

July 9, 1995

Dear family,

I'm sure you're all aware by now that the family letter appears to be hopelessly lost - well, not hopelessly, for in faith I'm still hopeful that someone will one day discover it tucked away in some obscure cubbyhole and return it to the fold. For now, the latest page that has been returned to me for the "archives" is Pg.85, and the last entry was 11/28/93 (Bernadette).

Nevertheless, we're plodding on, and I will jump start the May Family Letter here and now. So much family news needs to be shared.

Our "retirement" lives are anything but sedentary. After Lorraine and John's wedding last July we resumed travelling - cruises to the Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea (Greece, Turkey, Israel, Ukraine) in Sept. '94, and the Western Med (Italy, France, Spain, Tunisia) in June '95, and a wonderful Smithsonian cruise in Feb. '95 to the Windward and Leeward Islands of the Caribbean. In between, we have been making shorter excursions to visit Ray in DE and Lorraine in NC. And we're enjoying our grandchild as often as we can. Then, of course, there's the never ending work here at the farm, including several major projects underway or in the planning stages. After 34 years on Lackawack Hill one would think we'd be able to finally sit back and rock on the porch, cocktail in hand. Not so! When we run out of ideas, our sons helpfully fill in the gap and aid in their execution.

We still look forward to seeing you all up here at a family reunion or whenever.

*With love to all,  
Aunt Claire*

Greetings to RR2!

7/15/95

A BIG THANKS to Aunt Claire and Eric for getting this going again. We're all well and on summer hiatus ... which just means we've exchanged school year for summer jobs! George has taught 3 computer courses at NCC. I've got my usual 22 hours at the library. Kate is working two jobs, and Ian is at his usual job at a drive-thru dairy store. Matt just has to mow lawns. We're all working hard since we'll have two college tuitions to pay for this fall. Ian got his AA from NCC, and will be going to Towson State in MD in the fall. (it's in a suburb of Baltimore) Kate graduated from WHHS (forgive the bragging - as valedictorian!) and will be going to Williams College (nw corner of Mass.) in the fall. Matt finished 7th grade. He's mowing lawns and doing a little babysitting for cousin Joe Clines. So - we're rounding up sheets, towels, clothes etc., and trying to figure out how we're going to get them to the colleges, and wondering what it will be like with two kids out of the house. Hope you all are well and surviving the heat/humidity of these dog days. Forgive the typos. I'll wp next time. (Eric: like that color printer! Nana would be impressed and jealous!)

*Regards to all -  
Barbara & the gang*

Hi Everyone!

July 25, 1995

It's so nice to be back in contact with everyone again, I've missed hearing everyone's news.

Everyone at our house is doing very well now. After Augie's emergency bypass last Sept. we have both gotten ourselves into better shape and we are trying to make the kids more aware of the importance of watching your diet and health.

I do have some BIG NEWS to pass along to everyone. The May family has branched out to a new generation. Kristine (Krause) had a baby girl - Alexa - on 9-14-94 and Jimmy Krause has a daughter - Chelsea - born 2-20-95. I've had the opportunity to see Alexa a few times and next week I am looking forward to meeting Chelsea for the first time when Augie and I go to CO on vacation.

The big news in our immediate household is the engagement of Andy. He and his fiancée, Patti, are planning a Sept. '96 wedding. Patti graduated from C.W. Post last year and got a job that she loves one week later. Paul (like his Uncle Tommy) hasn't chosen a career yet but is currently trying out optometry. Karen just graduated HS and will go to Nassau CC in the fall which leaves Michael our only one left in the Levittown schools.

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and staying cool. I'll be looking forward to hearing from you all on the next round.

Much Love,

Ronnie + Family

7/29/95

Hi!

I guess at 26 I've finally made it to adulthood - I got married, bought a house, and have my own slot on the Round-Robin<sup>2</sup>! Special thanks, by the way, to Mom & Eric for getting it going again - it's wonderful to hear from everyone!

Since we got married (7/16/94) EVERYTHING changed! For many reasons, including the fact that John's parents have moved here also, we decided last Nov. to move to Charlotte. It was a difficult decision, and we miss everyone terribly, but we knew that moving was the only way to make a better life for ourselves.

With the move, of course, came getting new jobs. (John originally came down with a job, but that's a whole other story!) I'm working for the Charlotte Observer newspaper as an Administrative Asst. in the Advertising Dept. I do all the financial stuff - payroll, figuring commissions, bills & tons of revenue etc reports. Not my cup of tea, but a job for now. John is a Shipping & Receiving / Asst. Warehouse Manager for a company called UBI (United Brands Int'l). They do "Looney-Tunes" T-shirts, shorts etc. He puts in seasonal long hours, but for the most part, unlike me, really enjoys his job.

On May 31st (directly following a short visit to NY) we closed on our house in South Charlotte. Everyone is welcome to visit & enjoy some "Southern Hospitality." Also, we are strategically located right on the way to Florida!! Hope everyone is doing great! Love to all,

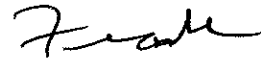
8/6/95

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Hi from Milwaukee!

The big news here in the last few months is job-related. Milwaukee has become part of the exciting new trend in the newspaper industry - "consolidation" if you're a bottom-line type, "decline" if you're anyone else. My newspaper, the afternoon Journal, and the morning Sentinel have merged into one paper, cleverly called the Journal Sentinel. It was probably unavoidable. Lots of people lost their jobs or "chose" to accept a buyout, but I made the cut. I was the national editor of the Journal, but they chose someone else for that role in the new paper, and so I've bounced back to the Sports Department, mostly as an editor but also with some baseball writing involved. The really big change is the working hours. On the afternoon paper I used to come in a 3 a.m. or, in the last few years, at midnight. On the new morning paper, I arrive at 2 p.m. and leave at just about the time I used to be arriving. Surprisingly, I haven't found it too horrible - it's nice to have the mornings free to read, do my swimming and run errands. And my seniority from the old paper is intact, giving me maximum vacation time - which will next be used in a week (Aug. 13) to attend the baptism of my brother's new son, Terence. Then after a few days on Long Island, it'll be back to Milwaukee with nephew Ian for a few days of the fabulous annual Irish Fest. (Yes, there is a German Fest every summer, too).

That's the story from heartland America. Love to everyone.



August 11th, 1995

Hello all from Richmond!

It is clear that college is on the minds of a many of the Round Robin participants. With just one week before we take Chris off to Virginia Tech, college is definitely on our minds too! Chris is packing most of his worldly possessions (including his Pentium™90 computer and his color printer - I get to keep my 386SX computer) as he prepares to pursue a degree in Computer Science. We'll be bringing a fresh box of tissues for Danie for the ride home. I've already used one this week; I just paid the first tuition installment. Chris is finishing up his last week at Burger King, where he has been spending most of his summer (to buy the computer). Much of the rest of the time he spends on the computer and/or the phone.

Claudine starts her second year in high school in September. She has been showing quite an interest in theatrical arts as she has worked as the makeup crew chief backstage on the school's last play, continues to be a participant in *Scripture Alive!* at our church and is considering joining the church choir (at least temporarily) as a way to prepare herself for a part on stage. She overdosed on softball this year; playing first on her school's junior varsity team, then with her dad on the St. Michael's Church *Defenders* team, and finally, in a local girls' softball league.

Danie is enjoying the summer break from her pre-school teaching job. She's spending her free time working on quilts and has recently started to painting.

As noted above, I just finished playing softball with Claudine on our church team. That team played on the Henrico County mixed league on Friday nights. In addition, I played with the Knights of Columbus on Wednesday nights. As expected, both teams wound up in, or very near, the cellar. (*Is it me, or...*) The most important thing is, however, that we're getting exercise and having fun.

The situation at work is changing quickly and dramatically as our regulated utility prepares for the coming deregulation and competition. The Engineering staff in our Fossil & Hydro division was recently decimated after a re-engineering of the division, with over half of the 170 Engineers (and many others) losing their jobs. Nuclear is poised to start a similar re-engineering effort in September. Nuclear is already much more competitive than Fossil & Hydro, so we do not expect such a dramatic change. However, cuts are inevitable. Time will tell how this will affect me. That's it for now!

Eric

Dear Family,

My word processor (Christmas present) isn't set up yet - can't find the right spot for it - so this has to be long hand. No access to a typewriter since I retired from St. Thomas Religious Ed. a year ago. I spend my time being a grandma pretty full time. The only drawback is my not driving, but not supporting a car helps keep me solvent. Since March I have been working at the West Hempstead Library 8 hours a week, except during the summer it's been only 7 hours. I am a "senior page" meaning I shelve books. Since I work 4 hours on Saturdays that means 4 hours on my feet and believe me, I really feel SENIOR when I get home. The minimum pay helps me buy lunch at Friendly's fairly often. On August 13th the newest Clines was christened TERENCE FRANCIS, and all the C. family was there to celebrate. Joseph, Mary Jo and Joe Clines (3 years old) spent 3 months living here at Lindbergh St. while they negotiated for their new house - it was an experience for all of us. Their new home is really lovely since they did so much work on it.

Let's keep this letter going. I love reading it and keeping it in touch. Thanks Claire and Eric for all your work.  
Love, Aunt Helen

8/30/95

Dear Family,

The Christensen clan will be growing by 1 this October as Nicole will have a new baby brother or sister! So far Gina is doing well and everything appears normal and healthy. We've been upstate to Mom + Dad's quite a bit and aside from that taken a couple of car trips down to Lorraine in Charlotte and Ray in Delverone. I'm still with the N.Y. Times (almost 10 years now) but as everyone else has mentioned, cutbacks are looming large. My fingers are crossed and so far my job seems safe. Not much else going on in Floral Park soo ----

Love to all,  
Love, Gina + Nicole

P.S. Ken is in Wyoming as of this writing and just bought a small piece of land there. He is still an engineer in the Merchant Marine and will probably be setting sail again in November.

Hi Everyone!

9/9/95

When I last received a RR, I was 7 months pregnant with our Danny - now he'll be turning "1" in just 10 days! It's too bad it took so long, but it's great to start up again. Congratulations to all on the college plans, travels, engagement, births & prospective births that we've read about so far - & that's with the RR only halfway through the list!

After a disastrous winter with everyone constantly sick (including chicken pox for all 3 kids right when the new vaccine became available), we've all been healthy since May. (Except for Bill's broken foot, but that's another story...) Kristen just turned "6" & is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade (only 12 more years till college!!) Michelle<sup>(3 1/2)</sup> continues to make progress in her program; she is walking alone with a walker & her orthotics, or with the help of someone holding her hands, & she is using more & more words, including putting several together. It's difficult to see her struggling so hard to attain the skills that are coming so naturally to Danny, but so far she's keeping a step ahead of him, so she can feel proud being a "big sister". We're blessed that Danny has such a pleasant personality, always smiling & "chatting", & knowing that his parents are older than they should be, he SLEEPS THE NIGHT every night. In keeping with his high birth weight (10 lb. boy), he's a BIG BOY of some 26 lb., & he's really showing us the stereotypical difference between girls & boys as he never sits still & climbs on everything & anything.

Like others of you, Bill has worries about his job security. So I still work at Northwest Airlines 7<sup>30</sup>-11<sup>30</sup>PM, although I try to get a lot of time off. In Sept/Oct. we are taking our vacation to Disney World, courtesy of Bill's frequent flyer tickets, as my airline doesn't fly nonstop to Florida. Danny will be staying home with my in-laws - it will be enough of an adventure with Michelle!

Our love to all - Bernadette, Bill, Kristen, Michelle, Daniel

9/18/95

Dear Kang,

Hello from - yep - Mass! Joan and I moved up along with 4 novices on Dad's birthday (Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>). The Capuchin bishop Sean O'Malley invited us into his diocese and gave us full canonical approval to begin our way of life here. It's such a blessing to live the contemplative and austere Capuchin lifestyle. We have no modern conveniences - even washing our clothes by hand! We say all the hours of the divine office - rising at 2 a.m. each morning for the night office as part of our prayer. God is so good in

allowing us to have the blessing of poverty! Since we are here, two more young women have joined so now we are eight. On Oct 17<sup>th</sup> the bishop will come to profess the novices. Then we will be six professed and two postulants! Being apostolic Contemplatives gives us much time for prayers. Therefore, we use the "Christover Farm Hermitage" very often for prayer & solitude. It is a gift to be alone with the Lord. Be assured that we will continue to intercede for you before the Lord as you faithfully struggle in this "vale of tears"! God bless you all!

Love,

Theresa &amp; Joannie

9/26/95

From Virginia - Hi V'all!

Nothing much new in our lives -- Monica was hospitalized again, back in May which cancelled our plans to travel North. We had 3 different dates to visit Alan and 3 times we cancelled. SO -- Alan, Deanne, Billy and Gillian came to us. The first 2 times we cancelled because of Monica, the last time because of my car. My car loses power, acts differently in how it loses it, but it always goes again. I don't mind travelling around home here in VA or to Eric and family in Richmond, but I hate to think of travelling to NV along roads where you cannot pull over to the side of the road like on I95 and other roads to Alan's house. I hate to think of travelling along I95, my car loses power, I'm going as fast as my car will allow, cars around me wanting me to get out of their way and I can't get the car going fast quickly. That to me would be a nightmare! and could be disastrous! The car is 11 years old, has over 116,000 miles, but I love it. I hate the thought of getting rid of it and buying a new one for \$15M+. Eric is trying and thinking of everything he can think of to correct whatever is going wrong with my car. I had it to Toyota and they can't find a thing wrong with it. Of course, they'll sell me a new one!

September brought all of our activities back in motion again...bowling, choir, another variety show. Last year in our church, we put on a variety show for the first time in the history of the parish - and it was a great hit!--A sellout! We're doing another one this year: "A Broadway Musical Revue". I think this will be a hit, too. As last year, I am secretary of the committee and script typer-upper - and will also take care of the programs again with the able assistance of Eric and his computer.

It's good to hear from everyone again - hope this RR doesn't get lost along the way. Everything is going well with the May family - thank God. Keep healthy, keep happy, keep in touch!

Love,  
Joannie Rosemary and Monica

10/30/95

DEAR ALL:

GREETINGS from a very frigid old home! During our many years of living in apartments, I often told myself things will be a lot simpler once we have our own house. NOBODY TOLD ME WE WOULD HAVE TO HEAT IT! (ACTUALLY, everyone did, but I didn't listen.)

It's been an exciting and rewarding year for us. In January, we moved in with Mom. In April, we moved into our own house. And on May 14th, Terence Francis Clines entered the world, perhaps a bit early.

Terence is, by far, the kappiest baby I've ever encountered, if I do say so myself. My in-laws insist he looks like Tom, but I insist there's a lot of Clines and May (perhaps even a bit of HAHN) in him.

Joseph is now 3 years old and attending pre-school. How best to describe my boy? Let's put it this way: YOU KNOW WHEN HE IS IN THE ROOM. Plus, he must be a chip off the old block, as we spend many a day in our basement, banging a hockey puck around. By the way, if you see Joseph, he PREFERS to be called "Firefighter Joe Clines."

May Jo has been juggling several part-time jobs, at Molloy College, CU Post, among others, and running after her boys when she's not working.

I am still at Fox-5, producing the 10 o'clock News. If you stay up late, you can occasionally see my name go whizzing by during the credits, but I rarely time the show well enough for that to happen.

Hope to see you all very soon  
Love, Joe Clines (SR)

PS : Mom was cleaning the house the other day and <sup>2-8</sup>  
came across a SAVING'S BOND (\$25) dated "August 18, 1960"  
It was from UNCLE BILL & Aunt Rosemary on the  
occasion of my BAPTISM. (It's now worth \$150)  
So Thanks again, Godmother, for the gift that  
really keeps on giving!

GREETINGS EVERYONE!

11/7/95

THANK-YOU TO JOE FOR USING LINED PAPER, SINCE I STILL DON'T  
HAVE A P.C. AND STAY AWAY FROM TYPEWRITERS. AS ALWAYS, I'VE CONTINUED  
TO BE MOBILE, FINALLY RETURNING TO THE EAST COAST AFTER 12 YEARS IN  
CALIFORNIA. IN FACT I JUST RETURNED FROM A WEEK-LONG "VISITING" VACATION  
OUT THERE. I WAS ABLE TO TRANSFER TO WILMINGTON, DE, WITH THE SAME  
COMPANY SINCE OUR HEADQUARTERS IS HERE. I LIKE THE AREA VERY MUCH,  
AND WITH HOME PRICES SO MUCH MORE REASONABLE THAN CA OR NY, I'LL  
BE BUYING ONE WITHIN A FEW MONTHS. (I'M CLOSE TO I-95, SO CALL ME IF YOU'RE  
PASSING BY.) AS OF DEC. 1ST, I'LL HAVE BEEN HERE ONE YEAR - AND HOPE  
THIS WINTER IS AS MILD AS LAST ONE! TO ACQUAINT MYSELF, I SOMETIMES  
TAKE BICYCLE HIKEs AROUND THE AREA OR GO SIGHTSEEING WHEN FAMILY VISITS.  
I'VE ALSO BEEN LUCKY ENOUGH TO MAKE MONTHLY VISITS EITHER TO MY PARENTS, OR  
TO STEVE AND GINA IN QUEBEC -- WHICH IS WHERE I'M HEADING ~~THIS WEEKEND~~ TO  
MEET THEIR NEW DAUGHTER, MEGAN (OCT. 12) AND OF COURSE TO PLAY WITH  
MY GODDAUGHTER NICOLE. IT'S GREAT BEING NEAR FAMILY AGAIN!

LOVE,  
Ray





cooperative lately, and that makes a big difference in <sup>2-90</sup> our daily routine. Everything goes much more smoothly now. Our daily routine will soon change dramatically, however, because we are expecting a baby in April! We had some concerns about the pregnancy a few weeks ago that kept us on edge, but at this point everything seems fine. We're in the midst of our December ~~birth~~ birthday onslaught now (Emile's on the 4<sup>th</sup> + Brian's on the 13<sup>th</sup>) so I'll finish here.

Love to all,  
Eileen + family

Happy Holidays Gang!

Well Christmas Day is over, New Years is just around the corner.

It is indeed wonderful to see the next round under way (and the first loop almost complete).

It has been a very busy time for all of the families over the last two years. We have tried to keep in touch with each faction through at least one member, but it is nice to hear from everyone.

Our years have also been busy. Since the last writing, Alan left Bear Stearns and joined Chase Manhattan Bank. If you haven't heard their announcements, Chase and Chemical will be merging sometime in the first quarter which leaves us rather uncertain as to his position if any with the "New" Chase. We are confident that he will not be affected, but he has been talking to several headhunters, and been on several interviews as a backup.

Deanne has been teaching as a permanent sub at St. Anthony's in Yonkers. She started in September with a 6th grade homeroom, 6-7-8 Science. The position was to end sometime in November (the full-time teacher is out on maternity leave), but since that teacher is having difficulty returning, Deanne will be there at this point through February. The possibility always exists that the other teacher won't come back, but either way, Deanne has a happy principal and a great recommendation for September.

Our joys: Billy will be 6 next week. He is in kindergarten at P.S. 31 in Yonkers. He is actually in a Pre-K/Kindergarten combination since the school maintains a Montessori program. He loves school, and gets quite upset when we have snow days. (Since we had three even before the official start of winter, it looks like there will be a lot of days to be made up at year end).

Gillian turned 4 in November. She is our little firecracker, she has never been the quiet one. She is also at 31 in a Pre-K/Kindergarten combo, but in a different classroom from Billy. Billy is her hero (second only to her Daddy). He takes pride in walking her to her class each day before going to his own. They are a terrific combination and love to entertain us with stories of their day, and singing almost constantly. They are both starting to read and enjoy computer work just like their Uncle Eric and cousin Chris.

All in all though we've had a very good 1995 and look forward to a good '96.  
We wish you all a happy and healthy New Year.

Alan, Deanne,  
Billy + Gillian

Jan 10, 1996

Happy New Year Everyone!

All of us here in N. Jersey are doing fine. The holidays were great for us and the great blizzard a few days ago was even more exciting (for the kids, that is!).

The news with our family is our Jason's move to Ft Myers, Florida. He had the opportunity of a salary boost with Federal Express down there and so he decided to try it. He is now visiting us for a week just in time to help Dad shovel 28" of snow. He likes Florida more & more. Stephanie + Krista are in College now and the family seems a bit smaller. My Mom seems to be weathering this winter rather well this year so far. No trips to the hospital, thanks to an occasional surge of antibiotics. Life is sometimes lonely for the housebound period, but she hangs on to her independence.

It was so nice hearing all the news from Everyone. Hope all of you are well - Not much else to say. Keep I hope we all get together sometime.

Love to all  
Alex, Mom + Family