

The Monday Morning
CHRONICLE

Family Poop Sheet since 1990
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Whee-yow! What a celebration!
Ercil and Lester (White) did it up right. I will leave it up to some other to describe. It was their 70th wedding anniversary and I didn't know anyone could have so many relatives and friends.

* * *

Got lots of letters to put in the Chronicle this time so I'll get started.

From Springfield. Mo. Bessie & Bertha

"I (Bessie) am not yet up to par but I am getting stronger every day. The Doc says it will take a little time to get my strength back. I'm just relaxing indoors where it is cool. We had a good rain on the 24th which has "greened" up our grass.

"Bertha had a great 89th birthday party on the 17th. My Daughters set it up. Most of her Nieces & Nephews, Great Nieces & Nephews were there, 37 of them. I was able to go but could eat very little of the good food. Some of the family was unable to be there; some live too far away. She received lots of cards, letters, and phone calls. Everyone had a good time visiting.

We were so sorry to read of Lois passing away. Her family has our prayers and sympathy.

RA and Russell we were glad to read your letter in the Chronicle. RA, we were sorry you were a bit under the weather. Hang in there, you have a lot of people pulling for you both.

"For you who are able to travel we say 'Go for it while you can'.

"I'll be able to write more next time unless I hear some one say 'shut up'(:-)

"Stay well., Everybody
Bertha and Bessie

* * *

Dena (Houston) Winona, MO says

"It's a beautiful day here in the Ozarks, – actually the entire month of August has not been unbearable but because of the rains, we have had high humidity. So far, here in Shannon County we have had no cases of West Nile Fever although it seems to be spreading. It appears to be here to stay and I suppose the only thing we can do is keep it from spreading. At least we can get rid of the places where the mosquitos breed, and keep a can of repellent handy.

"Niece Lindsey is recovering well. I asked her father to tell me how she is doing in school, – will update you when I hear.

"I'm setting up at the Cabool Outdoor Flea Market for Labor Day, – hope to make a few bucks. If I don't, there's more wrong with the economy than I thought. You can't tell about the flea-market; one week up, next down, and I find it depends a lot on gas prices. When prices go up, it really affects us.

Saw PJ Goings and part of his family at the Fourth of July Celebration in Corning, AR (That's where I met Governor

Huckabee) and he seems to be doing quite well. He and Jeanette are very busy with the Eastern Star. I don't get to see him very often. Also saw his sister Sue who seems to be doing ok. Seemed odd not to see Nellie (their mother) there. To me she was always 'Mom Goings'. She was such a sweet woman and always treated me like one of her own. *[PJ and Sue are the children of Paul Sr. and Nellie (Mitchell) Goings. Paul is the son of Dona (Mondy) Goings and brother to RA Duffer.]*

"Harrison, tell me more about your book. I'm sure it will end up in a time capsule. Some one will open the capsule 100 years from now and the book will be worth millions. When I find one I'll buy it and send it to you for your autograph. *[Dena, I was planning to have you sell some of them in your flea market. You must see a lot of Grandpas with a little one for whom he wants to buy something special.]*

"Bessie, I hope you are improving.

"Brecken and Matt, hope everything is going well for you.

"Mark Miller, 'Hi'.

"Margaret, 'Hi'.

"Love to all of ya", Dena

* * *

From Ken Vycital, (Tempe, AZ)
[Ken is my Sister Alma's son.]

"Well we have made it back to Hot Arizona where the temp has been in the 110 degree range, after our trip to cool Colorado. No rain in sight.

I heartily recommend the Kirk Bed and Breakfast in Colorado Springs. We had a most enjoyable visit with Uncle Tom and Aunt Jewel, Greg, Brent & Karen and their two offspring, Chris and Erin. We were well fed with banana pudding, yumyum salad and 'Southern Spaghetti' which is spaghetti with

green beans.

"Greg played tour guide and took us to the zoo, to Deckers where we could see the results of the recent fire damage, and to the fossil beds, and other places.

"We also had a visit with Uncle Noal and Jovaleen, and with Mark and Becky, and then on the way home we stopped for a short visit with Uncle Harrison and Aunt Margaret.

"It was a wonderful trip which had to end too soon because we had to get home so Emily could start school and Brian could begin his tour in the navy.

"Emily is a sophomore this year. She plays flute in the marching band and has to be at school by 6:30 AM to march before it gets too hot.

"Brian is now the Navy's responsibility. Em and I took him to the recruitment center on the 14th and he left the next day for the great Lakes Training Center. We sure miss him around here. His address, should you wish to write him, is SR Vycital, Brian, J. Div 419 Ship 10, Recruit Training command 3301 Indiana Street, Great Lakes, IL 60088-3127 He will appreciate your letters, even if he can't answer them..

We haven't been put on water rations yet but they are thinking about it. Paul Harvey told about a man who was found naked on a bridge. The Police thought he was drunk but he told them he was dancing naked on the bridge to make it rain. As they were about to take him to the station, it came a downpour and they let him go. I wanted to find a bridge to try it but Em thinks there must be a better way.

Oh, Well, If it doesn't rain you know whom to blame. Love to all, Ken.

THANKS

Many thanks to Barbara Hedricks and Claude Jinks for their contribution to the Chronicle coffers.

* * *

We have found another Mondy. He is John E. Mondy, the son of Millard Mondy who is the son of Sam Mondy, the son of Hugh Houston Mondy, the brother of our grandfather James Campbell Mondy. John contacted Nell and she gave him my email address so he wrote me saying he was trying to locate his kin.

When I was small, I spent many hours playing with Millard in Pocahontas when we visited uncle Sam. Millard became an organ repairman and I heard he had quite a collection of "pump" organs (the kind you pumped with your feet, to produce the air necessary to make the reeds vibrate. If you forgot to pump, you ran out of music.) I grew up with one at home. It had some stops labeled "Diapason", "Celeste" "Viola" and others, which I could never understand except it made different sounds.

Welcome to the Chronicle Family, John.

* * *

Nell Says:

Congratulations to Margaret and Bertha on their shared birthday. Margaret, sounds like you had a good one. I cherish each one of mine but I have friends who do not wish to celebrate their birthdays. My students would sometimes look me up in Who's Who and try to surprise me. I have always tried to make each year count and I have been blessed.

Seems like all I have to write about lately is my poor health and I don't want to

bore the readers with the gory details. But I do have some good news: I was recently presented the NATIONAL MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD for outstanding dedication and service to GRADUATE WOMEN IN SCIENCE and have been recognized as a CHARTER MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM. This helps keep my spirits up during the trying times.

As cousins, we are now down to seven. I miss Lois so much. We had many good times together in Florida. She was a great lady. I sent a contribution to her church in her honor.

Bea, RA, and Bessie, I hope you are all better.

Best wishes to all, Nell

* * *

Had a short letter from Lloyd and Norma Mondy (relationship unknown) containing a full page spread about the 50th reunion of CCC Camp 1711, the camp I was in).

Lloyd says:

We have had a busy summer but also a sad one. I lost my oldest brother on Feb. 14th from lung cancer. We were in Panama City, FL for Jan and Feb but came home two weeks early because of his death. Then I lost another brother, also older than I, on June 20th, from leukemia. He had had it for about eight years but it had been in remission until a few months before his death. I have one brother and one sister left, also two half sisters, but to me they are all the same.

But on the bright side, our son Keith, who is now stationed in Jerusalem came home (Colorado Springs) on leave in

May, and Norma and I went to see him. Had a great visit. Also found time to visit Jewel and Tom while there

December 1st we will be leaving for a three-month stay again in Panama City Beach. It is not a whole lot warmer there than here in Poplar Bluff, but it's a good place to get away to. We like the area, and it is not nearly as congested as farther down the peninsula. That traffic is wild and crazy down there.

Lloyd & Norma

* * *

From Dick Mondy, Elkhart, IN

It has been a short and busy summer. Aaron started back to high school this week. He is a senior this year. It is hard to believe my youngest is entering his last year of high school. He hasn't decided whether he will go on to college or, enter the Air Force. He is in band again this year. I just got back from watching the band march in the Labor Day Parade. They did a good job. He has a girl friend so I see a lot less of him these days.

Adam has transferred to Indiana University at South Bend to complete his schooling. He should complete the required course work this year and if all goes as planned, he will do his student teaching in the fall of 2003. He had a summer job of trimming Christmas trees using a machete. Takes about fifteen downward strokes per tree and he was trimming about 450 to 500 trees per day. The pay was good, but the work was hard. The first day he came home very tired and sore. (I think my arm would fall off if I did it.)

We have had a very hot summer – many days the temperature was above 90 degrees with the relative humidity above 90%.

Amanda is still working at the same

job - desk clerk for the Carlton Lodge in Mishawaka. She has had that job for more than two years, so she must like it.

We did not take a vacation this summer. Adam and I went to Colorado the end of May to attend (Niece) Stephanie's Graduation and enjoyed seeing the Colorado gang. Summer went by too quickly. The kids and I did spend a weekend in Chicago and saw a Cubs game. Had an enjoyable time.

My job has gone well. My trips to Poland have finally come to an end. I made seven trips this past year. I enjoyed the opportunity to see another culture. It was certainly an education for me. I will probably go back from time to time to continue a presence of U.S. support of our operation there but have no trips scheduled at this time.

I'm glad Brecken had such a nice wedding. I assume she is back in UCLA Med School by now. Our Area Code has changed, our phone number is now 574-264-9991

Take care, Dick.

* * *

Karen Kirk says:

Hi Everyone

We wanted to write and let you know that even though the Governor of Colorado decided to say, "All of Colorado is burning" it really didn't.

We recently took the family up for a drive to see the Hayman burn area. This is the fire that burned almost 400,000 acres of forest in Colorado, south and west of Denver.

I don't know what one should expect to see when you look at a burned



The Books are coming, don't give up. I have seen the proofs and they are outstanding examples of the artisanship of K. Michael Crawford, the illustrator. I was able to show the proofs to several at Ercil and Lester's 70th Anniversary Celebration and there were lots of oo's and aa's. Lester, who is a painter exclaimed at her genius. I will be seeing Karen (her first name) in a couple of weeks or so and we will determine the prices.

Until later, Harrison

forest. We saw blackened tree trunks, ash covered ground, and left-over remnants of once standing homes and where hundreds of dreams burned in this fire. It was very sad to see and feel the loss.

However we were surprised at what we did see. Blue Jays flying from stump to blackened limb. Erin spotted a beautiful red doe resting in a forest of black and gray.

Patches of bright green grass untouched by the fire were yet standing right in the middle of the burned areas. We were also happy to see miles of forest that we thought would be burned were unharmed and still green.

It really is amazing to see . . . and in its own way, beautiful. And although we have had our share of wild fires this year, Colorado is still a remarkable sight to behold. No doubt we will be witnessing the beauty of rebirth in these burned areas for years to come. I guess Nature knows when it is time for life to end and when it is time for life to begin. Who are we to argue with God's great creation!

Love, Karen Kirk

The last cousin I had on Mother's side of the family, the Carter side, passed away in April and I am putting her obituary in the Chronicle for future reference. Of the thirteen grandchildren of James Wesley and Levina Anne (Hancock) Carter, Sister Jewel and I are the only ones left.

COTTAGE GROVE, OREGON

On April 18, 2002 Joyce Mae (Carter) Powers died of age-related causes at the age of 81. She was born November 2, 1920 in Ralls, Texas to William Earnest and Synthia (Witcher) Carter. She married Raymond Powers on December 12, 1938. They moved to Cottage Grove in 1948 where she worked as a nurse's aide at Cottage Grove Hospital for fifteen years before retiring. She was a Portland Trail Blazers fan and enjoyed reading and word games, was a member of the Riding Club, the Ladies of the Moose, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, all of Cottage Grove.

Survivors include a son, Bob of Creswell; a daughter, Brenda Nelson of Cottage Grove; four grand children, and one great grandchild.

Funeral was held on April 23, 2002 and interment was in the Fir Grove Cemetery.

Uncle Earn, as we called him, brought Joyce and her brother, Paul to Randolph County, AR when I was about ten years old and stayed for several months. I did not see her again until 1992 when Margaret and I visited her and Raymond in Oregon. They lived in a spacious home in a beautiful grove of tall trees and were involved in several community projects.

Connie Ewing sent me Lois' Obituary but I received it too late for the last Chronicle.

Of the thirty-two grandchildren born to James Campbell and Rhoda Alice (Sammons) Mondy, only seven of us are left.

PERRY, FL

On July 29, 2002, Lois Birdie (Mondy) Sitz died in Perry at the age of 89. She was born October 10, 1911 to Earnest Lafayette and Naomi Francis (Hall) Mondy.

A native of Arkansas she moved to Detroit, MI where she married Cecil Sitz in 1934. They lived in Springfield for seventeen years where they operated a neighborhood gas station and grocery.

After a brief stay in Texas, they moved to Perry in 1971. Here they owned and operated the Westgate Motel. Lois was a member of the First Baptist Church and the Perry Women's Club.

She was predeceased by her husband, Cecil, after 67 years of marriage, and by two daughters, Delois Hutsell and Betty Jane Sitz, and by one son Bill Sitz

Survivors include: one son, Bob Sitz of Perry, one daughter, Connie Ewing of Tallahassee, a daughter-in-law, Pam Sitz of Orlando; a son-in-law, Gene Hutsell of South Carolina, seven grand children, and five great grandchildren.

She was buried in Culley's Meadowwood Memorial Park on Friday, August 2, 2002.

Lois grew up in Randolph County where she played with all the Mondy Cousins. Until she became disabled, she was a frequent contributor to The Chronicle.

We will all miss her.