

Hallmanack, #
Betsy and Tracy

8/24
return
these
pictures

August 12, 1977

Dear Trumbly,

Congratulations, Barry and Virginia! We were so excited about the good news and relieved that everything went well. I was upset that I wasn't home to get your call, Barry - It would have been great to talk to you. But Fig had all the details. Send a family group sheet if you can - which reminds me, does anybody know what happened to the original copy of the one we sent last time? I was very upset that it wasn't returned - I am sending along the copy that came back but I really do want the one in Tracy's hand, ^{writing} please.

I'm sorry this isn't typed but I am not a successful typist and I'll try very hard to keep this legible. Tracy sends his love but he's swamped right now (nothing unusual about that for any of us, eh?) and I'm the scribe this time. I just love the family letter - I ~~must~~ think it's fabulous. Fig, yours is always one of my favorites, so don't apologize. It strikes me funny to read yours 6 (or 8... or 10... or...) weeks

Hallmanack, #
Gracy and Betsy

of it that I Xeroxed the whole thing for several friends to read, and to have for my file.

My mother claims that the invitation lists for the conferences were drawn up from the subscription list of Ms. Magazine. I would like to know whether that is true. The

conference in Washington State created quite a stir - the "anti-abortionists", etc., were there. Sherline, what were the origins of these conferences? - I have NEVER HEARD A WORD about one in California and

would like to know whether there was to be one in each state. I know it had to do with the E.R.A., but was it a Congressional mandate, or what?

David, we really appreciate the work you're doing with DBT and Mega. Karen, I would like to hear more from you about your expertise in organizational theory - is this general theory or as it applies to business? Sounds interesting. How are the boys? With Mark's November birthday is he starting school this fall or next?

It broke my heart to hear about Grandpa Sanford. We remember him in our prayers

Hallmanack
Tracy and Betty

later when we live so close. I can hardly wait till Liz & Marty have the key to their new house so we can see it.

Nancy, I liked the haircut you gave Liz while she was in Utah. Nancy sent us a unique photograph of Tracy Jr. - picking his nose at what must have been about 4 years old - that she'd enlarged from a family group snapshot. Tracy got a kick out of it. Enjoyed your note, too, Nancy - Thanks. Are you moved into the farm house now. Are you living upstairs, or down? Sure would like to see Carli.

Mom, I don't know where you'll be when you read this, but the weekend of August 26th when you expect to be out here coincides with the biggest garden show of the year (21 garden clubs) at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. We'll tentatively plan to go see it. Tracy intends to take a couple of days off and he and Dad can go looking at junk if they want to. Have you gotten to do any genealogy on your trip? Missed hearing from Charlotte incidentally.

Sherlene, I didn't mind the extra weight a bit - I admit I was flabbergasted when I saw the volume of it, but reading your accounts was a very storing experience. I was so impressed with the importance

8/24 - Mom and Dad are here now

Hallmanack, #
Betty and Tracy

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Constantly.

We are in a brief respite from the welfare
Cantery - between apricots and pears. The
apricots (which they buy from Del Monte) were
SO BAD that Tracy really felt it was
something of a disgrace. We have also had
several inventories. I have not gone
because of the new baby and the difficulty
of getting good babysitters so Tracy has
more or less done my share too. I've
been tired a lot but in good spirits
generally so it compensates a little. Richard
Alexander is a pleasant baby, but more
unpredictable than the last three have
been. We had a picture taken on Tuesday
which I'm supposed to be able to pick
up on the 24th (August). By now he looks
like all the others anyway. ^{NO, NOT TRUE} Just look at
our old pictures. Speaking of pictures,
THANK YOU, Sherlene, for the ones you sent.

I've been going through all the children's
clothes this week and last, to get ready
for school. Girls are more fun that
way, but boys are easier (three pairs

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Tracy and Betty

of jeans and some T-shirt and you're set).
Gina has outgrown everything and all the
hand-me-downs from other families (which
we gratefully accept) happened to fit Mary
as well. But between fabric remnants and
the thrift store we have done remarkably
well for her - in fact the biggest ^{single} expense
was new socks! Gina cracks me up -
she is very prissy but she can laugh at
herself too. She was playing at some friends'
home - they have two children older than
Gina and a daughter Mary's age (Mary was
there too) and Miriam (the mother) told me
that Gina kept complaining that all there
was to do was "baby stuff." This morning I
said "Gina, I hear that the de Schweinitzes
only have baby toys" - She blushed crimson
and giggled hard and said "I'm so embarrassed."
On Monday she and Tracy were busy at some
"secret project" - When they rushed outside
I followed them (discreetly, I hope) and found
that they had taped a sign to the window
(Gina's work) which said "DANCINE 10¢
FAST OR SLOW
YORE CHOUS"
(she later ^{this} corrected ^{to} "C HOUS")

Hallmarack #
Gray and Betty

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They didn't get much action on the porch so they moved the sign out to the sidewalk. Gray asked me if I thought 10¢ was a fair price. They came in about an hour later and decided that that wasn't the way to earn money. They said several people walked by (Gina's words now) "and every person that walked by read it and they all smiled but nobody stopped. One lady was walking with her friend and she laughed and said 'Look at this' to her friend." Gray said, "Mommy, why did that lady laugh?"

I have made a few changes in my Christmas story (improvements, I think) which I'll send along if any^{one} asks me to. Incidentally, did you know that Claus and Nicholas are etymologically the same name? I have an article in mind about Christmas trees which I'd really like to write. Of course I still haven't finished up that stuff on the women in the Book of Mormon either. Then there are a couple of books or articles I'd like to do on jokes and riddles - Ah me, with my abilities we catch up with my ambitions, I wonder?

I've been teaching the 17-year-old class

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Betsy and Tracy

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in Sunday School for a couple of months now. I really thoroughly enjoy it - even though they are a thoroughly non-homogeneous and challenging group. I miss Tracy's Sunday Sch Class, though.

NOT TRUE
EITHER

Tracy's Hebrew class is not being offered this year and he's very disappointed. I don't know what we're going to do - the only alternative is a class in Redwood City that's \$4000 per quarter. It's a good week at work because "the big boss" is gone on vacation.

Robert just ran in and hollared "It's fifty-o'clock, Mom!" He turns almost everything into opera, bellowing every sentence ~~recitative~~ fashion. He taught Susanna her almost-first words: "Shut up!" (He learned it from the two teen-agers next door.) There's a lot of sibling rivalry between them - also obvious affection. Susanna's favorite activity right now (typical, typical) is running - away from us. My favorite line right now is "I used to be an expert on children. Now I'm an expert on teenagers."

I'll save the back of this page in case Tracy has a minute to write something.
MUCH LOVE - BETSY

club is being offered

P.S. I wish that one of Grandpa Langford's
college age grandchildren could live with him
while attending other state. It really wouldn't be

...to him to take him away from home.

we need 27 people per night (2 1/2 hr shifts)
for 10 nights - response was about 85%
of the quota for 4 weeks of apricot canning -
hope we can do as well for pears, with
vacation seasons in full swing.

I went to replace my \$10 Timex which
I lost and couldn't find a mechanical watch
for less than \$14, so I finally bought an LED
watch from 1970s Instrument, for \$8.95. (reconditions).
If you I told me I could get such a gadget for 9 -
a year ago I'd have laughed in your face. Amazing
the results of automated high volume ~~sales~~ production
in the electronic industry. It gains $0.8 \pm .1$ second
per hour, but I think I can adjust it to $\pm .1$ sec/hr,
which is as precise as any navigators in previous
centuries could have wished for. It tells hr/min/sec/month/date and

I really am enjoying teaching the gospel
doctrine class. Also recently taught a seminar
for two couples preparing to go to the temple.
As I've been trying to systematize the various
details of the endowment to further my own
understanding, I've been really struck with the
tremendous correlation, overlap, and simplicity of it -
I'm sure there's much more to it than I understand,
but it's thrilling to at last know that there is a simple
mnemonic scheme to remembering it. I can't
remember the # of days in each month.