

*The Mondy Morning*

# CHRONICLE

Family Poop Sheet since 1990

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We are home again!! No matter where we have been, the sight of the driveway leading into our garage is the most beautiful sight we can imagine.

We left here last Sunday morning for Lubbock, TX for Margaret to visit her eye doctor there. Her eyesight has deteriorated rapidly in recent months so that she can read only with an enlarger. At first we thought that she had a detached retina and that her fall when she broke her hip may have played a part in it so she made an appointment with a retina specialist and it was to him she went this time. It turns out that it is not a detached retina but a wrinkle in the retina and the fall had nothing to do with it. Now, believe-it-or not, there is a doctor in Lubbock who specializes in retina deformation and she has an appointment with him for January 30. We have postulated that perhaps he can make glasses with a counter-wrinkle in them to fit her. Have no idea whether he can help at all but we will go back to see.

We arrived back this afternoon (Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup>) at 2:20 (it's only 400 miles from here to Lubbock) and found we just missed a snowstorm that dumped about 4 to 5 inches of the white stuff.

In spite of the disappointment of not finding a cure for her problem, it was an enjoyable trip. We always enjoy the Whites (Ercil and Lester) and feel welcome at their house. Enjoy their kids and grandkids who

drop in to see us. (Lester will be 92 and Ercil will be 91 later in the year and they will celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on September 11.)

All day and all night, if you are outside, you can hear flocks of Canadian Honkers and other geese flying overhead. It is estimated that a million wild geese winter there. We saw one pond with at least 500 ducks on it, lots of ducks winter there also.

\* \* \*

I have a sad note. In the last issue of the Chronicle, I printed Claude Jinks' letter in which he mentioned the birth of his grandson and how he was not expected to live long. Here is an email from Claude that was waiting when I returned from Lubbock.

"Our grandson, Gabriel Johnson Guthrie passed away early Tuesday (15<sup>th</sup>), one day short of his sixth month birthday. Gabe was not with us long. He was a precious little boy; we loved him so and he will be missed.

"Following is a copy of his web page by his parents dated Jan. 15th: 'What a gift. Gabriel. We're so grateful. He left this life peacefully as we held him this morning at about 2:45. We will worship and thank God for Gabriel on Friday afternoon at 4:00 at Christ Presbyterian Church. Anyone who would like to is also welcome to join us at 2:00 PM at Harpeth Hills Memory Gardens. In lieu of flowers, we would welcome gifts

to what will become the "Hope & Gabriel Guthrie Memorial Scholarship Fund" benefiting special needs students at Christ Presbyterian Academy, 2323-A Old Hickory Blvd, Nashville, TN 37215.

"EllaDee and I will be flying to Nashville Thursday Morning and returning Saturday.

Claude and EllaDee

*[Hope is the name of his sister who died with the same genetic defect a couple of years ago. hcm]*

\* \* \*

A note from Elizabeth (Suzy) Hill to correct her letter in last Chronicle:

- (1) Mike received four awards, not two;
- (2) Annie will be 12 this year

"Not much going on here, everyone is still alive. Will let you know if anything interesting happens."

\* \* \*

From Bessie and Bertha, Springfield 12/6/02

Another year has ended and we are now in 2002. Hope all of you had a Merry Christmas.

If some of the relatives did not get a Christmas card there may be an answer. We had some trouble on our side of town with someone robbing our mailboxes before the mailman picked up the mail. My next-door neighbor saw a car stop at her box and then at my box and take mail out. She was so shocked she got only a slight description of the car. She found some of her cards two blocks away opened and out in the street but didn't find any of mine. She contacted the post-office and they turned it over to the authorities. They had several calls about it but have not caught them so far as we know.

They said it happens every year, that the perpetrators are finding cards with money in them. That's a sad way of getting Christmas money isn't it?

We had a very nice Christmas with lots to eat. On Christmas day we had ten or twelve for dinner, some of the relatives had dinner with others. Daughter Dolly and Doug were in New Mexico having Christmas with Jennifer, John, L.J., and the new baby girl that was born December 7<sup>th</sup>. They had a wonderful time but the night before they were to start home, Dolly, Doug, and L.J. became ill with a virus and had to spend the next morning in the emergency room and didn't get home until two days later. Doug isn't feeling well yet but the others are okay.

We have had some really cold weather with snow on the ground this morning and snow flurries off and on. Bertha had a cold and cough so we did not go to church today. We have been staying inside most of the time since Christmas.

Harrison, you asked where we were on September 11; I was in the kitchen with the TV on in the livingroom. When the news came on I rushed into the livingroom in time to see the second plane hit Tower Two. When Pearl Harbor was bombed, we were at Shorty's Uncle's farm and was starting home and got the news on the car radio. When Kennedy was killed, I was watching TV in the living room and got the news flash. When the space shuttle blew up I was watching the launch on TV in the livingroom. Good Ole TV sure helps a lot to keep up with what happens in the world.

Hope all of you have a happy and healthy new year. Pray for our country and its leaders, and for the men and women who are protecting us. Love, Bessie and Bertha.

\* \* \*

Note: My story of the Mountain Meadow Massacre by the Mormons is confirmed by a long article in the *New Yorker Magazine*, January 21 issue. Read it for a lot more interesting facts, and watch the Olympics in February. There may be some problems.

\* \* \*

From the Duffers of League City, TX 1/1/02

Happy New Year, everybody!!!!

Hope all of you had a good

Christmas; we both did. We were here by ourselves Christmas Day but a friend brought us our Christmas dinner. Since most of our kids were here for Thanksgiving and our birthdays, they could not come back for Christmas. However, some did come the day after so it didn't matter to us which day, just so we got to see them.

We are doing about the same.

Russell had a very bad cold and finally had to go to the doctor but is doing okay now. We can hardly get around because of our knees and hips but with walkers we make it pretty good.

Right now in Texas we are having some very unusually cold weather. Today the temperature only reached 43 degrees and we may have a freeze tonight and they are predicting we may have snow flurries. When it snows here, everything stops and people go out to see it. At a temperature of 45 degrees we nearly freeze because we are not used to it. It seldom gets that cold. We are staying in and staying warm. If we have a freeze tonight, I guess my flowers on the front porch will freeze; too heavy to bring into the house. Several are still in bloom.

Son Jerry and wife are visiting their son Jay in New York this week. When we

talked to them last night they said they had walked at least a hundred miles and ridden the subway another 500. This is their first trip to New York.

Great Grandson Jack has been called to a church in Hawaii. They won't be on the same island as Bob and June.

Hope all of you have a good year filled with all the goodies the Lord gives you to enjoy. RA and Russell.

\* \* \*

From Bea Taylor, Westminster, CO

Harrison, I tried to call you to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas but found you were in California.

Received the paper and enjoyed it. My heart goes out to the person with all the health problems and hope this year will be a better year for her.

2001 was not a good year for me. Lost my strength and could hardly walk, had no voice. The past two weeks I've gotten back to my regular self and can move around and even dust all the furniture. Jack runs the sweeper twice a week but he hates dusting; too many things to move. I know 2002 will be better.

On September 11 I was awakened by a phone call from a neighbor to tell me we were at war. I couldn't believe it. Had my TV on all day. My heart went out to all those wives, husbands and children who lost their loved ones. That day was the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our granddaughter.

We had Christmas lunch with Jack's cousin in Fort Collins then drove to Boulder to see our grandkids and great grandkids from S.W. Colorado. Rochelle is 17 and showed me her "promise ring". She is madly in love. Jaque's daughter, Kate, has her engagement ring and will be married in

September, in Kansas City, MO. I have two more granddaughters to go. Allison has had a year in college in Dallas and plans to transfer to Baylor to study for teaching. She loves children. Ashley is still having fun in Jr.Hi.

Had a call from Bertha. Her mind is clear as a bell; mine wants to go to sleep now and then.

Jack still works for Enterprise Car Rental. Hope all of you have a great new year.

Love through Jesus, Bea

\* \* \*

Many people are surprised to find that "The Golden Rule" did not originate with Jesus but is included in many religions including Islam.

Christianity: All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them for this is the law and the prophets. (Matt. 7:12)

Islam: No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself.

Zoroastrianism: That nature alone is good which refrains from doing unto another whatsoever is not good for itself.

Buddhism: Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful.

Brahmanism: This is the sum of duty: Do naught unto others which would cause you pain if done to you

Confucianism: Surely it is the maxim of loving-kindness: Do not unto others what you would not have them do unto you.

Judaism: What is hateful to you, do not to your fellowman. That is the entire Law; all the rest is commentary.

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Thanks to your generosity, the Chronicle will operate in the black for a long time to come.

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Some people are even more forgetful than I. An old widow and widower who had been sweet on each other in their youth found themselves in the same nursing home. One night when they were at the same table the old man said to the widow, "Will you marry me?" "Yes, yes," came the answer. Later when the old man was back in his room, he couldn't remember whether she had said yes or no. He called her on the phone and after beating around the bush a bit he finally apologized for being so forgetful and asked whether she had said 'yes' or 'no' to his proposal of marriage. "I said yes, of course, and I am so glad you called for I had forgotten who had asked me to marry him".

I love you all. Write, write, write.  
Harrison & Margaret

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There are two kids (kids? they are in thirties) for whom I have great admiration and I wager they will be a success in life. They "have their heads screwed on correctly". They are Todd and Savannah (Miller) Eberline. They and their 2 year old Amelia stayed in our house over the Christmas holidays while we were gone to California.

Savannah, as I remember, graduated from High school, during which time she worked with under-developed children in St. John's in Santa Monica, CA. and there is where she decided upon her career. She went from there to the University of Montana. Following graduation from UM, she married Todd Eberline and after a short honeymoon, they went to Africa where she taught in a nursing school for about six months.

After returning to America, Savannah enrolled in the University of New England School of Social Work from which she received her Master of Clinical Social Work. Amelia was born while she was in school. Todd worked in a shipyard to support them.

Todd graduated from the University of Montana and now, while Savannah is doing social work to support them, he is in a one-year intensive graduate course in the Teton Science School but will not be able to get his Master's until he transfers to another school, probably the University of Montana at Billings through a satellite program where he will get his master's in Teaching.

Their 'dream' is to start an alternative school for children, using experiential teaching methods. The school will have a focus on the outdoors, animals, gardening, and the

arts. Her personal program will have a focus on animal-assisted therapy using farm animals and therapeutic horseback riding as a catalyst for change. "I want to work with children, women, and families," she says. "We may begin by starting an after-school program, then building it into a full-time school and therapeutic center. We are hoping others will join us and we will use their ideas in creating the final plan. We hope to do this in Bozeman, Montana where we will be moving in August to search for land and people for this community project."

Both have studied child psychology and Amelia is the best disciplined two year old I have ever seen. She has a loving disposition, a vivacious personality and the curiosity of a much older child, and a head of curly, curly hair.

We knew they lived in a yurt while Todd is in school and asked Savannah to describe her living conditions for most of us have never even seen a yurt. She writes:

"Here are some facts about yurt life. Yurts are round canvas structures, originating in Mongolia. They are held up by lattice wood beams. They have a clear dome in the center through which you can see the stars.

"We own two yurts, one is 20 feet in diameter, the other, 16 feet in diameter. There are eleven yurts here in what we call "Yurtsville", two are empty because the owners are here only in the summer. Only four other yurt owners are here permanently.

"The yurts are heated by wood-burning stoves which warm them quickly. Bath, laundry, showers, and dish-washing facilities are in a nearby bathhouse which is also the source of our water.

"Our 'living yurt' (the 20 footer) contains a refrigerator, stove and cooking counter, and has four plastic windows.

"In our 'sleeping yurt' we have, in addition to our bed a small tent in which Amelia sleeps in her sleeping bag.

"Both yurts have wooden floors. The vertical part of the walls is five feet high and from the top of this, the roof ascends to a height of twelve feet at the dome.

"Among the things we enjoy are the large variety of wild animals such as bison, elk, moose, mule deer, antelope, and coyotes. We have one resident Bison. (These are mis-named 'buffalo'. Buffalo are indigenous to Africa and Asia, but not America.) He is big and is here every morning and evening; even our dogs seem to accept him. Of course we have to be careful walking back and forth to the bathhouse.

"Our altitude is 7200 feet and the weather is cold; recently it was 16 degrees below zero. We live in the tiny town of Kelly, with a population of about 60 people. It is located near Jackson (Population 4000), a very wealthy tourist town, known for the skiing, fishing and wildlife such as the Elk Refuge where 8000 elk come each year for solace and food. We are just 60 miles from Old Faithful in Yellowstone National Park and can drive there and back for an outing.

"We have just learned that come next September, Amelia will have a little playmate for whom she will be a very good big sister."

*[When Amelia was 22 months old and was visiting us she busied herself "unscrewing" all the knobs on the drawers and cabinet doors in the kitchen, (all seventeen of them) and every other knob in the house she could reach. Fortunately, all the knobs had safety threads on them and she could not get them off. hcm]*

## Bits and Pieces

I remember: One day Dad came in from the field at noon and said to Mom, "Well 'Sookie Jane' (his pet name for her) what have you been doing?" She told him she had built her cucumber hills and planted her cucumbers that morning.

He said, "This a poor day for planting your cucumbers. The sign is in the 'Flower Girls' today and all you'll get is a lot of blooms."

Of course I pooh-poohed the idea (behind his back, of course) because I *knew* there was nothing to the belief in signs of the moon. I decided I would watch those cucumbers and when they produced a crop of cucumbers I would prove it to him.

I watched them and when they began to bloom, for each female blossom, I bet there were twenty male blossoms. (They are easy to tell apart). Now I never mentioned my observation to Dad. I still wonder if he was right, or was this just a fluke.

Mom planted more seeds in the same hill a little later and had a lot of cucumbers.

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It is now Sunday night and tomorrow is King's birthday, so no mail. I have already run off some of the pages and will finish in time to get this in Tuesday's mail.

Thanks for all the letters and emails. Keep them coming. Target for the next issue is the 4<sup>th</sup> of Feb if we get back from Texas in time. Love to all of you. Write, Write, Write  
Harrison and Margaret