



WASHINGTON NEWS by RUTH LENTZ

Flying first class - I had quite a trip to Kodiak, Alaska. First I went to Everson, Washington to visit my son Roy. He came to Oregon to pick me up and take me home with him and Shelli. I enjoyed two blissful weeks with them and their families. I got to spend time with my four great grandchildren. Both Britton and Halli have two children, a boy and a girl. Britton's children are Taylor, 2 years, and Colton, 4 months. Halli's are Dawson 3 years old, and Lainey 1 year old. Lainey is so cute. She always wants to do everything that Dawson does. It was delightful. We went in to Shelli's parent's home on Lake Whatcom in Bellingham several times. That was really great. Her parents were gone on a trip, so we had the place to ourselves. Everyone loved that.

Then on the first of July, Brandi, my granddaughter, came up and took me back to her place in Renton, WA. On July 4th we left by plane for Kodiak, AK. Fred and Joanie had a lot of free miles on the planes, so they used them to pay for Brandi and my way to Alaska, and there was enough to let us go first class. This was quite a trip. When we got to Anchorage we had to leave the plane only long enough to change the officers, then we took the same plane to Kodiak. When we came home, we had to lay over for 3 hours in Anchorage. The planes were really full this day. There were 4 planes that afternoon going to Seattle, and ours was the last one. They were all full.

Since there was no unloading dock in Kodiak, the people took me off and back on with a lift. Coming home they put me on the rear of the plane. Then they put me on a narrow chair and wheeled me up to the front of the plane. That was an

experience I had never had before. Then they left the wheel chair for me to use while in Anchorage.

Riding in first class is not much different now. They do feed you, but not much better than in coach. We got a big salad and a croissant sandwich. I did not care for the salad because it looked like different kinds of weeds. I know lots of people like this, but I don't. I did eat the sandwich and gave the salad to Brandi, she loved it.

We both had books to read so the 3 hours went fast. I was really surprised at how many people were coming back to Seattle.

Brandi, her son Jacob, and I had a good time in Alaska. Fred took time off to take us to see some of the island. We got some pictures of the Eagles there hunting for fish. There were a lot of eagles. We did not see any bears there this year. A lot of the people I had visited with there were gone this time. Joanie did take me to the Senior Center for lunch one day. It was very good. They serve good meals.

We did not bring any fish home with us this time. Lavelle is in Alaska now on a fishing trip and will bring home enough for us. We had fish to eat while in Alaska and Fred always has lots of fish on hand.

Fred is keeping busy, as usual, but Joanie has cut back on her dog grooming. She only does little dogs now. She says it is too hard to do the big dogs. Joanie spends time helping Fred out in his office instead. That helps him and keeps her busy too.

Everyone here is doing all right. I hope all the rest of the family is doing good too. I want to wish each one a Happy Birthday, just in case I did not send you a card. I also want to send you lots of love with bushels of kisses and hugs.

Love always, Ruth Lentz

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News from Alaska

Hi Everyone –

Fred and I thought we would send you this clipping to show you why? We love Alaska. This winter has



been a holy terror and we've been busy training new help so we're both played out at the end of the day, but I told Fred I would write a letter. We haven't been able to leave the island because of weather! I hate missing Grand Lodge in Anchorage. We did get a nice dress-up lobster dinner at the Elks Saturday. Kind of takes your mind off the seasons.

Talked to Mom Ruth & she sounds cheerful. Ruth, Brandie & Jake are coming in July to visit – we are looking forward to it.

Fred & I were voted King & Queen this year for the crab festival. It was fun and we didn't get wet. The rain waited till we were done. I'm glad because these old bones won't take too much!



I started this letter in May so ... I will try better next time.

Love

Joanie & Fred Lentz

~Hello from Whitmore Lake, **Michigan**~

The weather has been very hot and humid. I don't like the hard heat, and can't get much done.

Timothy just came home from a week at Marching Band Camp and it was very hot for them. However, it wasn't as hot as last year when it hit 115 degrees. They all worked long and hard each day with few breaks. Now he is having practice on the school field every Monday even though school doesn't start until September 4th. They have to be ready for the first football game because they play and march at each game. I just can't believe that school is about to start again. The summer went by so fast. It always does for the kids but it does for me too because I love having time with them.

I have one of James' friends, Ryan, staying with us this summer until he goes off to school in Muskegan, Michigan, about 2½ hours away from here. He is going to school there (an Army program) to be a pilot and is in the National Guard. The last weekend he went to drills they were showing them how to crawl low using just the arms while armed, but the problem was they had them "drop" right into a bed of poison ivy!! Twenty of the twenty-two in the patrol got it severely....and they were not allowed to come back in for their next drill weekend until they cleared up. One went to the hospital. Ryan had it bad, but no hospital. The grounds crew, which was supposed to take care of it, is in real trouble.

Kelli is working hard as ever while still looking for a teaching job. Hard to find around Michigan. They are closing schools all over here. Just have to keep looking.

I was told about an accident in California and pulled up the article on the Internet. A couple went out on the hiking trails in Bille Park in Paradise, CA, and fell off the cliff! They were headed towards the Lookout. Unfortunately, many teenagers use the lookout for suicide, (about 1 per year) driving their cars off the cliff. It is so far down that they just put an X on the top of the car after it has been checked, because it is so hard to get them out of there. This way they know if there are any new ones. Anyway, this wasn't all. One of those hikers is a quadriplegic woman, and the other a paraplegic man. They were in electric wheel chairs! The path sloped towards the cliff. There were warning signs, "continue at own risk." The man fell first, about 25 to 30 feet down the estimated 80 percent slope. The women got excited and lost control and went off the edge too. She fell 75-80 feet, which got even steeper just after where she stopped, and landed in bay trees and poison oak! He, not able to hear anyone above to help, crawled using his arms only down to her. Someone soon heard them and called for help. There was no way to get any vehicles on the trail so all help had to go on foot and tie ropes to trees to get down to them. It took many

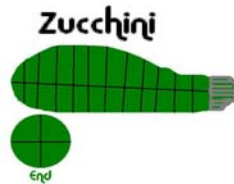
people and units and two helicopters to get them out. They were able to get the wheel chairs out too. She has fractures and a twisted arm but is unable to feel any pain. The man has unknown injuries. Just wanted to share this.

http://www.chicoer.com/news/ci_6610034?source=rv

Monday, Aug., 13, 2007.

Hey, I am still serious about collecting family recipes. I have a few started already. So for this issue I want to tell you all about Zucchini Chicken.

Brown your chicken. Add a large can of Cream of Mushroom soup. Use the equivalent of a quart of home canned tomatoes. Cube a large zucchini and simmer until hot and zucchini are tender. On the side make White Rice. Serve the sauce/zucchini mixture atop the rice as your side dish along with your chicken. Very good, Enjoy.



Well, I think this is all for now. I wish everyone the best. Love and Kisses.

Linda (Tripp) Sjostrom and family, daughter of James and Esther (Bariger) Tripp, Son of Soloman and Lurinda (Towle) Tripp

~News from Georgetown, TEXAS
by Marcy Leopard~

Sorry, it has been a very, very, trying last two months. Dad is in a nursing home and working and making sure mom gets to the nursing home and home, and etc, etc, etc. I have not ever looked at my computer. I just step in here to see about the weather and seen your email.

I have to go to the nursing home to get mom so have to go right now, I don't know when the deadline is for getting a letter in, but will try to write one tomorrow, if not too late.

Again sorry, it has been a very difficult two months.

Marcy (Lawrence Towle's daughter)

[ed note: Marcy we are very sorry to hear what a tough time you are having right now. We will add your dad to our prayer list. Nancy]

~News from Arizona – by Virginia McGee~

Sorry, Consider my hand slapped. *[VM is responding to the 'shame on you' for not writing into the family newsletter email from Sue Ann ... cute]*

Hello Family,

We are all doing fine here in Southern AZ. As many of you know I have started a Yahoo Group for our family so we can get to know each other better. I have

already had more contact with Great Aunt Alice and my cousin Theresa, but I'd like to get to know more of you.

I remember Great Aunt June's family from our brief acquaintance when Grandma, your Great Aunt Frieda, took me to visit for the family reunion in Iowa, when I was a teenager. I remember liking you all very much. I have some good memories of that time and would like to say Hi again. My own cousins, I don't think I've spoken to any of you in years, except for Donna and Theresa, and that was very recent. Both of whom have joined the Yahoo group, hint, hint. To join the group all you have to do is go to,

Tripp_Record-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

or you can email me at,
vkmcgee2@yahoo.com
and I'll send you an invitation.

I just got a phone call from Anthony, my oldest in Afghanistan a few days ago. If all goes well and our Commander in Chief does not extend them, his unit should be able to come home before the end of the year! Have you ever thought of that title? Commander and Chief, it sounds weird. Why Commander and Chief? Why not just Commander? Oh well, life is full of mysteries. He says they don't really get much excitement where he's at. They're just glorified babysitters for the engineers. Didn't you know? Yep, we are all spending tax dollars to make life better in Afghanistan by building schools amongst other things. My son's says for the most part they aren't bothered, because of what the natives are getting out of it. Meanwhile here at home in AZ, teenage pregnancy is one of the highest in the country and so is the drop in our rate. I think CA has us beat on both. AZ spends more on the roads then it does on its children. Such is life I guess.

Christopher, my youngest is still working in the kitchen of a bar. He seems to like it and has plans, if all works out right, to buy the kitchen from the bar owner. He runs it too. He works very hard at it. The most favorite thing in his life right now seems to be his motorcycle. He just got a BMW and he's in love with it. So he's happy, for the most part, which is all a mother can ask.

Dana, my husband, is still working as a gate guard for Ft. Huachuca (pronounced Waa chu ka). I don't know how long he'll be at it. His legs and neck hurt more each week he does it.

I am still going to the doctors trying to get a firm diagnosis on what is wrong with me. I was told it was fibromyalgia, but now I have to go to another doctor almost eighty miles away, so he can do the tests all over again and say the same thing. Once he gives the

diagnosis, I guess they'll stop doing the tests. I'm about to put a stop to it soon anyway. I'm tired of the trip to Tucson. I feel bad for a couple of days after I go. I'm thinking of trying to get a job again. I don't feel half as bad as I did a year ago and I managed to work. I just have to find a job in which I can use my brain not brawn. The only problem is that when I take the medicine they gave me I have trouble functioning in the morning. It makes it easier the rest of the day, but I don't get up as early as I used to. Well, a person does what a person, has to do I guess. I think Dana needs to go to some doctors for a while.

It's a Zoo around here right now. I've got four dogs, 11 cats, 2 ferrets, and a Guinea pig. Two of the dogs are just dogs I'm trying to keep out of the pound by finding homes for them. I haven't been too successful though, so far. One of the cats we inherited from one of Dana's sisters when she died, and 2 more cats we're just looking after for a couple months so the owners can get settled in a place and get the pet deposit paid, so they can keep their own cats. The ferrets and the Guinea pig are my oldest boy's. I'm watching them for him while he's away. Well, that's about it for us.

Hope to see you all in the Tripp Record, that's the name of the group. Here's a hoot. I named the family photo album, "Tripping Though Time." Like it?

Take care all, Virginia

News from Pinckney, MICHIGAN by James Tripp
Hello to everyone.

I want to begin with the news that I am a Great Grandpa again. My son Rodger's son Nick and wife Tonya are the proud new parents of a beautiful baby girl. Born June, 10, 2007 is Eleanor Elizabeth Tripp. She was 7.1 oz, 21.2". She is amazingly strong and a very good baby. Hopefully we will have a picture to add next issue.

The garden is having a hard time because of the lack of rain this year. Rodger has been trying to water it every day but it just goes right through the ground. The weatherman tells you one thing and the opposite happens. Sure glad for all the technology of today! Bailey, who is Rodger's Daughter Jody's daughter, loves to come over and be in the garden with him. She will be starting school this fall. She is growing up fast.

We have had a couple of real bad storms and I have a lot of tree damage here on the farm. I have right now over 11 trees down that I know of so far. One of those trees came down and just missed my truck. Then one of the trees went across my fence and onto the neighbor's property. Another is leaning bad and is aimed right towards my big 1892' Bulldog Engine. So much to take care of and the chain saws are ON STRIKE!

About a week ago we were hearing some noises around the barn. Trying to find it, looking up on the roof, pushing the tin right up in the air was a raccoon poking his head out!



He had been in the attic part of the barn and couldn't figure out how to get free. He couldn't get the tin high enough to get his body out, but he just kept trying over and over anyway poking his head out each time, and then just looking around like "what do I do now?" Then just yesterday I was outside and saw some Bumble Bees,



the smaller ones are meaner and like to sting over and over just for the fun of it. They are around the base of the garage the whole length.

They were all over. I tried to kill them and two got into the back opening of my hat! I had to swat myself in the head! I didn't get stung but I did decide to wait for some spray to get them. When I tried that they got mad and came after me again. I give up for now. Try again another day. I remembered when Norman and I were around 10 or 12 years old and Norman looked in a tree stump. Faster than you could imagine a Bumble Bee came up from inside there and stung him right between the eyes. Being such a sensitive area it affected his vision and he could hardly even walk. I helped him back to the house, about 1/2 mile away, and Papa gave us a talkin' to about bees! Stay away!



Well, I guess that is all for now. Take care everyone. Love James Tripp, son of Solomon and Lurinda (Towle) Tripp. Pinckney, Michigan.

~News from COLORADO by Teresa Morgan~

Not much to tell you. My mom and Dad are still doing ok. As for me, I ended up in the hospital for about 4 days. High blood pressure got out of hand is all. Working on getting it back in control. Of course it isn't going fast but it is going. Not much to say either. Love everyone ...
Teresa

[Ed. Note: As you can see, Teresa sent a note for the newsletter and even got it in early... but when she got another reminder from Sue Ann to get those letters in ... she took it personally and sent another note. So ... this is her second note. Good work Sue! Nancy]

Hello again!

Now you have my letter. I have been busy with things around here, looking for a new job and all. My Mom and Dad are doing good, I get a report from one of my grand daughters on how they are doing since they

live with my middle son and seem to be happy living there. I might add, as for the rest of the family, they are doing ok. Brother Don had another stroke about 2 months ago. But from what I have been told, he is doing ok now. Brother Jim is still kicking. Jeannie is doing ok. She lives in California. I was in the hospital for 4 days with Very high Blood pressure. But I am back up and fighting. I won't let it get me down. Well I will chat with you all the next time we shall write for the family.

Love Teresa Morgan/Pomeroy

~News from **Shelton, Washington** by Elaine Lentz~

The good news: It is the year for babies. Ivan (Hispanic pronunciation) Jantzen Lentz was born July 20, weighing in at 7 pounds 5 ounces. Parents, Kainani Lentz and Josue; grandparents, John and Tracy Lentz; great grandparents, John and Elaine Lentz; Great great-grandmother, Ruth Lentz. Alexis Marie Torrey was born August 3, weighing 7 pounds 8 ounces. Parents are Ron Torrey and Jennifer Martinez; grandparents, Rob and Chris Torrey, and Rena Daffern; great grandparents John and Elaine Lentz; great great-grandmother, Ruth Lentz. These events have brought the toll up to 3 great grandchildren being born this year. Isn't this called a litter?

The bad news: We spent two months in Southern Idaho helping care for my ailing father, Maurice "Cap" Young. He left us on May 21st at the age of 91 years, 7 months. It was a sad time for all of us, but we're glad it was family caring for him and that he wasn't shuffled away in a nursing home during this time.

My husband, John, has had a stroke. I've always called him Superman, but I guess he isn't. Trying to keep him from doing all the things he's not supposed to be doing during his recovery, requires duct taping him to a stable object, and not letting him out of my sight. Next doctor appointment is Tuesday, August 14th, and we will know more about his situation then.

Normal news: Daughter Shaunna has moved in with us, and we're enjoying one another's company.

Daughters Julie and Jennifer are currently attending a Star Trek Convention in Las Vegas. Son, John, and family, are about to depart for a Hawaii vacation. Son, Rob, has passed The Battalion Chief's test for The Redmond Fire Department. His son, the other Rob, is stationed in Afghanistan, a combat medic, and is seeing lots more action than we would like, but seems to thrive on helping others. I find it ironic the government wastes so much money on stupid stuff, but we have to send ointment and band-aids to Afghanistan for the medics

because they're always in short supply of these normal items.

Julie has started her own Afghanistan campaign. She has made 42 Christmas stockings for Young Rob's squad. She has gotten her church behind her to fill all these stockings, and an affluent member of the church is going to supply the postage. There are no good wars, but there are good kids involved in them.

Think kind thoughts of us.

John and Elaine Lentz

Please forgive me, I've forgotten two things - probably more than that, it's a bit hectic with all the worry I'm packing around with me these days.

Son, John, got a promotion at The Boeing Corporation. Daughter, Lyndi, received a promotion, and is an Officer in the Treasury Management Department of The Bank of America Corporation in Seattle. She has been promised a Vice Presidency within the year.

~From **Oregon** by Pauline Polk~

Well, Well, they say it is time to write, so I hope I am on time. Things have been busy and hectic around here. We have had a lot going on.

Lavelle went to Alaska for two weeks fishing with his son. Called to say he was having chest pain when he walked. He will be going in Mon. the 13th to see if they can find out what is wrong. My brother John Lentz has had some minor strokes and they will be going in next week to see if they can find out why.

Then my granddaughter was in a "Little Miss" Pageant. I spent the weekend in Eugene Or. She didn't win, but we had a lot of fun and made a really good friend. She got 4 trophies and a couple of ribbons, and is ready to go next year.

We have been having really good weather and no rain in sight.

I went back to NE. in June and got to meet my new g-granddaughter. She is sure a cutie. I miss all the kids and it was great to get to spend some time with them. We went to Omaha to the zoo. Man is it big! We spent the afternoon there and never got to see all the animals. I hope to go back some time and see the rest of it. It was too hot back there even then and I enjoyed getting back out here to cooler weather.

The government says I make too much money and they want some of my S.S. back. We put in the hot tub and wanted to get a retaining wall and reclaim some of our backyard, but now that will have to wait until I can get my S.S. back.

Next year I should be old enough that they won't take any of my money Ha!

I seem to get healthier every year. I feel better now than I did 5 years ago. Just good living I guess.

Well family I guess I have told you all my news. Probably not very good, as I am tired from a week-end of being around a lot of little kids screaming and yelling a lot, it was fun and I was glad we could take Madison.

So until next time keep us in your prayers.
Love you all Pauline

News from **Washington**

Ok, Ok!! I kept running out of time and hadn't been sitting at my desk which is where that email lies in my Outlook as a reminder to write!

It's been a busy summer for our family here in Washington. Fun, but busy!

My son (Jake) and I were able to accompany Grandma Ruth on a trip to Alaska to visit Dad (Fred)! That was a lot of fun and was actually a pretty huge trip! I know it is hard for Grandma to be at the point of traveling with other people - her body is aging LONG before her sharp mind is! We had decided some time ago that I would go with her to Alaska, then I gave my kids the option to go with us. Only my son was interested. He has only seen his Grandad a few handful of times in his life, and certainly not enough to really get to know him. I happen to think my Dad is pretty cool and very likely the smartest man I know - this is definitely a person I wanted my son to get to know! I also thought it would be good for him to be around his Great Grandmother.

Both Dad and Grandma are storytellers (as well as Dad's wife - Joanie), so there was a lot of fun history I thought my son should hear! I know I have enjoyed it and actually have learned quite a bit as well as been able to put together some pictures of our family and how it came to be.

But you know how it is with teenagers. Jake just turned 14 - if it didn't involve food, TV, skateboarding or video games his interest span was extremely short lived! No offense to Dad or Grandma Joanie or Grandma Ruth - it's hard to convince a 13 year old that what you are saying or showing them is going to impact their lives in 5 or 10 years.

BUT this much I do know - when Jake is grown and off on his own, he will ALWAYS remember that trip with his Great Grandmother and visiting his Grandad and Grandma Joanie. I guess that is the impact I will have to be grateful for at the moment! He is a good kid - compared to many! - but I am sure it reminded Dad of seeing my brother in the 70's! Long haired skateboarder kid staying up too late watching TV and being lazy all day! I can't disagree with that description but I can say that when we are at home we keep both the kids pretty busy with chores and other work. I found it interesting to watch because there is a two generation gap between my Dad and son - pretty different in that amount of time!

I think Grandma had a good time as well. We were able to get out a bit, but the weather wasn't so great while we were there even though it was July. It was pretty rainy for all but about a day and half - reminded me of November here in Seattle. Not such good touring around or sight seeing kind of weather! But we made the most of it for as long as we could. On the one day it was really nice we took a long drive and I was able to get some awesome pictures. It's beautiful country - not much unlike the Pacific Northwest. Lots of green, trees - we don't have the bears like they do, or the eagles roosting in trees or just hanging out on the banks of the rivers (at least not until you get out in the back country here). We also heard the boat the Northwest was going to be in harbor for you "The Deadliest Catch" fans! I love that show. Dad knows a lot of those guys and I really wanted to get a picture of the boat - but it never made it to harbor!

Besides that we have just been busy with softball, work and kids! I was voted last year to be the Director of our softball league. We have 11 teams that play against each other every Sunday from mid-April thru the end of June, then go to tournaments in the summer to play against 30 or 40 other teams! I was the first female director in the history of our league since it started in 1982! *[Clap, clap, clap, from Sue Ann]* Pretty cool - AND everyone thought I did a stellar job. I was worried they would treat me like I wasn't one of the "good ol' boys!" I actually will do the job again this next spring so that I can train an assistant how to take over. I was training an assistant this spring but at the last minute he decided he didn't want the job! My team was in a tournament this weekend as well - we did pretty good since we placed 3rd out of about 12 teams. I play on a co-ed team that I help assistant coach. It's a lot of fun and we have a pretty good time. We will have a tournament next weekend, then another one in September. After that everyone rests and waits for March when it all starts again!

The kids have been busy with friends and staying with family. We have started shopping for school and doing the countdown! Not much summer left for them. I am trying to plan some kind of weekend trip for them for fun. Jeff (my husband) has been busy working and estimating jobs.

My own business has been extremely busy as well. AND I have decided to throw school into all this mix! I will start classes next week - on-line of course because this is the only way to do it nowadays! I will finish the last few credits I need to get my CPA. I figure if I am really going to be an accountant when I grow up - I better figure out how to make the most I can in the least amount of hours worked!

So as usual we have a busy life - it never stops or slows down but it keeps us young! I will include more

later - for now, it's time to get through the rest of my email!

Hugs to you all,
Brandi, Jeff, Brittani, Jake

Hi Everyone – News from **Iowa**

We are back home in Iowa after trips to Canada and Florida.

We went to Canada for Merv's family reunion in Stettler, Manitoba. First we had gone to White Fox, Saskatchewan to go fishing and camping with several of Merv's cousins. We had a fun time catching fish, having fish fries and just visiting with them. There were about 75 at the reunion and it was great to see them again. It was 2 1/2 days of activities and just catching up. We went through Glacier National Park on the way home and saw many beautiful sights.

We went to Florida to get a new side by side refrigerator/freezer that we had won in a raffle at our church yard sale in March. We left Florida in April and they didn't draw for a winner until May. We were very surprised when they called us and told us we had won it. We couldn't use it in Florida, but we needed one here in Iowa, so we went down and brought it home. We had a non-eventful trip, and the fridge is set up and running now. We were only there a little over a week, but we got to see some friends while we were there, so it was a nice trip.

So we're going to stay in Iowa now and try to get some things done here before it's time to go to Florida in November.

Hope all is well with everyone.
Merv & Barb Smith

News from Michigan [Editor Sue]

Hello there dear family,

Thank all of you for writing....I thought that we were not going to have a very big letter, but you all came through. Thanks again. Now get going on making your family the feature centerfold family. Send in picture's of your family members and tell us something about all of you....your line in the family. If you have any pictures of Grandpa Solomon and Grandma Lurinda (Towle) Tripp I'd kiss you with a computer kiss if you'd send them. If you are one that has never written, or, has not written in a while to the family, get your pens out, or on your computer now and start writing for the Christmas edition. We can't get to know you, or, you us, if we never hear from you. Don't let me scare you from writing to the other family members....I'm really harmless....just a little wacky in the brain. Nancy, Linda, Betty, Mary, Timothy, James, Dad, Rick, Rodney, Jessica, Christina, Kristi, Bob, Gabrielle,



Amanda, Bonnie, Jerry, Judy, Walter, Barrie, and etc. don't even go there! Don't listen to anything they say!

Well, I have been staying out of the hospital for a few months now. Christina is moving out of the house and down to Ohio.....an hour 1/2 drive from here. Christina is looking for any job as of now, until she take's her State Exam to do Interpreting for Sign Language. She wants to get good and settled for when she gets married in June of 2008. Yes, Christina has met a young man in Ohio that asked her to marry him. It was kind of sweet how he did it. First, his name is Zac, and is Christina's age, 25. Zac, Christina, and Zac's parents went to a place in Ohio that the Amish live and people visit. Zac was telling/showing Christina how the Amish hide things and message's in the floor for their families. Zac got on his knee's to open and show Christina....and when he did he pulled out a box with a ring in it. Christina of course said yes....and I am glad for her....he seems real nice.

Jessica is also moving...but she is moving closer to me. She will be just about driving past me to go to work....at least that seemed to be what is going to happen. Zayden (Jessica's oldest boy), is starting school....will be a big boy going to kindergarten. His day care will have him in the morning till the bus comes, then after school he will go back. He had to get glasses....it was cool and fun for about five minutes, then he was not interested in wearing them anymore. He is a very busy young boy....with many things to get into. He found the window in his room was unlocked, so he ventured out on the roof....heart attack happening for whoever found him. Then....he decided to practice shaving with his father's blade....his lip he found out is a bleeder, and it hurts when you are too young and don't know how it is done....ouch! Kaidence (Jessica's second born), is a little princess. She is so girl-ly, girl-ly as ever. She just pulls at my heart strings every time we see her. She let's you know when Zayden is bad and that she is being good....all the way home, and all night long....and even the next day, over and over. No, I'm just exaggerating a LITTLE!!!! She will be turning three soon. Kaidence sits and plays so quiet...till big brother gets home....everything hits the fan....just stretching the truth some again....do love them so very much. At first I feel young around them....then they wear me out....I'm glad to go home. The baby Camden turned ONE in July I think. He is on the go and has been walking and getting into anything he can faster than you can clean up and run to the next thing. He also likes adult things more than toys....or as it seems....always getting into everything. They are the love of my life. They are a handful. I think I will send them all to Elaine and John's for a visit.....how many hairs do you two own on your heads???? You have to carry a minimum of 750,000,000 hairs or you will become hairless (from stress--didn't know if you'd get that). How fast do you grow hair is the second important question???? **Watch for a package coming your way Elaine and John!**

Rodney and Claire are working very hard. Rodney seems to never have any free time, but I think Claire make's him take some time out to spend with Jacob (their son, three now). Jacob calls me Ahhhh Chooooo, sounds like he is sneezing. Some times he calls me Aunt Sue, but I like the special name he has called me. He calls my dad (Dale Norman Tripp) Jabba, Jabba Papa. He is a smart little cookie. He is real keen

to taking your hand and leading you to his bedroom/playroom for some serious fun. It was so cute one time when he took my father's finger....and it was all he could hold...his hand so little and my dad's hand and fingers so big, and lead him to his room. Jacob love's car's I think as much as Rodney....big and small. Claire is getting the full motherhood pressure....and being Rodney's wife isn't much easier....sorry Rodney.....HA! HA! HA! Love ya so much anyway! My kids loved and called Claire AUNT before Rodney and her were married...she is interesting to talk to and funny as ever. I bet they would like for me to throw out a big hi to everyone....HI!

I'm hoping Rick will write a line or two. His son Joshua is serving in the army in Iraq...I think in Baghdad...??? I don't know if I'm suppose to say that. I'm working on a box to send to him, and letters. You know me....they aren't the ordinary letters people usually send....no....my letters make him work hard at reading....up and down....forwards and backwards....circle around here and circle around there....not in a straight line. He won't be bored reading them. If I make the letters crazy enough, maybe they will send Joshua home for fear that he is damaged in the head as much as his Aunt....hereditary problems that will surface later. Then home he will come. Maybe the military will use him as a secret weapon to terrorize the enemy....making him stay longer. Anyway we wish him well, and to stay safe, and to let him know we all love him and appreciate his courage. Dad said that we should get all the info of our family in the service and get them all connected in some way...that they may be fighting next to each other and not even know it. How about letting me know how many other family members are in the military over there.

Dad says to say Hi to everyone....he doesn't think he has much to say these days, but I disagree. He has many, many stories and so forth to write about. Maybe next time he will write...everyone enjoys his letters so. His hands give him a lot of trouble....but his lips still flap a hundred miles an hour yet (of course he will turn this around and say it's me that flaps the lips a hundred miles and hour). I bet if we held down his arms and hands, he couldn't talk...we may try to find out someday....ha!....ha!....ha! Rick come's down just about every month now to help dad out. I think dad enjoys the company. Watch it Aunt Ruth....Dad is really pushing the Detroit Tigers to crush your team when they play against each other. He lets them know they do a good job when they do, and I know he secretly wants to call you and say "**Tigers Won Ruth, yeah!!**" So, again, a big HI from Norman.

Have to get this letter in the mail for the newsletter. We were going to go to Dad's, but our plans have changed, and Linda called, and we need to eat, and there are many things on my list that may never get done. Boy I miss the good ole days when we traveled to see family, and family came from all around to visit us, and Grandpa and Grandma. The houses were full of people, young and old. The houses were full of smells of our parents' homemade dinners and deserts. The lake lot of Uncle James' and Aunt Esther's filled with special picnics of potato salad, beans, watermelon, and etc. Family, family, family, all over the place....wall to wall. I remember Uncle Ted standing by a tree in our yard with his arm extending up further than anybody else could reach. He was so tall and so skinny. My dad told us that when Rodney was

young he asked Uncle Ted to play ball with him....Uncle Ted told Rodney he couldn't....and when Rodney asked why he couldn't play ball, Uncle Ted said, "Because I have a bone in my leg"....and that I remember of my humorous Uncle Ted. Aunt Edith seemed to have control of the cooking out at her house with company over. She, I think, still does cooking at her church....always cooking for a crowd....always standing and fidgeting with something. Still today out at Nancy's when company is there, Aunt Edith too, she is up doing, doing, doing. Oh, I remember being out to the house years ago....we played out in the land Aunt Edith and Uncle Ralph had....campfire's....singing....running....and playing so hard with family from far away that came....we cared....and loved....played....hugged....and then kissed them goodbye. I miss all of that....all the feelings that came with them...."I remember then, and I remember Grandpa and Grandma".....those wonderful years. That is what I wish our children could have gotten all their lives...what we had. That is why this newsletter and Virginia's site is so important....our family has grown so big that it is hard to visit everyone ... especially in these days....but we have two ways to build our family closeness lets all keep trying.... write lettersask questions about each other...getting to know each other. I will continue to raise cane to all of you to write. It's quiet....you get all curled up with a nice cool or hot drink with your newsletter. As you read, you find yourself laughing and smiling while reading a loved one's letter.....or, you sit together with your family...your kids or grand kids reading the great stories or "I remember when" adventure's of relative's past. Thanks for all the memories....and the memories yet to come.

Hug....kiss'....prayers of health and happiness I wish for all. Bye to all.....Sue Ann and family.

Sue Ann (Tripp) Hale.....daughter of Dale Norman and Dolores (Drago) Tripp....granddaughter of Solomon and Lurinda (Towle) Tripp

Send newsletters to:

trippfamilynews@comcast.net

Tripp Family Recorder web page:

<http://home.comcast.net/~trippfamilynews>

Hi everyone,

Southeast **Iowa** has been getting a lot of water. The river came up yesterday and spooked a lot of folks. A lot of moving out of buildings on the river.

Anyway is back down this morning so will be putting it all back in the next few days. The price of living on the river!

Everyone here is doing OK. Mostly working and trying to keep up with the business. Have had a great garden, what the deer don't eat. We have been canning some spaghetti sauce. Tomatoes are really nice this year. Getting ready to plant more spinach. I am planning to go to Portland on the 4th of Oct to see Aunt Ruth and families. Daughter April is running a 26 mile marathon

on the 6th for the leukemia foundation, so want to be there for that. I won't be able to stay but a few days, because we have a big festival the next week-end here. But will be nice to get a short visit. Anyone wanting to talk to April or donate to the run, can call her anytime, 360-400-1724 she will be glad to hear from you.

My kids and grandkids are doing fine. Melissa's and Ron's son, Nathan had his tonsils out a week ago. He did ok. His birthday is this month, 3 years old. Their baby Katie is growing fast. Will be walking soon. Troy and Emily and the kids have been growing pumpkins, squash, gourds for the festival this fall. They also planted almost 600 grapes, so they keep busy. Scott just had his 8th birthday. Teri and kids are doing OK, back in school.

Hope everyone in the extended family is Ok, would like to see more of everyone. You know, all of you are welcome to come here. We have another house you could stay in. Do you hear me, Sue Ann??????? Must get to work now. Love to each of you, see you soon to Ruth,

from Bill and
Betty Printy

Dear Nancy and all the Family –

Thanks for all the prayers and good thoughts and help. It makes it somewhat easier to get through by remembering a poem that Aunt Virginia sent me when Eddie passed away in '91. I can't find the exact poem, (I put it up, can't remember where), but I remember part of what it said, because I have thought of it often. It said that God took the person home to heaven because he had another job for them to do and he needed their help to do it. We will miss him a lot but he is now with his son and brothers, his foks and mine and some day we will meet again in a better life.

Love Darlene Dean &
Marlena Lila &
Kristy & kids

[This came in a card from Darlene and her family that said: "Just to know that in countless ways our family and friends are with us, makes the way easier. Thank you.]

Hello again from **Florida**.

Isn't the weather outrageous this year? Bonnie and Jerry, in Texas, have had constant rains for months now. It's a good thing that they live at the top of a hill or they would really be flooded. I think some of their yard has washed away though. We were burning up and dry here until the last two months. We have had good rains since then...but it is still HOT, HOT, HOT, HOT... What about your place in Bentonsport, Betty? I just read

in the paper that the Des Moines River has overflowed its banks in your area. Joy Hanson, who owns the Mason House Inn, said that it happened so fast that there wasn't time for sandbagging. She said that lots of people from nearby towns came in and helped move things to higher ground...(furniture and valuables).. What about your home? Isn't it on the same level? How bad did it get flooded? How about you Jack, and Pat? You are pretty high. That should help..

I read that a tornado touched down in Fenton, and did a lot of damage...That is very near where Judy used to live, in Michigan...Walter was raised there...IS no place immune to satan's wrath????

Hi Sharon Whitehead-----I found some old notes of mothers-----some genealogy of the Standards...not much, but it lists your father, William Edward.. His wife Opal, and brothers John William---Daniel Edward ---Paul Richard...and you Sharon Ann...it didn't have the names or birth dates of Jack, and Bill ..How about filling me in on these? Your aunt Elvena was the one that I knew the best. She got around more, it seemed...I remember someone telling us that Jim Standard (Jim was my grandfather,--and your great grandfather) was raised on a plantation in Virginia. His father owned one there until the civil war. The little town there is named Standardville. It is just off #33 near #29 north of Charlottesville,VA.

After my grandfather (Solomon Tripp) died in 1874, Gramma Kendall Tripp married Jim Standard. They had a son and named him Joshua... My Uncle Josh, and your grandfather..I think he worked for the Santa Fe railroad...and lived in Quincy, ill. One summer he and papa did some farming on an island in the Mississippi River. Your aunt Elsie Venarge said that was where she met her husband...By the way Sharon did you come down to visit Jack and Bill yet? I expect you to stay with me when you do. My Phone Number is 352-728-0687 ..

How am I doing?? Well it's been a tough summer, but I'm still living alone, and driving...The weeds are keeping me busy, only now I have to take my oxygen tank out with me...My Dr. says I must use it whenever I'm walking...Mainly to protect my heart. I have been told for years that I have a big heart, only now the doctor says that that isn't good. He says that it is too big (enlarged) and working too hard...I have a man who mows my lawn, and a woman who cleans my house twice a month...The rest I still take care of. I have a small sweeper that I can use on odd weeks. I still drive to church and do my shopping...I have no blockage in my arteries, that's good. I don't use or need any pain pills...so I guess I'm lucky after all...I do hate writing though, so for now

LOVE TO ALL EDITH TRIPP MILNER
p.s. New email address oscarq1@embarqmail.com

From gramma Tripp's papers-----

Most people spend more time and energy in going around problems than in trying to solve them.
Fault is one of the easiest things to find, yet so many people keep looking for it...
Prayer makes a common person uncommon...
Failure is the only thing that can be achieved without much effort.
Ideas die in some heads, because they can't stand solitary confinement
The greatest undeveloped territory in the world is right under your hat.
For sparkling windows wash them with a cloth soaked in vinegar, and polish with a newspaper or a nice cloth.
Cloda Gunn's grandfather visited Joseph Smith Jr. in the Carthage jail. His name was Newberry...He moved from Nauvoo to Argyle, Iowa --where he lived and died. Cloda Newberry Gunn was raised in that area...

Hi Sue –

Enclosed is \$15.00 to cover mailings for the past few years.

I've really enjoyed reading the Tripp Family Recorder, even tho' you're none of my relations. My husbands mothers' side of the family were related. Her last name was Pittman from Ft. Madison, Iowa.

I think it's wonderful that everyone stays in touch through the Family Recorder.

Sincerely

Carole Ann Weathers

[ed note – We are really glad you are still on our list. We may not be immediate family, but since you can trace the relationship ... we're family!]

News from Arizona

Hello from Arizona,

Am finally sending in my dues ... miracles do happen! Thank you for keeping me on the mailing list. "Kudos" for the new look of the Newsletter, Nancy (and crew) it's much easier to read now. And thank you for taking over the job of keeping it in print. Aunt Ruth did a great job, but needs to rest now and just have fun traveling around, etc.

Everyone is fine here in our neck of the woods. We are planning a trip to Kansas, Colorado and Montana next month (June). A lot of driving, but at least we will get to see some new country this time. Usually, we just go the same route to Kansas, then back. Boring! We have been to Colorado and Montana before, but not this route. Anything to break the monotony.

Our granddaughter, Jaime, and husband, just bought a house in Johnstown, CO where Shaun is currently employed. Jaime works from home via the Internet, so can live anywhere. She designs brochures, etc. for Real Estate companies.

Our other granddaughter, Jennifer, is planning a wedding for October, in Sedona, AZ, where Linda and Mark have a second home. It's a beautiful setting for a wedding. Or anything else. Sedona is a very special place. Linda will eventually move there permanently when Mark retires, in about 5 years. In the meantime she will set up a studio there and spend as much of the summer there as possible. Her pottery and painting business keeps her very busy.

Nancy, let me know when you are ready for more update on the Family Record book and I will send the information on our gang. Wish we were able to have another family reunion like the one that was held in Washington, that was so great. There was a lot of planning went on for it, and it paid off. The only other one we have attended was in Colorado Springs, which was just so-so, as there wasn't as much put into it. Not that they didn't try, just didn't have a great spot to "set up camp." There are many more lovely areas in that part of Colorado than where we ended up. Maybe it could be tried there again? There are a lot of things to see and do there, that part was fun. But there didn't seem to be any organized activities for all of us to get together, just the one dinner. Probably just getting to be too hard to try and plan things again. Will write again if there is anything worthwhile to say...

Janice and Lloyd Carter

[ed. Notes: (1) You are not the first to voice an interest in another family reunion. We would come. We need to plan one at least a year in advance and get lots of people involved in planning one. I didn't go to the Washington reunion so I don't know what you did there. I did go to the CO reunion. (2) We do need updated information for our genealogy database. I will need to look to see what we have on your family ... then you can update it; (3) Another potter/painter in the family!! How about some pictures in the next letter. – of you guys and of your work. nancy]

Note to all: This is your newsletter ... keep sending those notes and letters and pictures ... we love pictures.



This photo came from Barb and Merv Smith. They saw it while driving in Canada and thought of Sue Ann!! We call her Suzie-Q. Thanks Barb ... I know you said it wasn't really for the newsletter but I got a kick out of it and so I thought others might too! ☺

Hello,

I have not written since no one really knows us. I included two pictures.



This picture of my wedding to Michael Gwyn, the picture includes his parents, Donald and Geraldine Gwyn.

The second is my daughters wedding.

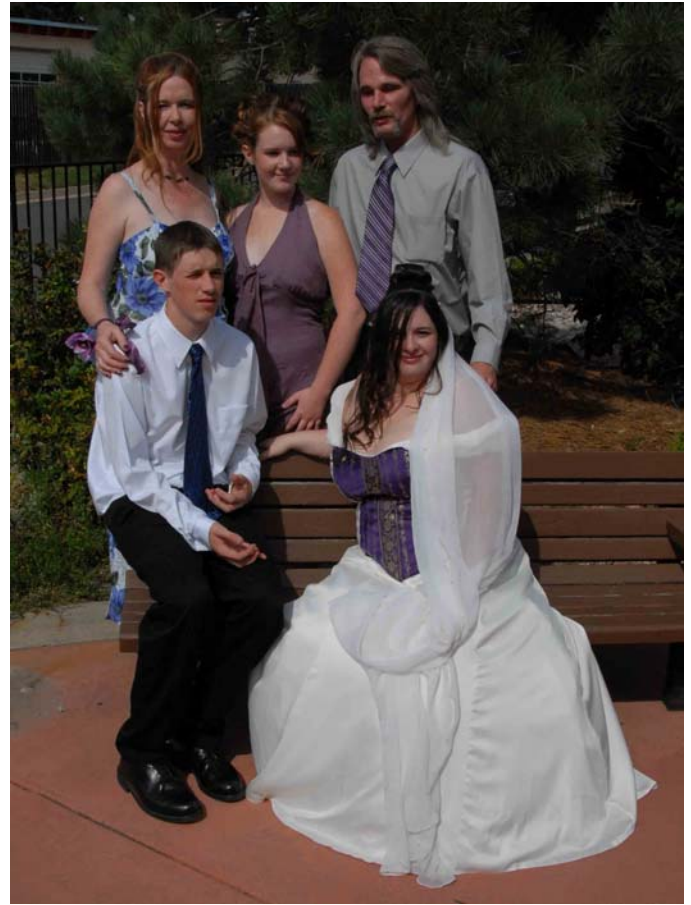
The one in the gown is Kimberly Padilla, she is 21 and my eldest.

Jennifer Schmidt in the bride's maids dress is 20 and my middle child. The handsome young man sitting is Alric Schmidt my youngest and only boy and is 17. Michael and I are standing on either side of Jennifer.

Shannon Gwyn

Colorado Springs, CO

[Ed Note: Thanks for sharing Shannon – it's nice to see pictures so we can put faces with the names and get to know each other]



More news from **MICHIGAN** Noffsingers

Hi all –

One thing about putting the newsletter together ... I get to wait until the very last minute to write my letter!!

I have always tried to make the letters end at the bottom of a page and not run onto the back, thinking that it makes it easier to read. This time Sue Ann did a ton of work putting the letters together so I actually started with a lot of the work already done (thanks Sue). I moved some around ... got things pretty nicely fitting then one of the pictures moved and everything was off. I fixed things again and received a note from Sue that there were a couple more letters ... so I thought hmm ... magazines run stories onto the back of a page and we don't have problems reading them. So... I left the letters running as they will this time. Please (I mean this) let me know if it is more difficult to read this newsletter. If it is ... I can work them as I did before by changing the fonts and forcing them to fit. Some of you might like this larger font. I have also added page numbers.

OK everyone ... I still would like some of you out there to give us a centerfold layout of your family. It can be just immediate family or you and your children .. grand children .. great grandchildren .. whatever.

Another suggestion – how about small thumbnail pictures of your face next to your letter? I did this for Sue Ann's letter. It's sorta like when you read a letter in the newspaper and look at the picture as you read it. If so ... send me a picture I can drop onto your letter each time. Oh Oh ... my space is gone.

Till next time (December) lots of love Nancy & Bob

Tripp Family Recorder
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