

Jab. 22, 1996.

Dear Robert and Barbara,

Wow, what a busy family. Moving to Madison must have been a must in time management. I'm anxious to meet the kids again as well. Five years slides by so fast with major changes occurring in the young. I guess Lila is the last of the family who no-one has yet met since the Rhinelanders didn't get to the last reunion. Jennifer's kids are taller then I now too, major changes...

Thanks for the jams. With a house full of kids over the holidays it got eaten mighty quick and much appreciated. The weather was so cold here that the kids and I stayed indoors for days waiting for skiable temperatures and now its raining and it looks like the snow making machines will be starting from mud again to-morrow. Yes we're skiing a lot and we went south in December to play golf. Doug and Ruth came up from Florida to South Carolina to join us. We hadn't seen them since the last reunion four years ago. That's a fine RV they are enjoying, a regular house on wheels. They plan to spend a couple of months exploring the east coast en route to the reunion in the summer. They seem to be really enjoying their nomadic life what with trailer rallies and a ready made travelling community.

We are still in the throws of adjusting to retirement. Charlie is still working part time so he hasn't entirely thrown himself into any kind of new life and I'm not sure I will ever adjust, the old work ethic being too deeply engrained. Each morning begins with some kind of devised importancy, eg what will I do to-day that matters. Then my next thought is I can't commit to anything because I don't want to get tied down. What a conundrum. I have been quite involved the arthritis self help group and that eases my conscience some but most of the time I play and enjoy the

grandchildren and take the odd class here and there and nurse my aging infirmities.

We are going to Arizona in few days to see Evelyn and take her on a small trip somewhere to relieve her care-giver pressures and see a little of the state too and of course play a little golf. Then in March we hope to organize a ski trip to Maine with grandchildren, then we'll be off to Utah and Wyoming for another couple of weeks of skiing. Let us know if you'll be in Alta in March and maybe we can arrange a rendezvous.

Jennifer's Dog grooming business is doing well and she doesn't have to be french to conduct it. They don't much like living in Montreal though, with Quebec separation threatening all decisions and house prices dropping. Linda is working hard at professoring and she has grants to conduct all kinds of interesting research in various aspects of family violence and she is directing a double major stream in law and society which uses professors from several other disciplines. Linda and Tony have a 150 acre farm with four or five riding horses and blueberry fields and lots of woods. Tony has an ongoing business growing organic food for the nature foods stores and making wine etc. He also got another book out last year.

I'm sorry that the reunion interferes with the scout camp. It's really hard to get a time that doesn't interfere with somebody. Patty has business trips planed for August and the insects can be impossible earlier and so on. I have some information on the Marshman family which I will dig out though it isn't as complete as the Park family tree. I always wonder about family trees anyway since they usually follow the male line only. My prejudices are showing.

As always

Betty

Charlie

*P.S. I hope Masha brings his flute to the reunion and the family too
the various instruments*