

ROUND ROBIN (forwarded via e-mail September 30, 2004)

Sequence via postal mail: Roy, Obed, Irene, Em, Pat, Dick, Linnae

ROY'S LETTER (August 18, 2004)

Dear Family,

Never know how bad the tremor will be. I'll write slowly. John is coming this week-end [to Olympia, Washington] to make arrangements for his dogs to stay at Sue's. He starts [work as a psychiatrist] at Western State Hospital on October 4 and will stay here with Charlie and me until his house in North Carolina is sold and he buys one here. He will be in no hurry to buy so may be here when Charlie and I go back [to Maryland] on Nov. 7. Then we will probably ship some furniture and come back here in May (by train). The weather is cooler than I expected and of course we don't have everything we need – hard to live for five months out of two suitcases.

We live a half mile from great shopping and I walk there once or twice a day. As for the sarcoma – I'm seeing a superb doctor to keep track of what is going on. Nothing new at this time.

The reunion was such a delightful event. Thanks to Linnae for putting it together and to Taffy and Dick for their major help. When I heard mountain resort next year I thought, not for me, but after all the walking I'm doing it seems reasonable.

It's frustrating to have everything you need in Maryland – pots and pans, clothing, and right now envelopes – little by little we figure out how to manage until November. Correction: my address is Archwood not Archway – but the mail is arriving OK. [1111 Archwood Drive S.W., #450, Olympia, WA 98502]  
Phone: 360-705-9751.

Love, Roy

OBED'S LETTER (August 30, 2004)

Dear Robins,

Stuart is now in Lewisburg, PA, and I'm sure will be super busy for a few years. The college is called Bucknell and being in the East has been there many years.

Lisa will be leaving for France in about three weeks to teach French and English. It is so easy to get there – 7 hours. She has been in all the countries several times. Some of those places consider the U.S. a little savage – guns, etc.

We have watched the Olympics quite a bit and some of those people are certainly super, super. It prompted me to look up Greece. 2000 islands. 200 inhabited. etc...

Dave did really help Em get on a non-stop Northwest plane for home [after his return flight to San Diego from the reunion was canceled]. It took only 3 hours and 10 minutes. The difficulty today is talking to a machine – maybe several to really get an answer.

Enclosed, a couple of pictures of the Lanyon school demolition. It was a sad day but necessary for safety. Same with the hardware store.

We have had an early frost – very bad in the outlying areas. Seed corn they say costs \$120 for a 50 lb. bag!

Love, Obed

IRENE'S LETTER (September 4, 2004)

Dear Robins,

Enjoyed the letters and photos!

I especially enjoyed the long article [Dick put in] about Anna Roos. She surely did have much sadness in her long life. I remember being in the audience when her son Kenneth was ordained in the Lanyon Church, as he knelled and several ministers gave their blessing to him. A wonderful young man and he died so young from cancer.

So exciting that John will be moving to the West Coast and when Roy and Charlie move there permanently, the whole family can be close.

Thanks to you who were so warm and welcoming to my friend Les.\* He is a wonderful man – as pastor, missionary in Hong Kong and Taiwan, a volunteer chaplain in World War II. He speaks Mandarin Chinese. Uncle Obed [Amy Lindgren's brother, a missionary to China] spoke Cantonese, a dialect of Chinese. Les told me the Mission Covenant and the Lutherans combined their seminary in Beijing – they were that close.

Now politics – but if the U.S. Congress and presidents (past and present) would have the “guts” to oppose the Jewish lobbyists, address the needs of the Palestinians – some hope for the entire peace of the world.

Love, Irene

EM'S LETTER (September 12, 2004)

Dear Family,

Thanx for the pictures. Hard to believe the Lanyon School is gone. Small classes – a bit like a private school. And our dear Dad was on the Board. He found it hard to write a recommendation for teachers who he felt were not the best, when they had to leave. He was largely instrumental in getting the Bible on the curriculum. My teacher was a pastor's daughter. Luke Morton [JoAnn's son] and his bride of two months were here for a brief but enjoyable visit a few days ago. Don't know if I told you he is going into the Presbyterian ministry. They are both graduates of the University of Washington – Seattle.

In this day of strong materialism we all need to heed Jesus' words – “What would it profit a man if he gained the whole world but lost his own soul?”

Much love, Emory

P.S. Irene – Thanx for the article. Interesting. Les is great. You are so fortunate to have such an honorable man as a friend.

PAT'S LETTER (September ..., 2004)

Dear Family,

I probably bit off more than I could chew, telling Linnae we'd copy the pictures and send them to everyone. I thought Jim knew how to do that!! So maybe next time someone in the know can send us directions. These are probably too small to be seen. Plus he couldn't seem to send them to the whole list so we sent them to ourselves and Linnae, hoping she can forward them to the whole list.

We got to hear Jim Woolsey, Tulsa native, last week and he really had some food for thought [article enclosed]. Some other piece said he worked for two Republican and two Democratic administrations. I guess we should have tried to forward that article with the pictures! When it comes back, we'll try.

We signed up to go on [Roy's daughter] Becky's Mexican cruise next February and are really getting excited about it. We've always been too nervous to go to Mexico, so this seems like the perfect solution!! Everyone else laughs at us for being such chickens, but we are. We've crossed over the border twice somewhere in south Texas just for a walk through the town and a meal, then breathed a sigh when we got back across the bridge!! We have a family in the neighborhood from El Salvadore and he has driven to San Salvadore several times, I guess when he wanted to take a car down and leave it someone. Anyway, he said one time the Mexican police stopped him several times and when he offered them a \$10 bill, they took it and left him alone.

We had Minnesota weather in July and August, now it's in the 90's and we wish we had some of that rain that is flooding the East!

Jim's 67 year old brother in Georgia had surgery yesterday to remove an egg sized malignant tumor from the brain. It's been 24 hours now and he can talk and can move his arms and legs, that's good news. Can't remember his grandchildren's names and that's frustrating him.

That article about the Selim reunion was interesting. There were several Rohden's listed. That name is from Gram's side of the family. [Amy's sister Esther married Emil Rohden. One of their six children, LaVerna Brindley, was at the Ames reunion. She died a few months ago. Dick put her obituary in the Round Robin.]

Love, Pat

DICK'S LETTER (September 21, 2004)

Dear Family,

Thanks for getting the letters around in good time. I have a new computer operating system, so the type is different and I don't have spell check.

I suspected that I was wrong about John and Carl Roos, so I called LaVone Anderson Palmquist, who is Joe Anderson's daughter. She says that John and Carl Roos were brothers. The writeup [on

Anna Roos' 100<sup>th</sup> birthday] suggested that Anna met [her husband] without the aid of anyone from Lanyon.

I thought that we were related to Carl Roos some way, probably through the Burmans, but LaVone says that we are not. Mrs. J.P. Johnson [Johanna Dorothea, Grandma Amy's mother] was a sister of John Burman and they had a farm that was between Grandpa Frank's first and last farms, or in the section east of the farm.

Roy is writing very well for a doctor. I hope the move works out well. My writing reminds me of the joke about a boy who said that he didn't write well because he was going to be a doctor.

Ted Roos came to Anna's party. Louise Roos Gustafson is married to a well-known theologian, James Gustafson, who was at Harvard and the University of Chicago. LaVone said that she sent a card, but doesn't know how she is. I knew her when she was in high school and I was in grade school. He was probably behind Emory at North Park [College in Chicago].

The Rohdens are related to the Selims because [Grandma Amy's sister Esther's son] Omar Rohden married Pearl Selim, and they had several children. The youngest is a year older than me. Art Lambert [related to Grandpa Frank's sister Jennie] and Dagmar [daughter of Grandpa Frank's sister Selma] also married Selims, so we have second cousins from both sides that are Selims.

Love, Dick

LINNAE'S LETTER (September 30, 2004)

Dear Family,

First, a little news from Roy's family before I forget. I spoke to Roy's granddaughter Julie (Sue's daughter) in Olympia on the phone briefly yesterday to straighten out their e-mail address, and she says her sister Nicole just graduated from Evergreen College in Olympia, and Julie is just starting on her third quarter at the same school. Nicole is working, considering getting an M.A. in social work, and living in her own little cabin on the 14-acre property that her parents Sue and Doug own. Sue and Doug are now licensed to have foster children and currently have a 14-year-old girl living with them.

Looking at Dick's letter about all our Iowa relatives and how complex the relationships are between the different branches of the different families, made me think, life was different in those days. Many people were related by marriage, perhaps because people lived spread out over great distances (a few on each big farm), and transportation was not fast or easy. So, they married the people who lived nearby. I think in those days, the idea of "finding a soul mate" was not what they thought about. After all, they were all Swedish and farmers and Swedish Covenant, so they already had a lot in common. Perhaps if they were just around the same age and of the opposite sex, that was enough! Then, after that, they just made it work! Maybe people were happier in a way then. Of course, I'm not married, so I shouldn't talk.

Of course, it wasn't that cut-and-dried. Irene tells a touching story in the "Lindgren Memories" about Grandma Amy Lindgren. Irene said, "The night following Mother's fall in September 1981 [shortly before she died], she called out several times during the night, 'Where is my Frankie?' We wondered if she called Dad 'Frankie' while they were courting." Perhaps she was harking back 80 years that night, to a happy time that was a prelude to more than just a marriage of convenience.

In another story, Irene said, "A few months before Dad died (in 1953) he said to Obie and me, 'Promise me that you will never sell this house while Mother is alive. Even if she wants to travel a lot and visit the children she must always have a place to come home to.' And Dad told Mother that if anything happened to her, he did not want to go on living."

I thought those stories were very touching. They brought a tear to my eye!

We had left-over rain from Hurricane Jeanne here on Tuesday. I left a bucket on my sidewalk, and there was 7 inches of water in it the next day. It was seeping in my basement windows from the window wells, but not too badly. Some did get flooded though. It was good for my new sod lawn. I made apple pies for my neighbors who watered the lawn while I was away in July. Funny how people love apple pies!

Dell tells me my computer may be having problems, so I had better learn how to back things up pretty soon. I am living dangerously right now.

Love, Linnae

\* [He was my guest and, as such, I hoped good manners would be shown – as our mother taught us.]

P.S. to Becky:

Here is the newest Round Robin. I had told you at the reunion that I would send you the Round Robin by US mail. But now I have decided to try and cut down on my work and postage costs. Pat mentioned to me that she thinks Heather has e-mail, even though I know you yourself do not at home. If this is true, for the future, would you like to send me Heather's e-mail address to receive the Round Robin? Otherwise, since your Dad is now going to live in Olympia, perhaps you could share the Round Robin with him, or with Sue, who gets it by e-mail ([inthebarn247@yahoo.com](mailto:inthebarn247@yahoo.com)).

Love, Linnae