

My dear family,

2-81a

5/16/00

I feel so awkward actually taking pen in hand to write this letter, now that I've finally emerged into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and have actually become comfortable with my e-mail. (Do kids actually learn penmanship in school these days?) I'm also getting sporadic instructions on using the internet, but frankly, it takes too much time and I haven't the patience for it. Hey, it will take a little while for me to graduate to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. My technology training was interrupted for a while when my new lap-top (supplied by Steven) was stolen with a number of other items, in a burglary this past Jan. The breakin occurred while we were visiting friends and family, and Elders, staying on the Mississippi during a 5 wk. "southern swing" in Jan-Feb.

But Kay to the rescue. When he purchased a new computer, we inherited his "old" one. And now, we're enjoying our frequent communication with you all.

We're busy getting ready for the 'May inversion' on 7/15 and do so look forward to seeing you all. So delighted that most of you will be here! Love, Aunt Claire & Uncle Ed

P.S. Effective 6/6/00 our area code will change from 914 to 845

6/7/00

Greetings to all!

My bad! The RR got lost in one of my desk piles for a few weeks. This is indicative of life these days .. hectic/overbooked/prone to error! I have been promoted to Head of Reference and Adult Collections at the library. Coupling that with the rather abrupt departure of one of our full-timers has left me with a lot of work and not enough time to do it. I like a challenge, but ...! I just don't know where the time goes! George is over-extended, but the track coaching is over so now it's just HS and CC coaching with a little soccer coaching and playing thrown in, plus taking care of 3 houses (ours, my Mom's and his Mom's). Sound familiar? When did life get so hectic?! At least the nasty summer heat and humidity have been nowhere to be seen so far - I just hope it stays that way!

As for the "kiddies" ... Ian at 25 is still in import/export and planning to move out of the house over the summer. Kate remains in Mexico doing her research analysis of developing crops for third world countries. She'll complete that job in August and the organization is going to send her to Italy to present a paper at an international conference! She'll take a little breather, and then plans to begin graduate work in plant biology at UCal Davis (outside Sacramento) in Jan 2001. Guess we'll be seeing the west coast a lot over the next few years! My baby, Matthew, graduates from HS on the 25<sup>th</sup>. He will be going to Vassar in the fall. Major undecided, but he hopes to meet lots of nice rich women there! He will forsake soccer (he's basically sick of it) and possibly try Volleyball at Vassar. He made All-County in all this spring and is enjoying this relatively new sport. Hey, we've even made our first tuition payment - so we are on our way for the third and last time! He's working at the State park just over the parkway bridge to save up for the Prom and college.

We hosted my Mom's 75<sup>th</sup> bday shindig (family BBQ with surprise guest Aunt Claire.). I found some really old and wonderful photo albums which kept everyone entertained ... so many beach /swimsuit photos! We all felt blessed to be together to celebrate such a feat.

Unfortunately, The Dreher's will be AWOL from the reunion. George's nephew is marrying that evening out in Suffolk and we feel obliged to attend. We will get a full report from the Zirkels, Clineses and Lynches, and I am sure they can fill in any info gaps about us.

As always, it is great to read about all the May doin's. It's great to see us all doing our part to bring some fun, accomplishment and sense of family out of all the craziness the world seems to be flinging at us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century! Keep the Faith! Keep the fun!

Love to all -  
Barbara, George, Ian  
Kate & Matt

6/16/00

Hello to everyone,

So glad to hear all the good news from everyone. The latest good news in our family is the anticipation of our second grandchild due this December. According to Ashley, her baby sister is in mommy's tummy and her baby brother is in her tummy - which she yelled out in the middle of WalMart the other day when I took her shopping!

We are really looking forward to seeing everyone again at our reunion on July 15<sup>th</sup>. I am especially looking forward to my reunion with Madeline, Ralph and Jannae. It has been a year and a half since I last saw them.

I'll keep this short for now and hope to do some catching up with all of you next month. I only wish the whole family could be together but I know there are too many miles between some of us.

With love.....till next month.

*Love, Ronnie*

Hi Family, June 22, 2000

We can't wait to see *most* of you at up at the millennium family party at "the farm" in just a few weeks! We are really looking forward to it.

All is going well here in Charlotte. Arianna is becoming a huge handful now that she's in her "terrible" (although I prefer to use the term "intense") two's. She is a real joy most of the time! It's fun to watch her explore, learn and absorb the world. Her newest achievement is swimming all by herself with just the armband swimmy on!

For those of you who don't already know, we have some wonderful news! We are expecting another bundle of joy on October 3! So far I feel fine, but considering that I'm carrying right through the hottest months of the summer, you can bet your bottom dollar that this wasn't exactly a 100% planned endeavor. Congratulations to all of the other happy news regarding expecting parents. Our family certainly does keep growing!

Both our jobs are going fine. I'm planning to go part-time in 2001 as I can't possibly continue to work full-time from home while watching TWO kids. However, I feel like I've worked too hard to just give it all up entirely.

It was great to see Eric and Danie a few weeks ago. Arianna absolutely ate up the attention! Stop by again the next time you're in town for a race!

Safe traveling to all as you make your way to the family reunion and to those of you who can't make it, you can bet you'll be missed!

Love,

*Lenaxie, John & Arianna*

2-84

Greetings from Milwaukee!

6/27/80

As this is mailed, it's a little more than two weeks until the reunion at Lackawack Hill. As one who hasn't been up there in about 35 years, I'm certainly looking forward to it!

Highlight of the spring for me was a quick trip to Mexico to visit niece Kate. She's working at an agricultural research center near Texcoco, about 30 miles from Mexico City. Had lots of fun climbing 1,000-year-old pyramids and exploring downtown Mexico City--- 22 million people in that metropolitan area! Food was great, people were great, and it was very impressive to watch Kate navigate the bus-and-metro system, restaurants and even the wacky world of Mexican driving!

As for summer, it's the usual-- some baseball games to cover, lots of time in the pool at my apartment complex and those good ol' ethnic festivals that Milwaukee is famous for.

And of course, this summer there's that one-day festival in Ulster County. See you there!

Frank

Dear Family,

The excitement in anticipation of the May Family reunion is building with less than two weeks to go! I hope you will be there if you possibly can. Thanks again to Ray for setting up a special Web page to keep us up-to-date on the plans!

We have had some wonderful encounters with family members in recent months. First, we were honored to be invited to my Godchild, Stephanie's wedding to Corban Cunningham in April. We had an absolutely wonderful time! I don't think I ever danced so much! But more importantly, we got to catch up with Aunt Betty, Maria, Tina, Kathy, Patty and their families, and, believe it or not, Chaz!. We also learned that the new bride and her husband were setting up house less than 10 miles from us here in Richmond, and that Krista is currently making Richmond her home as well!

In May, we had an opportunity to swing by Charlotte on the way to Lowes Motor Speedway (yes, we've become NASCAR fans!) and had a wonderful visit with Loraine, John & Arianna. Arianna definitely sucked up our attention, but she knows how to keep it! What a charmer!!

This summer, Claudine is in Evansville IN, working with a theatre group (a professional job!). She is working in the costume shop for the New Harmony Theatre, preparing costumes for three productions during the summer season. She is staying at the student apartments located at the University of Southern Indiana. The Director of the costume shop is a former student of Claudine's current professor at Radford, so the deal should have been perfect. However, the Director does not run the shop from day-to-day; that duty falls on a woman whom Claudine describes as an ogre and a perfectionist. With the rapid succession of plays and problems getting the actors in on time, Claudine is learning the feast or famine ways of the real world. She is bored to tears for some time, then has to work weekends and nights to meet the production schedule. We'll be picking her up on the last leg of our vacation that starts with the reunion. She's counting the days!

Chris is in Orlando now for a month of orientation at the Campus Crusade for Christ Headquarters. He is learning details about the organization and how to develop a network of supporters. After the orientation, he will return home (to Blacksburg, where he went to school) and start working on his support network. Hopefully, in about six months, he'll be moving to Orlando to begin his work in the Media & Technology Dept. of the CCC organization.

Danie continues to work with her buddy; cleaning houses to support her "habit." That is, of course, buying fabric, thread, patterns and other supplies for quilts. The stash seems to pile up much faster than the finished products, but it's keeping her out of the malls. A quilt top she created was recently displayed at a quilt shop in Williamsburg while a big quilt festival was in town. Being the only quilt shop around, there was a lot of traffic thru the store during the festival, so her work was seen by many. During our trip to drop off Claudine in IN, we continued on to Paducah, KY (Quilt Capital of America) where the Museum of the American Quilting Society is located. I must admit, even I was in awe of the works that were on display!

I'm once again playing on two softball teams this season. Unfortunately, both have firm locks on last place! (*Whoa . . . I know what you're thinking! No, it's not me!! I swear!!*). Claudine helped out on the coed team for a couple of games during her short stay at home between school and IN, but alas, her support didn't change our situation.

The situation at work is the same. Too much work, not enough resources. (*I know . . . we're unique!*). Following our merger with Consolidated Natural Gas, we have restructured the company and will be re-branding all of our businesses with the *Dominion* moniker. And with deregulation around the corner, the power generation part of the business (which I support) will separate from *Dominion Virginia* (the former *Virginia Power*) and become *Dominion Generation*. You may have heard that name in the news recently, as we were among the finalists vying for the purchase of the Indian Point 3 Nuclear Plant from NYPA. Unfortunately, we were not successful in that venture, but watch out . . . we'll be back!

That's about it! Lets keep the letter moving!

Eric & Danie

7/31/2000

Dear Family,

I am so sorry I didn't get up to the reunion. Really, I had my pajamas packed and was all set to go - and looking forward to seeing you all. But when I saw the pair coming down and felt that dampness in my old bones - well I thought maybe I should remember I was 75 years old and stay out of the witness. So now everyone knows I'm chicken. At least I'm glad Bernadette and Eileen and their families got up state to represent the Clinch branch. Hope you all forgive me - and hope I'll still be here next year for the next reunion. God bless you all!

Much love,

Aunt Helen

(P.S. This has been a year of big birthdays for the Clinch family: my 75th, celebrated by a great party put on by the "kids", Frank's 50th, celebrated by the tribe here and Joseph's 40th tomorrow - "pre celebrated." What a year!

Dear family,

8/12/00

It was wonderful to have so many cousins attend the family reunion despite the slightly damp weather! It's too bad the weather didn't allow for more outdoor activities, but maybe that's the way our dearest Aunt Anna planned it. She must've wanted everyone together, and we SURE WERE!!

Gina, myself and the kids are doing fine. I've just gotten a new position at the Times and after 15 years finally have weekends off. Gina is still working part-time, and Nicole and Megan (7 and 5 this fall) are enjoying swimming and day trips in Day Camp at the local YMCA. We remain in good health and count our blessings every day.

We're already looking forward to 2002!!

Love to all,  
Alec, Gina, Nicole, Megan

Hi to all!

The RR letter has a new dimension to it this time around, since we saw many of you at the reunion. For those who couldn't make it, I heartily recommend "Christensen Caterers" for all your party needs. They are wonderful hosts, & prepared for ALL contingencies! 8/21/00

When the RR arrived we were visiting friends up in Vermont - a very nice trip, during which we encountered a very unusual natural phenomenon: GOOD WEATHER! Now we're all becoming resigned to the end of the summer & SCHOOL 😊! Kristen is nervously anticipating her entry into the Middle School (6th grade)... Michelle is still in the self-contained special ed track. She did pretty well with her First Communion in May & then immediately after it she had eye surgery, which was more successful than her 1999 surgery, thank God. Her eyes at least look much straighter, & we're hoping her schoolwork will come easier for her. With my "baby" Danny entering full-time school for the 1st time (1st grade), everyone is asking me what I'll do with all my "free time". I'm not going back to work right away, but with 4 different PTA's vying for my time (3 different schools + a special ed PTA) - as well as parish CCD - I expect to be doing quite a bit of "unpaid work". I also could use hours cleaning out & sorting all the junk from every drawer, shelf & box in the house! And if that's not enough to keep me busy, I also have a new little "buddy" to care for. After a difficult, emotional winter & spring trying to nurse our 12-yr. old golden retriever Slinger, we had to give up on May 7th. I didn't want a new dog right away, but within a month we had Cassie, a Sheltie puppy (like a miniature collie).

I don't know how Theresa & Joanie managed with 9 puppies, because ~~it~~ just the one keeps me busier than I would like. I have to admit, she's a great playmate for the kids, but I'm back to extra meals, extra walks, constant vacuuming & constant poop-scooping!

Besides all the milestone birthdays the Clines family has had in this year 2000, we're now preparing for a Zirkel family milestone. Bill's parents will be married 50 years on Sept. 30th! We're glad they're able to celebrate such a happy occasion.

Since we probably won't see the RR again this year, our best wishes to all for a safe, happy & healthy fall & holiday season.  
Love, Bernadette, Bill & kids

Dear all —

I hope this note finds all well!

The sisters have been very busy. Theresa is out in Pa. to "make way!" for our new location. We will settle there in early spring just in time for the berries! No other news - just getting ready for the end of summer & the beginning of the new year's ministry. Know that you all hold a special place in our prayers! and that a mass weekly is offered for your intentions along with lots of prayer!! Please pray also for this new move. we have the land donated but must build a convent and chapel. Keep us in your prayers! God Bless & love you

all,  
Joanie

Hello to everyone - Greetings from Williamsburg, VA 9/9/00

It seems like only 'yesterday' that people were concerned about V2K and here it is September in the year 2000 already. It is good to read that everyone is well and happy - the May Family keeps growing: the weddings, grandchildren. Everyone is kept busy with many good things happening to all of you.

Things are sure happening here. On MARCH 10TH, I had gall bladder surgery (done laparoscopically - a snap). Then on April 6th, Monica had a hysterectomy - and a week later had another minor surgery to remove a blood clot that grew in the incision. Then she went to anursing home for physical therapy and came home May 20th. She had a physical therapist come to the house for about 6 weeks and this therapist knowing Monica needed a new splint for her feet had an orthotist come and make a mold for them - they fit fine but we cannot get shoes to fit over them - so the orthotist is coming Tuesday to make a mold and then have made-to-order shoes done for her. Insurance does not pay for them unless you are diabetic. Early July I got another infection in my left ankle and had to wear the Unna's boot again for about 3 weeks. Then on July 26th, I had cataract surgery. That's about all that is going on with us right now.

We're glad to hear so many of you went to the May Reunion. It was too bad the weather did not cooperate -- but, as Eric and Alan said, "If the weather had been nice everyone would have been scattered around and we wouldn't have talked with everyone." I got a great

'present' from the reunion. Eric put pictures taken at the reunion in my computer on the JIGSAW PUZZLER program and it was fun finding the pieces and putting my nephews and nieces together. It was FUN! Eric said he'd put more in when he comes down to my house again.

All of you keep doing well, stay well and happy - enjoy life!

Love and Prayers,

Dear all -

AS ALWAYS, I BEGIN MY LETTER WITH AN APOLOGY FOR HOLDING ON TO THE NEWSLETTER FOR SO LONG. AT FIRST, I WANTED TO BE ABLE TO INCLUDE THE WORLD SERIES RESULTS (SORRY, RAY) THEN, I WANTED TO INCLUDE THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULTS, BUT THAT GREW TIRESOME.

I HAVE TO FURTHER APOLOGIZE FOR MISSING MAY FAMILY 2000, BUT I DIDN'T THINK 7 INCHES OF RAIN WAS A BIT EXCESSIVE.

AS I HAVE DETAILED BEFORE, OUR LIVES ARE A COMPLEX WHIRL OF WORK, SCHOOL AND SPORTS. JOSEPH (8) AND TERENCE (5) ARE PLAYING BASEBALL, SOCCER AND BASKETBALL. KIRA (4) WILL JOIN THEM NEXT YEAR. I'M HAPPY TO SAY THAT I HAVE MOULDED JOSEPH INTO A FINE NEW YORK YANKEE FAN, AND THROUGH SHEER, BRUTE FORCE, HOPE TO DO THE SAME WITH TERENCE. ALWAYS A REBEL, HE CLAIMS TO BE A MET FAN.

MARYJO IS TEACHING FRENCH IN GRAMMAR SCHOOL THIS YEAR, A WELCOME CHANGE. (7 YEAR OLDS ARE CUTE; 17 YEAR OLDS OBNOXIOUS.)

I CONTINUE AT FOX 5 NEWS, WORKING NIGHTS, INFORMING NEW YORKERS ABOUT THE IMPORTANT ISSUES OF OUR TIME. (CO-ED, BACKYARD WRESTLING, A SPECIAL REPORT AT TEN.)

I'VE BEEN ASKING OUR METEOROLOGIST HOW IT LOOKS FOR NAPANOCH IN JULY 2002, BUT HE'S BEEN HEMMING & HAWING. THEY ALWAYS DO.

Love, Joe Cline & Family

Dear Family,

November 28, 2000

2-89

Seasons Greetings! It was super to see so many faces at the July reunion. I was kind of overwhelmed by the maze of Mays. It's been a nice year. A tough point, though, for the Christensens came last month, when my grandmother (89) and my uncle Lou (67?) passed away in the same week. However, the Lord was kind. My parents got through the multiple arrangements and gathering of belongings with as much help as the rest of us could provide. Grandma was at the May reunion and had a wonderful time, especially with all of her grandkids and great-grandkids in attendance.



Photos: Grandma and farm folks.....Arianna Klein with Nicole & Megan.....Reunion campfire

Most of the year was more joyous. I was in Charlotte, NC for Kaylin Rose Klein's Baptism in October. She's niece #4. I spent Thanksgiving in Queens with the rest of the family, including Ken (just back from 3 months on a Pacific Ocean voyage). Maybe he'll stick around thru Xmas for a change. On my way home from the weekend, I hit a Jets game with Steve and his buddy Jim (your chefs at the party). Unfortunately, the weather was very similar to that soggy day in July! You can *count* on better weather at the 2002 party!

With the family growing by leaps and bounds, I again encourage you to mail or email any current family photos so we have at least a slim chance of recognizing each other when we meet again. I'll post them at the Farm Site, which I **promise** will be re-worked soon to allow for faster loading, as well as new content. In fact, the most productive thing I've been up to lately is to enroll in a Webmaster Certificate program at U. of DE. I hope to be designing websites professionally before long.

Take care and God bless!

<http://lackawack.tripod.com>

Ray

p.s. Joe-- I'm rooting for Terence to stick with his instincts about rooting for the Mets!

Dear Family, 12-5-00

It was wonderful seeing my cousins, Aunt & Uncle again. I often remember that day. Aunt Claire & Uncle Ed were so gracious in letting our huge family reunion on their gorgeous piece of paradise. So sorry to hear the news about Uncle Ed's mother & brother.

Rain is an unusual gift in Florida so if you look at it that way, it was a good thing even if it was on the Day of the Reunion.

Jaleen got engaged right after the reunion, not to marry till Mar 4 of 2002.

But Brent surprised us in October by also getting engaged & plans to marry this June. (they're trying to kill me with all these wedding stuff)

Otherwise, Jennise was accepted to the Graphic Arts program & has been asked to illustrate a child's book. So, we are all ok except our doggie is 20 lbs overweight & now on a diet. I felt like telling the Vet you should see our goldfish 'Jaws'! (Lone, Madeline, & Ralph (see enclosed photo about our election).

Dear Family,

7 January 2001

I must admit that I got this letter a few weeks ago, but I was preparing for Brian's birthday (#12, having just finished with Emily's #9) and I was way behind with my Christmas preparations. We had a very enjoyable Christmas and a nice visit to Joe's family in Baltimore on the 26th and 27th, but there our luck ran out. We were planning to go up to NY for the weekend preceding New Year's for our family party, but were stopped by a huge snowstorm on Saturday the 30th that left us with 9 inches of snow and Western LI with about a foot or so. Emily says that there must be something wrong with the Mays because all of our parties end up with bad weather.

In the first week of Advent, I got to have a nice visit with Srs. Theresa and Joan, who were at my parish for a mission. We decided that we had last seen each other at Lorraine's wedding, and since she has two kids now, I guess that was awhile ago! We had a very enjoyable time looking at pictures old and new, and we even visited Ray's website. Emily thinks that Theresa and Joannie look a lot like Mom, by the way. That was one I hadn't heard before.

We're now starting to gear up for Winter activities. Usually the Winter is kind of quiet for us because Brian and Emily don't do any winter sports. But this year, they are both going to be in a school play which will be kind of elaborate and involve a lot of rehearsal and a lot of parental involvement. They are also both taking instrument lessons (trombone for Brian and viola for Emily). Colin is 4 1/2 now, and goes to school three afternoons a week, but he gets bored waiting for school to start. I'm not sure I will have the time to sign him up for any other activities, but a family with a three year old just moved in behind us so maybe he will have a new friend to play with.

I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year's!

Love to all,

*Eileen + Family*

January 16, 2001

2-91

Happy New Millennium!

It is wonderful to get the RR again. We were starting to wonder about it over the Holidays and were worried that it got lost again. Our last entry was in April of 2000.

We are doing well and we too were happy to see all who were crazy enough to get drenched at the reunion. We had a great time. Those who had to miss it make sure you get there in 2002. Since the reunion, we were actually able to enjoy our first real family vacation. We rented a home in the Poconos and got to relax for a whole week at one time! We had another week off together, but used that as our work week around the house. In the Fall, we spent an overnight back at "the Farm" with Aunt Clare and visited a friend at New Paltz.

Billy & Gillian had science camp for a week in Aug., and then got ready to head back for a new school year. Shannon got to join the ranks of the "big" guys and headed off to all-day pre-k in September, and hasn't looked back yet. She adjusted quite quickly to being with "her children" and "her boyfriend, Brian." (Daddy isn't ready for that yet!). B&G have their daily activities so that we figure out what day it is by which extra activity is going on that day. Scouting, dancing, art, music, swimming, whatever. We are looking at Middle Schools for Billy (a good variety to choose from) for next September and Gillian and Shannon will have another year together at "31". Then we face the Middle School question with Gillian. We could have 3 kids in 3 schools at that point!

Deanne is back at Mercy and starting the spring semester with a new boss. We're not sure about him yet, but will give him the benefit of time to see how he does. Alan is working on yearend at Deutsche Bank and will be back to breathing soon. This is the worst time of year for him and doesn't get to see much of us. Once that's over, things should be more manageable. We're both involved in committee work and classes at Sacred Heart, which takes its toll as well. Religious Ed was moved to Sunday this year, immediately following the Children's Liturgy @10. This frees up Wednesday afternoons, and just extends our stay at Church on Sunday morning.

Deanne's Mom is doing well at this point after having to undergo another pacemaker implant when the first one failed and she went into congestive heart failure last May. She is doing as well as can be expected and the kids still think it's great that Nannie is with us. Alan & Gillian visited Grandma in Va. to go through some financial and legal details that should protect both her and Monica under most conceivable circumstances. It is amazing to see how the legal system can be used to do what you want it to do. We're looking into similar types of maneuvers for us to help protect the kids. This is the stuff you don't want to think about, but if you don't, it could really hurt, especially with Mom & Monica.

2-4-01

Dear Family -

Everyone here in N. Jersey is doing well. So nice to see the gang up at the farm in spite of the deluge. The news from the Field family is that we are to become grandparents again. Stephanie & Corban are expecting to become parents this July. It seems the family is near without an event of some kind. They both are still in Richmond, Va. and are still not sure if that is where they will settle. Jason and Tricia bought a house in Cape Coral, Fla. and he really likes his new career in the Ft. Myers Police Dept. Alex is retiring in June from the Inspection Service and will find work elsewhere. He will be happy when he doesn't work nights anymore. My Mom is doing alright although the depression of winter time sets in at times. Healthwise she has her good days + bad. I am still at the Pediatric office 12-15 hrs a week. With that joining a gym and teaching CCD the week fly by - and with that I will end with lots of love from us all -  
Mauri, Alex & Family -  
See you all in 2002 (PRAY FOR SUN)