

Jim

Jan 29, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I have held the letters long enough so I will get them on the way to Marty. I am feeling pretty good for now and my knee has not locked up since I last wrote. Carolyn is still ailing. She is in a lot of pain with her hip and arthritis. She will get a shot in her hip next week and a hip replacement may soon be necessary.

We plan to fly to Arizona next Saturday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>. We hope for good weather and plan to return on Jan's birthday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.

We have had a lot of construction around us this past year. Two houses across the street have been torn down and two other large homes have been built on the first lot. They are starting to build two more on the second lot. They are each selling in the \$380,000 to \$400,000 range. The house to the east of us which had the drug dealer has been vacated and fixed up. It sold for \$180,000.

Jan told you about Elaine being in the hospital so I won't repeat. Elaine has a doctors appointment tomorrow so Carolyn and I will take her. She has been doing better since we got her medicines straightened out. Carolyn has been a great help because she can go into the doctors office and converse with the doctor and Elaine.

Jan gave me a file box with Mom and Dad's records in it yesterday. It has things like their marriage license, their baptismal records, their birth

certificates, Dad's military records, their death certificates etc. There are some record from their purchase and sale of the farm. I plan to bring them to the Dumont reunion in August. If you want copies we can make them.

I will close this for now. I pray for all of you and ask God to keep you close.

Your loving brother  
Jim & Carolyn.

MARTY

FEB 14th 2015

Dear Families

Its a cold day out today in Sunny Florida and we may as well go to Busch Gardens today as we cant lay out and get any sun.

Joe and Pat Marion were here for a visit last week and Linda arrived last night so she will be here for two weeks and then home for two weeks before returning for another two weeks.

Erland, your hand writing is so good. I guess I will have to take some lessons from you when I get home.

Joe, we are asking all the brothers and sisters to make a list of all their children including addresses and mail them to Pat Marion at 1201 Fox Knoll - Leonard, MI 48367 so she can invite them to our Dumont Reunion on August 29th. They will be asked to bring a dish TO PASS AND MEAT + SWEET corn



will be provided. Good to hear  
that Kathy is back to work

Lis and Jan.

I am so glad that all is well at  
the Bruce home. Be sure that you  
make a list and send it to Pat.  
Will John be home the last of Aug?

Jan, as you can see, we are working  
on the reunion so all is well.

What do you think about times for  
the reunion 4 to 7 or what? You  
said we did see a few old  
class mates (Henry on the old).

Betty, you should be down here  
in Florida and let the sun warm  
your joints up and you can move  
a lot easier. It has been a  
wonderful winter. I will head  
back to Michigan on April 6th.

John,

My tomatoes were a disaster  
last summer. I must be doing  
something wrong. Guess I will get  
the soil checked.



Jim, you are out in Arizona and enjoying the warm sun. My guess is that you will be coming home the first part of March. I am so glad that you, Carolyn + Janice are there to help out with Elaine's needs. God Bless you.

As for me, last April, I came home from Florida and weighed 196 LBS. With some help from a supplement I am down to 171 and can't loose any more weight. Guess I was full af shit and it's all gone. Haha.

Guess I better go as my writing is going south.

Love you all.  
Sonda + Murt

2-26-15

Dear Brothers and Sisters -

We (Pat and I) are planning a DUMONT Family Reunion for August 29th, 2015.

Joe and Pat will host this reunion. They live north of Rochester about 10 miles. (the Marion Family Reunion was held there in 2014.

What I need from each of you are addresses of all Mom and Dad's (DUMONT'S AND McGillli's's) descendants. These include those that do not carry the DUMONT SURNAME. This would include MOM's side of the family.

Please do the best you can to gather names, addresses and phone numbers so I can assemble a mailing list for this occasion. I fear I will forget someone just because they don't have a DUMONT or McGillli's last name. My phone number is 248-852-4270. These reunion notices should be mailed sometime in June. I know this will take some effort but it may be the last time we attempt to be all together.

Love, Jan

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I haven't much to write I don't  
do much but eat & sleep and go to  
the hospital & Mrs.

3-2-~~24~~  
2015

Will our weather ever "shape up"; so cold.

Sis, Jan, Micelle and Roger were here for  
short visit, they had been to ~~lunch~~ lunch. Sis  
was pretty good. Today is laundry day. They turned  
my mattress over, Good!! Every other week  
Jan does my laundry! She will write for Sis - the  
letters that is, so I changed the routine, Jan will send  
the letters to Joe. No problem! Jan Pantle

With AGE everyone falls apart! I'm no  
exception 95 isn't so bad!! my body is a  
surgeon's site mare!!

This place is getting lots of repairs and not  
the kind I'd like - I don't have an outer door -  
am that is I think it has to do with the  
ground heaving. my bed room door is O.K. I  
think!!

Do what you all been doing and thank  
our Lord for many years.

Bless each and every family and have  
a great summer Love & Prayers

Elaine

P.S. Thank you Betty  
for your letter!



Mar 6, 2015

Dear Dumont Family,

Everything is pretty much the same here. We're making it through the cold winter. We had nice holidays, us kids gathered at Mom's for Thanksgiving & Christmas.

I'm (for) still working here at Mom's & keep plugging away at organizing Mom's house for her. Today is Friday & we're waiting for Chris, Mindy to come & take Mom to lunch. We each have a day. Mon. is Jim & Donna, Tues. is me, Wed. is Bill, Thur. Ray & Fri. Mindy. We try to get her out as it's her therapy & she feels so much better getting dressed & going somewhere. Of course I try to make sure she looks her best (make-up hair done) We usually have her looking pretty sharp. John's two youngest daughters came up to visit from Virginia & played King on the corners with Mom. She enjoyed their visit. Mom is fun to work for, we try to keep our spirits up. She's funny at times. Almost every time she looks in the mirror she's says she's looking more like her mother I always say yeah me too. I don't know if John & Haze will be home for the family reunion usually they come in June & leave right after the 4th of July. Mom will write this last little bit. Hi my loved ones. we are getting thru the winter pretty well. It's fun to read the letters. I miss you all. Will try to make it to the reunion. Love you all so much. Sis

6-23-15

Dear Family -

It seems that the last batch  
of letters are lost.  
I sent them out in Nov. 2014.  
I always copy them for a record  
for our children.  
I will make a new set and  
get them going again.

Love, Jan ..

Cadillac MI 49601  
April 10 '15

Dear family,

We are recovering OK. Jackie is near her recovery from two serious eye operations. I will try hearing help sometime soon - It didn't work 3 time before.

We had snow flurries this AM. but spring is near and outside activity that I enjoy.

Thank you Jan for your efforts with our SIS. life wife to the rest of her family.

I doubt if I will be going to any region - mostly due to my water pill reaction - running to the BR. I doubt if the family will be traveling that distance ever again. The family is too numerous and scattered.

Good for you Elaine - keep plugging.

Jan we hope those of you that make it to a region. can live with the distant members being absent. We can barely get the close members together any more.

Jim and Marty will have to do the traveling and sun bathing for the family. I have learned to dread the heat as well as to extreme cold.

John it seems Alpena is booming. Good for you all. John, our tomatoes due very well in a good sunny site. and we aren't trying to put the grocery store out of business. Hope you are well again.

My wakeup call from Mom was just my name too wake me up nothing more but get alert to potential danger [severe weather in this case]



I have come to believe that my experience  
I have been spared serious injury several times  
probably by intervention from Mom - some how.  
My silent heart attack found in my bypass surgery  
is an example. You each my have examples  
in your lives. Our maker decides decides how  
we each will serve, how - where - and how long  
and where in this universe.

Joe & Jackie

Betty

6/27/15

Dear family,

There's not much news up here. My sister Laura was up the 21st and went home the 23rd of this month. Michael and Richard were up two weeks ago. We enclosed the back deck to make it a screen porch and are getting close to having it finished. We've been getting lots of rain. The garden is doing gret though. We just picked some Broccoli and it was delicious. There is nothing like fresh veggies!

I'm glad that Janice had a copy of the letters to start sending around again. There have been a lot of Box Turtles making nests on the side of the road here. Something keeps digging up the nests and eating the eggs though. I assume it's a skunk or raccoon or maybe even a coyote. It does it at night so we never get to see it! The Peonies bloomed extra large this year although they are very late. They are still in bloom in fact and normally would have bloomed last month and been done by now.

We are cutting down all the pine trees in the yard. Instead, we are going to plant Lilacs along the road for privacy. Also, we ordered some trees from Arbor Day Foundation and will be planting them around the yard. We have White Flowering Dogwood, Washington Hawthorn, American Redbud, and Sargent Crabapple trees. They are in the garden where they are protected by a fence until next year. Then they will go to their permanent place in the yard. The Lilacs will arrive this fall.

Well, that's about it for now. We look forward to reading the next letter when it arrives. God bless all of you. Be safe and take care.

Love, Betty Dumont

6-23-15

Dear Family -

It seems that the last batch  
of letters are lost.  
I sent them out in Nov. 2014.  
I always copy them for a record  
for our children.  
I will make a new set and  
get them going again.

Love, Jan



July 9, 2015

Dear Brothers & Sisters:

Recently I received the family letter from David & Betty. David you surprised all of us by the job you did.

All you ~~all~~ know I had a very serious stroke in late January. I have had to re-teach myself to write, see 20-20 down to 50-50, talk, walk and read regular print. Along with several other daily duties.

It looks like <sup>pat</sup> I will have to go in for a hip replacement sometime this fall. It looks like the next six months will be a real tough time for both of us.



July 23, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters

I received the letters from John last week and want to move them on faster so here goes. I have no knowledge of what happened to the letters but am happy they are moving again now.

It is a beautiful summer day and I am sitting on the front porch taking a break. I picked transparent apples this morning and made some apple sauce. It is a lot of work but it is sure delicious. Then I mowed the front lawn so it is time for a break.

Carolyn and I went out last week to see Elaine and Sis. It was nice to see them. We have been waiting for Carolyn to feel well enough to make the trip. She had her right hip replaced May 28<sup>th</sup> and is doing pretty well. She will finish therapy next week.

The garden is starting now. So far we have had peas, lettuce, cucumbers and zucchini<sup>SP</sup>. The tomatoes should start soon.

Our neighborhood is sure changing now. Builders tore down two houses across the street and are finishing four large houses. Three are done and occupied and the last one should be ready in about a month. All families have come here from India. They seem to be good neighbors.

I went to a meeting in Alpena for St. Vincent de Paul and stayed at The Lost Lake Woods Club. That was the first time I had been in there. We have driven past it many times over the years but have never been



in there. While I was up there I stopped to see Betty and David as well as John and Pat. It was nice to see them.

I have talked to everyone in the family lately except Joe. I should give him a call.

We are waiting for Carolyn to get feeling better so that we can drive down to see her brother Hank in North Carolina. He has not been doing well this year and Carolyn would like to see him. He is her only living sibling.

I guess I have covered all the news from this end so I will wind this up for now. We love you all and pray for all of you daily. Take good care of yourself and God bless you

Your loving brother  
• Jim and Carolyn.

Marty

8-23-15

DEAR FAMILIES---- ONE AND ALL

Its August 23<sup>rd</sup>. and time that I get this done and so I can take it to the reunion on Saturday. My letter that I scribbled in March while in Florida was not in the packet so I am happy for that. I sure miss my computer printer while in Florida. We had to come home early about a week so my landlord will let me come in on December 29<sup>th</sup> this winter so I will get about 13 weeks of sunshine this next winter. I am convinced that the northern winters take their toll on the body so will try to absorb all the sunshine that I can, and not put up with the gloomy winters in Michigan.

W<sup>E</sup> got back yesterday from Alyssa's wedding and now they are on a cruise of the western Gulf of Mexico, and hopefully they will have good weather.

I am looking at Elaine's letter and oh how I wish I could write like that. I hope I get to see her this coming weekend. Jim will try to get her there.

The Letters are about a year old so I will not dwell on the past and try to make the best of it. Looks like Joe has the typewriter working again.

I think Jannie is writing for sis so we can keep up with her. I understand that things are fairly normal in the Imlay City area. Elaine's complex is getting run down as the maintenance is far from what it used to be.

I did not get up to see Betty and David when I was at the class reunion. I did see Roger Silverthorn for the first time in about 60 years and many others who are still around and making the reunions at Oscoda a success.

There is one lady who is from the class of 1929 who keeps coming every year. She is a real class act. I believe she lives in California and does not miss a beat.

I had a dealer trade up in Alpena recently so I stopped and saw John. He is keeping the place pretty sharp and still holding his own. He said he definitely would not make it to the reunion.

I talk to Jim and Carolyn almost weekly and they are on the mend. I think they are keeping the Detroit area hospitals in business. I have an added job at the dealership and it entails taking random patients to area hospitals free of charge. The dealership provides a car and driver to take patients to area hospitals including Detroit and Toledo for appointments and cannot afford to make it on their own. It gives me some added time on the road. I am way ahead of last year and have almost made enough to pay the Florida rent and have four months to go yet. You probably wonder if I will ever quit work. Probably not. The undertaker will probably have to set up a roadblock to catch me. LOL

Guess I will have to get off this keyboard and say

We shall see you all soon.

Love you all. Sonda and Marty

9-2-2015

Dear Families:

A whole year has passed since I last wrote!!  
Hope all is not changed that much? I was  
at Joe & Pat Mariano for the Dumont reunion.

Very nice and saw alot I never see!!

I'm doing pretty good for 95. I don't  
know what else. I'm not without aches  
and pains and trips to the hospital.

The weather sure is FREAKY Hot & Humid

to day.

Don't know about Bro John - don't hear from  
David - I need to phone!  
Jim has been watching over Carolyn. They  
have their own health problems.

Very glad to not have "big" news but I  
do wish you all the best always and  
write me to me any day!!

Love & Prayer

P.S. Miss you  
Joe!!

Elaine

Cadillac, MI  
9,17,20 15

Dear Family

It is time to answer the letters. On reading them again I more <sup>order</sup> ~~aprer~~ than when I read them first.

I will first try to answer the ? of MOMs visit. I was napping in the afternoon. I awoke to my name spoke, and recognised MOMs voice (like a very strong middle aged and he-althy MOM. No more voice. I then understeed that this was the second time she had called me. I didnt remember a first time, probably due illness. I was told to w-ake up to dangerous potential weather and to be watching for other dangers at all times. I called Jackie to ask her if she had called from her work in the sunroom, She had not called. On rethinking the happings, many times over a long time, I feel that MOM wished to communicate by mental means. I now feel that she has found a way to help her children and that we all can receive help by only thinking of it. This is faster for most critical situations. I now think this would apply to all of the family. Our departed family members are not in this universe most likelly, but could be called as help is needed by mental thinking.

It is amazing at the number of us with similar illls. Jackie is dealing with hip and leg joint problems that about stopped our walking, that the Dr said we should get an hour of wqlking each day. Fat ehance.

It is getting like Fall more each day and we will be getting frost soon. The fall of our lives is very evident. Jan names Round Rob~~in~~ robin 66. I am in last week of age 65 and have much nervous troubles, and am limited to doing the most necessary work. If I can hold teels I do quite well for shorter times.

God Blessall of ours

Joe & Jackie



Oct 29 2015

Dear Family,

This is for writing for my mom, Mary. Things are going along pretty much the same. I've been here over a year now & the house has been gone through getting different drawers cupboards etc cleaned out & organized. We still take turns taking Mom & Michelle out to lunch. Ruels moved to Florida for a job so Roy is the only one here with them in the evenings. Mom & Michelle got perm's last week so they should be good for the holidays. We enjoyed the Dumont family reunion this summer (Mom remembered it for a while afterwards) It was good to see all who we get to see missed the ones we didn't. I've been getting Ruels room cleaned out & ready as a guest room. Roy is planning on going to Florida to spend Christmas with his sons so we will all have to take turns (<sup>my</sup> brothers & I) spending afternoons & nights with them while he's gone. We go see Aunt Elaine every other Tuesday for a visit for Mom I think they like to see each other once in a while Well God Bless you all I'll let Mom write a few lines  
Hi Family, Love + miss you all. Sis

11-19-15

Dear Dumont Families -

I received the letters a couple of weeks ago - so I'll write my new one and get them on their way.

We are paying our daughter-in-law (Vicki) Rob's wife to take care of us for a few (6) hrs. a day - 5 days a week. Neither of us drive anymore so she drives us to Drs. appointments and etc. Andy usually comes Sat. afternoon to take me (Jean hasn't been going) to church. When we get home - we order a carry-out supper.

Betty - its nice that you still have the energy to garden and plant trees. (I expect one of the boys did the digging.)  
→ ~~Thanks~~ - I hope you got your joints working again. I expect all of us have a fear of those problems.

I don't know  
which letter  
I read for  
this  
comment.

John & Pat - I hope both of you are over your health problems. It seems to be a big subject for the letters. At least we are still here that's a big plus.

Jan - thanks for taking over Liz's letter

writing. I guess at this stage we can all expect memory problems.

Joe - has any dangers come up in your dream? Interesting to be contacted by Mom. Maybe she or Dad will visit the rest of us. Typing your letter is one way to write. It's easier than forming letters.

Elaine - I know you're not far away but I hesitate to ask one of the boys to take me up there. It seems ~~to~~ like I don't want to leave the house. The traffic is always heavy.

Son Rob is building a nice new home next door to us. They bought the old house that is there and will tear that down when the new one is ready.

The new one sits back farther on the lot. These lots are one acre. <sup>(50)</sup> It's nice to have them next door.

Love to all,  
Jan  
Marty - your typing is great. I guess I could write on my computer but this seems more homey. I guess hand written letters is old fashioned.

Elaine - Our letters all talk about aches and pains. (Favorite subject for our age group.)

Jim - I'm glad to hear Carolyn is better.

I'm running out of space so will close.

November 25, 2015

Dear family,

It's nice to hear from everyone again! Sorry to hear about all the trouble everybody is having lately. Mom is having her fair share

of problems as well. In August she broke her foot just above the toes. Then, she broke her wrist in early September. Before that was

fully healed she broke her foot again!. She finally got out of both casts in November. They took forever to heal. As you may know

she is pretty much confined to a wheelchair now. While she was in her casts a home healthcare agency sent nurses and aides to help her exercise and get bathed. However, that only lasted 8 weeks and now it's back to just mother and myself. She gives herself a sponge bath because she can't get in the tub on her own. During the month of October Wayne took care of mom for me while I went to

Florida to help my daughter Crystal and son-in-law Kevin work on their new house. It was great being able to spend that much time with them and my two grand daughters. Wayne and I haven't seen a single buck during deer season. The entire week BEFORE season there

3 spike horns, a six point and an eight point coming in every day! They literally disappeared the day before season started. What

luck!!!! We just received the lilac bushes that we ordered from Arbor Day. I stuck them in the garden until spring. Then I will plant

them in the front yard next year along the road. All the pine trees in the front yard have been cut down. We were tired of raking

pine needles and picking up pine cones. The plan is to line the entire roadfront with lilacs.

Uncle Jim, I too have been in Lost Lake Woods a few times. It's beautiful in there! I wish I could afford to live there!! I hope Aunt Caroline's brother is doing better now. Uncle John, I got a kick out of the fact that everyone was surprised by the letter I wrote. Did you think I couldn't spell? I AM college educated you know. But thanks for the compliment. I was a straight "A" student!

Sorry to hear about Aunt Pat needing hip surgery this fall. Not to mention all the trouble you have had this year too! Wow!

That's a

BIG watermelon. It must have taken you a week to or more to eat it all! I'm glad the church bought the old store and tore it down.

That thing has been an eyesore since I was a little kid. It looks really nice now. Uncle Marty, I know what you mean about the winters here. I got spoiled in Florida. I wish I could go down there every year for the winter. You are very lucky indeed to be able

to do that. I know you work hard to be able to afford it and so you absolutely deserve it! Sorry we didn't get to see you while you

were up for your class reunion. P.S. If you see a road block, go AROUND it! LOL!!! Aunt Elaine, my goodness you are doing well for

you age. I can only hope that I am so lucky. Your hand writing is still so easy to read too! Our weather was really goofy all year this year. It makes me wonder what in the world is going on! Is this climate change or is it just a natural cycle that the earth goes

through? Everybody is quick to blame mankind for the weather changes but they all seem to forget that the earth goes through cycles

every few thousand years or so. We have had a few Ice Ages as well as hot spells over the history of the earth. So i'm not convinced

that this isn't just a natural thing that is happening. Uncle Joe, it's nice that you are hearing from your mother! I agree that we

can communicate with our dearly departed family members. I



sometimes feel that I hear from my departed family as well. It's a good feeling really!

Jan, it's nice that you are taking care of your mother! I feel that it's more important for family to take care of each other rather than having someone else do it whenever possible. Family just cares more than a stranger. It sounds like perhaps like Aunt Mary has a little Alheimers or something. Mom also is suffering from dementia. She is in the early stages but anyone that has called knows that she has a hard time talking. She can't think fast enough I guess. I'm sure Rog is going to enjoy himself in Florida. It's nice down there.

Aunt Janice, it's also nice to see that your kids are taking care of you! We should all be so fortunate in our later years.

Don't be too hard on Uncle Jean about not going to church though. GOD is everywhere at all times and he can speak to him whenever he wants.

I'm sure that GOD understands his reasons for not going. Mom doesn't have the energy to plant anything though, that is all on ME. LOL!

I don't mind though. It keeps me busy and gives us free wholesome food that you just can't get in a store. No chemicals to worry about. Mom just tells me what to plant and supervises. I too would write by hand but I'm afraid that some of you wouldn't be able to

read it. That is why I type. That way I know everyone will be able to read it with no problem. I also set the font to 14 so the type

is larger. I know what you mean about the traffic down there. I can't stand going down state anymore. It's nice that Rob is building

a house right next door to you. Those are BIG lots for down there. WOW! Sounds expensive.

I think by now most of you are getting tired of reading this

letter. I know it's pretty long. We are praying for all of you and  
love  
all very much. GOD bless everyone. We look forward to the next  
letters. Thank you for keeping in touch!

Love, Betty and David

12-2, 2015

Dear Brothers + Sisters,

Recently I received the family letter from Betty (David) say like last week. David congrads ~~me~~ on your most recent letter.

Its a good thing these letters are showing up now. a couple of months ago you could not have read or understood it.

The christmas and deer seasons has now closed for 2015, as we have christmas on Thanksgiving weekend (sat 6 PM).

The deer kill down on the farm was very good again this year. as of now (2) 6fts (1) 7ft (1) 8ft. The avg per year has been 3-4 over the last 10 years.

I recently had to part with my 1991 Buick. rust and non usage done us both in. It was very hard to part with it.

It looks like we are all facing new  
parts, blindness or strokes! They are all  
very hard to deal with in our daily struggles!  
a 24 year old vehicle needs to retire as well.

The weather up here so far this winter  
has been very nice. all total I do not believe  
we have had 3 inches of snow and mostly 40s.  
Recently a man from Rogers, City won 1.1  
million on the lotto. My buddy in Washington  
received over \$60,000 of the above. Sharing  
is one of Gods gifts at Christmas time is it not.

This year I had to mow the leaves 7  
times, as they kept on falling and the grass  
kept on growing thanks to your true  
green treatments.

The Lincoln highway dept will have a  
new garage soon. The old <sup>one</sup> barn <sup>was</sup> burned down  
a couple of years ago.

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

Love

Brother John

12/9/2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I received the letters a few days ago and want to allow Marty time to answer them before he goes to Florida. So here goes. Carolyn and I have been having some ailments but no major ones at the present time. I have been having dizzy spells but we think they are due to me not drinking enough water. I am using the bath room alot now.

We are very busy preparing the giving tree at church now. We have forty some needy families now plus many groups. Our largest groups are two nursing homes. We are collecting the gifts now and will hope to have them delivered by the 21<sup>st</sup>.

We were very happy to see Sis and Elaine for their birthdays and Marty and Sonda for their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Elaine turned 96 and Sis turned 85. Happy birthday Joe on your 86<sup>th</sup>, I will turn 79 next month.

Joe I have not heard from Mom yet but will be very pleased if I do. We will be very blessed if she is watching over us.

Jan, I want to thank you for all you do for your mother (Sis) and for Elaine. It is a big job and if you ever need something, let me know.

David, I also want to thank you for all you do and also writing for her. If you also need something, let me know.

John, it sounds like a good year for hunting. Mark went up but did not have any luck. While he was driving up I called him to let him know I was



looking at a six point buck eating apples in  
my back yard. It was a beauty.

Well I better close this up and get it in  
the mail. God bless all of you. I pray for you  
daily.

Your loving brother  
Jim and Carolyn

15/6/2012

Hi Dumont's-one and all:

December 19,2015

Well, here we go again. I just finished a book "INTO OBLIVION" by Robert L. Bunting and it was quite a book. It was about the town of Alcona and a ship that was lost off Alcona by fire. The ship was the Marine City, and an all wood ship and it caught fire shortly after departing Alcona for Detroit, and many were lost.

The town of Alcona was a lumberman town and burned in 1893 and the population dwindled after the fire as the lumber workers moved inland to start farms or moved south looking for work. The town was north of Harrisville but south of Black River about 5 miles, and had a population of about 1000 . It had a railroad that went out on a long dock, to service the ships that service the great lakes. WOW< WHAT A BOOK.

Also I have known a man here in Freeland for about 49 years, and the other day he caught me at the post office and said, Marty, someday I am going to research the fact that my Uncle Albert or Al Lalonde married a lady from Oscoda by the name of Laura. Well, it turns out that my Aunt Laura married Mr. Lalonde in AuSable. She was born in Lowell, Mass. And moved with the family to Michigan at the age of 3. She died at the age of 35 in Oscoda and is buried next to Grandpa and Grandma Dumont in the Oscoda cemetery. She died 10 years before I was born.

Elaine, your writing is wonderful and I wish I could do that well. You looked so good at the Dumont family reunion. I hope you have a wonderful Christmas.

Joe, I would think that roller skates would get you up to two miles, and not a lot of work doing it, but I have never had too much luck with roller skates , so I just power walk. I try to walk two miles a day for at least 5 days a week. I imagine that sooner or later, my joints will need a repair job as well. Hope Jackie's are on the mend,

Jannie and Sis, You both looked so good at the reunion. It was a great day and I would not have missed it for the world. Glad that Rog is spending time in Florida for Christmas. He may not want to come home.

Jan, I am happy that Rob is building next door. It will be nice to have someone real close, to help you out. Yes, I am wondering when mom will give me a shout, but I guess I have to wait my turn. Sorry to hear that Jean is not making it to church, and I do not look for that day when I can't make it to church. You and I talk quite often so we are staying up on the scoop.

David and Betty, I am sorry for all the broken bones, and hopefully, they are all healed. David, where is Crystal located in Florida??? I have seen so many deer hit my cars, in fact when I was coming back from Michigan City, Indiana a couple of weeks ago with a new Chrysler 300, just north of Battle Creek, a car ahead of me hit a deer and I was so fortunate to be 5 seconds late. Lots of deer here.

Your typing is great.

John, sorry your Buick finally did itself in. You have never told me about a buddy in Washington and the \$600,000. I have no buddy's in Washington, so I must be out of the loop. Had not heard of the county road commission burning down.

Jim, we talk about once a week, and all your and Carolyn's joint problems. Are they getting any better. I am leaving on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Of December for Treasure Island, Fl. and plan to head back north on April 5<sup>th</sup>. It's in the 20's here today and time that I get out of town. Anyone wanting sunshine, just call me at 989-3975229, and I will ship some to Michigan. Florida has about 350 days of sunshine per year and it is good for the brain and its functions. Well, I better go so I can ship this off to Elaine. Bye all.

Love Sonda and Marty