

TENTH GEORGE LENHERT REUNION
Y.M.C.A. CAMP, Estes Park, Colorado

MOUNTAINSIDE LODGE

July 25 to 30, 1973

After the careful planning of Aunt Rhoda and Alvin the time has come and people are arriving at the Lodge. First to arrive were Paul's and Brubakers the day before. They were fortunate that the Lodge was empty so when we arrived at the office they shifted ^{them} us directly to the Lodge. The Lodge was very comfortable but a bit on the vacant side - never mind it filled up by Wed, P.M.

Aunt Rhoda and Al's arrived simultaneously and began the unenviable task of assigning rooms, but they did a good job and all are happy with their partners, and roommates, at least we have not heard any complaints yet.

Myrons left Kans. early to spend some time with Herb Hoovers, in Colo Springs. So Aunt Frances and Uncle Cornie and Aunt Norma came along with Aunt Rhoda.

~~in Denver~~ Alvin were in Colo Springs a couple days. They picked up Wesleys ~~at the airport.~~ Carol and Lois waited at Bus station to tell Uncle Ben's someone would be back for them. Wesley drove down to Estes Park and picked up Ben's and the girls (Carol and Lois).

Myron and Mary and Jimmy arrived next.

Joanne, Linda, Bobie and David came breezing in. We all admire Joanne's courage to drive out alone. Bob is in Italy with Operation Mobilization

It is 5 P.M. the hostess and waitresses are setting the table but supper is scheduled for 6 and we hope they will hold off that long. Galens just drove up. You should have seen the "little girls" go screaming out to welcome them. Karen and Winnie have been asking for Barby and Beth for two days. They had not seen each other since last Aug. when we arrived in Phila. Janet and Linda and Karen and Minnie gave a hoop and such embracin you never saw. They were just too fast for the photographers to collect their movies so you just have to imagine the sight.

Jesses aren't here but supper is being served- Its Christmas July 25th at Estes Park so we get a turkey dinner.

We only had begun our meal when Jesses arrived so they got a warm welcome. Rhoda and Al did a super job of assigning "jobs" They tried to give everyone a job. Is it because they had so much to do they delight in making everyone work?- anyhow it sounds fine. I (A.M.) am especially delighted that Carol and Keith are assigned to the letter- That assures us of organization and this young blood will easily add zest to your report. They already have made assignments for reporters to cover different areas and we will hope to have reports in sequence. A. Mary signing off for tonite. - - - -

Keith reporting - After dinner Al. attempted to announce the members of the various committees, and the agenda for Wed. evening and Thurs. morning. Galen, Jess threw in a few facetious remarks and received mixed moans, groans and laughter from his family. We were then dismissed for a short time and admonished to have committee meetings to coordinate and organize for efficient committees - then a bit of relaxation.

Esther Mae now. I was assigned the arrival data but then the "committee" kept adding on until it seems to include the whole day. Since Mom has taken care of most of that, it won't be too hard.

After the committee meetings we met again about 7:17 pm for further actions (what else could you call that kind of activity??) There was an attempt to organize an overnight camping trip. After some smart remarks about bears and their eating habits, a vote was taken as to whether the interested parties

This is Jess writing about our tour this morning. The tour was led by the camp naturalist, Kent Dannen. He is a nature photographer and publishes some of his pictures in magazines like "National Wildlife". We left camp at around 6:15 a.m. As we were preparing to leave the lodge Al looked out our window and saw two large buck deer with huge antlers. A little later we saw a smaller buck.

We drove about 30 miles through the park and stopped at various places to photograph scenes such as mountains by a lake, birds and chipmunks eating from the hands of members of the group, and trees and flowers. The leader gave us a few hints. One of them is the use of the "gray card" which is simply a grey piece of cardboard from which one takes the light reading. One carries it with him and uses it instead of pointing his camera at the object to be photographed. Another hint-take mountain scenes from a spot slightly above the object being photographed to give the sense of greater height.

While we were driving and while stopped the scenery was beautiful. We saw a coyote, many marmots, chipmunks, numerous species of birds, and wilderness areas over which no roads and paths have been developed. We were told of the trees near timberline called banner trees. These trees are so called because they have branches only on one side. The reason for this is that the wind is so strong on the other side that new growth cannot survive. Sam Brubaker, Al and Carol, Aunt Norma, Wesley, and I went on this trip.

We miss you a lot and think on your life and activity with admiration. We would like to have all here but know this is impossible. We miss Uncle Harry this year. See you later!

Hello everyone! This is Maxine writing. We've just finished another delicious meal (noon) of stew, carrot salad and apple upside-down cake. Aunt Gladys, Lucy and I accompanied the ten young-uns on their one and a half hour hike this morning. It was very interesting. We found quite a variety of beautiful wildflowers which are abundant this summer because of the large amount of snow which fell this past winter. We did not see much animal wildlife on our trip -- guess we were too late in the morning to see any deer; course, our group wasn't real quiet so we likely would have frightened them away if there had been any nearby.

Right now, the very small children are taking a nap (older ones were ordered to stay outside so as not to disturb the little ones.) About two o'clock, three carloads will be going down to swim in the indoor pool. A few of us plan to go down to the crafts shop, gift shop, etc. to look around.

Lucy now. The pleasant, sunny morning has changed to a rainy afternoon (from 3:00). The wet swimmers got a very cool reception outside the enclosed, warm pool. A. Violet, A. Gladys, Joanne, Sara, Donna and I were there to supervise the younger set. The 7 girls - Winifred, Karen, Linda, Barby, Beth, Janet, and Sue Ann - are really a group. The "Big 4" and "Little 4" didn't have the number to make so much racket. They have big plans to publish a newspaper twice a year to those who subscribe. The first is to be in the next few days. Janet has been sitting quietly writing, as others have been observed for brief moments. We are eager to see what they produce. Barby seems to be the leader and main pusher of the project.

Gladys: Will write a few lines while the young fry are having a free for all around my chair. Some one just got knocked down who wasn't officially in the group. Now we are eagerly awaiting supper which will be served in just a few minutes. As you have probably guessed by now Ben and I came via bus, which is to be the first stop of a month's tour. Plan to make stops in Kansas, Indiana, and Penna. to see relatives and friends. Also hope to drink in the scenery also. We spent just one night on the bus. We did get some sleep, in spite of ourselves. Supper is call-

we don't have a thunder storm like we had last night.

Hi, this is Donna of Wesley and Donna and Jennifer. We left California on Monday, the 23rd about 2:40 P.M. We flew to Denver where we stayed with my Uncle Derald and Aunt Louise Eshelman for two nights before coming on to the Reunion. Jennifer seemed to really enjoy the plane flight and generally everything about this vacation. She is missing some sleep but I doubt that she is really suffering. Yesterday, we took her swimming which she really enjoyed since there was a small pool just for children and she felt really free to do as she pleased in the water. A couple of times she got a little more bold than I would have liked. She is also really enjoying the other cousins' company. She always enjoys children and animals--not necessarily in that order. We expect her to be happy for the birth of a brother or sister in February, 1974. We feel it is a real privilege to be here this summer as Wesley's schedule at work has really been keeping his going. We expect it to be more so when we get back so we are trying to take advantage of as many experiences as possible while we're here. It's so great to all be together for this time--I'm sure this family is richer for such times together. I will quit for now--duty calls in the name of diaper changing.

Hi! Here is Carol, third child and second daughter of Al and Maxie. It's the 27th and the time is 10:00 a.m. We've had breakfast and shortly after that picture taking. Dale Lenhart was the photographer and arranged us according to family groups on the front steps of our lodge. With the help of everybody's advice and comments Dale finally made it to the top of our stationwagon to take the pictures. Uncle Jesse then took a few pictures of the whole group (also on the top of the car). When he (Uncle Jesse) was trying to get everybody's attention Galen said "Everybody look at the monkey." After the group picture several smaller group pictures were taken. The smaller groups (or at least some of them) were: the children, the first generation (inlaws and outlaws!), several smaller family pictures (when desired), and one of Keith Heise with leather hat (bought at a shop yesterday--with apparently a little urging by some of the members of the family (the larger Lenhart family). Pictures may be taken again after the noon meal to try to get a better lighting effect. That's about all I can think to say about this morning's activities. Two carloads just left for homeback riding. I think they will be taking an hour ride. Maybe someone will be giving a report of that later. Someone said you would probably be interested in my activities the past year. You maybe know that I was an exchangee last (this past year, that is) in Switzerland and West Germany. I left the states the middle of August, '72 from NYC. I left with the other exchangees also going to Europe. Until Christmas I lived with a Swiss-German family in the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland. During that time I went to school, got "lessons" in knitting from my Swiss mother, took Sunday trips with my family into Italy and around Switzerland. They live only a few kilometers from the Swiss-Italian border. The first of November I visited friends of my Swiss family in northern Switzerland, a little north of Zurich. I was at their house about a weekend had a real enjoyable time there. The father of the family was an American and the mother Swiss-German. There were four children, three of which spoke English. The father speaks only English with the children. It was sort of an interesting situation. At Christmas I visited a friend in Germany and her family. She had been an exchangee in New Madison the preceding year. I went with her family to their cottage in Austria. There wasn't a lot of snow but we had a good time anyway. It turned out that I spent the rest of my year with that family. I went with Claudia (my friend) to school for about a month. In the middle of February I started working in a "kindergarten", which turned out to be more like a nursery school. At first it was rather

July 27th -

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Last night one of the chief things of interest was the leather cowboy hat that Keith bought in a downtown shop. After haggling about the price he finally paid \$25.00 for it. I imagine it will last for 50 years. It is heavy leather well made and hand sewed. He did offer to accept Jess's offer for buying it but only for \$1.00 profit. Jess had gone to bed but hearing the laughing he donned his bathrobe and came down and joined the remaining group. He said he could not sleep for the noise but we suspect he could not understand what we were saying and didn't want to miss the fun.

This is Barbafa writing. A group of about twelve went horse-back riding today. My horse's name was Slippers. Other horses were: Patches, Popcorn, Rex, Calico, Paint and others (and, I didn't say, Cooky.) Our leader was Debby. Robby spotted a coyote, and every one wanted to see it. My mother showed me a water fall. The ride ended too soon, and Beth, Karen, Linda and I wanted to go again. Oh, I forgot to say, Janet was going to go, but she got sick and couldn't. The group were mostly ^{children} with a couple Daddy's.

The wilderness hikers finally got off after much packing and re-packing of the rented back-packs. Sack lunches had been provided by the camp for supper and breakfast, and they had a few items of their own for energy. (Oh, I forgot, this is Gladys) We really had a rain, with hail about three o'clock, so there is some thought they will be back. Joann, Violet, and I went to the crafts class this afternoon, but since most of the projects take a lot of waiting after various coats of goop, we will be going again tomorrow morning. A car load of mostly children with one or two supervisors, I don't know who all, went swimming. Others managed somehow without us, here at camp. We were to have a "sing" tonight led by Jess, but he decided to go on the hike. Pictures will also be shown, suppose U. Paul will have that project, haven't heard. Al asked last P.M. for a show of hands that had needed a band-aid. I think only 3 hands were raised, then he asked how many Aspirin, and only a few hands were raised for that. Guess that shows we're either very careful, though, or something.

Hi from Fern. We (A. Rhoda, A. Norma, Mary Lady, Sue Ann) just returned from a downtown shopping spree. We shopped for ideas mostly as we only came home with 3 worry stones besides the necessary flash bulbs and newspaper. Good A. Rhoda was along to educate us--otherwise we would not have known how to sit and worry properly. Time to eat.

July 28,

Aunt Mary- Breakfast over- eggs and bacon- This is a quiet place. The over night hikers took their suppers and breakfast but expect to return for lunch. Then there is a group that took "sack" breakfasts and left before 7 for a short morning hike- these are Galens, Wesleys, Esther Mae Maxine, Carol and Lois, Robbie and Myron's. So you know why it is quiet. Aunt Norma and Rhoda are supervising the small girls in making "dough" flowers. Aunt Frances was sick yesterday and spent most of the day in bed but she is feeling better this morning and getting ready to mingle with the group to-day. Last evening Aunt Mary and Uncle Charles called and talked to all the older group and Uncle Chas. talked with Galen about his duties as Chief Hook-a-rook. He asked if Galen was in charge of Sun. morning service and Galen said he did not think that went with his duties. He informed Uncle Chas. that he is now the Hook-a-rook Emeritus. Joanne took Violet and Gladys down to the craft center to finish a project they began yesterday. Uncle Ben is taking care of Jenny- at the minute Sam L. is taking Philip for a walk. David is still asleep (9 A.M.) and Dale who is babysitting with him left with Uncle Paul to go out on a sock to take some pictures so we give David his breakfast when he comes down.

The girls are real excited about their flower making and coax to do that this P.M. instead of going swimming- you should have heard Aunt Rhoda's groan.

Sam B. cont.: We arrived at the top and found camp-making to be complicated by fatigue and the thin air of the high altitude. Had about an hour of daylight left, which was ample time to set up tents, make a brush windbreak, get a good fire going, and then eat sandwiches, apples, chips, candy, and have hot chocolate. We made the chocolate by mixing powdered milk, powdered chocolate, and lukewarm water. Al remarked that it was interesting how we enjoyed things up there that we'd not put up with under other circumstances. We had to go quite a distance to get drinking water, so conserved every bit of it, for the effort to go for it was a major one. We all had difficulty getting to sleep. We'd dragged a lot of small logs down the hill to the camp, but cropping them to a burnable length was another major task; Ken and Keith did much of this, and several times during the night I awoke to the sound of these boys chopping wood and stirring the fire. The night was calm, so we had no serious problem keeping warm enough. But we awoke all feeling poorly rested, many with headaches, and generally in not too great shape. However, a breakfast of cereal, bacon, and other odds and ends seemed to be good for us, and we left the lake at 8:30, getting back to the cars at 10:45, weary but pleased that we'd survived and even enjoyed the adventure.

It is Sat. eve and we are getting ready for the evening entertainment Wesley is MC and going around asking if anyone knows any good jokes. We finally tapped Sam L. and he doesn't know any but turned to Kenny and Keith and said they did. Well, he modified that, "they know some jokes, I don't know how good they are." At supper a birthday cake appeared and we had to sing "Happy Birthday" three times--for Galen, Linda and Keith. (Sara)

Gladys: It is now Sunday A.M. church services are now over, led by Sam B. The children left after the opening, and Joann and Donna kept the children occupied with a Bible lesson and many songs. I have just been informed that the individual designated to write about Sat. nite's activities has not yet written that part, so will discontinue my discourse.

I (Lois) was asked to write about the skit put on by the young people for last evening's talent show. The skit began with Ken and Keith (as big-time farmers) discussing their farming activities, etc. They turned on the radio and tuned in to the stock market report from Chicago, with Carol as the reporter. The report ended with the remark that trading was low due to the suspense of the afternoon soap operas. The time then came for the farmers to compare their livestock. The farmer played by Keith told the farmer played by Ken to remain seated and he would bring in his hogs. He proceeded to do so, bringing his hogs to the front, the hogs being played by Jim Lady and myself. After a short discussion on the hogs, they were asked to leave and the farmer played by Ken proceeded to lead in his prize bull, played by Sam L. The cameras were quickly put in to use at this point. The bull was asked a few questions by the farmers to test his intelligence. His responses indicated the fact that he was obviously a far cry from the prize bull of which his owner bragged. After this short demonstration, farmer (Keith) asked farmer (Ken) to "get your bull out of my house!" and Sam obediently left on all fours. Farmer Keith then said "Well, it's about time for me to get back to the office". Up to this point no names had been used in reference to the farmers. As they parted, one farmer said to the other "You're a pretty good farmer, Jess" and the other farmer replied "You're a pretty good farmer yourself, Al" which brought a roar of laughter from the audience.

(A.M. This morning Winnie said something about the Farm skit and the cow or bull that "moosed" and I said yes the boys had a clever skit. She looked at me so puzzled and said --b-o-y-s-. To her those were not boys.

Joanne and her children sang several songs as she played her guitar. The young girls sang several songs too. Then they had a skit "Grandma never says no"- as the children asked their mothers (Lucy and Sara) if they could have some

In Memory of Uncle Harry

As we have been looking forward to the reunion I'm sure the thoughts of all of us went to the memory of Uncle Harry, and the empty spot left by his passing. We all have many memories of him and could tell many stories. He has meant a lot to our family. Our living close to St. Joe has given us more experiences with him.

My first memory of him was when I was very small. We went to St. Joe to visit Uncle Harrys. He told me they didn't have enough beds and I would have to sleep in the bath tub. I had trouble visualizing this even with blankets and a pillow, and thought of other complications. There was great relief when a proper bed was provided. We all came to enjoy Uncle Harry's teasing and humor. He was fun to have around. We always looked forward to his family's coming to visit and going to St. Joe. In Proverbs we are told that a merry heart doth good like medicine. Many times his presence was like medicine. I always enjoyed his stimulating conversations and discussions. He was mind-stretching. He had a good philosophy of life and many ideas.

When Ruth Ann was home recently we were reminiscing about Uncle Harry. Her girls, Jennie and Susie remembered him and thought of the world of him. When they last visited him, he gave them each a silver dollar. They wouldn't part with that for anything. He had a big heart and was generous. He loved to do things for people. He was thoughtful. Just after we were married he asked me if I had a snap vice. He said he had one he didn't need so gave it to me. Many times when using it my thoughts go back to him.

When Ruth Ann told about Uncle Harry giving Jennie and Susie the silver dollars and what it meant to them I remarked on where could you make a better investment of \$2, but then I thought that more was involved than giving 2 silver dollars. Jennie and Susie knew that Uncle Harry genuinely liked them. Children were very special to him. If he could have been here, he would have enjoyed you children as you participated in the program and played together. He would have considered each of you his favorite niece or nephew. He liked all people and all contacts with them were meaningful.

In his later years he wrote often to Mother. He'd enclose clippings or cartoons with parts underlined or remarks written. He'd share with her his thoughts. He thought much of others.

I'm sure there have been many times when anyone associated with Uncle Harry at work or a neighbor has had his day lightened because of some casual remark or even by his presence. Today a part of Uncle Harry remains with each of us and we are better because of it.

Myron