

November 20, 1988

Dear Family:

It has been more than six months since I put out a Hallmanack. Sorry about that. Especially since I had letters occasionally and sporadically. Those of you who have missed it (?) can start writing again and I will try to do better in the future. I have filed the sporadic and outdated letters away, except for Zina's and we hear from Tracy's brood so seldom, I thought it was a milestone and deserved sending to you. Let's have more of these from the rest of the grandchildren.

This month I got letters from Barry and from Liz. Barry included a letter he had sent to Sherlene answering some genealogical questions. I thought it was so good that you should each have a copy. So here it is. Appreciate it. I was especially impressed with the way he handled the relationships--amazing, to say the least. Now I certainly know why those grandchildren of mine are so smart--it's all that inbreeding--and enough removed that the reuniting of the genes from those related families won't (hopefully) produce any idiots. Betsy, do you want to map out your early New England relatives and see where your lines and ours and Barry's cross? When you stop to realize that the population increase in New England after the first initial spurt came from local intermarriage and not much from immigrant incomings, that it is no wonder that anyone descended from Puritan and or Pilgrim antecedents are all related--those initial families got really stirred together.

You will be happy to hear that Dad did not have to go to arbitration to settle with Smith and Mega. They finally came up with an offer that Dad could feel somewhat satisfied with. We're glad. Dad was getting more nervous as the time approached. Smith-Mega has a new boss above Gene Myers and he asked Jim Hone if he thought Tracy really should be paid his royalties, and Jim (bless his heart) said "absolutely". They will pay Dad a monthly salary for the next ten years, and if he should die to heirs and assigns, etc. Now if they just pay. If they decide to settle before then (like paying off a mortgage) they have written in that they still have to give him the full amount of the agreement (unlike a mortgage, wherein you save the interest).

Making it a little easier to agree, Mega agreed to give him a Stipulated Arbitration Award, which means that the arbitration panel members will have to review the contract and sign it. Then if Mega stops payment it will be easier to take it to a court and get a lien or an order to pay. Hopefully

Added Note:

To the thinking on the blood lines of our ^{grand}children. Karen's (I just called her to see if she has N.E. lines.) lines go back directly to England and to Holland since the restoration. As far as I know, Marty has no N.E. line. His lines, like mine, are in the South and more recently in Scandanavia. (Somebody has to add new blood to the family.)

Doug's Mecham line goes back into New England, and I don't know about his Johnson line, but I suspect it's Southern. Brian's Young line is New England and so will add to the mix, and I don't know about his Weight line. I know Betsy has a lot of New England lines running in her blood on the Huntingtons. Her Mother's line may add some new blood.

Dan also has a lot of New England in him on the Bartholomew side. I don't know about his mother's lines---there may be some new blood there.

The Mechams, my Norton line, Brian's Young line, Betsy's Huntingtons, your father's Tracy line, and a relative of Barry's all lived in Nauvoo at one time. It is really surprising that the blood lines have not mixed before. It would be interesting to spread all the lines out at some time and compare them to see the common New England lines. The grandchildren are more than cousins they are cousins seven and eight times removed on several other lines. The removal is healthy.

Grandmom's Genealogical musings