

2023

Tripp Family Recorder

February 2023

Issue 179

From Florida ... current home of the editor

Hi everyone,

It's lovely here in Florida. It was 82° here today and a nice day for a walk in the park. (We live in a senior 55+ mobile home park, so that's the park I am talking about.)

It's been a year since we lost Bonnie and even though we didn't see each other or even talk that often, I miss her. I always knew we'd get together some time during the year and now that will never happen. Patty, I know you are going through the same thing. It's been just over a year since you lost Dick. All those first times without someone are just plain hard. It's been just over a year ago that Barb lost Merv and now she's struggling. I think we need to hold each other up in prayers even when we don't know what's happening in each other's lives. We are all part of a big family — Tripp, Towle, Kocher, Lentz, Smith, Sjostrom, Miller, Milner, Hunter...

I believe we have invited you all to stop in if you're ever in Florida and we would take you out on our pontoon boat. Well ... I'm afraid we have to revoke the invitation. While we were in Michigan last summer, some person or persons stole our boat. Now that doesn't mean we don't want to see anybody, it just means we are now boatless! Can you believe it?

We are still working on selling our house in Michigan ... hopeful this will be the year, we'll see.

As you will read in Judy's letter, we just returned from our church winter reunion. What a wonderful experience. I wish we could do that as a family. Well, this is the only space I give myself, so love to all of you.

Bob and Nancy Noffsinger

This and That

Did you know that Sandhill Cranes mate for life. We have them here in Florida ... isn't that lovely.

Prayers: Please keep Barbara (Brown) Smith in your prayers. She is currently in the hospital with Pulmonary Fibrosis. Her home is in Burlington, Iowa. She is the daughter of Violet and Arch Brown. Violet was the oldest of Solomon and Lurinda's children together.

What was Grandma's name? She was born Lurinda Idell Towle, but she was also known as Lucile (1920 Census) and Lula (can't remember who told me this). And Grandpa was born Solomon Tripp, Jr. but was also known as Bud.

Inside This Issue

Virginia McGee (Arizona)	2
Patricia Culley (California)	4
Pauline Bogart (Nebraska)	7
Judy Hunter (Florida)	7
James Sjostrom (Michigan)	8
Linda Sjostrom (Michigan)	9

Next Newsletter: July 2023

Send letters to tripprecorder@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.tripprecorder.org>

**From Sierra Vista, AZ
(Frieda's Granddaughter)**

Hi All,

I'm going to include a picture of my grandson's Birthday Cake this year. My grandson and daughter-in-law have their birthdays in July within a day of each other. Nothing like having a baby the day before your birthday, right? Last year he waited till two weeks before his birthday to make up his mind about what he wanted on his cake. I told him he didn't get a choice last year and I was going to make whatever I wanted. Well best laid plans and all that. If you're curious, go to

YouTube and do a search for koi pond cake. The

tutorial that inspired me was done by Grace Sun, from Korea. I had a few problems with it, lol. First, I could not find any of those



leche jellies. I also could not find any white sweet bean paste. I tried making my own bean paste. What an experience! After I went through all of that and made the cake, I found an easier way to do the koi, slap on head moment! I ended up using a glass koi I had because the koi I made fell apart when I poured on the jelly mixture. For all that went wrong and the lilies not working out either, I made buds instead, everyone loved it, and it was all eaten up. The cake was chocolate stout cake, the mousse was white chocolate, and the jelly was a mix of tropical flavors, no icing. Something different.

How was your holiday season? I was sick for Thanksgiving. My Grandson, David, brought a

bug home from school. It went through the family and within days, everyone was fine; Me, it took two weeks to survive it. I would have been fine skipping Thanksgiving all together, I was so tired, but my son wanted me there, so I came. It was fun, I wasn't contagious by then or coughing, so it was good. I still had a headache though which made it hard, and I was so tired I wanted to fall asleep. My son didn't cook a full bird this year, just a couple of turkey breasts but that was enough for everyone.

My Birthday was uneventful this year. Another year under the belt. I'm 64 now. That's a little hard to take in. I'm not sure how the years passed so fast. My son gave me a cover for my car dash, which I've been wanting for years and kept forgetting to order. Well, now I have one. I've had it since the beginning of December, and it still isn't on my dash, lol! I have a tendency of seeing how I want to do a thing and unless I can do it that way, it doesn't get done. I have yet to stop by Auto Zone and get some cleaner to clean up the interior before I put it in. Until then, there it sits in the car where it won't get cat hair on it, lol. My mom and sister bought me something I've wanted for most of my life, a birthstone ring. I never bought it for myself. I just could never justify the expense. They finally put me out of my misery, lol. Thank you, mom, sis. Best present ever!



Christmas was fun. My Christmas Cactus, which is really a succulent, gave me an amazing array of



blooms this year and on time too. It started blooming the day before Christmas. How about that? I almost didn't decorate at all. The one decoration I did do was the advent calendar for my grandson. It takes all year to find things small enough to fit in the little boxes. His favorite are edibles and this year he got some magnets, erasers, and Lucite marbles that had bugs in them. The bug marbles were his favorite. I'll have to see about finding some more. Whenever he opens a door of the advent calendar, he gets a gift and two ornaments that he can put on my seven foot tall African Milk tree. The calendar is about two feet sq and each date is about 2 in sq. I did make some cookies this year, not many though. I did some pretzel cookies, which are more like candy than a cookie and a batch of spritz and a batch of chocolate chips. Normally I don't do chocolate chip cookies for Christmas, but I had a gift to get for a friend who is hard to shop for, so I just made him two dozen of his favorite cookies for Christmas. He was happy with it. I did manage to get the box off to my mother, but it was still a couple of days late. I told her she could just have a second Christmas. I bought my grandson a drone for Christmas, it's already broken. It's a good thing I also got him something else that would last, at least for a little while. I signed him up for six months of Kiwi kits. He loves to tinker and build. I was happy with my haul too.

I stayed home for the New Years and watched the New Year celebrations around the world on Roku. My son invited me over to be with them, but I just did not want to go out in the cold. I don't usually do New Year resolutions, but this year I did. My idea of a New Year Resolution is something that needs to be done, takes a little effort but can be accomplished. Why start out the year setting yourself up for failure, right? So, my New Year Resolution is to give my bedroom a spring cleaning. I've been sick so often since I got off the immunosuppressants and then got Covid that things got a little messed up. Let's say it will not happen in one day. After my husband passed, I had to give up my hobby room and clean it out so I could rent

it out to a roommate. My bedroom is now my bedroom and my hobby room. I don't so much have floor space as I have isles to walk in. I need to clear my walkways, just around the edges. I don't always know when something is ready to throw away, right away. It can take me years to come to that realization, but I'm doing it with a lot of things now. I no longer have any of my husband's clothes in the closet. Hey, it's only been six years, lol. Any shirt of mine with a moth bite is in the trash, no matter how much I love it. Same with night gowns. Once I set my rules, I do pretty good at keeping them. My sewing room is not a room anymore but half of my closet. The part of the closet that we used to hang up long dresses and my husband's uniforms, now has short shirts on the rack and below that is my sewing machine. It barely fits but it does. I have given up on most of my mending; due to a continued feeling of tiredness, that leaves me with very little drive, I have whittled down my mending pile to those things that I would miss too much to get rid of and everything else is in the trash. My sewing machine needs fixing, and our repair shop was one of the casualties of the pandemic. Fixing it is on my list. Either I wait for another shop to open, or I take it to Tucson, which is over an hour away, closer to an hour and a half. With the cost of gas, and a trip up and back twice, that can run into a full tank of gas, at whatever twenty gallons is selling for at the time.

I'm starting to have some medical issues. I'll be having a procedure soon. Nothing to worry about though. It's a wham bam, thank you for your insurance, ma'am, kind of thing. The doctor says he's going to give me some happy juice so I can't drive myself. My son will have to take me. The doctor said if I hadn't experienced the '60 I will have after I have the happy juice, lol. He's funny, I like him. He reminds me of that actor who played Dr. Zefram Cochrane on Star Trek: First Contact, James Cromwell.

All in all, though, we are doing fine. My grandson is doing well in school and has another straight "A" report card this past grading period. My daughter-in-law is continuing with her education also and should be finishing her degree this year, I think. My son continues to take care of us all, for which we are grateful, and he keeps us going.

I hope you all, also manage to keep on going, lol.
Much love,

Virginia McGee in Sierra Vista AZ

From California (Frieda's daughter)

Hello everyone,

This has been a very busy, exciting, lonely and sick year.

It started out with me having some medical issues. Stomach issues. Then we went on an Alaskan cruise. Went with family. My daughter from Texas went with us. My sister Susie and her daughter and son went with us. A few others also, and Denise next door went. Denise is like my adopted daughter, it was her grandchildren and great grandchildren that I refer to as mine. I have known them since before they were born. Anyway, Denise was my roommate aboard ship. It was a fantastic cruise, and we all really enjoyed it. Of course, we were all very busy aboard. Food was great. This is Denise:



She still does almost all of my grocery shopping. Also she has been coming over vacuuming and mopping my floors. I ended up getting my gallbladder out. I won't go into that either, except I was in the hospital for 5 days. Oh well it is over with, but Denise won't let me do any hard work. What a gem she is. I am so lucky to have her next door.

Next is a picture of my daughter Keri and her husband at one of the lodges we stayed at, and a picture of our cruise



group. I and my daughter sitting up front. We spent 7 days on cruise ship and then 3 days in lodges. We went on two train rides through the tundra. Very interesting. It was very enjoyable for all. In many places it was de ja vu for me as, I lived on Kodiak island for three years from 1959-1962. My son Joseph was born up there. So it was almost like going home.

I finally finished making my two great grandsons (next door) blankets. They turned out pretty good.

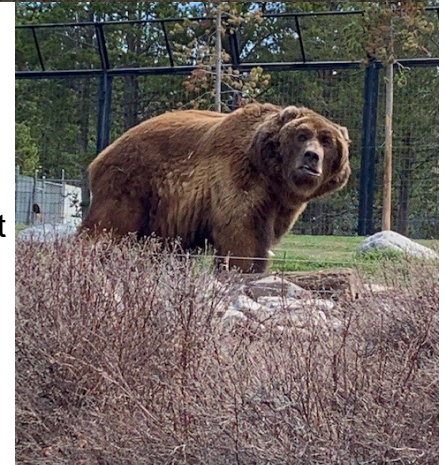


Sister Susie and I made a trip up to Wa. To see brother Kenneth. We went through the redwoods on the way up. They were awesome.



Then on to Montana to see nephew David and wife Robin. Went to Yellowstone.

Beautiful there.



On way home stopped in Idaho to see my great grand daughter Kara 4 yrs.



I went to Sedona to see my sister Janice. In Sept. she turned 90 years old. She is doing real good and gets around good. It is an 8 hour drive from here, so don't see her too often.



Later in year I got my gall bladder out. No big deal except for time spent in hospital. that was an experience.

Have spent the year trying to get used to Dick not being here with me.. we were together 65 years and married 63 Of those years. I married at 15, so I really have been married almost my whole life. It has been hard at times but I know I will do just fine.

I will be getting a new great grand daughter in April. I am hoping to go to Texas in April to see the baby and family. In Texas I have two great grand daughters Madison 4yrs and Penelope 2yrs. It is Penelope that is going to have anew little sister.



With all my love

Patty Culley

From Nebraska — Pauline Bogart

Pauline and Sally are daughters of Ruth and Babe Lentz; Ruth is Solomon and Lurinda Tripp's daughter

Hi everyone,

What a year! New roof, new water pipes, new jobs, new carpet, new dining room floor. The girls no longer work from home. They decided to go outside and mingle with the world. I went to classes and am now manager of McDonald's. Madison is engaged and will be married this year. I am also engaged and will be married this year, after Madison.



Sally is doing well. And still enjoying the retired life.

We are going to Florida in July. The girls are having a pageant and we haven't been anywhere in a long time. So while they are working we will be doing some playing.

Winter set in last week with a vengeance, we have a lot of snow and ice, this week comes the cold. Sally is not happy.



Guess that's all for now. I hope everyone is well and healthy.



Love you all,
Pauline

From Florida — Judy Hunter

Judy is Edith and Ralph Milner's daughter; Edith is Solomon and Lurinda Tripp's daughter

Hi Tripp Family —

It's been a busy year for me like everyone else. I used to think when I was retired I would be on easy street! Silly me.

I live in a remote place called Indian Hammock, Okeechobee, Florida. It's pretty rural which is cool most of the time. I live next door to my daughter, Barrie. She has horses and we share a dog. I know that sounds weird that we share a dog, but between us we're gone enough that it works out to share her. I said it's cool most of the time because when it's time to run to the store or go to the doctor, it's not so cool. We're an hour from almost everything.

Barrie has been taking care of Lady (our dog) most of the time lately because I've been gone. First my girlfriend (of over 70 years) was in and out of the hospital down near Port St. Lucie so I was down there for weeks helping her. She lives alone and needed someone to help her so that was me! She still needs help, but I had to leave because I had committed myself to go to our church winter reunion and help with the sewing class. I have an embroidery sewing machine and I did embroidery for people who wanted shirts done. Although it's much harder to get there than when I was younger, I got help and made it happen. It was a good experience and I'm glad I can still do it. Nancy was there also helping with the class. It's been three years since we have had a reunion because of the pandemic. Ugh! Glad we made it through the week and nobody was sick.

My friend Jenny is here now from Ames, Iowa and we are headed to Daytona for the race. Can't wait. I hope this finds you all safe and sassy! Love to all...

Judy Hunter

**From Michigan — James Sjostrom — [Son of Linda (Tripp) Sjostrom;
Grandson of James and Esther Tripp] ; James Tripp is son of Solomon and Lurinda Tripp**

Hello everyone!

I didn't get a chance to write last time because I was in the heat of wedding planning! But we did it, we tied the knot on October 8, 2022! We had a wonderful day, a great ceremony, and a fantastic reception. It was great to see those that were able to make it, and my new wife Jillian and I are so incredibly grateful with a special thank you to Nancy Noffsinger for being a reader during the ceremony. Below you can find a QR Code to our wedding video on youtube (<https://youtu.be/nGLLsw1Zn6s>). We still have our email address if you



want to drop us a line or let us know what you think, RhindSjostromWedding@gmail.com.

The Monday after the wedding we left for almost 2 weeks in Hawaii for our honeymoon. We had an amazing trip and made it back safe, although it was hard to come back to Michigan at the end of October after being in Hawaii! We visited 2 of the islands, Oahu and Maui, and it's amazing how much different the islands are. We visited Pearl Harbor, toured a pineapple plantation, took a sunset dinner cruise, drove the road to Hana, and a lot more of cool sightseeing and activities.

Since we got back, we were both sick, and we have been trying to organize and combine our lives. We both still have our own houses, but I've moved into Jillian's house in Southgate full time while my mom is living in Ypsilanti in my house still while Timothy figures his stuff out. It took us a little bit to write out all of our thank you cards in order to properly express our thanks to those who came to support us. We did finally get those all out the Saturday before MLK day, so anyone that is waiting on one will get it before you read this 😊.

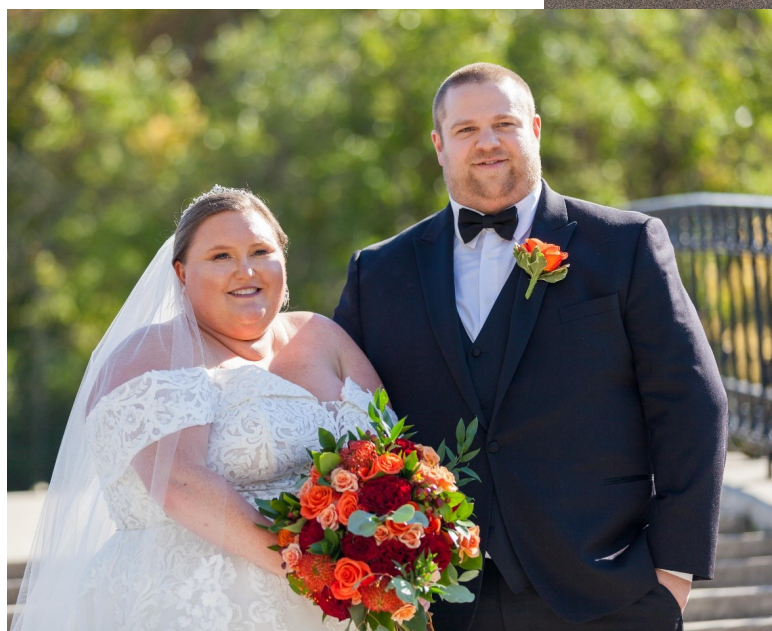
Just before the new year we got new fur babies together. We adopted two male kittens from a litter of 5 (2 boys and 3 girls) and we are absolutely in love with them. Jillian and I both had a rough few years with 3 of our kitties passing away, but we were finally ready to love again. They are certainly keeping us busy though. So, I'm including a few pictures of both our kittens and from the wedding, and we will say goodbye until next time. I love you all and you're always in my thoughts. Love, James



Oliver & Theodore
"Yea congrats ..
Where's our food"



Congratulations James and Jillian



From Michigan — Linda Sjostrom; James & Esther Tripp's daughter; James was Solomon & Lurinda Tripp's son

Hello everyone,

It seems like forever in-between these newsletters, but then they pop up so fast! There is so much to report, but I'll try to keep it to a summary.

My oldest son James got married to Jillian in October. He's going to write a little bit about that and add a few pictures. It was a fantastic, beautiful wedding. Jillian's dress was awesome with a super long train all the way from Australia. We all had a good time, and it was so special to see the family that were able to make it. I even danced with James on my crutches...no really I could only sway a little back and forth, but it did the job for the mother/son dance. Obviously since I can't take one step without some kind of mobility aid, I am not able to dance the way I would like. James and Jillian took dance lessons in preparation for the wedding, and they paid off because the dance was beautiful. Jillian and her dad also did a special dance that consisted of the dance from 'Pulp Fiction' and it was very cool. I'm sure most of you know which one I'm talking about!

James' younger brother, Timothy, was the best man. Kelli, James' sister, was one of the bridesmaids. And Nancy Noffsinger did a bible reading during the ceremony; thank you Nancy. I was actually on an electric scooter coming down in the precession! I probably looked pretty weird, but then probably not as weird as if I had used it for the dance. Overall, it was a special day; if only I could have stowed away in one of their bags to Hawaii!

Our Christmas with Kelli, James & Jillian, and Timothy & Christina was delayed due to weather, but we were finally able to get together on Janu-

ary 7th. Kelli cooked an AMAZING dinner for us with roast, lasagna, steamed green beans, rolls, salad, etc. She also made a wicked crockpot full of real hot cocoa with LOTS of mini marshmallows. To go with this were frosted brownies and mini cupcake brownies with a strawberry and mini marshmallow on top. It was a chocolate lovers dream. Thank you so much Kelli! For Christmas we did a secret Santa and one of the things my secret Santa got me was a cell phone holder for the car so I can see the GPS easier while I am driving. I'm so excited to have this! I'm finding it very helpful. Also while we were all together at Christmas, Timothy had a couple announcements to make. The first one was that he had an accepted offer on his house, and they have been getting pretty far into the process. Unfortunately, he had listed his house right as interest rates started increasing, and it really took a bite out of his selling potential. This has caused a much longer and more difficult road in selling his house, so it is a very positive sign that he has had an accepted offer that is proceeding through all of the required steps. The second announcement was that he has been promoted to detective from patrol/training officer! No more overnight and weekend shifts for him! I, and we, are so incredibly proud of him.

As for me, it is the same ol' issues getting around, but I am doing ok. I've been getting to spend a lot of time with my fur grand-baby Lucifer, Timothy's cat, who has been staying at James' house while Timothy has been working on selling his house. I'm also glad to announce my 8th and 9th grand fur-babies, with the addition of Oliver and Theodore for James and Jillian. I've only gotten to meet them once so far, but they are so cute and cuddly!

That's all for this edition from Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Love you all, Linda (Tripp) Sjostrom Daughter of James & Esther (Bariger) Tripp, granddaughter of Solomon & Lurinda (Towle) Tripp

Linda continued: pictures



Timothy's cat Lucifer.



Left to Right: Kelli, Jillian, James, Timothy



Left to Right: James, Kelli,
Linda, Timothy

Left to Right: Timothy,
Jillian, James, Linda, Kelli

