

To all -

How about pink to start the next round of this missive? Page 51, too. Coincides with my birth year which means that Bunny and I will be joining a growing number of cousins on the far side of 40 real soon. What a hoot, huh? I'll really feel old when we have to fill out Parents' Financial Statements for colleges next fall! Luckily I have Mom's (and Nana's!) propensity to retain my dark hair color. But I definitely have to seek out my first pair of glasses soon. 2½ years in grad school and at the library have brought on the fuzzies. The biggest development there was that I did graduate in January. I don't miss the classes or homework (and neither do George and the kids). I have much better hours at the library, too (mornings and one evening per week). Just wish I had the long summer vacation that George has (he really needs it after HS and CC teaching and tutoring). We'll be tied down this summer anyway if Ian gets driver's ed. Kate has gotten a scholarship to an arts daycamp also - a pleasant surprise! It will keep her out of the mother's helper market, however.

Ian takes his first SAT's next week. Coming down the home stretch! He's now taller than both of us (5'9" - and size 12 feet, Eric!) and was the mainstay point guard of the JV basketball team. He expresses a strong interest in U of AZ for college, but such a big move most likely would be delayed a year or two. He's looking forward to being a senior and BMOC next year. Kate is finishing a busy year. Two seasons of soccer (defensive specialist). Middle school outdoor track. Asked to run indoor high school track, and surprised everyone by running so well that she won several big races and qualified for the state championships by finishing third in the county championships. (We kept her home from Cornell ... thought it too much pressure for an eighth grader.) She's not allowed to run spring track, which gives her a welcome break from pre-race nerves.) She's also doing well with school, the sax and the flute. Matt has a two-sport spring (baseball and soccer). He's pitching well (thankfully not walking too many batters) and is #1 man on "our" soccer team - G and I coach it). He is ALWAYS on the go, a good kid.

Nana comes to mind so often. I will never forget her last gift - her example of profound faith during her last illness (and entire life!). She'll always be with us, and I'm sure she's already reserving Niederstein's in the sky for a reunion!

It's great to hear from all of you. Hope the spring and summer bring good things to all.

God's blessings -
Barbara, George,
Ian, Kate + Matt

May 6, 1991

GREETINGS again from Virginia!

It is just days short of a year since I last received the Round Robin. That's a bit long. We've got to keep this letter moving faster!

1991 started off pretty good for us. We drove to Florida - attended my nephew's wedding in Orlando, went to my sister's co-op in Pasadena, near St. Petersburg Beach - went to Seminole and visited the Muekeley family. Madeline made a delicious meal for us. We saw her several years ago - saw Ralph at their wedding - saw Brant and Taleen when they were babies - never saw Jannae at all. So, it was good to see all of them -- a real nice family. We went back to Orlando and went to Epcot and SeaWorld. Monica got around on an electric cart and me - I walked! It was a good trip -- no problem with the driving -- it is so much easier to drive 95 South than 95 North.

Before Easter we had an enjoyable visit from Alan, Deanne and Billy. Billy's little sister or brother was along, too. Yes, they are expecting again late October or early November. And they are buying a house, probably around July they'll be living in their new house at: 84 Morsemere Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10703. When we saw them back in August '90

Billy wasn't crawling yet. Now he's walking, rather running, all over the place. It was so nice to play with him or just sit and watch him - especially shoveling food into his mouth. His favorite foods are: pizza, cheese, honey nut cheerios, french toast, french fries...but he'll eat anything with his 8 teeth. They spent about 5 days with us.

Then after Easter we had a 3 day visit from my nephew and his family. Bernadette wrote that she, Bill and Kristen are planning a trip making several stops including Williamsburg. It will be good to see them.

Monica was the first of all her cousins to turn 40. She did so March 30. Next come Barbara and Bernadette, then Theresa, then George and Bill.

Aunt Helen said that she 'passed her own little milestone' last May. Well, this year, in just 23 days, I'll be 65, a real "Senior Citizen". I have my Medicare card too. I don't feel that old young.

Monica continues her therapy. She was taking a muscle relaxant for the aches and muscle spasms she gets. Then her legs swelled up..all test were negative..Drs. thought it might be the medication. She was weaned off the medication, laid in bed for about a week to get the swelling down. It finally did and now she is back on the medication to see if the swelling was really caused by the medication. Then, last week, she fell and hurt her tailbone, was in pain, is taking an anti-inflammatory medication - and hopefully that will pass in a few days.

We visit Eric and family quite often after Monica's therapy session...only ½ hour from the therapist's office. News from them is that Danielle has a "Frozen" shoulder. She had x-rays, showed nothing wrong - so she will be getting a cortisone shot to relieve the pain and allow her to move her right arm. Chris will be going to High School in September. He is already talking about what college he'd like to attend, to learn to be an architect. Claudine will be starting Middle School - a new school- in September. Time is flying -- too fast. I want to see all these things happen -- but I don't want to get any older!!!

It was good to see most of you at Aunt Anne's funeral Mass and at Neiderstein's for lunch. I'm glad we could make the Mass.....we were on our way to NY for the family reunion which as you read from Eric and Claire, turned out to be our 2 families only...but it was a very enjoyable day.

It's wonderful to read all about each family. All families are doing well. I pray God keeps our families that way. Let's keep the Round Robin going --- a little faster!!!

Love to all,

Rosemary & Monica

Dear Bill,

May 16th.

Well, school is almost over + summer vac. starts! We put the pool up next weekend Memorial day, a larger pool - due to our family growing + growing!! We are all doing very well, especially our little Christi "son to be two."

Our love to all
Kathy, Susan + Jan.

Greetings!

I decided it would be fun to buy a place in one of the nation's highest real estate markets... I'm still in the S.F. Bay Area and still dispatching with the tank truck company (Matlack). However, in February they gave me one days notice that my terminal was closing and I was requested to take over that position at a larger terminal, 30 miles up the road. This job seems more stable, so I'm in escrow on a 2Br/2 bath Condo, hoping to move in within weeks.

Thankfully, my brother Ken was in town for a week to keep my mind off inspections, interest rates and paperwork for a bit. We even went skiing, in a May blizzard, at Lake Tahoe. It's great hearing from everyone!! I'll send along a new address soon.

Take care,
Ray

6/4/91

Hello to all....

The first holiday weekend of the season is over and so are the birthday parties for a while - it has really been social around here, and exciting. (Not quite as exciting as 5 years ago when I had my heart attack, however.) The Lynches were here for a few days and Frank is here on vacation, but the Brewers were in town so he had to do some work this past weekend. All of us were on hand to celebrate Barbara & Bernadette's big 40th birthday. Of course, we let Barbara do the barbecuing! And make the meatloaf for my birthday (Frank's favorite meal, of course)!

I can't believe Auntie has been gone almost a year, although time seems to be going very fast these days. Maybe, with all the changes in our parish - new pastor, a lot of personnel changes, controversy over running the school, etc. - my mind has been distracted. One of the biggest changes has been being deluged with mail from Auntie's friends, the lawyer handling the estate (which is moving toward distribution) and the appeals - sometimes 3 in one day from the same place. And because I requested her 1st class mail be sent to me, all of the appeals come addressed to Mrs. Anne R. May at Lindberg Street - only bills and bank mail to her come by way of Bellerose and are forwarded. Is there something wrong with the System Alex? Even local businesses think Auntie has moved into the house - she has had offers from lawn services to be of help, gasoline company cards sent, and even an opportunity to join Shoprite's special purchasing plan. The W. Hemp store never sent me one! I have been to Roosevelt Field only about 4 times in these months, even though it had been a weekly "chore" to meet there. Will be going on vacation with the same people who were with us last year, this time to Idaho (and yes, I love potatoes). It will be different!. Lastly, the Clineses are on the move again: Frank's new address is 1129 N. Jackson Street, Apt. 1110, Milwaukee, WI 53202 - same tele. #. Until next time be assured of my love to you all!

Aunt Helen

20 June 1991

Dear All,

There is not much new to report from Pennsylvania. I am still at home with Brian, and Joe is still working hard at Merck. For those of you who have asked, we live in the Philadelphia area, not out in the western part of the state. (We're about 2 1/2 hours away from each Grandma). Brian is 2 1/2 now, and even though he is in the midst of "terrible two" behavior, I'm finding him a lot more fun to be with than last year at this time. Partly that is because he is not demanding that I spend every second with him anymore!

We're trying to enjoy summertime activities here, despite the heat we've had thus far. One major problem we had last summer that I hope will not be repeated is the *skunk* problem. Even though we live in the suburbs, there is some empty land behind us that Merck owns, and so we get critters. Last year we had an entire family of skunks under our side porch, and we couldn't stay in the yard once it got to be dusk, for fear of scaring them. They are active at night and if they are close to the house when they spray, it's miserable. Mom got to experience the smell when she was here last February (mating season). Anyway, Joe has stapled chicken wire around our porch lattices, and this summer we haven't seen them, or smelled them either!

One thing that we are excited about is that, if all goes well, Brian is going to get a brother or sister at the end of this year ('91). We had had a great deal of difficulty getting pregnant with B. and were about to start infertility treatments again when I realized that I was pregnant. So we feel very lucky to have a chance for another baby, especially since it was so unlikely to happen without treatment. We've been talking to Brian a lot about "new babies", so I think he is getting used to the idea. The reality will be quite a different thing!

Love to everyone,

Eileen

Peace to all!

Theresa is now away in Italy on a group pilgrimage to all the holy franciscan places. We are all getting ready for our first Professions Aug. 2nd, feast of Our Lady of the Angels (Mrs Eric's anniversary). Three of our sister novices will take their vows, a big event here. Much time has been spent here getting our formation program underway. Many young women have been seeking our way of life but we're not ready for them yet. In God's time. Prayerful wishes that this summer will be a good & holy one for all.

Love,
Joanna

Greetings one and all!

They say that there are three points of stress in a person's life: moving, having a child, and changing jobs. We're doing all three!

MOVING: We've been looking on and off for about a year in the general area. We've seen a lot, several of which looked good, but were beyond our reach. This house we saw about 1/2 year ago, when it listed for about 300 more than now. Once we found out we were growing a bud on the family tree, we became more serious. Finally, one day when Deanne was stuck parking 2 blocks away in the pouring rain, carrying bags, Billy and feeling the new life inside, we agreed that the house was a necessity NOW. The seller is holding the mortgage, so this was the best deal all around. The co-op is not sold, so we will probably wind up renting it for a while.

The house is coming along nicely; it is structurally sound, just needs paint, wallpaper and minor changes. The biggest challenge is the backyard, where we hope to remove 3 pine trees, as well as weeds and bushes, to give us more usable room. It is exciting for us to actually have a house of our own!

BABY: After a little discomfort at the beginning, Deanne's pregnancy is going smoother now. Billy, too, is doing well. We just had our first visit to the Emergency Room after he flew head over heels into a door, opening up the bridge of his nose. No permanent damage to him; the door will never be the same!

JOB: Alan is still at Bear Stearns, but just got transferred to another department. This was touted as a promotion, but we'll see when bonuses and raises are doled out. B.S. is moving to Brooklyn next year. One more stop on the train, as well as a new bus ride from the house. Another 40 minutes or so a day in transportation. Deanne is still working from home for a Marketing firm, a Florist, Fuller Brush, Tupperware and Discovery Toys, as well as any odd jobs she can pick up. To me, they're all odd jobs!!! But, they keep her home with Billy and ???.

For the summer, Alan is taking a break from studies at Pace. There's enough to do. I'm done with the basics, but there's a long way to go!

That's all the news from Yonkers.

By the way, when we received the round robin, it was missing the pages with messages from the Zirkel's thru Uncle Charles & Aunt Betty. We hope those pages aren't lost, but disappointed that they were cut off from circulation before we got to read them! Please keep the whole letter going!!!

Alan, Deanne, Billy & ??? May (914) 965-0570
84 Morsemere Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10703

7/21/91

Dear Family,

I'm sorry I kept the Robin an extra week, but - as Alan mentioned - several pages were missing. Although I couldn't track down what happened to them, fortunately Cileen had made a xerox copy of the whole letter, & was able to send me her copies of the missing pages. So for those of you reading this soon after me, this explains why the pages up through #47 are copies of the original.

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After Bill's illness ~~last~~ summer, the three of us have thankfully been doing very well. Kristen alternates between being an absolute delight & a "terrible two" - which she will officially be after Aug. 30th. In May we were pleasantly surprised how good she was on our car trip to Virginia (well, she was good in the car, not in the restaurants). We had a very nice visit with Aunt Rosemary & Monica - it was great to get a wonderful home-cooked meal in the middle of our trip. Their house is fantastic, for those of you who haven't been able to visit. Unfortunately, because of poor planning & our need to cover so much ground on the return, we never actually stopped in Richmond to see the Eric Mays (although I did "catch up" with Eric on the phone). Next time!!! We don't plan any travelling for the rest of the year, though, as we are now involved in a rather complete renovation of our house, to give us more living space. This will involve both upstairs & downstairs, so when they start in 3 wks., we're expecting absolute chaos. Nope Grandma Cline's wants some visitors for a while!

Although we 3 have been healthy this year, Bill's family has been going through a crisis which very much preoccupies us also. His sister, Mary, has been hospitalized four full months now with a pneumonia that they just can't seem to control. After weeks on the verge of death in Intensive Care, she's now in "Progressive Care", still totally dependent on a respirator, & facing more surgery. Prayers would definitely be welcome!

Last week would have been Auntie Ann's 79th birthday! It reminded me of how we always teased her what a "bangup" party we would have for her 80th. With everyone so spread apart now, wouldn't it be great if we could somehow still have a reunion party in her honor next summer?!

Love to all - Bernadette, Bill & Kristen

Aug 8, 1991
 (Happy Birthdays Ronnie)

Hello from Middletown N.J.!

I cannot believe it takes almost a year for this letter to get around. I should talk — I had it over a week! It is mid-summer and a very laid-back time of year — No big vacation for us, just an overnighter at Philadelphia. It becomes quite expensive travelling with a big bunch.

We had 3 graduates this past June — Jason from H.S. — Krista from Jr. High — Adrienne from grammar. Jason now owns a car and is working in N.Y. during the summer for Alex's brother-in-law. The way the economy is going it's the best job he could get — Steph could not find work! She has a baby-sitting job with her little brother Robert so that I can continue supplementing the weekly income at the Pediatric office. I have been working there a year now and with the nice raise I just got in June I guess I will put away any thoughts of quitting for some time. It has been something trying to keep this job with Alex's constant rotating shifts but we manage.

There really isn't much more to say except I do hope someday we can all get together for a reunion — Awn't we do for it? Love to you all.

The Fields BUNCH

Dear Everyone,

Sunday Aug 25, 1991

Just got off the phone after talking with Ronnie. I miss her and the family so very much. I thought after being in Florida almost 22 years it would get easier, but the funny thing is, it gets more difficult. I'm sure you who are scattered all over know what I mean.

We had a very nice summer, except maybe I'd like it better if it were 20 degrees cooler - ha - Brant got to spend a week with us in N.C. (brought a friend and then the two guys drove home while Ralph, the girls and I stayed a few days longer.)

Our dear friends that have the six children moved to S.C. We miss them very much too. They asked Taleen to babysit for the five while they went to a Seminar on home schooling. She had to do all the cooking, wash clothes, and enjoy the children while living on a farm that they are renting in S.C.

Taleen did very well, picked blueberries, escaped barking dogs, etc., until about four days later when Shelly got sick in the middle of the night. The next day Taleen was also sick. Well, it's a good thing their grandparents live only three miles away and were able to help "clean up the throw-up" as Taleen was so weak by then. She quickly recovered and was able to clean up the mountain of wash, etc. just before the parents and little one came home. It was quite an experience. (She'll probably never want kids now).

Jannae is excited about school. We started here last week and she's so happy with her teacher. It's good to hear a child enjoy school. I also started back, amidst cut-backs in personell and hours. Ralph just wound up the med-fly program he started last May in Altamonte Springs. He's now working on a grasshopper project. It keeps him hopping.

Brant is still in J.C. hoping to go to Gainesville next year to study Environmental Engineering. I'll miss him cause he keeps me laughing. He had his Eagle ceremony in June.

Loves and Hugs,
Madeline, Ralph, Brant, Taleen and
Jannae

Sept. 4, 1991

Dear all.....

Retirement and country living have been powerful and interesting changes in our lifestyle. We've done a bit of travelling this year, visiting family and friends in OH, WV, NC, TN and KS. But the most fascinating trip was a 2 week jaunt to Alaska in late May. One week aboard ship in the inside passage, and one visiting inland sights - Denali, Anchorage, Fairbanks, Nome, and even Kotzebue within the Arctic Circle. A great experience.

I still hold a P/T job here on Lackawack Hill, mostly about 6 hours a week, and will begin teaching CCD again in the Fall (7th Gr.) The fields are cut (with our brush hog) and the pond is full (tho barely so with the terrible heat and drought this summer). So call and come visit us when the opportunity presents.

Love,
Aunt Clara

Dear Folks:

Not much new to report this time around. Mary Jo and I are still working very hard at various jobs. She has just assumed the duties of Freshman Dean at Sacred Heart Academy. In her first action, she ordered two students into detention for chewing bubble-gum. She's also going to be teaching Latin to youngsters every Saturday morning at CW Post College-- part of a gifted children program.

The radio and TV business, like all businesses, is in a bit of a slump. So, since I am working, I shall not complain. Hope to see you all soon.

Love,
Jill & Mary Jo Clines

October 2, 1991 - Greetings and love to all.....

Thanks for the greetings! Ria - each milestone is easier knowing you are right behind me!

Auzie is still in the market for a new job. We keep hearing that the recession is over but things just seem to be getting worse here on L.A. In the meantime, we are hanging in there.

The kids are all doing well. Patti spent her summer on Cretches after surgery to remove a small bone which she had broken when she walked into Andy's tool box. She is fine now but missed out on summer. The others are all fine. Paul is now driving also though his car is not running yet. We have been thinking of paving our front lawn - we need the parking space!

It is so great to hear all the news from everyone. Till next time ... Love + prayers to all
Auzie + Ronnie + family

Hello to all,

Oct 10

56

Around this time, we used to try to get up to New England to view the color of the leaves change, but we've discovered that our part of New Jersey has it's own great display - even apple & pumpkin picking etc. Maybe too, we find that traveling gets harder & harder for us. Anyway we seem to be staying close to home more and more lately. After all, our bones are closer & closer to the Big 70. Betty was justifiably angry with me, when I went against strict Doctor's orders, and visited Charles in Switzerland and went on the Padre Pio pilgrimage anyway. Yes, it was definitely greuling and I now realize that it was indeed the "FINALE" for me! Surely imprudent! Luckily, all things being considered, both Betty's & my health is holding up, as we look for the winter confidently. Naturally all our social life is taken up with the grandchildren & our children. - Surprisingly we see the Nuns quite often, and they leave with us their expertise in cooking and many loaves of bread baked for us. YUM YUM! It always makes it so much harder to fight the "battle of the bulge!" All in all, we are much happier here than on Long Island, with the house, area, shopping & closeness to Kathy & Pia. Glad to read that everything seems to be well with the greater family at large. When you stop to think of it, that's a hell of a lot to be thankful for.

Our love to all,
Betty & Charles

Hi from Milwaukee!

Oct. 18

Same job, different apartment. I finally moved out of the Marquette University area to the other side of downtown. Safer, more convenient to work and, after all those years of listening to college kids' stereos, definitely more peaceful!

Work is the same, although I'm giving some thought to going back to the news side instead of sports. Lord knows I love sports, but it isn't nearly as much fun watching them as your job as it is sitting in the stands with a beer.

Back to Long Island for a week in Nov, and at Christmas!

Love to all,
Frank

Dear Family,

Oct. 31

56A

Everything is pretty much the same here in Ct. The only thing new is that Jeff is now working for MCI. So far, everything is working out nicely. —

The children are doing well in school. They are already in so many activities and it's only the beginning of the year! Well, we'll see what this year holds for us. — Not much more to say — We extend our love to you all. —

Love,
Patty Jeff, Jeffrey
Christine & Charles

Hello Again!

November 7, 1991

Since I last wrote in March, Danie has had a number of mishaps that have required some degree of medical attention. First, she underwent minor "surgery" in April to free up a frozen right shoulder. It seems that she tripped, fell and jammed the shoulder early this year and didn't realize how badly it was hurt. Over time, she had been cautious about moving the shoulder and scar tissue developed in the shoulder joint. The surgery involved the injection of cortisone into the joint and a manipulation of the shoulder by a physical therapist. Danie was anesthetized for the procedure, but was told when she awoke that the therapist heard four loud "pops" coming from the shoulder during the manipulation. After several weeks of physical therapy, she regained most of the original range of movement in the joint.

In another incident, the family decided one Sunday in September to take a leisurely afternoon bike ride. On the way home, less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from our subdivision, Danie decided to try out for the Olympic Bicycle Acrobatics Team. Having built up lots of speed from a long gradual hill, Danie was well ahead of us when she was faced with a traffic light that suddenly turned red. Applying the brakes a little harder than usual caused some very unexpected results as the front wheel locked up in an instant, and Danie was airborne. This happened just as an Henrico Country Police car was crossing her path behind her to move into the right turn lane. I did not see the fall, as I was concentrating on the image of the kids in my rear view mirror. The kids did see it, however, Chris rating the performance a 6.1 and Claudine, a more generous 7.5. Anyway, by the time we approached the scene, the policeman had stopped and turned on his lights. I scrambled to untangle Danie from her bike, which had stayed with her during her short flight, and we quickly took inventory of body parts. Everything checked out, but quite a bit of skin was missing from elbows, right wrist and chin. The policeman was kind enough to take her home, where I quickly joined her and applied the appropriate first aid. Naturally, within a few hours, large purple and black bruised areas appeared, primarily on her legs, and stiffness & soreness set in. At this point, however, she's doing quite well. The bruised areas have returned to their original color, stiffness is gone and the flesh wounds are healed, although still discolored.

Chris has been visiting an orthodontist since June. He'll have a stainless steel smile for the next 2-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years.

Our summer was fairly quiet. We spent 3 days at Virginia Beach in a hotel room overlooking the ocean. We selected the room hoping to see the sunrise in the morning but saw nothing but clouds instead. I can't really complain, though...I got my fill of swimming in spite of the clouds and occasional rain, and considering how hot it was during the previous week (95-102 and HUMID)), I think we did OK. Playing miniature golf in the rain WAS a bit much though.

Danie and I took a long weekend vacation ALONE in early October. We visited the closest Tall Girl's Shop just outside Washington (\$\$\$), did the tourist loop in Washington in one day and drove and hiked the Skyline Drive for 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ days.

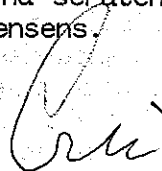
Both of the children attended summer school this year to keep their minds from going stale. Chris took a class in Computer-Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) while Claudine took calligraphy, fine arts and comic strip writing. Chris started HIGH SCHOOL this year (4 more years to college!!) and Claudine started 6th grade in a brand new "state of the art" middle school.

We received word the day that this letter arrived that Deanne gave birth to Gillian Eileen May on the evening of November 4. Alan and Billy brought Mother and daughter

home from the hospital this morning and all is well.

A little bit of business...I modified the Round Robin list as I understood those who marked it up wanted it. If I misunderstood anyone's markings, please let me know. The changes are described at the bottom of the list. Since Tina scratched off her name from the list, I'm sending it on to the Floral Park Christensens.

Bye for now!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'Cru' or similar, written in dark ink.

11/25/91

Dear Family,

Nice to hear the good news outweighs the bad throughout the family. There's plenty of good news from the Christensens also.

Lorraine has finished at Queens College and is teaching at a grade school in Mineola. She is currently taking classes for her Masters. Since Ken and I finished the basement at the house this past summer, she and a friend are living in the apartment. Things are working out well for her and she enjoys her independence.

Ken is finishing a five month tour of the Middle East, making several trips back and forth across the Atlantic. His ship is set to dock in the San Francisco Bay area in late November, when he will take some time off to visit Ray. He'll return to New York by mid December and probably enjoy a month or two home before going back out to embark on another adventure.

I've been serious with the Gina for more than a year and a half now, and I'm happy to announce our engagement. No exact date or plans have been made yet but when we decide all of that, I'll let you all know. All else is well. I'm still with the NY Times (almost 6 years), and although the recession has hit all companies hard, my job seems fairly safe.

Nothing more to add right now...hope to see everyone soon.

Love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Love,".