaine), I guess you have as much excitement there as we have here, they call it cabin fever but it suits me just fine, I step out side in the winter and my lungs close off + in the summer I can't get enough air.

Joe, we feel blessed for the winter we have had to this point, the storms have gone South of us and off to the East Coast, the snowmobilers have finally got some good snow to ride on.

Sis, as for us coming down to the Family reunion this summer, our health and conditions at the time pretty much dictate what we can do, we will see.

Jan, I'm so glad to hear that Smokey is keeping you guys busy, they sure can be a joy to have around, they don't argue with you and they don't talk back.

Our deer (5) have left after this last storm for the swamp, they finally came back in yesterday (8) of them and they were hungry

Will close for now now and wish you and yours healthy and happiness and God's blessings
Love
Betty + Frank

March 29, 2007

Dear Brothers and Sisters;

It has been a week or so since I received the family letter. However it has been over five months since the last letter was received. I have been hearing bits and pieces of a family reunion being planned somewhere/sometime.

I have noticed many of you are suffering from muscle pull. My suggestion is try (Equate Ultra Strength Muscle Rub) and call me in the morning. The doctors down there certainly don't need extra cash.

Frank, those jokes sure has us all laughing when this world needs a little cheering up.
Elaine, are you taking some youth pills? you are looking unbelievable.

Jan, Can you picture living in the farm house as it is today some 60 years ago. While we are at it a two car garage was planned for the future.

Marty, I see you have began a new life, retiring has it's upside sleeping in and answering to no one is sure a positive and worth working for.

Joe, I am on my fifth word processor writing all those past family letters. It is a little like having a nonpaying secretary and no monthly payments.

We have had as high as 86 turkeys in the front yard this last winter. More deer also is showing up compared to the past winters. As for the 2006 deer season it was one I will not soon forget. I shot a four pointer, killed a doe with my car and wasted a coyote. The car damage was only \$1,900 I was not happy but realize cars can be replaced peoples lives can not.

As for our health it is better than can be expected at this point in our lives. Compared to three years ago it is heavenly.

Will close for now and may God bless each and everyone of you in the coming years.

Your Loving Brother,

John

Apr. 23, 2007

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is time (some may say past time) for me to get these letters on the way. I am fine and the weather has been great lately. It is cloudy today and it may rain.

Carolyn has not been well for the past 4 months. I took her into the emergency room on Dec. 26th. They did a lot of tests but could not find the problem. She went to her doctor many times and took many tests before we left for Florida on Jan 21st. Still no solution to the problem. In Florida she was fair for the first 2 weeks and then I had to take her to the emergency room twice in Fort Myers. They could not find the problem but put her on an antibiotic which helped for a few days. When we got back from Florida she went through more tests and they finally found the problem near the end of March. She has Celiac disease.

Celiac is a disorder which means she is allergic to gluten. Gluten is found in wheat, oats, barley, and rye. Gluten attacks the receptors in the intestines (which takes the nutrients out of the food) and it kills them. The cure is a complete gluten free diet for the rest of her life. It is a complete life style change. She is (and I am) learning what foods she can eat. She can't even have the host

at communion, only the wine. I told her she should ask the priests "Could I have two wines please". They say someone makes a gluten-free host and we are looking into how we could get it. Enough about that for now. She is improving slowly.

Speaking about deer, We had 5 deer on our front lawn a few days after we returned from Florida, an article in the paper estimated that we have seventy deer per square mile in Troy when they feel that we should only have 15 per square mile. I think their estimates are too high.

As usual St Vincent has kept me busy. I was in Prudenville last Monday and then Carolyn and I drove to ~~Cincinnati~~ Owensboro, Kentucky on Friday (484 miles.) after a meeting on Saturday we drove back Saturday night. Carolyn and I have to fly to St. Louis this week for our mid-year meeting. Youngstown, Ohio called this morning and want me to come there this spring.

I have talked to Elaine, Jan, and Sis so they know as much as I. Marty you are back now but we haven't touched bases yet. Joe, Frank and John, you seem to be doing well and enjoying it. I can only wish for a little of that.

I wish you all the very best and I continue to pray for you daily. God bless and keep you.

Your loving brother

Jim and Carolyn

Hi Folks,

This is going to be all new for me as I have not used this wordpad program before so bear with me. Its the middle of May, and I am still plagued with this shingles in my ear canal that I caught in Florida on March 19th, I can not get rid of. It effects my metabolism and one day, I am fine and the next day, I am as dizzy as a bat. It is getting the best of me.

Elaine, I hope the changes at Casa maria have subsided as change is much harder for us as we grow older. I know that Sonda's Mom really gets upset at McBrite Manor when changes occur. I think I will mail the letters this time as gas is getting real pricie these days.

Joe, I got caught going around Atlanta at 8 P.M. on the way down and it was bumper to bumper and stopped many times. It took an hour to get around and should only take half that time. On the way home we came through about 4 P.M. and we had no trouble coming north. We have looked at Texas for vacation but I think Sonda is not to keen on that area. We have friends who go to Harlingen and I think South Padra Island would be great but they say it was real windy there this winter. The weather in Treasure Island was the best I have seen. We had three bad days out of three months.. Jim and Carolyn came up and stayed over night one night. It was nice having them come and stay.

Sis, when I last talked to you, you said you have gotten rid of the pain. I hope it has gone for good and you are back to normal.. I know that pain can effect your life so much.. You should be about ready to head for Hawaii soon. I am glad that you can go and enjoy yourself.

Janice, I wrote this letter in pen scratching and then mentioned to Sonda that I wished I had word perfect, and she said that if you really looked, I would bet you have a program on your computer, so I looked and there it was. Now, everyone will be able to read what I am trying to say.

By the way, all you who do have a computer, are you aware that you can go on to the Army Corp of Engineers and watch the ships go through the Soo Locks in almost real time. There is about a 15 minute delay but it is so nice watching those big 1000 fotters go thru and they are so beautiful.

Frank, thanks for the cartoons. It is always enjoyed by all. I miss Fr. Boks and I hope he enjoys retirement. I used to see him at Tawas when I went to Mass there. It seems like all the good priests are retireing. Take care of the deer for us.. How are you doing with the footing around the house. That is a nasty job and I wouldn't want it for nothing.

John, this equate muscle rub sounds like a wal-mart brand. I will have to try it and see what happens. Take care of all those turkeys and make sure that they don't make any messes in your front yard.

Jim, I hope Carolyn is getting a handle on that Gluten problem. I would not want to have to look at everything that I eat to see what the contents of it is..I would not want to have to do all that traveling either. You do keep busy, and that must be why you stay so healthy. The sick bugs can't catch up with you. I hope to see all of you soon and take care of yourselves.

Love to all.

Sonda and Marty

QUER

May 24, 2007

Dear Dumont:

It's time to get this in the mail,
Thanks for keep^{ing} the plan moving. Always
something to look forward to a couple of
times a year. We don't get together very
much and it does help.

This is our first HEAT wave so far
and I haven't turned on the A.C. yet, my
apt rooms are at about 80° and not un-
comfortable.

With no kids my news is scarce -
and I don't like talking about the health
bit! And I don't want to give all your
newsy things away. It's nice to read
what you have to say.

Jan + Jean's little puppy is cute and will
probably be that way always! Turkeys in
your yards, keep 'em! I've seen that at
Houghton Lake. Where have to be I guess
it's funny how they choose the area to
habitat! I guess they get educated too.

In spite of many changes here life is
about the same, we don't have time to get
real acquainted and they are gone.

Larry this is short and not too sweet,
my very best to you and yours, keep the letters
coming! Love + Prayers to all, Elaine

Cadillac, MI
June 1, 2007

Dear Family: & Smokey

It appears that (arthritis) has hit most of the family, to some degree. Jackie and I have it, and she is in rehab for neck and shoulders. This next week will be the end of her treatment, we hope. I still have some problem with my right foot.

We had a 1.8" precip. May, very dry. The wild berries came into blossom in our yard, over the last 2 days. The blue berries appear to have ~~been~~ been frost killed to a high degree. Temp. wise, it is 2 summer days, and 2 spring days, either high or low of normal.

It appears that we all are to some degree retired for keeps. Hobbies are another thing, but helpful for all of us if not overdone.

Jean, your trailer is a bust from this side. The man that was interested finally decided that it was a little under sized for the box he wanted to mount onto it.

We are nursing our grass planting to repair from the several years of tree and stump removal and garage floor repair we have been doing. We had it hydro planted and it appears to be working. The soil here varies in the extreme within several feet distant from good to the pits, add on the extreme shade from the evergrowing large trees and you have a big problem.

No wild turkeys yet this spring, deer as usual, no coyotes, strange spring migration of geese and humming birds. The black squirrels are chewing the soft maple leaf bundle stems (probably for sweet taste) for the last week. I saw them doing it. The same thing happened last year, but I saw them in action the last 2 days.

We pray that all the ailing family members have some ~~mas~~ relief, if not I fear that there will be little traveling this year even if gas prices fall.

Jackie

6-7-07

My Dear Bro + Sister,

Just recieved the letters a couple of days ago and desided to get right on them as Im trying to get ready to go to Hawaii next tuesday. We plan to drive to Chicago and spend the night with our Grandson Joshua. He will take us to the airport wed. and we will travel straight to Kona. We will come back on 6-28-07 at 6.A.M.. We expect to rest for awhile before we drive home. John sent us our tickets and since Im feeling very well, Jan is caring for Michelle with the help of Rog D. and Chris, so we've ran out of excuses for not going. Its been 9 yrs since Rog has been there. Chris plans to do the Horses.

We have a Hibiscus plant that bloomed all winter long on the back porch. We have the Kitty bed out there and a heat lamp. It had four to seven blooms all winter long. Our cats had a Hawaiian paradise all winter and it sure lifted my spirits when I really need it.



2/ 6-7-07
It sure is nice to hear from all
of you.

Elaine came out last Eve for dinner
and got her new Perm washed. She is
feeling much better after a bout of something.

We decided to put off the reunion
because of Joe + Jackie's 50th. I hear
from young Joe that the surprise is they
don't know all of us are invited, we do
hope most of us can get there. I can
write this as Joe + Jackie won't receive
this until well after their party.

Rog + I will be celebrating our 57th
on Father's Day with John's Family.

I'm hoping to see you on July 14th.
Elaine + I will have the next reunion
when ever we can pull it off. Either
later this year or next year.

We Love you all and hope to
see you soon.

Sis, Rog
+ all

HI GANG-

IT'S THE DAY BEFORE JOE & JACKIE'S 50TH CELEBRATION AND I HAVEN'T GOT THE LETTERS OFF TO FRANK YET.

I HAVE BEEN VERY BUSY LEARNING TO BUY AND SELL STOCK OPTIONS ON THE COMPUTER. THERE IS A LOT OF RESEARCH INVOLVED. JEAN AND I WENT TO A SEMINAR IN FEBRUARY AND HE WANTED ME TO SEE WHAT I COULD DO WITH IT. I TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE OVER SOME THINGS SO I WOULD HAVE TIME TO WORK ON IT. HE AGREED TO COOK DINNER EVERY DAY AND THE MAJORITY OF SMOKEY'S CARE. SO FAR I'M STILL ON THE LOSING END BUT I'M IMPROVING. THE STOCK MARKET IS SO FICKLE. IF YOU DON'T KNOW (FICKLE) LOOK IT UP IN THE DICTIONARY.

JIM CALLED ME THIS A.M. HE TOOK CAROLYN IN TO THE HOSPITAL LAST NIGHT. HER BLOOD PRESSURE WAS WAY OUT OF WHACK AND HER SHOULDER AND BACK ACHED. THEY ARE TRYING TO SEE WHAT'S WRONG. HE CANCELLED HIS TRIP TO ST. LOUIS FOR ST VINCENT DE PAUL. I SHOULD HAVE MORE DETAILS TO GIVE YOU TOMORROW.

I JUST READ MARTY'S LETTER - IT REMINDED ME ABOUT HIS BOUT WITH SHINGLES. I HOPE ALL OF YOU ARE PAYING ATTENTION ABOUT SHINGLES. EVEN IF YOU HAVE HAD CHICKEN POX AS A CHILD, YOU NEED TO GET THE VACINE THAT IS NOW AVAILABLE. I BELIEVE IT SAID THAT ONE OF EVERY TWO SENIORS 60 AND OVER WILL CONTACT SHINGLES. MARTY CAN TELL YOU HOW PAINFULL THEY ARE. THEY CAN WIPE OUT YOUR HEARING PLUS OTHER THINGS. LOOK FOR THE ADS FOR THE VACINE. THAT'S ALL FROM DR. MARION FOR NOW.

JEAN PLANTED A GARDEN AGAIN. THE DEER, RABBITS AND GROUND HOGS ARE MAKING LIFE MISERABLE FOR HIM. HE'S LIVE TRAPPED 3 YOUNG GROUND HOGS SO FAR. HE DRIVES THEM TO A PARK A FEW MILES AWAY. HIS GREEN BEANS ARE ALMOST BARE, HIS PEPPER PLANTS ARE JUST BRANCHES WITH NO LEAVES.

JIM, DID YOU FIND HOW TO GET AROUND THE COMMUNION HOST FOR CAROLYN? I KEEP FORGETING TO ASK YOU.

(2)

I THINK THAT MAYBE, ELAINE (AND CHUCK) OUT OF ALL OF US, GOT THE MOST OUT OF THE FAMILY LETTERS. THIS ONE IS #50. THEY STARTED IN JANUARY OF 1988. I JUST WENT DIGGING TO GET THE DATE. 2007 IS THE 20TH YEAR. ISN'T THAT AMAZING? AS A RESULT, WE ARE CONNECTED ON A REGULAR BASIS AND I BELIEVE THAT IS THE WAY GOD WANTS IT. ITS INCREDIBLE HOW SCATTERED AND LOST SOME FAMILIES ARE TO THEIR CLOSE RELATIVES.

DEAR ABBY (THIS MORNING) TOLD ABOUT A MOTHER WITH 4 GROWN CHILDREN. THREE WERE MARRIED AND ONE SON WAS GAY. SHE AND HER HUSBAND COULD NOT WELCOME THEIR SON'S MALE FRIEND SO LOST SEVERAL YEARS OF HIS COMPANY. THE FATHER DIED AND EVENTUALLY SHE WORKED OUT A PLAN WHERE SHE WOULD SPEND (4) MONTHS WITH EACH OF HER 3 MARRIED SONS. ALL THREE FAMILIES REFUSED. HER GAY SON AND HIS PARTNER OFFERED HER A HOME IN ANOTHER STATE. THEY EVEN REMODELED IT SO SHE HAD HER OWN BATH. THEY NEVER ONCE REMINDED HER OF HOW SHE TREATED THEM FOR YEARS. HOW HARD IT MUST BE TO DEAL WITH THAT. (MY HAIRDRESSER OF 35+ YEARS HAS THE SAME SITUATION. HIS SHOP IS IN HIS HOUSE. FIRST HIS MOTHER WAS WITH THEM. AFTER SHE DIED, HIS PARTNER'S MOTHER CAME TO LIVE WITH THEM. THEY MAKE IT WORK. HOW BLESSED THEY ARE.

ENOUGH FOR NOW, MAYBE I WILL TAKE THESE WITH ME TOMORROW INSTEAD OF MAILING THEM TODAY. I HOPE I WILL SEE FRANK AND BETTY. I WAS PLANNING TO TELL YOU THEY ARE IN THE MAIL.

ANOTHER REASON I'VE BEEN EXTRA BUSY, PAT AND I WENT STRAWBERRY PICKING ONE DAY. WE EACH PICKED OVER 40 LBS. IT TOOK ME SEVERAL DAYS TO GET THEM MADE INTO JAM AND SAUCE. THEN, AFTER 3 SEPARATE PICKINGS, I HAD ENOUGH BLACK RASPBERRIES TO MAKE ONE BATCH OF JAM. IT DIDN'T SET SO I HAD TO DO THEM OVER. THEY ARE AS SEEDLESS AS I COULD GET THEM.

LOVE AND PRAYERS TO ALL OF YOU.

JAN AND JEAN

8-8-07

Dear Brother & Sisters!

I'm going to try and write something and send these on there way, the had the letters for some time and it seems that everything has gone down hill since, it started when I tore up my lawn mower about 3 weeks ago shortly after that I got the shingles and after that I got impacted it has been bad bad bad ever since, I used to think I was pretty tough but this is unending hurt.

I've asked Betty to add anything she can.

Lee Frank

Dear Family,

As you know - Frank is not well. Had not been for some time. He has spent some time in the hospital, which helped, but not much.

The wedding went beautifully - got compliments from everyone!

I am glad. Cheryl (Mrs. Miller)
 & I done everything that Crystal
 wanted. It was hard - with us
 in Mikado & her in Florida!
 But, we pulled it off.

Wayne & David are in Florida
 right now - fishing - and on
 vacation.

Will close for now.

Love & God Bless
 Frank & Betty

August 14, 2007

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

A couple of days ago I read the most recent family letters from brother frank. Since his was the first one up I was on the verge of tears. It looks like all the Dumont families in 2007 is going thru very tough times in so many ways.

There is one thing for sure you have all been in my prayers for many years now. The other serious problem seems to be pulled muscles and old age. Try (EQUATE) double strenght muscle rub from Wal-Mart for pain and less jet lag and more cat naps for old age; no cost for very good advice. As for wild animal distruction try fencing six foot high.

As for ourselves dry weather, high gas prices, Detroit kittens, big oil, only green tomatos, antique sales failure tiredness and discouragement with the human race is taking it's toll with me and likely all of us.

Frank and Betty worked very hard on their wedding in Mikado. Both the wedding and food was tops. I realize because of health problems and traveling cost It would be hard to attend for some.

Paul Bunyan and the Blue Ox have been moved to Ossineke and is being repainted this summer otherwise not to much excitement in Ossineke. However we do expect atleast 100 turkeys at mealtime this winter. Jan let me know if you would like five large coons at no cost as we have to many around here.

May God Bless and protect each and ever one of you and be gratefull for the blessings and freedoms you do have,

Will close for now and write soon.

Your Loving Brother,

John

Sept. 26, 2007

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is raining this morning which forced me inside so it is a good time to get the letters on their way. I am fine and Carolyn is doing better. I had one session this summer when I passed out and was taken to the hospital by ambulance. I was dehydrated and low iron. I stayed over night and feel fine now.

Carolyn is making progress and is finding foods that she can eat. Some of the gluten free foods are very good but some are not. We have found a bakery near Selfridge air base that bakes only gluten free products. She is having gluten free pancakes for breakfast now. They are good.

We have her on a very low gluten ($\frac{1}{100}$ of 1% gluten) host now. We purchased a pick that she puts one host in and puts it with the gifts before mass. It is taken to the altar with the hosts and the wine. At communion time the priest or deacon will put the pick into their pocket or palm until she comes to communion. They then give her the pick. She opens the pick and takes the host before she receives the wine. It has worked fine.

I have done a fair share of traveling since I last wrote. I was in Austin Texas last month. I went to Cleveland last week. I had another trip to Cleveland earlier, another to Youngstown, Ohio, one to meet with Bishop Cooney of Hylork, Two trips to Brudenville,

and one to Roscommon. I have another trip scheduled for Youngstown next month.

It appears that we all are having our aches and pains from time to time. Sis appears to be doing much better now. Thank God. Carolyn wants to start a new year now. He hasn't liked the last one, I pray that we all have a better year.

Our son Mark is having hip replacement surgery next week. He knew this was coming since he broke his hip 4 years ago in a snow mobile accident. Sheila's mother is fighting breast cancer and will have surgery soon.

Brian and Sandra had a baby girl (Renee Lynn) in mid August. That is number three for them. They moved to a bigger home in July. They are still in Royal Oak.

Well I better quit this now and get it into the mail. God bless and keep you all,

Your loving brother
Jim and Carolyn.

Hi Dumont Families,

It is time that I get this packet on the road as I have sat on it long enough.

Elaine, I saw you about a month ago, so I think I will mail these. I know what you mean about the turkeys. They are about the dirtiest animal on the planet. Worse than pigs but don't smell as bad. At least the deer come and go, but they do leave their droppings also.

Joe, it sounds like the wild animals are a daily occurrence up in your area. Good to hear that your lawn is going well. I got a little bored with not a lot to do, so I started two weeks ago, volunteering at Covenant Hospital in Saginaw. It is great for the soul and fun as well. We work in a team of three, and we escort new comers around the hospital who do not know where they are going, and we also pick up patients who have just been discharged and escort them to their cars waiting out front. The time goes by so fast and I see so many people that I know. It was the best thing that I have ever done. My hours are 11:30 to 4:30 on Wednesdays. One day a week is enough.

Sis, I have been to see you recently and all was well there. Good to have you back from Kona, except I wish I were over there. I am getting the urge to start packing for Florida, but I have at least two months to go so I will cool my jets.

Janice, I just received one of your e-mails and have sent it on. Those who do not use computers sure are missing out. It reminds me of the days when Sonda's mom did not want a microwave because she did not know how to operate one, but now she can't understand why she waited so long. Computers are a wonderful way to keep in touch, if you use them as they were intended. I hope your new puppies are doing fine and growing like weeds.

Frank, We took a color tour about a month ago and headed up to the Soo. When we got above the bridge, it started raining and kept on all through the evening and we got up the next day and the fog was as thick as heck, so we turned around and headed back south and when we got across the bridge, it cleared up so we stopped at Traverse City for the second night and then headed south to Grand Haven and stayed another day there. The next day we headed across the state, and stopped at an orchard just outside of Coopersville and found some wonderful apples, and then back home. We have been working on Sonda's mom's house at Tawas and I believe it is ready to go as far as a sale it concerned. Now, let's hope.

John, as you know, both Frank and I acquired the shingles this past year, and since then, I have gone and got the new shot that is supposed to ward off getting it again. It is so painful that it is worth it not to get it again. I know Frank would vouch for me on that score. If you worry, or have any stress, it would pay to get the shot. Good to hear that Paul Bunyan has been taken down and redone. It's been up there for a long time. As for muscle pain, I thought every one had it after 50, and just took Tylenol to relieve it. Keep busy, and that helps a lot.

Jim, I was so impressed with your new pickup. It must feel good to be driving down the road in the best pickup made. Hope you and Carolyn are doing well, and by now you are planning to take the trailer down to Florida. Sonda wants go go farther south for March so we are looking for a place down near Naples or Bonita Springs for March. Then we will come back home about the 5th of April. I like the place at Treasure Island but Sonda hates it as it does not have a pool. I told here that anytime she wants to swim, we could go over to the college and swim there, but she says it not the same. She likes to go down to the pool and set and read. I like to read anywhere so it does not matter to me. Sonda will be going back and forth, as her mom acts up when she is gone, so she will probably do the two up here and two weeks at a time down there. Well, I better get this gone so have a great day everyone and we love you lots. Bye.

Sonda and Marty

Nov. 18, 2007

Dear Families:

Time to send these letters on their way! My news is
poor and things about health I don't want to go into.
So what's left? The weather. I just wish you didn't have
to get old.

Casa Maria is not the same, our dining room is
a night mare - too many modes of getting around -
no place to park while we eat. Must be they think
it's a good place to reside, no ~~the~~ vacancies.

With your families, Christmas and all the trimmings
must be a real chore, but you do it because it's
for love! So far, I can get by writing checks.
I do thank God for that.

It's a pretty Fall day, but for me chilly.
Stop to consider Fall hasn't been too bad all in all.
We could stand some rain and snow, I do dare to
pay!! Have to take what we get.

Hope all your plans for Winter work to your
advantage. Going south or wherever. It's not too
bad thinking of being put in one place, maybe
I've done my share of traveling.

Casa Maria is being repaired all the time,
It's showing it's years, I've been here Eight!!
It's about 30 give or take.

Short and I hope sweet, you are all in my
prayers and thanks for all your kindness to me.
May our Lord bless you and keep you one and all!
Love, Elaine

Cadillac, MI
Nov. 23, '07

Dear Family:

It appears that we will be getting together on the 25th, so I better get this letter ready to send on to Sis for a quick turnaround.

This morning we has 11 degrees temp., while east of Grayling someone reported 8 below zero. Winter is getting too close. We have had 3 or 4 " of snow this last week.

The deer season has been very slow so far in this area. The ski areas are making snow as fast as they can, and the tourist industry is on goo-goo.

We wish you Florida vacationers low gas prices and good health. Our vacation was last month in Debois, Penn., about 100 Mi E of the Ohio border along I 80. The area is like much of northern Mich. Elk country but with more rocky outcrops. Our place had a ski slope in back, but it was setup for golf and summer recreation. It was a resort of about 10 square miles with 2 man-made lakes and a resident population of fairly well todo people with gate-d entrance and management. Plenty of deer and near a state elk management region to the north. I 80 is a toll road to near the Penn. border and is about to be made a toll road across Penn. in the next couple of years.

Our family is mostly in good health most of the time for our age and station. Jackie and I are dealing with our artheritis to the degree that we can walk but not as far as in years past. Last winter and spring was a trial, but according to the letters you all have experienced your own brand of health trials. Keep on truckin guys.

Son Ron has had his home foreclosed on, and is having serious job problems, but the rest of us are OK. Unemployment is about 7.7% in this area now, about 3% higher than most of the country.

This summer we had a good wild raspberry crop, while the other berries were a bust due to frost and very dry weather at critical times. We are about 17% low on growing season moisture. April and June were the only months with higher than long time average amounts. Much of the fruit areas of the state had above average fruit crops.

Merry Xmas To All

Love you all

12-6-07

My Dear Ones,

Things are very busy, but we are doing well health wise. Elaine has had a few bouts and missed her Birthday party, but she really enjoyed her gifts and many cards. Jim + Cindy didn't hear the party was called off so they arrived and we had lunch with them. They went to the hospital to see her and brought her home. It helped us a lot.

We got up north to have a prayer time with Frank + John and my sisters Betty + Pat. It was so nice.

Marty I know what you mean about volunteering. We have gone to Suncrust for visits + prayer for years, but the last eight years we've helped with the Mass or prayer service, because Mike has attended and we are his guardian. I've been a volunteer at the Thermb Correctional Facility for nearly 12 yrs.

we have Mass and a prayer meeting
after. I've been going every Tuesday,
but I'm going every other week now.
Jesus said "I was in prison and you
visited me." I believe God is allowing
me to slow down.

Jan I expect to see you soon. Be
very careful with the stock business.
I know people who have lost alot.

Joe we ~~were~~ looking forward
to seeing you & Jackie. It would have
been lots of fun for all of us.

all of you be happy & healthy
and we will see you when every
possible. It truly was a good
idea to start these Round Robin
Letters. I feel so close to all of
you.

God Bless you everyone
Sis, Rog
+ all