

January 3, 1988

Dear Family:

Whew! The holidays are over and the decorations are all put away. The singing is over. The goodies are gone. We've put up a new calendar and it says that school starts tomorrow! YEAAAAAAA!

Actually, we have had a very nice vacation. We missed seeing the Utah relatives due to one of us getting sick, but it was nice to stay home and relax after some pretty hectic days.

I directed two programs this year. The first was a children's chorus program (45 Primary Kids) complete with costumes, and the second was our annual Ward Choir Program. The children's chorus was a success much to my relief. We had been practicing since the beginning of October. The program included several choral numbers, some with solos and one with a women's chorus. We had harp accompaniment to "Away in a Manger" and a narration, done by the children. The Ward loved it so I'll probably do it again in two years.

Fortunately, Marty did not travel much in December. We were invited to go to Palm Springs for a big H-P shindig honoring top salesmen, (Marty is not a salesman, but is in Marketing, so has close ties to them) and so on Dec. 9-11th we were there. It was a very elaborate affair and we stayed in a beautiful hotel. The big celebration was held at the most elegant country club I have ever seen, and we had a sumptuous dinner and danced the night away. Unfortunately the stay was short and we had to return to reality too soon.

Marty's travelling will pick up this month and continue through May. He has been in Europe and Japan this Fall, as well as several domestic trips. One of these times I will be going with him.....

We like the idea of a family reunion in Arlington. Virginia is good to offer us her home. We better make it a short stay!

The kids are doing fine. Emily has a "real" piano teacher this year who seems to be very qualified. Emily didn't want a "real" teacher but I felt she would progress faster with someone else. (And she is.) At one time I said that the kids could quit when they could play any hymn I chose. Emily thinks that means her. Ha! Erin is reluctantly playing violin. Someday she'll thank me for this. Greg attends early-morning Seminary and stays after school for basketball practice. He grew four inches this year, but still is smaller than many of his friends. Late puberty, the doc says. John was the star of his soccer team this year. (This had nothing to do with the fact that Marty was coach.) The kid has a natural athletic ability and plays so hard! This week John starts piano lessons with me as teacher.

I'm still teaching music lessons at home. My fee is now \$25.00 an hour. All my students take half-hour lessons. I teach at school two afternoons a week, three different grades, and play for two other grades. I teach music appreciation and chorus.

We keep plenty busy, as we know you do, judging by the lack of Hallmanac letters from some of you. (Not complaining, mind you--I have been less than regular in my correspondence.) We love to hear from you, though.

Love,



Liz and Marty and Kiddies