



SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL
FROM 1005 GUSTIN AVENUE



No doubt each year has contained certain events which make it memorable for you. For me, '57 is the year of the B.S.N. and MRS.--the later of far more importance. 1958 was noteworthy for us as the summer we went to New London, Conn. to work. Moving from one apartment to another kept us busy before and after. Several events in 1959 were really important to us. First, Steven Allan was born. Then we had to make the decision which school Cliff was interested in putting his talents to work for. Bowling Green State University looked good (still does!) so in September, we made the big move to B.G. Cliff went to Champaign to take his finals in 1960 and was awarded that Ph.D. in June. When graduation rolled around, he was hard at work at the Naval Ordnance Lab at Silver Spring, Md. We enjoyed the summer near Washington but were happy to return to B.G. that fall. Andrew Edmund was the big news at the Long residence in 1961. That brings us to 1962--the year we had the house built. Cliff had spent hours and hours going over the plans and his time paid off. Our home is just what we feel we wanted and needed.

Ground was broken for our house in late March--a month-late start due to the miserably cold and long winter we had. Nevertheless, construction moved right along and we were only 18 days late (from the original July 1 estimate) in moving in. Before the house was started, we'd decided to do the finishing--interior and exterior painting, varnishing and almost all the work in the lower level. This turned out to be far more work than I'd anticipated but Cliff was prepared for it. Almost as soon as June graduation was over, he headed for the house to start his job as painter and general handyman. He had his discouraging and slow days but kept at it. In late June, Cliff's folks came for a week and we really accomplished a lot with 3 of us working and 1 staying home with our younguns.

Cliff was to start teaching summer school July 19th and we moved in the day before. My Mom and Dad came to assist us then and stayed a week. Without them and some wonderful neighbors, I don't know how we'd have done it. Because we'd been working at the building house (as Stevie called it) so much, we weren't overly organized (to put it mildly!) for the move and for me it was a hectic and trying experience. I'd rather not do it again soon!

The week after we moved, Cliff, who'd been playing with the church softball team, collided with another fielder during a double header. Unfortunately the other fellow was bigger and, from the collision, Cliff was knocked out, did a flip (he's told) and lit on his shoulder. As a result, he was mildly incapacitated (not in the head) for several weeks but didn't let that hinder him much. Right away he started putting the ceiling tile on the lower level and soon had it done. Summer school kept Cliff so busy but nevertheless, he got quite a bit of exterior painting done and has the lower level room pretty well finished up. Floor tiling was an accomplishment in early December. More painting will finish it up. Already he's measuring for his next projects--a big shoe cabinet and a room divider-bookcase. Recently Cliff tried his hand at wallpapering in the kitchen and did a fine job. The bathroom is waiting its turn.

For those of you who haven't seen or heard, our house is a split level with the fairly standard 3 bedroom floor plan. We're especially enjoying having a place for our boys to play--they are too.

Our sons are very different, disposition-wise. Andy is the Terrible Tempered One but can also be as sweet as any child on earth, I think. Stevie has always been easy to handle but we've noticed that since we've moved and he's played with older children, he's quite a lot more of a smart alec. I've heard that children go through stages and am now a believer. Andy's gotten over being stand-offish and can now show off for company as well as Big Brother. Stevie still enjoys going to Sunday School and the library story hour. Most of the time we think they're fine sons and couldn't be talked into trading them or giving them away.

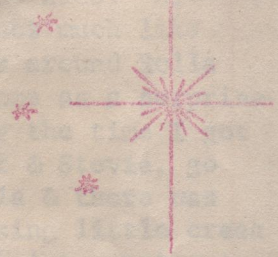
Our vacation consisted of a trip to visit my folks the first part of September. While we were there, Mom and Dad "took on" our sons while we went away for a couple of days. We got all the way to Cedar Rapids, Iowa and thoroughly enjoyed the trip and time spent at home.

Thanksgiving was spent with Cliff's folks and we surely had reason for feeling especially thankful with the Cuban crisis straightening up. It's too bad it takes something like that before we take inventory of blessings.

Our plans are to spend the Christmas holidays with my folks--days we're looking forward to with pleasure. We'll go via Chicago and have lots of preparation to attend to before we "take off". Surely we're getting old--time goes by faster n faster.

We've cut out a lot of activities during the year but seem to keep amazingly busy anyway. Cliff's "term" as advisor of the math students' honorary group ended in June and I also retired as a Sunday School teacher then. In September the new presidents of Presbyweds took over and now we just go and enjoy ourselves. Nice! Cliff isn't singing in the choir so now we can go to church together which is also nice.

We've enjoyed visits from many of you in 1962 and hope you'll be able to return in '63 and also that more of you can come next year. Speaking of next year, we anticipate the arrival of a new little Long in late winter. Stevie's been told that the event will take place after his birthday and is already wondering just when that will be. At the moment, it seems a good while away. We're anticipating 1963 to be the best year yet and are hoping that the seasonal wish of "peace on earth, good will to men" could be realized on this ole earth. We doubt that this could be accomplished in just 1 year but are in favor of making a start!



GREETINGS

We've been well treated in 1963 and hope you all have too. The first, and probably biggest event was the arrival of our third son, Thaddeus Cline, on Feb. 28. He was due in March but decided to join his brothers in Feb. celebrating. Andy calls him "lil Faddy" but the rest of us call him Thad. There's been mixed reaction to his name--mostly bad!--but we like it. Thad has been an almost unadulterated joy to us. Stevie and Andy like to lug him around and look like cats with a kitten. Thad is very good natured about all this nonsense. He's the first to show much promise of having red hair--a strawberry blonde. His eyes are very blue and his smile just makes us melt. Fortunately he's slower in walking than Andy and we're grateful for that.

In mid-Feb. Stevie acquired a cold which hung on and I was getting worried about why he didn't shake it. On the 25th, I knew why--he had red measles. Both mothers were here during the time he had it with Andy getting it soon after. It was really a help to have them here during those sieges and they enjoyed Thad's first days. A few days after Mom left, I, like so many others, became a flu victim with Stevie and Andy following in close order. Sturdy Cliff kept things going til we'd all recovered.

Cliff felt he could use a little more education so applied for NSF-sponsored summer computer institutes. He was accepted at Houghton, Mich., and Rolla, Mo. He decided on the latter and we soon heard from a man in Rolla who wanted to rent his house furnished so our housing worries were over--we thought. Shortly after graduation, we left for Rolla, going thro' Chicago to see Longs and St. Louis to visit my sister and family. It was a steamy day when we arrived in Rolla on June 8th. My heart sunk when I got my first glimpse of our summer abode. The interior looked better than the ex and we decided it would be adequate and began to put things away. The boys were thrilled by the toys left for their use. That night we discovered what the house was most adundantly furnished with--bugs! Ugh! Fortunately they (gator roaches or waterbugs, according to the picture on the bug killer we got) only appeared at night. Cliff got quite agile when it came to swatting them--even when I woke him from a sound sleep and he didn't have his glasses on! In comparison, the small roaches in the kitchen seemed like pets. Disregarding these conditions, my Mom and Dad and the Baldwins, who are at the U. of Mo., came to visit us during the summer and we were ~~not~~ happy to have them. The instituters went to St. Louis to go thro' McDonnell Aircraft's computer center on a day when, coincidentally (?), the Cards were playing a two-night double header with the Braves so some baseball was included in the trip. We made several nice trips during the summer--to St. Louis to visit my sister's family again. This time a trip to the zoo was included and tho' it rained, we ran from here to there & saw quite a lot. The boys particularly liked the "elfant" show. That same eve, we 4 adults went down to Gaslight Square & had dinner at a restaurant just dripping with atmosphere--wonderful food was a surprise. Our day at the Ozarks included swimming, picnicking, a cave tour and, most wonderful in Stevie's opinion, a speedboat ride. Little Thad thought we were out of our minds to think the latter was in any way enjoyable, I think, but endured it without a murmur. The scenery around Rolla is truly beautiful and quite a contrast to the flatness of Bowling Green. It isn't heavily populated in the area-- lots of hills covered with trees.

With the overpopulation worry, I suggested quite a few could move to the area. Cliff's comeback was, "And do what? Make toothpicks?" The soil is red clay, not much like that black stuff in Ill. & Ohio. There were a good many lookout towers around Rolla and we were anxious to go up one. When the day came that we did, it came as a surprise to me that such a sturdy tower could seem to be made of match sticks by the time I got to the top. I soon was content to watch my stalwart adventurers, Cliff & Stevie, go up while I remained on the nice, safe ground. It was quite hot in Rolla & there was far more rain than we'd expected. We discovered that the innocent looking little creek in our back yard was, in reality, a storm sewer & I had visions of us being swept away some night. Well, not really. Let me say, on the plus side, that Rolla has lovely, parks, a nice library and friendly churches. Cliff enjoyed attending school and got a good deal out of it.

We left Rolla Aug. 2 but didn't get home til the 13th. Enroute we stopped to visit the Baldwins in Columbia and then on to the long-awaited Gline reunion. All 25 of us, (everyone but 1 sister's husband) were home for a week-end and most of us were there for longer than that. We hope Mom and Dad have recuperated by now! It was a real joy to be together--long anticipated and too quickly over. We spent a few days with the Longs in Chicago and then came home. There's no place like it, sure enough.

Classes didn't start for Cliff til Sept. 13th so he had a good while to work on projects. Some painting got done, the garage insulated & wallboarded but most of his time was spent on a work bench-tool case. When some friends came to see the finished product, the girl, a Home Ec. major, said it looked as tho' it should be in the kitchen. It's lovely--and so functional too! Other projects have included a shoe cabinet which holds many pairs, a cherry book case-room divider, a toy container consisting of 3 boxes on casters which fit under a table with 4 drawers. That has helped more to bring order to our lower level than any other item! Steve & Andy wanted a work bench after they saw Cliff's so he's making one for them for Christmas.

Each year seems to get a little busier for Cliff. He's in several local math groups and usually makes a trip to one in the spring-Columbus, Ohio this year. Cliff's been instrumental in getting a chapter of the scholastic honorary, Phi Kappa Phi, at BGSU & was recently elected president. The Faculty Club which is having to look elsewhere for quarters as the enrollment increases and the Union becomes more crowded, elected Cliff one of the directors. Cliff took on the duties of deacon at church this year. At every opportunity he played softball & tennis this summer and the volleyball season is on now.

We made our usual trips to Chicago and Delong over spring vacation. When Stevie starts to school, our gallivanting will be cut down! Soon after our return, Cliff's Mom had major surgery and has made a good recovery.

Stevie is looking forward to kindergarten next year. For his birthday we got him a small 2 wheel bike and Cliff ran miles trying to help him ride it.. In Sept., Daddy broke down (or wore out) & put the training wheels on & Stevie got a lot of pleasure out of it from thereon. He continues to be very sociable--is never happier than when on the go. He and Andy get along quite well tho' they're very different. Andy continues to have quite a temper and he's almost out of the terrible twos. Has anyone thought of an excuse to use for three year olds? He can be such a dear tho' and it's interesting to have them be different (I keep telling myself!) We took them to Cedar Point--Ohio's answer to Disneyland--in Aug. & we went on many, many rides. The next day they wanted to return. On our trip to Chicago at Thanksgiving, we made our first trip to the Museum of Science & Industry with them. It was an experience--really we all enjoyed it, especially Stevie.

We hope your holiday season will be a happy one and that the coming year will be one of peace and happiness for you and yours.

The Longs



'65 WITH THE LONGS

January—cold and snowy
 Lots of ice and plenty blowy.
 On our way to Illinois, we landed in a snow bank.
 Kind truckers rescued us before our hopes all sank.
 To the Galesburg depot we rushed off with Cliff
 And off to Denver he went in a jif.
 We other 4 with Mom and Dad did make merry
 For a few days—we just couldn't tarry.

February—dark and dreary—nonetheless brought us joys
 In celebrations boisterous of three birthday boys.
 Very exciting events these are at their age
 By the end of the day, Mom needs a cage!
 Toward the end of the month, pox did blossom on Steve—
 The chicken variety, or so I believe.

The death of Cliff's Gram in March was sad news—
 She was beloved by many; a dear person to lose.
 Chickenpox again reared its head and struck Thad
 The poor guy was plastered; he really felt bad.
 Andy never succumbed. What can be the reason?
 On him, even germs don't declare open season!

Visitors in April were Cliff's Mom, Mom and Dad.
 We welcome their visits; on departure, we're sad.
 To Canada we journeyed for Easter vacation
 We went here and there visiting all our relation.
 Dear Mom underwent the surgeon's knife. Area: the throat.
 The operation: successful, we're happy to note.

A skunk appeared in May to enliven our day
 Its scentillating presence I much preferred ways
 Seen hindy moments ensued as I strove to corral
 Six exuberant youngsters who longed to be his pal.
 Lt. Wilcox came at last to save the day
 The unfortunate skunk learned he shoulda stayed away!

In June we enjoyed a trip to Champaign
 Fond memories of that spot we always retain.
 To DeLong we journeyed on from there
 Father's Day with Dad to share.
 From his "professoring", Cliff took a rest
 Returning to it in autumn with added zest.
 Woodworking projects began to accumulate.
 We'll be forced to move, if he keeps up at this rate!



Off to Camp Premauca we went in July
 Our hand as nurse-counsellor endeavoring to try.
 No catastrophes struck our junior high group.
 From that escapade, we took time to "recup".
 Cliff found his charges exuberant and fun.
 Our younguns enjoyed these days in the sun.
 Their role of "camp pets" they thought was just fine
 Especially the snacking and campfire at nine!
 On hand to greet us on return from the camp:
 Sister Eleanor and family lit the welcome lamp.
 Their visit--to brief, as most visits seem.
 They should come more often; at least so we deem.

Aunt Vera from Kansas, Mom and brother Sam
 Were visitors in August: on bridge we did cram!
 Pinechle too--oh wild players were we!
 Their stay we enjoyed tremendously.
 Later to Canada we once again sojourned
 And made quite a tour before we returned.
 The Toronto "X" we took in in a day
 By the end of it thinking, "Work's easier than play";
 Niagara Falls--honeymooners' haven
 We saw at night--the boys were ravin'!

In early September, Cliff left by train for the west
 As Phi Kappa Phi delegate, he had a nice rest.
 The Oregon scenery he thought quite delightful
 And brought us pamphlets over which to mull.
 Cliff and Steve went off to school
 The weather changed from hot to cool.

In bright blue October, the 5 Fred Clines came
 After Fred's Iron Curtain tour, even greater's his fame.
 None of my siblings had seen our new home here
 And then in 1 year for three to appear!
 'Twas great! Mom went with the boys on trick or treat night
 I don't know for whom 'twas the greatest delight!

Next day Dad went with us to jinx our football squad
 (He's seen 5 losses in 6 games--our team he can't laud.)
 Thanksgiving took us Canada-way
 The time went too quickly; it seemed but a day.

A note of each singly before this note closes
 Let's head down the list and count up the noses.
 Thad has become Andy's Faithful tag-a-long
 And believes himself to be as old and strong.
 The "terrible twos" have missed him completely.
 Oh dear, do you spose they're waiting for 3?

Handwriting project began to "conclude."
 We'll be forced to move, if he keeps up at this rate!

Andy, at 4, is a child of wonder
One moment he's sunshine; the next all thunder
Story hour he likes--Sunday School is not "in".
When playing with others--the favorite game--"new".

Steve, our first grader, is making a path
Through readin' and writin'--and the "new" math.
"Dick and Jane" have become our friends once more
(By 2 more times through, they may be a bore).
He loves all activities, singing and games
From school he's learning nice(?) new names.

Cliff turned to masonry to make our front post.
Requests for his labor? There've been a host!
"Train fever" has hit him with severity great
An engineer's cap we'll soon buy for his pate.
Two trains have become a part of the Long Line.
I wonder for how many more he will pine?
At church he keeps busy--teacher, choir, woodworker
And being a deacon--he isn't a shirker!

Our 4 apple trees outdid themselves surely
(One can hope that next year they'll do poorly).
Canning and pressing have kept me quite busy
And knitting lessons sent me into a tizzy.
Don't send in your order for knit goods to cherish--
No thinks I may finish one thing ere I perish!
My gardening attempts sent us into peals of glee
The size of the corn cobs?--4 inches or 3!

In December the U.S. put on a happy face
The fact? Rendezvousing 4 men in space!
Slow as Christmas? Did someone really that say?
Too fast is approaching upon us that day!
Unprepared as usual and unorganized
If it were otherwise, I'd be surprised!

In the new year, may each from the Christ Child learn
And ere many days pass, peace on earth return.





January--the start of a bright new year
 The car buying "bug" caught Cliff by the ear!
 After much searching till we nearly were dragged!
 He came on a "Clean" '64 Buick wagon.
 To Chicago, toward the end, went Cliff to a meeting
 And, alas, in his absence "Perfidio" went our hearing!
 In the sub-zero weather, we very near froze
 Till the heating man came to stir up our woes.

February meant celebrating for our boys three
 As each had a party with much fun and glee.
 Quasi-cocokery I learned at the church
 And where was my family? Left in the lurch!
 Mom and Dad came for a visit too brief.
 Cliff's Mom's surgery was OK--what a relief!

In March Cliff became a "visiting prof"
 And Danforth Associate--our hats we doff!
 Hospital Guild publicity took up some of each day
 As the group was sponsor of a BMJ play.
 For Cliff's Church School students, a dinner we had,
 Their reaction to it made us feel glad.

While cleaning our car one fine April day
 Cliff found \$60--it sure wasn't hay!
 To Canada we journeyed for our Easter trip
 In our "new" car, we surely did slip.
 As a "cherub" in the choir, our Steve did perform.
 As we sat in the audience, our hearts were warm.

Faculty gives membership I took on in May
 What will I say when my term ends? Hooley!
 To BG to see us came the Baldwin and Krysts.
 Our sons had great fun entertaining their peers.

Off to Maine we travelled in June
 Where we heard the ocean's roaring tune.
 Three stops we made to visit friends--
 Tom Schmitts, Jim Shellings and Jim Baldwins.
 Starbridge Village was next on our tour--
 Then Pilsbath Plantation with displays fever.

With Plymouth Rock we were not much impressed,
 In an Ohio field we'd find bligger, we guessed!
 On the replica Mayflower's passenger list
 We found our ancestors' names had been missed!
 In 1830 our "summer house" was built.
 The space would've made a housekeeper wilt!
 Cliff was a student in an institute
 While the boys captured ocean "loot",
 To Acadia park we soon did wend--

A spot we heartily recommend!
 On the cog railroad we sped(!) to Mt. Washington.
 We were thoroughly "scored" before we were done!
 Post rides at Boothbay Harbor us lured--
 After 3, we fast temporarily cured.
 On one of them, we saw porpoises, seals
 And a captured shark--good for many cat meals.
 A welcome Warm Yankee Peddler's Day extended
 Then a shipyard we toured before the day ended.

To Maine on the bus old Mom and Dad trek,
 By the time they arrived, they were nearly a wreck!
 Cliff's Mom came out via bus and train
 And till we left, with us did remain.
 Our last night, with the Bahrs, Bradbury Mc, we climbed
 In the dense fog, what a delightful climb!

Quebec was our goal as we turned our sights homeward--
 Into doing much slipsliding we were soon lured!
 On Aug. 16 we arrived at our home--
 It was all of 3 days before we did roam!
 To St. Louis we sped for a reunion--Clive
 With 23 present to bed down and dine!
 As return from DeLong we began to prepare
 To leave our souls in the Bakin's care,
 To Camp Minivance in Michigan we went
 As Danforth Associates, the week was soon spent
 With seminars, lectures, relaxing and fun
 And eating till we thought we'd end up a ton!

Preparations for Dawes coffee took up September
 By the end, my dialing finger was limber!
 To Kindergarten, Andy set off proudly
 Exclaiming the virtues of schooling loudly.

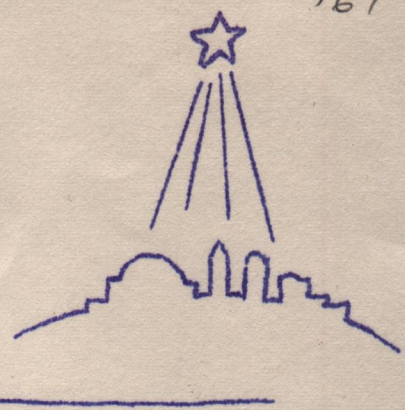
Steve was enthused about 2nd grade work
And from schoolwork did seldom shirk.
Thad was consoled by a small turtle friend
And at story hour and Sunday School time did spend.

Church activities in Oct. got in full swing
And a Danforth week-end did to us bring.
To the BG Holiday Inn we adjourned
And about many subjects learned..
Our turtle family grew to three
And our sons turned into goblins with glee.

November brought us lots of snow--
And with it wind--Oh, what a blow--
Mom and Dad came to see our team
Win a game and themselves redeem.

And now December is so quickly here.
We hope your Christmas will be one of cheer.
When days are hectic and things get "wild"
Let's all try to think of the Christ child.
It's His birthday we're to celebrate
And rid ourselves--and the world--of hate.
So that "Peace on earth, good will to men"
Will bring tranquility and end this din.

A bright new year we wish you too.
'Twould be nice, during it, to see all of you!



Highlights of this year we now relate
In hopes of keeping you up to date.
'Twas a good year for us---we hope for you too---
And 'twill continue right into the new.

Large scale gardening we joyfully tackled.
From bending, our sacroiliacs soon crackled!
Harvest was abundant from most crops.
Our brows, resultantly, needed some mops.
Coons with us did our corn enjoy---
Til protective measures we did employ.

In July, apples by the bushel on us descended.
The limbs could best be described as "quite bended".
By the quart, applesauce I did preserve
With something less than lots of verve!
Pies still in the freezer reside---
Apple-wise, we're well supplied!

Our first camping experience we thought was a lark
To southern Ohio in July we embarked;
Cozy it was with ten in a tent.
A wonder it was that the "tent didn't rent"!
The area caves we explored with great zest
And with camping, in general, we were impressed.

After Labor Day, to "Expo" we headed
In Mom & Dad's "Caddie", the trip wasn't dreaded.
Disappointed we were by the size of the crowds---
It seemed lines extended almost to the clouds.
Nevertheless we enjoyed the venture
And found little at fault, had no cause for censure.

Our Andy and Steve then tripped off to school.
Both think their teachers rate as "real cool".
Each is serving his room as student council rep---
An honor they like---they sure have the pep!
Steve a Cub Scout is delighted to be
And again as a cherub (?) in choir is he.

Thad was quite lost when school first began
But thankfully, he's a resourceful young man
And keeps himself occupied all a.m. long
With all types of building, books, stories and song.
Afternoons he plays with kindergarten friends---
An occupation he hopes never ends!

Creativity (not usually simple for me)
Is currently easy for me to be!
Long number 4 in February is due
And we'll welcome him/her to our boisterous crew.
As a Newcomers sponsor, it's my privilege to serve---
A task that's a pleasure--easy on the nerve.
Church circle duties my time occupies---
An occupation my family can't criticize.

To the UCF Board Cliff received a call
And went to their student-board retreat this fall.
In a math journal, an article published he had.
In this "publish or perish" time, it made his heart glad.
The university forum at church entered year three---
With attendance and discussion, well pleased is he.
Various projects take up his spare (?) time---
The results he achieves are quite sublime.
A mechanized go cart for his sons he created
With compliments the neighborhood children him feted.
A lower level cedar closet he masterfully installed,
Electronic air filter too--handyman he's called!

At this season when the Christ Child's birth we celebrate
We wish with all of you we could congregate.
Amidst happy reunions with resultant din,
Let's remember--"Peace on earth, good will to men".

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND YOURS! MAY 1968 BE YOUR HAPPIEST YEAR YET!

THE LONGS

Cliff, Lynn and Boys



'Sixty eight found a new face in our household.
 We named her Melinda--she's been "good as gold".
 Admirers surround her as our card plainly shows--
 Our dear little angel with the turned up nose.
 A good year it's been--we hope for you too
 A few of the highlights we list now for you.

Our Thad has lost many of his "little boy" ways
 As he's embarked on adventurous school days.
 Eagerly he trots off each afternoon
 To draw & learn & sing in tune(?).

In April Andy suffered his first broken bone
 On Dad's "special day" but neither did moan.
 A cast (wrist to elbow) hampered him slightly
 (With that extra weight, he was treated politely)
 With swimming lessons, he did amazingly well
 And soon was creating quite a large swell.

In spring, to piano lessons Steve did turn
 'Twill be a while til he catches van Cliburn!
 Cub Scout sessions keep him occupied
 As skills at crafts are multiplied.
 Little League games were a summer event
 And to nearly all his whole family went.

Cliff continues to be his busy self
 Now's the season for helping "the jolly ole elf".
 Committees he seems to be on by the score!
 At mention of sports, his interest does soar.
 Woodworking continues to be of great interest.
 His projects invariably we label 'the best'.
 Summer was spent by Him in research work--
 In air conditioned comfort, he often did lurk.
 The "ole swimmin' hole"--(our fine city pool)
 Worked wonders in helping to keep us all cool.

As for me, I keep busy with this n that--
Learning to read (fast!), "chewing the fat",
Going to meetings, cooking and cleaning,
Always more things to get done, I am meaning.
With 4 under ten, I keep very much busy
And sometimes, for days, I am kept in a tizzy.

Several short trips we've worked in this year--
Mainly to visit with those we hold dear.
To Illinois we went for a reunion of Clines.
With such a gang, there was need for lines!
Some of our kin with us came to B G
We had such fun in that few day spree.
To Canada we have several times gone
And once made a trip up along Lake Huron.

A camping trailer purchase we made in September.
Next year we hope to keep it limber!
To Cleveland & Akron we went in October
Pleasant week-ends they were, we intend to infer.
To Missouri we travelled in early December
To brother Sam's wedding--we'll long remember!
Trips to Illinois & Canada will soon be in store
We know that there's lots to accomplish before!

We wish for you all a year bright and war free
May the angel of peace be atop of each tree.

CHRISTMAS 1969

The wonderful season of Christmas is upon us, and we believe this has been an extra short year. We were blessed with health, & work to do & that makes the days fly.

We had lots of good times too, as we had visits with family & friends...

Going by Santa Fe R.R. to visit Diane, Al & family in January, we had a good trip until the last 100 miles, when the people on the train were transferred to buses. The tracks were washed out by the floods they'd had earlier. It surely sobered one to see the terrible destruction of property and hear of the lives lost. Diane took us on many trips in their area--to their ranch, to Zuma Beach where we gathered shells, sand dollars and other sea treasures. The very next day, the oil from Santa Barbara had moved down to ruin this and other beaches. One day we spent at San Diego visiting former Illinois friends and also to visit their oldest son, Bruce, who was a freshman at U.C.S.D. All good things must end, as did this vacation & we arrived back in Galesburg to find snow & cold.

In February, we were "celebrated" at several events, for our 46th wedding anniversary, as we enjoyed these with Fred, Louise & family & with Louise's parents, Guy & Helen Harshbarger & with our good friends, Gerorge & Ruby Killingsworth.

A nice surprise was to have Sam B. & Pam come up for one weekend. They had been getting settled in their new home, at the edge of Jefferson City, Mo. the month before.

It's always good for March to be "used up" for it is usually blustery & cold. It does give me more time for two favorite hobbies of rug making & ceramic painting.

On March 24, Sam began his 40th year of carrying the mail out of Delong. To celebrate this event we took a few days off, to visit the newlyweds at Jefferson City and to see their new home. Eleanor, Jack & family joined us for the weekend for a real housewarming. One special part of our stay was for us all to attend Palm Sunday services in the beautiful church where we had attended their wedding on December 7th.

Rumors had begun that the time was growing short for the Post Office to be kept here in Delong. It seems that the Postal Department decided to practice a little economy ? and start here. The rumor proved to be actuality and the office was closed on April 11th and all mail service changed to Gilson--about 11 miles northeast of here. Our schedule was quite changed as he was to report over there at 7:30 A.M. One must get used to changes, & we found out that we could; tho' we weren't for it, and it still seems strange to have our address Gilson when we live in Delong.

We made a fine five day trip over to Ohio to see Marilyn, Clliff & 4 in May--as we were homesick to see 18 month old Melinda and the 3 boys. Our garden, flowers & fruit would soon have need of tending and we had bumper crops of all. Not only did June 'bring the roses' but strawberries by the dozens of quarts-plus black and red raspberries. We took some more time out to celebrate July 4th in St. Louis with Eleanor, Jack and 3--where Fred, Louise & 3 and Sam B. & Pam joined us. On one night we all took our share of space at the Muny Opera to see a fine showing of "Most Happy Fella".

Fella".

All roads led to Bend, Oregon, in early August for a family reunion. There were 21 of us there & all voted it one of our best vacations ever. The Pine Tree Motel was our home for a few days as we picnicked & toured this scenic area. All too soon it was time to separate, as some of the clan journeyed on into Canada for more sightseeing- 4 of the families had visited at the Badlands, Mt. Rushmore & Yellowstone Park on their way to Bend. We 2 & Sam B. and Pam returned home by way of Salt Lake City. We spent one overnight with Veras daughter Lila & family at Boulder, Colorado, enjoying their lovely mountain home & hospitality. The next night we spent with Vera in St. Francis, Kansas where we had a too short visit & where we also saw several cousins.

Stopping at Abilene, Kansas to visit Eisenhower Center was a day to remember also.

"Decision time" came for Sam as he tried to decide "to retire or not to retire". After a great struggle, he resigned on October 31st after serving his route for 39 years, 7 months & 8 days & enjoying all of it.

Several good friends of the community & church planned a wonderful party & reception to honor him & it was a lovely tribute to him. This was held at the dining room of the DeLong Church & over 110 signed the guest book. We were especially surprised and pleased to have our Missouri children & "grands" to dash up for this occasion.

He has done admirably in adjusting to another routine but has kept busy at various projects. One thing I've noticed & enjoy is a lot more piano music. Although our schedules were quite mixed up at Thanksgiving time, Fred, Louise & 3, Sam B. & Pam plus Sam L. & I journeyed to St. Louis for a belated Thanksgiving dinner with Eleanor & Jack's.

Now we are looking forward to Christmas with all of the family at home except Diane's and they will be with us in thoughts.

We have been breathless for the brave astronauts during these unbelievable moon landings & we wonder if they glimpsed the star of Peace of 2000 years ago that shone down on the baby Jesus. We join with all others in praying for that Peace that He came to offer and that it might come in 1970.

A blessed holy day and a happy new year is our wish for you and your loved ones.

(written) With our love to you all-Mom and Dad

Hello dear ones! Just tho't you might want to have a copy of our 1969 diary even tho' you knew all of this already.

We're wondering how the little 4 will be pictured this year. We have all of your special Christmas pictures since you began with Steve-and it's a grat pictorial record-and priceless!

We'll be seeing you soon-much love Mom

How can it be 1970's nearly over?
We hope it's found you "in clover".
It's been a good year for us, we find, on reflection--
These are some of the things we've done.

To the sunny South in March we went--
The boys from school a few days were absent.
At a Tallehassee conference Cliff spent his days
While we in Appalachicola Forest lazed.
At night in our camper, we were quite cool
But daytimes were sunny, as a rule.

We succumbed to a zig zag machine in the Spring
To my mending it's added real zing;
It resides in our antique Singer cabinet
We'd not trade for a new one, you bet!

This year a new honor came Cliff's way
An "excellence in teaching" award came in May.
Using the computer in teaching was fun
And was one reason this prize was won.
The boys kept busy all summer through
With baseball, tennis and biking too.
Swimming lessons were taken without much zest--
Just going for fun was what they liked best.

A Cline family gathering was held here in July
With fun and silliness--the time did fly.

At the county fair, Cliff entered wood projects
For all four, first prize awards he collects!
From hereon I don't think he'll rest on his laurels--
As for me, I'll switch from baking to florals!
Gardening was enjoyed by me--and Andy
Our "spot" this year was really handy.
At the fair Andy also won a first prize
With a vegetable horse and man (cucumber size).

Melinda, once the pet, has become the pest
And the boys wishe she'd "ride off into the West".
A temporary wish, I'm happy to say
She's done much to keep us happy and gay.

In the diaper derby we entered our lass
And two ribbons to her did pass
For curly hair and the prettiest eyes--
As chubbiest, we didn't wish her the prize!

In August to Michigan we again went camping
That's lovely country in which to go tramping.

In September Cliff built a compost heap
The harvest of "recycling" we hope to reap.
This fall hatha yoga's to me been enlightening
But standing on your head? Now that's frightening!

As Christmastime nears, let our acts all be
Toward peace on earth and let it start with me.

In looking ahead it may be very well
To note some events which in '71 befell.

The first of this year to meetings I did stray
As "Wheeled Meals" prepared to get underway.
Styrofoam cases Cliff fit (custom-made some, in fact)
Wood County hospital with food them then packed.
Area volunteers take them to shut-ins in town
Visits plus food are a help to those "down".

In May we went on a camping excursion
With Canadian cousins, we really had fun.
Summer--gardening, swimming, ball games galore
With three guys on teams--(and next year four).
In July off to Maryland we did hie
And our days there surely did fly.
As Cline cousins became acquainted again
At the farm home of the Noland kin.
To sight see in Washington we went one day.
We toured Monticello and Cape Hatteras bay.
The coast & surf intrigued us, as always
Unfortunately rain was abundant those days!
The West Virginia Turnpike was welcome--very,
After Virginia roads we found downright scarey.
A day at Cedar Point was a highlight too
Also Members' Day at Toledo Zoo.

Cliff has taken several jaunts thus far
Accomplishing his traveling by car--
To state math meetings; a computer convention,
Chaperoning a youth group retreat was fun.
To several projects he's laid claim--
Including building me a cold frame,
A bookcase for the boys, a display case at school
Redoing the hideabed; enjoying all sports as a rule.
He's a versatile guy, this man of our house--
Even made a necktie. What next? A blouse?



A year of big events it's been for Steve
As threads of change into his life weave.
To Washington on the school patrol trip he went in May
(At a time when demonstrators were there having their say
Leaving piano behind, he took up the guitar
Who knows? Some day he may wind up a Star.

To church camp in Michigan he went in the summer
And got in some practice as singer & strummer.
A paper route he assumed for material gain
And faithfully delivers in snow, sun and rain.
Junior high he didn't care for at first
But now with enthusiasm for it does burst.

It's not been Andy's best of years
Because of problems with his ears--
Tubes put in early to improve his hearing;
Infections during the summer searing.
Glasses were needed, we learned in the Spring
Baby teeth needed pulling too--poor thing.
The ear infection developed during swimming season
Retiring him from the pool--'twas displeasin'!
A hearing loss remains but he compensates nicely
And is noted for doing school work precisely.
Gerbil pets keep him well occupied--
Our own population explosion supplied.
At piano playing he's doing just dandy
And at hockey he's now quite handy.

Thad, in third grade, is enjoying school days
And this year entered the Cub Scout phase.
At all sorts of sports he seems to excel--
Piano lessons he doesn't care for too well.

This year's found Melinda becoming independent.
In looks she still seems heaven-sent.
In disposition? Sometimes not the same;
The terrible threes must be to blame.

I've joined the M.O.B. (junior high mothers' "gang")
No, none that I know has a gun that goes bang.
Cub Scouts I'm attempting to deal with this fall--
Sometimes their antics "drive me up a wall".
Two trips to Delong we've made this fall--
Dear Dad hasn't been "having a ball".
To surgery three times since mid-September
In good health club, we hope he's now a member.

Our thoughts turn to others, as is true at this season
And we wonder when mankind will come to reason.
If each of us will his own part do
Peace on earth should come closer in '72.



Another year passes--nineteen seventy two--
We hope it has been a good year for you.

January-- we tried out our Christmas tobaggan
And Melinda's birthday was hectic fun.
More birthdays in February for our boys three
Steve's now a "teen"--How can it be?
In March Cliff readied a martin house splendid
Next a.m. to the window rushed our Thad,
"The martins are here--come look and see".
No sparrows before lived in such luxury.
A Globetrotters game was an April highlight
Cliff's birthday was also an event of that night.
May--an oral surgeon pulled teeth for Andy and Steve
And for Illinois Melinda & I did leave
A nurses' reunion was enjoyed by me--
Checked up on Mom, too, after surgeries three.
With Canadian cousins we went camping in June
Northern lights were spectacular, as was the moon.
To Philadelphia Cliff journeyed for meetings
And from that locale sent out greetings.
While biking, I fell and hurt my knee--
Permanently injured, I thought I'd be.
Camping trips were events of July
In Pokagon State Park, the time did fly.
To Maryland later for a Cline reunion
As usual then, there was much good fun.
The fair & Cedar Point in August were highlights
Then some Michigan camping--saw some great sights.
September--school started--a pre autumn lull--
And in the Olympics we cheered our Dave Wottle.
My folks and sis Diane were October guests
We kept them busy--but allowed them some rests.
To Canada we went for a nice week-end
And loaded the car 'fore we homeward did wend.
Bushels of fruit--a new dishwasher too
Gave a "scrunched" feeling to our crew.
Our thanksgiving holiday was just great
With the rest of the Longs here to celebrate.

A junior high fellowship booster is Steve
From other church events he's more prone to leave
A putt putt golf expert he became this year
Enjoys playing baseball & the Tigers holds dear.
A second hand minibike became his property
And with Dad's help, it's running properly.
The paper route he continues still
But isn't enthused when it's sleety & chill.
At school a record setter was Andy
At push ups and chin ups, he did just dandy.
Summer was busy--he went to camp
His swimming lesson session was cold and damp.
Playing football & hockey are favorite sports
Through stamps and coins he oftentime sorts.
His gerbil family has grown by leaps & bounds
Steve resides nearby & hears their sounds.
At piano playing, Andy does just great
Though he's in retirement, as of late.
From piano lessons Thad retired early;
It's evident he's not a musician, purely.
A sports enthusiast he is, for sure,
Both as participant and spectator.
In creative arts Melinda enrolled this fall
Finding dancing, drawing & such a ball.
A Sesame Street student she enjoys being--
Has learned her numbers and A - Z ing.
Biking without training wheels is a new feat
And tying her shoes--we think she's "neat".
Cliff continues to be as busy as can be--
Enjoys wood working & sports activity.
All the committees that at BCU jell
Seem to include our C.A.L.
He teaches too--puts in lots of time
And works with computers--joy sublime.
For a while I was on as Adelle Davis "kick"
Follow her diets--you'll never be sick.
Yoga is fun--tho I'm no pro
And I'm no nearer knowing how to sew.
There seems to be lots to keep me busy
How time flies by. It makes me dizzy.
Our holiday trips we look to with pleasure
These family gatherings we really treasure.

From tension and turmoil set us free
Is a worthy prayer for seventy-three.

The Longs



A GREETING OF PEACE FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR!

If the winter continues, as December began,
We won't be dug out 'til well past Jan.!
If you weren't in the storm, no doubt you heard of it.
We began to wonder if the snow would ever quit.

As a post Christmas present, a pool table we got.
If you think we're now pool sharks, I assure you, we're not.
The snow covered drive was a hockey court splended,
Til two broken windows the hockey games ended.

With the senior highs to a retreat went Cliff in the winter,
Transactional analysis was the theme at the center.
Even more sports activities than usual he's begun,
And this summer coached a Little League team for fun (?).
At U C F Cliff's serving as chairman this year,
Just one of the jobs keeping him in high gear.
High cholesterol showed on a blood test this fall,
So our diet has undergone a minor overhaul.
Many projects Cliff has underway
A handy fellow, we all say!

Even with children in school all day, I confess,
There are too many times when our house is a mess.
School and church groups help to keep me busy
And at times with Wheeled Meals business, I'm dizzy.
Summer gardening was pretty well neglected
But we had more crop than we'd expected.

To Maryland we traveled in almost July
Our days with the Cline clan surely did fly.
A square dance in the barn was fun for all
With Mindy thinking she was belle of the ball.
Fireworks on the fourth, a picnic too
Such fun! There was lots for all to do.

To Minnesota we headed in July
How that three week stint did fly.
Cliff spent his time with computers at Carleton
The rest of us had other ideas of fun.
A museum - like house was our home for those days
Quite a change from our own, in many ways.
A perfect location, we enjoyed our time there
Then headed our camper west toward the fair.
We expected to find North Dakota dry and stark
But it was lovely, especially Theodore Roosevelt Park!
We camped in cottonwoods with prairie dogs near
If the kids had decided, we'd have stayed a year.
On to Helena to see art work by Russell
And then to Glacier Park we did hustle.
Brr! Twas cold there - nearly freezing
But oh such scenery! It was pleasing.
In Montana sage brush passed by our door
As we headed for Spokane and Expo '74.
We spent a full day at the fair
Found lots to see and do there.
We saw much of Idaho before we got through
Nice scenery - lots of mountains too.

Through the desert of Utah, twas hotter and dryer
Eighty miles from services - a flat tire.
To Salt Lake City we made it safely
And on Temple Square, found lots to see.
Lovely scenery passed by as we went through Wyoming
As in our sixth week we continued our roaming.
Nebraska seemed a long way across
Glad we weren't making the trip by hoss.
In Amana, Iowa we had some late lunching
Lots of others also, at the colonies munching.
On to West Branch, we then did wend
Toured the Hoover Museum which we recommend.
At the Clines and the Longs we made brief stays
We really enjoyed our vacation days.

Back home, school began and we got in the swing
And busy days our way once again did bring.
Away went our "baby" to first grade this fall
Mindy loves it. She's having a ball.
Losing a tooth was a feat among others--
That's quite a bit earlier than her brothers.

Thad is our vehicle fancier
Has a Honda 50 - but stays near.
Athletics continue to be a great interest
And whatever he's playing, Thad does his best.
Singing in the church choir and paper routes too
Are something both Thad and Andy do.
To support coin collecting, Andy needs "dough"
And likes to make model train sets grow.
Piano lessons this fall Andy began
Without more practise, he won't sound like Chopin.
Some surgery was needed this fall on his toe
But now he's wrestling - tho still not a "pro".

Off to high school Steve happily went
Where he seems to incline toward a scholarly bent.
At school he's now driving (simulated)
Our insurance rates next year? Stimulated!
On driving our Steve is really keen
How can it be that he's nearly sixteen?
Two school choirs he's singing in now
He's interested in sports? And how!

That brings you almost up to date
But now just before it gets too late,
This holiday season we're wishing for you
A blessed Christmas and Happy New Year too!

Thad

Mindy

Marilyn

Cliff

Steve

Andy



We greet you once more near the end of the year
 It's a Christmas highlight from you to hear.
 We've had a good year and hope you have too
 Of the things we have done, we'll enumerate a few. (?)

Off to Washington D C went Cliff in January
 To math meetings whose quality seemed to vary.
 Church basketball and volleyball were his winter sports
 And to BGSU budget meetings went for reports.
 At the state math meetings he gave a talk
 And to United Christian Fellowship often does walk.
 As a little league coach, it wasn't Cliff's season
 But poor coaching surely (?) wasn't the reason!

Sports events and singing have kept Steve busy
 Playing on the tennis team nearly made him dizzy.
 Intramural basketball games were fun
 As was Colt baseball in the summer sun.
 Drivers' education classes began in the fall
 Our new licensed driver's approaching 6 ft. tall.
 As President of the church "group", Steve's serving
 And active sessions result from their planning.

Andy, the senior citizen booster, rode in their parade
 And helped the adopt-a-grandparent program be made.
 Two "aging" conferences he attended (got out of school)
 Those days off made some classmates drool.
 His interests in MO trains & coins has lessened,
 Now it's about stereos our ears he wants to bend.
 Wrestling was a first of the year interest
 And in little league he did his best.
 A paper route he is carrying still,
 He needs that money coming in the till.
 Andy entered the Honor Society in May
 And occasionally still the piano does play.

Heading on to Las Angeles where we did share of it with
With Hawkins & Browns & Twus while there.
In San Diego we joined with others of the family Cline
With 2; there for a week, Diane managed just fine.
The younguns enjoyed the pool, the dogs & the horses
And for several excursions we turned out in full forces.
One day to Tiajuana, to Disneyland another
A mountain climb led by a Noland brother.
The desert? We're glad that we don't there dwell
Well over 100 but the natives said, "cold spell!"
Carlsbad Caverns were amazing, went so deep
Magnificent scenery & paths so steep.
Saw lots of Texas as we headed back east
On Nieman - Marcus specialities our eyes did feast.
In Missouri we stopped to see Sam and his home
And he guided us to Fulton as the next spot to roam
The Churchill Museum we there did reach,
Where Winston made his "Iron Curtain" speech.
On to Champaign - many changes there!
Thank's Professor Ketchum, for the picture we share.
To the Gammons of St. Louis we made a short stop
And certainly enjoyed their fine garden crop.

Home looked great after being st long away
The garden? A neighbor made the weeds away stay.
A cocker spaniel puppy came with us to stay
And into our hearts he's won his way!

At Thanksgiving we had family from Illinois & Mo.
Quite a time they had getting here thru the snow.
In a few days to Illinois we'll be heading
Where flower girl Mindy will be in cousin Sherrie's wed'n.

The best we wish to you next year and every one,
Peace and happiness as we celebrate the birth of God's Son.

Mae-Lynn

Cliff

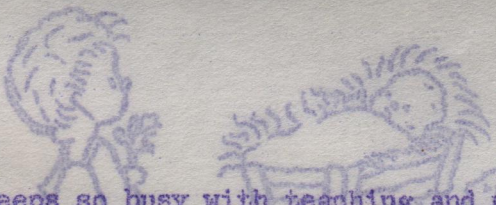
Steve Andy

Shad

Mindy



How fast this Bicentennial year has been fleeting.
 Once again it's time for our Christmas greeting.
 We hope it's been a splendid year for you and yours
 And that the bird of happiness over you soars.
 Mindy, now 8, has turned into a Brownie.
 She's "taking" piano --- when practicing? Frowny!
 Swimming lessons were summer time treats
 Now gymnastics substitute - next summer cleats?
 Thad, the 3rd of our boys, a teenager's become
 And at school has a reputation for being mum.
 "I could stick him with a pin & he wouldn't say a word!"
 He's pleasant and helpful, seldom a grouch.
 Baseball & football consume blocks of his time
 And, unfortunately, so does TV crime!
 Andy made money by detasseling this summer
 And (hurrah!) gave up hopes of being a drummer.
 The clarinet, instead, he took up this fall
 And in marching band had a ball.
 Debating and wrestling keep him busy these days
 And he's hoping to be in one of the plays.
 Tennis and baseball are fun for him too ---
 Seldom is he seen with nothing to do!
 Steve acquired braces early this Spring
 Later, oral surgery had, down his eye teeth to bring.
 Steve's summer income came from Little League umping.
 And parent observing, he's for dumping!
 A letter in tennis he won this Spring ---
 Continues in the high school choir to sing.
 A trophy for tennis he won this fall
 And debates against Andy --- also keeps growing tall.



Cliff keeps so busy with teaching and meetings
That he doesn't often get at letter-type greetings.
At wood carving, he does mighty fine work
And from sports activities he doesn't shirk?
Computer graphing & movie making he does for fun
And 2 large wood projects he's recently done.
Oral surgery for Cliff was scheduled in June --
We hope he won't require that procedure again soon!
Steve, Cliff & I sang in the bicentennial choir ---
'Twas fun and work but we're not for hire.
Church and community activities occupy us all
So for long periods of time we don't sit and loll!
In July to Abingdon we went for pleasant days,
Visited New Salem --- How the sun did blaze!
Twenty five years since high school was celebrated
With a class reunion --- such wonders related!
To Purdue to national meetings of Presby women
The delicious meals weren't always slimmin',
On many a topic we became more aware
And work to make the lot of all people more fair.
In August off to the Ozarks we went
Where a Cline reunion was a big event.
Our numbers are growing with each passing year
And we look forward to this time as dear.
A float trip with ten canoes was fun
And most were dunked fore we were done!
Then school days began for the kids & Cliff
And our bewildered cocker did after them sniff.
Several nice trips to Canada we've made
As visits to Cliff's Mom & others we've paid.
At Thanksgiving the Clines & Gammons came here.
We sure enjoyed having them -- a time of good cheer.

Once again as this favorite season draws near
We think of all those that we hold dear.
And wish them health & happiness in the years ahead
And that by God's guidance we all may be led.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Marilyn

Cliff

Steve

Andy

Shad

Mindy

1978

In January we had the grandpappy of blizzards
And were buried practically up to our gizzards.
Isolation was ours; helicopters were overhead
On errands of mercy-- & keeping us fed.
Several trips to Canada we've made during the year
And always welcome news from there to hear.
To Illinois in June we went to Pat and Rick's wedding
Toward many years of happiness we hope they're heading.
Our family reunion took place the following week.
At a Windy City reception we danced til joints did creak!
To Cedar Point we all but Steve went
Where a fun filled, bone rattling day was spent.
In August to Providence headed just four
(Steve was working, Thad away did soar).
We stayed with friends--what a delight!
Cliff went to meetings on math--even at night.
Andy and I went to Newport for a tour
And saw homes of the rich, not the poor.
We headed north through lovely country
And crossed from Maine into N. B.
Then to Nova Scotia we crossed by ferry--
An efficient way cars and people to carry.
Such opposites we encountered on our trip--
Calm, lovely harbors and tides that did rip,
Sunny, warm days--and those that did rip,
Unisex rest rooms at a campground! for the "hip" (?)
In Quebec, wood carving skills we admired
And our wish to have a wood carving was fired.
'Twas a memorable trip in various ways
And consumed a total of fourteen days.
With friends in New York we did one day tarry
Then--Niagara Falls--end of our itinerary.
Five from Missouri joined us for Thanksgiving
And we all indulged in some leisurely living.
To Illinois for the holidays soon we'll be heading
In spirit we'll be with Bruce & Debby at their wedding.

As a pianist Mindy's becoming proficient
Even tho' her practicing's sometimes deficient.
This fall the 5th graders went to outdoor camp
For a week which, weather-wise, was cool and damp.
Their spirits weren't dampened as tackled new courses
Learning of fish and fowl--and the care of horses.
Mindy was the only girl on her little League team
And when she got a hit, how she did beam!
She's happy to be a Girl Scout member
And enjoyed a troop overnight in the timber.
Thad keeps busy with shovelling or mowing
With the result--his bank account's growing.
When it comes to working, he's sure not a drone.
Anybody out there need a loan?

A plane trip to Baton Rouge in August he made
Where numerous tennis games with friends were played.
A sports enthusiast he continues to be
And would welcome the chance more often to ski.
He and Andy went to soccer camp at BOSU
And became experts at using head and shoe.
They also participated in tennis tournaments
But in the winners' circle made no dents.
Both boys are in the youth group at church
And at church camp like to perch in the birch.
Andy became a full fledged driver this year.
The result? Our insurance became quite dear.
He lost his braces and acquired contacts
And continues to fill his brain with facts.
"Student of the month" he was in October,
As a drummer in band he creates quite a stir.
To Quebec with his French class he went in the Spring
Travelling by train, they enjoyed their fling.
During the year several campuses he's seen--
He thinks he'd like to leave ole Bowling Green.
A trip took Steve to the Grand Ole Opry
And other sights in that area to see.
Steve likes to play bridge and is good at trumping.
During the summer he did softball umping.
As our church sexton he served in the summer
Honing basic skills, such as being a plumber.

He's back to living on campus at FGU
As a sophomore he's hired as a paper grader too
As an elder of our church he's serving a term;
When asked his opinion, his reply is firm.
Sports continue to interest this young man;
He'll be at the new rec center, when he can.
As a tutor to a grade schooler he served part of the year
And thinks his future as a teacher is clear.
As a state math meeting planner of programs Cliff serves
And likes computer drawing--lines and curves.
A new interest has surfaced, which he finds thrilling
Basic wood carving - via numerically controlled milling.
This research work--plus teaching--he enjoys immensely
He continues competitive sports play intensely!
His skill at wood working continues to grow
And at whittling is becoming known as a pro.
As a United Way captain I served this year
Fund raising'll not be my choice of career!
Hospital guild president I'll be in '79
1000 members is our goal for that organization fine.
Gardening wasn't great--a lth of July flood--
The poor plants were buried in water and mud.

As we celebrate this season of our Saviour's birth,
Let's ponder those things He did while on earth.
Let's try harder to live as he showed that we should
'til peace comes to earth and all people are good.

Mari Lynn

Cliff

Steve

Andy

Shad

Mindy

WITH



HELP

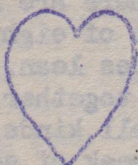
179

US



TO

SERVE



Some events of '79 we now relate
 And hope this year you've been treated great.
 Another year swiftly draws to a close
 Where does the time go? Nobody knows!
 To Galesburg via Antrak I went to an anniversary in June
 25 years since my nursing class - how did it come so soon?
 July brought a very special occasion -
 Mom Long's 80 th birthday - it was fun.
 Many came to wish her the best
 And hope she continues to live with zest.
 In August, to St. Louis for a reunion - weather? Cool!
 So not much use was made of the lovely pool.
 A float trip was an event enjoyed by all
 And during the week there were many games of ball.
 Our trip to the opera turned out to end up wet
 So we returned next night to see it all, you bet!
 'Twas a week all looked forward to & how it did fly,
 Soon over 20 of us found it time to say goodbye,
 Steve's involved in such varied activity
 He's as busy as thy proverbial bee!
 As an elder at church he continues to serve
 And is now youth advisor, you think that takes nerve?
 As youth delegate he went to general assembly in May
 That week in Kansas City was an educational stay.
 Once a week he's a volunteer tutor in a neighboring town,
 When he takes an assignment, he wont let you down.
 Next year he'll serve on United Christian Fellowship board
 And as summer janitor made some money to hoard.
 He also did umpiring & pitched for a team
 Which ended up champs, they were really on the beam.

He moved from the dorm to an apartment this fall
Now with 3 apartment mates, on cooking talents they call.
Andy finished high school & had a record fine
Receiving 2 scholarships, several schools wanted him to sign.
Miami was his choice and he started there in August
Competition's stiff now, no longer are A's a must.
Til he left he was involved with paper routes
And misses wrestling & soccer, there are no doubts.
Sports are fun for this young man of eighteen
In academics toward physics he does lean.
He and Thad had several ventures together -
Several trips to Cedar point in all kinds of weather.
A church retreat in Michigan, a week of soccer camp too
Where both ended up injured before the week was thro'.
For the high school team each played singles in tennis
And had a good season, not many balls did they miss.
Thad got his driver's license when he turned sixteen
Now at transporting his body (& others') he's keen!
Our neighbor's handy man he's beginning to be
And does yard work/ snow shovelling - for a fee.
On a camping trip to michigan he went c the church "group"
By the time they returned, lack of sleep made them droop.
For the first time he competed in cross country this fall
And is now being pursued by a cute little doll.
A trip to the district was earned by his swift feet
He's quite a competitor, doesn't like to be beat.
Mindy, like uncle Fred, took up politics this year
Running for student council secretary against one who's her peer.
She won! and entered the talent show too
At church, in childrens' choir she sings clear and true,
Girl Scouts she enjoys and took me on a camp out
It got below freezing! We're nutty? No doubt!
By piano practising she becomes more expert each day
And at a Springtime recital did play.
On the baseball team she was the only girl --
Had her hair cut short so it wouldn't curl!
In 6 th grade she's serving as lieutenant for safety patrol
And comes up with original writing, funny & droll.
Cliff continues his interests so varied
As a result, there are times when he feel harried.
A conscientious guy he is in all he takes on
To numerous out of town meetings he's gone
A drawing class he's taken this fall
Learning to draw figures, large and small.

To Bismarck he flew to conduct a teacher workshop
Demonstrating computer graphing by phone nonstop!
On several athletic teams he's been a member,
His competitive spirit's still there, that's sure!
Special talent are his carving & wood working
And at household improvements he's never shirking.
I've gotten involved in Girl Scout activities too
As cookie chairman, orders came in for quite a few -
113 cartons filled a lot of our living room space
And keeping track of finances? Anxiety? Yes a trace!
Gardening was a summer time challenge - and fun
Til July flooding came - and of plants left hardly 1
Classes during the year, I've taken a few
What to be when I grow up? I haven't a clue!
Volunteer activities could be almost full time
Maybe I should stay home to clean up dirt & grime.
As hospital guild president, I've had a good year -
Once again missed 1000 members, I fear.
Our fund raising house tour was a rousing success
One every few years is enough, I confess.

Problems abound around the world it seems
When will peace & tranquillity be more than dreams?
It's been a good year for us - we hope for you too
We wish you health & happiness in the year soon new.

er. May you have peace as we celebrate
the Christ child's birth
And may we all feel God's presence
upon this troubled earth.

Mari Lynn Cliff

Steve Andy

Shad Mindy

1980



Christmas is near--time to send out a letter
We hope your past year has been super--or better.
To weddings we've been far and near
To celebrate with those we hold dear.
To St. Louis in April we all did trot
To behold nephew Tom and Nancy tie the knot.
Then brother Sam and sisters dear came here,
The latter made Mindy's bridesmaid dress--I did cheer.
We had a great time for the few days they stayed,
We knew we'd see them soon when goodbyes we bade.
In May to Canada we went to see cousin Janice wed
How royally we were entertained and fed.
In August all but Steve flew from Chicago to L A
The Lawsons saw us off & kept our car during that stay
While at an ocean beach we saw friends formerly from B.C
Now living near L A --were they surprised, so were we!
Niece Elyse and Jeff in a lovely ceremony were wed
With all of us in attendance, including Uncle Fred
Shopping by the harbor, mountain climbing, swimming,
Sightseeing, eating, talking--how the days went skimming
From San Diego we headed back to L A
Visits to "old" friends, to pay.
A wonderful time we had before heading back
And fond memories of those days we'll never lack.
It's been a wonderful year for our Steve
During Spring vacation he did leave
With the mens' chorus to Florida for a series of concerts--
Fine music, as vocal cords the group exerts.
In May, off to Detroit he went for the General Assembly
As youth delegate--chosen as forum moderator-to-be.
August found him at Bloomington--Indiana U.
Assuming important responsibilities new.
The Presbyterian Youth Triennium was then in high gear
And a fine job he did as moderator, we hear.
A scholarship he received to cover fees and books.
An apartment dweller, his own meals he cooks.
A university senior, teaching math is his plan,
A successful career we wish our eldest young man.
Foot surgery in September laid him up for a while,
He's glad to be active again--that's his style.

His life is loaded with activity
Church and school projects keep him busy as a bee.
In January, Andy lost wisdom--teeth, that is
But still has plenty for any kind of a quiz!
This summer he worked as janitor at our church
Next year he thinks for another job he'll search.
A faithful blood donor he's getting to be
With donations already up to three
Acamping trip in late summer with a friend was a treat.
No need to call him when it's time to eat!
He doesn't show it--is tall and thin,
A sophomore in college this year he's in,
The move he made from Miami to BGSU,
Lives in a dorm and finds lots to do.
A supporter of Anderson, he convinced us also--
So much so that we even sent him some dough!
Thad on the cross country team again was a member
And they were in the state meet in early November!
What a nice bunch of young men! What a season!
As past most of their opposition they went breezin'.
At tennis too Thad does a good job
At #1 singles--at stroke or at lob.
Most valuable player--he shared the title--
He also thinks playing soccer is vital.
A racquet stringer he thought to buy was best
And his services his friends now request.
As an umpire he survived the season
And for each call he had a reason.
All the Long men played on the church softball team
And won the league tourney--reality from a dream.
A high school senior--what of Thad's future?
No decision yet--BGSU has some lure.
Mindy's activities are many and varied
Under all of them she sometimes feels buried
Student council rep, 7th grade chorus pres. at school,
Enjoys accompanying songs, as a rule.
Three theatrical productions she's been in this year--
So many accomplishments has this little dear.
BGSU invited residents to be in "The Music Man",
An activity we hadn't counted on in our summertime plan.
Steve & I were in the chorus, Mindy got a part
And intensive rehearsals immediately did start.
It was fun for all and Steve learned to dance,
The choreography was great--deserved a second glance.

Girl Scouting Mindy enjoys more each year
And in tennis and swimming her progress is clear
Cliff continues a busy guy to be
Keeping up with his work and family
He's chairman of the Ohio section math group this year
Which involves meetings far and near.
His committee appointments are many and varied
And sometimes leave him feeling harried.
Teaching and computer graphing are more fun fun
And for the former this year a prize he won--
Math "teacher of the year" from the department was given
It's plain he's made a good choice of how to make a livin'.
You won't find any fat on this guy of near fifty,
He thinks keeping in shape with sports is nifty
His woodworking skills he continues to hone
And his whittled gifts are treasures to own
A requested moped became mine at the first of the year
Now when I need it, you suppose that it's here?
A leather jacket I still haven't acquired
But my Harley Davidson applique is much admired.
A refresher course in nursing I took this Spring
But continue on my stay-at-home fling.
Enjoying volunteer work & the luxury of home making,
Housekeeping? Boo! I like cooking and baking
Bible school teaching of pre schoolers was a challenge
And I went on a summertime gardening binge
Trips to Canada we've made several times during the year
And are glad our Long-Miller relatives are that near
Nine from my family were here for the Thanksgiving season
We all enjoyed food, laughter and teasin'
And look forward to meeting in Illinois soon
To celebrate together and Christmas carols croon
We wish you all well in the year that's ahead
May our lives by the Prince of Peace be led.
May we all be filled by His spirit and love
And look for direction from Him who's above.

The
Longs



Another eventful year is nearly at a close
 I'll tell you of some of our joys and woes.
 A special trip was taken by me in February
 United Airlines to Hawaii did me carry
 Ten days with family dear visiting islands two--
 Such spectacular scenery and so much to do!
 I returned to fog and cold in the drab Midwest
 And was "stuck" at O'Hare Field--it wasn't the best.
 Steve, during that time, went to N.Y. for a meeting
 And he too returned to a foggy greeting!
 In January, as a student teacher, he commuted to Findlay
 And found students & teachers there pleasant and friendly.
 At graduation time, he decided teaching wasn't his goal
 So at BGSU as a grad student (statistics) did enroll.
 For his summer job as CETA supervisor he needed a car
 And that major purchase has carried him far.
 An apartment dweller he's been since the fall
 Enjoyed (with two teams) playing softball.
 A teenager Mindy became this year
 A busy young lady is our youngest dear.
 Practicing piano, accompanying, singing,
 Earning Girl Scout badges, academic honors bringing.
 A member of our church she became in June,
 She assists her dummy, Charley, in crooning a tune.

Thad still likes to run--& play tennis too
Successes at both, he's had quite a few
"Most valuable tennis player" for exceptional plays
The prom and graduation were happy days.
Thad taught tennis on summer days mild/windy
For one of his pupils, he had Mindy.
He umpired some and played American Legion ball
And planned for college & living in Kohl Hall.
On BGU campus he's living this season
But we see him often, which is pleasin'.
Playing "club" soccer was fun for him and Andy
Both think that sport is really dandy.
A BG academic scholarship Andy won in May--
Sure helps when it's time for fees to pay!
He became a one gallon blood donor in November
And of KME-Math honorary-became a member.
A trip to N.Y.C. he took during Spring break
As a paper grader this fall money does make.
As Ohio math section pres, Cliff ended his term--
Enjoyed it but glad it's not a position perm (anent)
In the summer to a "short course" he went to Ohio State
Continues to think computers are great--
writes programs which operate wood milling equipment
His wood working skills for church projects are lent.
Sports continue to be a source of fun for this guy--
Racquetball, softball, tennis--see the balls fly!
Gardening continues to be my happy frustration
First too much rain, then too much sun.
Volunteer activities take up lots of time--
Visiting the jail (not for a crime),
Helping with blood bank, United Way collecting
All activities satisfaction bring.
The death of Cliff's Mom brought sadness in July
Against her foe, cancer, she made a valiant try.
Sorting through her things was hard to do
We were assisted and supported by a wonderful crew.
To Illinois in August for the wedding of nephew Rick
Then to a St. Louis reunion--the days went too quick! (1y)
To Toronto in August we went by train
And our necks at "the sights" did often crane.
We saw & did lots in those few days
But didn't often see the sun's rays.
Woodcarving exhibits (very fine!) we saw while there
And by tour and the CN tower saw that city fair.
Visits we've enjoyed from relatives and friends
And if this year your journey this way wends
We hope you'll stop in and stay with us awhile
Please do! It'll make us smile.
At this season of hope for "peace on earth",
We celebrate the Saviour's birth.
May God bless you and direct you through the new year
And, filled with His presence, draw you near.

Mari Lynn

Cliff

Mindy

Steve

Andy

Thad

1982



Holiday greetings as this year comes to an end
from the six of us here, best wishes we send.
In March on a cruise went Cliff and I
An experience we hope you'll all want to try.
Seven other Cline clan in Miami we met
For a memorable week we won't soon forget.
To Jamaica, Cayman Islands and Mexico we sailed
All the time eating meals, all dieters wailed!
*Twas a shock to return to more cold and snow
And added pounds from head to toe!
To California in August, five of us went by plane.
Andy chose car and bus--to see the terrain.
Coast to coast he went by Greyhound bus
From NYC to San Diego to join us
For a week of reunion/wedding celebrating.
Nephew Curt and Marlena were the ones we were fettering.
Three babies have joined our family since last year
And two more since then--we're growing that's clear.
To Toronto for summer math meetings went Cliff, Mindy and I
Preferring, we thought, to drive rather than fly
Traffic conditions there we thought were wild
By contrast, in BG, they're pretty mild.
Mindy and I enjoyed special events in the city
While Cliff went off to hear speakers witty.
A couple of camping trips we've had during the year
Visiting with relatives there and here.
With singing, sports, wood carving Cliff's time goes flying
And at flea markets is often seen treasures buying.
Ambitious projects Cliff took on this summer
Doing most tasks, including plumber
His carpentry skills stood him in good stead
It's obvious good thinking goes on in that head.
A screened in porch to our home he added
And with furniture and carpet it's now padded--
Avocations continue to be varied.
His head over computers often is buried.
Lovely wood pieces by computer he mills
Making all sorts of surfaces--valleys and hills.
Oh yes, he still does teach,
And students needing help find him easy to reach.
Our sons, all three, are enrolled at BGSU
Our part in keeping up enrollment, we're trying to do.
As a graduate student, Steve finds lots to do
Working in the consulting lab--and studying too.
He and Kim announced their engagement in May,
And June 18th is the date for their wedding day.
We hope you can join us for that happy occasion,
A momentous event in the life of Son One.
A master's in statistics in May Steve hopes to win--
Then look for a position, his career to begin.
Working for CETA was Steve's summer job,
If he works ther no longer, he'll not sob.

As a carpenter's helper Andy spent summer days
Helping his dad--yes, 'twas a job that pays.
They shingled the roof & then worked on the porch
on days when the earth the sun tried to scorch.
He started off travelling the end of July
Never regretting his choice not to fly.
From California, up north headed our Andy
Hiking around Lake Louise he thought was dandy
He stopped here and there to see wondrous things
And pleasures of the backpacking, praises he sings.
Toward physics & math he seems naturally bent
For the math department he's a teaching assistant.
His graduation is drawing near
Then what to do? His choice isn't clear.
Thad, trying out for the soccer team, got a ligament tear
An injury which required surgical repair
On September 3, when he returned to his room
An ankle to hip cast did his leg entomb.
Gloom filled his room for a couple of days
'til his sunny disposition reestablished those rays.
On crutches he's been and will be so 'til Jan.
At which time he'll throw them in the trash can! (?)
Tennis lessons in the summer he gave for the city
And painted the house to make it look pretty.
Some evenings were spent umping--Steve too
They played on a city team--'twas fun to do.
All of the Long guys played for the church team--
Mindy kept score--when we won, we did beam.
Mindy, now in ninth grade, is a busy young girl
With so many activities her life does whirl.
Music, scouting, church activities, sports
Excelling as a student & on volleyball courts.
She assisted at Safety Town & Bible School
And was a part time helper at the swimming pool.
Accidents via horse and bike Mindy's had this year
We were really concerned about our little dear.
A moped license was a this year acquisition
And contact lenses now correct her vision condition.
In July to Presbyterian Womens' meetings I went to Purdue
Much strength & enthusiasm is needed when that 6000 person crew!
Hospice volunteering has been one focus this year
Even got an \$8000 grant from Presbyterians, we hear!
In the guild musical review, I sang in the chorus
The partisan audience loyally applauded for us.
The garden didn't do well because of the drought
But next Spring i'll be ready for another bout.
The missile race escalates but we wish for peace
And long for the day when wars & strife cease.
Let's pray for peace to be within each one
As we remember again the birth of God's Son.

Cliff

Had
Andy Mindy Steve

Mindy

In July to a special wedding in N.Y. we went to BG's, tramping Ithaca Gorges was an event. On to Washington we travelled to visit Sam & Jo So many things to see and places to go! To computer graphics meetings Cliff went in July

To hear talks and the latest of gadgetry try. A key (Phi Beta Kappa) was acquired by Andy. At getting honors & awards, he's very handy. Off backpacking to Colorado he went in July (He'd rather stay on the ground & not fly). Since August he's attended classes out west whatever his choice, we wish him the best. We look forward to having him here for 2 weeks Then back to Berkeley, more knowledge he seeks. Thad, a junior sports management major at BGSU Helped with sports event promo this fall--for him, new.

For sports, on his knee he wears a brace Which enables him, as formerly, to dive & race! The car buying bug bit him recently And now he's the owner of a Mazda GLC. He worked in the summer & now, the rec center. Since fall, with 6 others, he's a house renter. Mindy completed senior lifesaving at the pool And shortly thereafter, entered high school. She was on the track team in the spring And in fall, playing tennis was her thing. A varsity letter she won for her efforts As she went out & "burned up the courts". On the "A" honor roll her name is seen. A lovely young lady, this gal, now fifteen. She's sensible, mature, knows her own mind. We surely hope there are many of her kind. It's been a busy, happy time for us here Now we wish you glad holidays, a bright new year.

We celebrate Christ's birthday & pray that wars will cease And ask the Lord to grant us all serenity & peace.

The Gorges



Holiday greetings it's time to send now Each year passes more quickly, and how! 1983 brought a change in our family life As we added a daughter, a sister, a wife. In June Thad & Mindy got a big sis (a red head, even)

As Kim Wiley became the bride of our Steven. Friends & relatives came from far and near To hear their vows spoken "loud and clear". A Cline family reunion was held the next week And from Cedar Point rides & sports our bones did creak.

Divergent activities were enjoyed by all And all were present at the dinner bell's call! Such helpful folk, 'twas a pleasure to have them As they welcomed to the Cline family our Kim. To math meetings in Denver at the first of the year

Went Cliff (wishing he'd brought his blizzard gear). In February, I flew to Tallahassee Meeting dear ones 5, staying in a house (classy). On a desolate gulf island, we spent nearly a week Eating dozens of oysters & walking, shells to seek. Graduation for two sons was an event in May Andy (math & physics), Steve (statistics)--a momentous day.

Taking exams for his master's was traumatic for Steve And passing them, a sigh of relief he did heaven! To the east he flew for a job interview But really hoped to be an instructor at BGSU. He's teaching there now & taking one class. Kim's a full time student, an ambitious lass. In operations research, Steve won a nice prize Much success in his field we hope he'll realize.

CHRISTMAS '86

A traveling bunch we've become -(like most)
Via various transport and from coast to coast.
Kim and Steve to Palm Beach went in January
For business and pleasure and pleasant weather - very!
In February Mindy and I to San Diego flew
For a week with the Nolands crew
Opulence and poverty we saw during that week
Why for some is future rosy and others bleak?
During March spring break to Hocking Hills went four
Andy, Mindy, Cliff & I interesting spots to explore.
In April Andy motorcycled SW to visit relatives and friends
During his travels traversing slopes and bends.
After a few days home, he headed North & East
For many adventures before his travels ceased.
In May he sold his "Henry" Honda (to a good home)
Since he'd soon be leaving - far away places to roam.
To Aunt Mary's 80th birthday party we headed Ontario way
To celebrate in April - special lady, special day.
In early June Cliff went to New Jersey via Amtrack
To learn about robotics and see friends before heading back.
In mid July back to Ontario headed Cliff and I
For a lovely week-end - mostly under a rainy sky.
A performance at Stratford festival was a treat
Along with Pinery camping - the Grey reunion made it complete.
Toward mountain scenery, four compers headed in late July
Kim and Steve, with less time, elected to fly.
Our family reunion was held at cousin Lila's in Boulder
With lots of space multitudes of people her house could holder.
Rocky Mountain National Park was a highlight in several ways
But just being together made a weekful of special days.
White water rafting was a first time experience for most
And nobody "spilled", to our luck we propose a toast!
Pioneer Village, Minden, Nebraska we recommend to all
With interesting exhibits of those answering the wild west call.
Later in August again to Ontario we went
This special time with Long relatives was spent.
In October to see beautiful scenery was our goal
As to Brown county, Indiana with our camper we did roll.
Nashville was crowded, visiting friends a delight
But the fall was late - scenery not "out of sight".
Indianapolis was our Thanksgiving gathering place
At Sam & Jos' new location, where there's lots of space.
A central location it proved to be

For numerous Cline clan - nearly twenty three!
Substitute teaching involved Andy some days -
Very hard work and stress - for what it pays!
For a student with vision problems, he did some reading
And answered the Red Cross blood needs was heeding.
A karate course he enjoyed a lot.
His teaching abilities by the Peace Corps were finally sought.
A "so long" party for him in June we held
After which he headed to Togo, new ties to weld
Living on the equator under West African skies
Teaching math in French to high school kids - mostly guys.
Mindy graduated in June with a high school record fine
She enjoyed the softball season - putting ball to pine.
Wisdom teeth pulling took place in July -
Temporarily swollen and not too spry.
Now on the BGSU campus she lives in a dorm
Trudging to classes in sun or storm.
Playing in softball tournaments was lots of fun for Thad
He's a steady, spectacular player who seldom, if ever, gets mad.
A happy young man, a chaser of gloom
As his ball teams prosper, he'll need a trophy room.
At the BGSU rec center he manages the pro shop
A popular facility with each student crop.
Serious knee surgery he had on Halloween day
And now is working hard to get his knee "ready to play".
In August Kim and Steve's bank account sank
Due to a house purchase - (they and the bank).
To California flew Kim in September
Visiting relatives there - a trip to remember!
Another big event - the birth of Clifford Andrew
On November 25, he made his debut.
Proud parents are they, as well they may be
We're not at all biased, what a precious baby!
Cliff and I keep busy, occasionally dealing with pains and aches
No teaching next semester as an improvement leave he takes.
To Europe we plan to travel awhile
And meet Andy there - the thought makes us smile!
We're grateful to be active and well
And thankful in this land of freedom to dwell.
Now once again we celebrate a special Birth
Wishing "Good will to all people and peace on the earth."

The Longs

CHRISTMAS 1987

Nineteen eighty eight waits just around the bend--
Time to send greetings before year's end
Cliff's sabbatical freed him from teaching from Jan. to August
But during that time, his brain WASN'T gathering dust!
In Springtime we were Europe bound, for business & pleasure
Meeting Andy there was part of the lure.
The three of us travelled by car, ship and train
And saw beautiful, interesting terrain.
Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, France--
We enjoyed their cuisine, museums, theaters, dance.
Cliff met with colleagues in cities there
Their mutual interests to share and compare.
A visit to "the museum" in Dachau on a wet, cold day
Matched the somber environs, gloomy and grey.
The scenery of Switzerland, beautiful flowers, homes tidy
Following a "wanderweg", we expected to see Heidi!
Unforgettable memories--the days did fly.
Andy headed back to Africa; another goodbye.
A week in England was then spent by us two
Mainly in London, we found lots to do.
To Wisconsin for a Cline reunion we went in July
'Twas a scenic location with Lake Geneva nearby.
A variety of activities were enjoyed by those present--
Fishing, swimming, boating, antiquing were pleasant.
Cliff & I headed to Canada for a special wedding
Before on to Albany, New York we were heading.
A computer conference kept Cliff occupied
While I to experience all of Albany tried.
Along the Hudson we biked for many a mile
With the thermometer showing 90 plus on the dial!
Ballet & Shakespeare we absorbed in every pore;
That lovely area offers culture galore.
An Ohio bike rally was fun for us two
A new world is opening of such things to do.
Trips from 8-96 miles were available there;
The SHORTER trips seemed most appropriate to this pair!
Just before Christmas, off to Africa we two will fly
Where conditions are expected to be hot and dry.
An exciting adventure we expect the trip to be
Meeting Andy's friends and viewing African scenery.

Mindy's now a sophomore at BGSU
Studying, working but having fun too.
This summer she worked at a hamburger joint--
Doesn't see it as a career--at least not at this point!
Being an elementary teacher remains her goal;
Successful we think she'll be in that role.
She works in the rec center--started this fall
And likes living with the folk at Darrow Hall.
To a different abode Thad made a move this year
And bought a Nova--and likes it, that's clear!
Sports continue to be important in his life;
This year no injuries required a surgeon's knife!
He enjoys managing the rec center "pro" shop;
Soon grad school begins, his life will be non-stop.
In early December to Las Vegas he flew;
The winnings he brought back from gambling were few!
Andy's in the second year of his Peace Corps teaching
With projected close of service in July he'll be reaching.
An experience with malaria he recently had
A frightening, delirious time it was--BAD.
Lots of new friends and experiences abound;
With a softball team he's done some travelling around.
It's great having Kim and Steve nearby--
AND that cuddly, cute little guy!
As Mommy and Daddy, they have lots of fun,
Especially now that Clifford is one!
They both want to introduce their dear
To Uncle Andy in summer next year.
Cliff stayed with us while his folks took a trip this fall.
We don't like to brag (?) but he IS a doll!
His mommy spends lots of time with him & it shows
We enjoy watching him progress as he grows.
Steve's done more travelling in connection with statistical work
From such "sadistical" jobs, he sure doesn't shirk.
May God's blessings abound for you in the coming year.
We think of you often, relatives and friends dear.

Love from
The Longs

1988



Already December? How the months have flown by!
Once again it's time to send our Christmas "hi".
A year ago, we were gone on a Togolese tour
Would we go back? No! (Yes, I'm sure!)
Little children came up to touch our white skin
And ask for presents from Andy's "rich" kin.
By their standards, we are indeed wealthy
And it's far easier in the U.S. to remain healthy.
Rental car rates we thought were quite high--
'Til we travelled the roads-- then we knew WHY.
On Christmas, SOMEBODY'S revenge hit us, 'twas clear
As we trotted to the privy in the rear.
Such accommodations are a luxury for most Togolese
(We have new appreciation for modern facilities!)
Andy's still there teaching math to Togolese young folk
Breathing isn't easy due to burning fields' smoke.
He likes it there, has lots of Peace Corps & Togolese friends--
Looks like 'twill be next July when his service ends.
He was home this summer for a six week stay
And enjoyed his visit and some ball did play.
A darling baby boy has been added to our fold--
A cute little redhead, a precious bundle to hold.
Samuel Allan arrived on November 13
And 'most every time we see him, he's sleeping serene.
Mommy Kim says we SHOULD come to see him at night.
(Grandparental advantage--get to sleep til daylight!)
Two year old brother Cliff seems to accept Sam well.
We hope they'll be good buddies--time will tell.
Little Cliff is cute and smart as can be
His song & rhyme repertoire fills us with glee.
Kim enjoys being home with her little boys,
Reading and singing to them--& picking up toys.
All but Steve made it to the reunion in Mo.
Instead to a conference in South Bend he did go.
He's been away often on business trips
And in summertime, frequently a softball he grips.
Others in the family enjoy that sport too
With 4-5 members on the church team crew.
Thad served as the manager this year.
The remaining members go to cheer--
From a trip to New Orleans Thad just returned.
We hope at the conference some new things he learned.
Late this month to Colorado he'll go
To be with good friends, enjoy skiing and snow.

By the end of December, a senior Mindy will be.
Her goal is to teach (elementary).
She coached high school softball (JV) in the spring,
Spurring on "her girls" to hit run and fling.
To the Smokies with friends on a camping trip
She went--hills to climb & water in which to dip!
Cliff was honored for teaching excellence
And works on articles he hopes to see in print.
As Ohio MAA governor he takes 2 trips a year
To Phoenix in Jan. will go my husband dear.
To the summertime meeting, I went too.
Brown U. in Providence is where he was due.
From there we went on a bike/hostel trip
And a lot of Cape Cod saw, between bike & ship.
On the Battleship Massachusetts we stayed one night
To be there during battle would give one a fright!
The ferry to Nantucket was sunny & mild
But on our return, it was wet & wild!
When we got to the car, there was a missing pane.
Nothing was taken; a breakin in vain.
As we travelled home, we enjoyed scenery fine
And stopped to tour a "down under" coal mine.
In Jan. to a mini reunion in California I flew
To be present for the wedding of the 3rd of the Gammon crew
We wish Nancy & Dudley a happy married life
Filled with blessing & free from strife.
A special birthday celebration we went to in May
With 2 special aunt honorees--quite a day!
All but Mindy made it to Ill. for that event.
How quickly that time with special people went.
St. Louis was our summer family reunion site.
Our numerous cars caused neighborhood blight!
Trips we took to Purina farm and the zoo
And with many around, found plenty to do.
With all the good food, our waistlines grew--
Good ting I left early to get to Purdue!
National Presbyterian Women held a 5 day meeting.
In an 8th floor dorm room, there was too much heating!
Summer heat!! Should we get air conditioning? A pool?
We chose the former & then it got cool!
The drought dried up garden and field
And really cut back on a bountiful yield.
BG family of the year we were named in November
An honor we will long remember.
Our blessings are many, our problems are few.
We hope the same thing can be said of YOU.
To all, "Merry Christmas", then "Happy New Year".
God's blessings rest on you and those you hold dear.

CHRISTMAS 1988 9



MATTHEW 2:1-2
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

With an out-of-country trip we started the year
To Canada to celebrate with relatives dear.
Cliff, in January, flew to Phoenix for math meetings
And with other math governors received greetings.
In February, to Chicago we wended our way
For a visit with good friends for a weekend stay.
To Ann Arbor we went, along with Cline guests
For a February party to wish Esther Case our best.
Oglebay Park, Wheeling, W.Va. we journeyed with good neighbors
The end of the school year--a rest from our labors.
With other church members, we went on a thru-the -night trip
In rented blue & grey vans to Port Gibson, Mississip.
Southern hospitality we experienced as we hammered & painted
And heat & humidity weren't too bad--noone fainted!
Norma Jones took us on a tour of Alcorn U.--
A trip to Vicksburg battlefield was enjoyable too.
A camping trip with Canadian cousins was our pleasure
Featuring two reunions--family gatherings we treasure.
Then off to Indiana for a Brown Co. reunion of Clines
For a week of relaxin', midst wildlife and pines.
Little guys we'd not seen before were there to meet
Canoeing, hiking, swimming, shopping (& lots to eat!).
Cliff & I in August flew to Boulder--scenery great
'Twas a good choice for mathematicians to meet in that state.
A highlight was a trip to Kansas to see Aunt Vera--
A wonder at 96--couldn't be dearer.
Other weekend trips we've enjoyed this fall--
Thanksgiving in Indianapolis on Cline folk to call.
Our two little grandsons give us much pleasure.
We think they're part of the national treasure.
cliff, at 3, is a verbal little guy--
Good manual dexterity--driving he'd like to try!
sammy, at 1, is full of smiles and good cheer;
Perhaps he'll choose a comedic career.
They keep Kim busy; she enjoys her men
And jazzercise, gardening, visiting kin.
To San Francisco in July went she and Steve
With 2 little darlings they did us leave.
We had a good time and think they did too.
Grandparenting is a fun thing to do!
Steve's travelled quite a bit in the year past.
To New Jersey and back in a day--now that's fast!

A promotion at work made him glad.
Happily, good days outnumber the bad.
Torn ankle ligaments ended his basketball "career".
He'll continue other sports, that's clear.
To the Peace Corps and Africa, Andy said goodbye
Returning to the U.S. of A. in July
Bringing back Anna, a Togolese friend.
They decided their two lives into one to blend.
Puerto Rico was the scene of their October wedding,
Soon to U. of Arizona they'll be heading.
Thad keeps up a busy life style,
Especially likes sports & drives many a mile.
To Oklahoma to be a groomsman he flew,
Planned an "Olympics"--lotsa fun things to do.
To Colorado he'll soon go for some skiing
Then back to flat Bowling Green he'll be fleeing.
For Mindy, it's been a year busy,
Activity packed--almost makes one dizzy.
She was high school coach for girls tennis and softball.
Elementary students "Miss Long" her did call
As she did her "methods" & then student teaching--
Her own car, an apartment--new experiences she's reaching.
Her graduation will be an event of December.
Next year's event will be even greater to remember.
In July she'll become a bride,
With family and friends at her side.
We hope she & Mark will stay nearby
As their teaching careers they start to ply.
For church "painting parties", Cliff's been right there
And made a sound system cabinet--what talents to share!
On the session he's agreed to serve a term.
Still active at sports--keeps nice 'n firm.
We went to his 40th reunion of high school days.
Organizers of such deserve our praise!
Recently recognized for 30 years service at BGSU
He's in the forefront of learning & teaching things new.
It's been a busy year for me too.
How could one get bored? There's so much to do.
For good health, good friends and family dear
And freedom. Thanks for another good year.
We praise the Lord for the gift of His Son.
May there be peace on earth for everyone.

Cliff
Andy
Steve
Thad
Kim
Marilyn
anna
Sammy
Mindy
Lil Cliff



1990



1990 for us was the year of The Wedding
An occasion toward which for years we've been heading.
Mark & Mindy played on the same Little League team,
And since, have held each other in high esteem.
Through high school & college, their friendship has grown,
And last year they made their wedding plans known.
Dear friends and family came for this event in July.
Preparation for a family reunion too made the days fly.
On July 14 in Presby Church, Mindy stood as a bride,
With her groom (and best friend) at her side.
The reception which followed seemed fun for all,
As we danced, ate & drank--had a ball in the hall.
A week of activity followed that day,
For most of the Cline clan were able to stay.
Over 30 of us spent a day at Cedar Point--
All agreed it's a classy, lotsa fun joint.
We went to the zoo, "Carousel", ball games, canoeing.
With many dears here, there was always something doing.
Mark & Mindy have teaching jobs in Fremont.
So neither has to make a traveling jaunt.
Mark teaches math & coaches jv basketball.
Mindy worked at Heinz & subbed--til she got a teaching call!
As a 2nd grade teacher she's just been installed.
So lots of teaching aids has off to school hauled.
Thad to Colorado for a skiing trip went--
Days spent with friends--a great annual event.
He continues his job at BGSU rec center,
And continues to be an apartment renter.
A course toward his master's he's taking this fall.
Softball playing? 111 games played in all!!
To Anaheim he headed the 3rd of December
For a conference & look at equipment to limber.
To the city parks & recreation board he was appointed this year,
Where he's not averse to expressing an opinion clear.
Sky diving in Illinois was an experience rare--
Not one for which we others would care!
On New Year's Day, Andy flew to Florida fair
To pick up his motorcycle which he'd left there.
Then he jumped on for an Arizona trip,
In mighty cool weather (and with skies that did drip!).

As research assistant & grad student, he seems content.
Anna's found a courtesy clerk job to help pay the rent.
Her English proficiency improves every day.
With working & classes, she busy does stay.
They came for the wedding to join in the fun,
With immigration personnel, they had problems none.
While here, they visited friends on the east coast
And a Tucson visit from Steve were happy to host.
Andy successfully passed qualifying exams;
All sorts of knowledge into his head he crams!
Steve, Kim, Cliff & Sam went to Tucson to see
The Long desert dwellers, Anna & Andy.
With trips to the desert, Mexico and more
The whole Long group had fun galore.
Cliff has been enjoying his first year
Preschool--where his teacher's a dear.
His mom & dad & brother are happy
To receive his artwork, so snappy!
Sammy is talking & running around.
Near his brother is where he is found.
The two play well together, it's true.
Mommy has little disciplining to do.
With Kim's jazzercise & Steve's volleyball,
The whole family keeps fit, one and all.
In Jan., to Louisville Cliff & I did our way wend,
For MAA mtgs & a governor's conference to attend.
In March, Cliff & I flew to L. A. --
He to a conference - I with Nolands to stay.
Cliff in June to Mississippi with others in church vans,
While I stayed home to continue with wedding plans.
His carpenter skills were well utilized there.
He's "Mr. Fix It", fellow workers declare.
He helped Steve build a "fort" and did projects here.
A talented fellow, my spouse of thirty three year (s)!
To MAA meeting in Columbus he went in August--
Another governor's meeting there was a must.
I went to Chautauqua with a King's Daughter's group--
Many activities, including a Niagara Falls loop.
There were lectures & concerts & opera--such culture!
We ate up the good food--no need for a vulture!
We keep busy with gardening sports, "jobs" at church
For other responsibilities we're not in search!
Peace, love and joy we wish you this season,
As we all remember that Christ is The Reason.

Mari Lynn & Cliff

1991

This palindromic year has gone zippin' by
Each ensuing one seems faster to fly.
Jan. 1 was the date of the death of Cliff's brother.
A lung cancer diagnosis we wish for no other.
A visit with Ed's family in January was made;
Twas pleasant reacquainting before goodbyes were bade.
A reunion with friends, a Yosemite stay,
San Francisco's lovely vistas--city on the bay.
Cliff even went to meetings to listen & learn
The gulf war had started on the day of our return.
A trip to Pokagon in Feb.--we met Chicago friends.
Down the toboggan slide we zoomed--a path with no bends.
To Washington in March, we met at Sam & Jo's.
'Twas warmer in that area--nearly needed summer clothes!
The Cline kids & kinfolk to Williamsburg did journey
To "see the sights" & have a Liverpool rummy tourney.
On our way home, near the Ohio line,
The odometer turned past each number nine!
May found us planting our garden plot;
Even with drought, it produced a lot.
For 2 fulfilled weeks, we had 2 grandsons small
While their folks in Hawaii were having a ball.
Good help was provided by uncles & an aunt.
'Twas a hot time, nearly made us all pant.
For a June weekend, we travelled to Wooster.
Light opera productions were a musical booster.
We toured Amish country & on Canton did call;
Saw McKinley's memorial & the Pro Football Hall.
In July to Illinois we wended our way
For a 40th class reunion and with the Clines to stay.
On to Brown County for a reunion of Clines--
Now in numbers nearly the varieties of Heinz!
Lots of activities were engaged in in our week there
Our intention to return we did declare.
On to Minnesota Cliff and I then departed
Where a St. Olaf conference for Cliff soon started.
'Twas pleasant to return where for 3 summers we stayed--
Home of Carleton, St. Olaf's & a Jesse James raid!

Mark & Mindy in Fremont continue their teaching--
Mark junior high math students is reaching.
Mindy's "moved up" to fourth grade from second;
Not a great deal of difference, she reckoned.

As a basketball coach, Mark had a good season;
Mindy's softball & volleyball teams were mostly pleasin'.
Between them, they played on 3 BG softball teams.
The road to BG they could drive in their dreams!
A house search for Thad in March did begin.
In May he purchased, in July he moved in!
The home, a small ranch, has treated him fine
With a bountiful harvest from his own tomato vine.
Working at the Rec Center, he continues taking classes
Concentrating on a master's, as well as pretty lasses!
Andy & Anna from Tucson took off in July;
He to Ohio, she to Togo did fly.
After 8 weeks there, she returned with her son.
Much red tape needed cutting, it wasn't all fun.
Tchapo started kindergarten after just 2 days here.
With no English background, 'twas hard to "get in gear".
On return to Tucson, Andy headed off on his bike
For a Wyoming NSF conference--a good place to hike.
Back to Tucson for knee surgery lined up for him there.
Results? Not too good--wish he had a good pair.
Kim & Steve this summer added a deck to their home
And, as previously noted, to Hawaii did roam.
With softball & biking, they got exercise
(Not counting keeping up with 2 little guys).
Besides "statisticianing", Steve taught a BGSU course
Which, on some occasions, caused him some remorse.
Kim's treasurer of cliff's co-op nursery school.
cliff & sammy took lessons at the BGSU pool.
Health & happiness we wish to you
May peace & stability become apparent in '92.
May this be the year the Prince of Peace holds sway
As we remember, "Whose birthday is it anyway?"

Maria-Louise & Cliff Long



1992

Health and happiness we wish you at this year's end
Once again it's time for annual greetings to send.
Just before Christmas, a car deal made us smile--
Our '92 Olds wagon's taken us many a mile.
In March (Spring break) to Florida we flew
To join relatives five & a cruise ship crew.
Nausau days were a change from Ohio weather--
Palm trees, white sand, shells to gather.
In May an elderhostel was our destination
Killarney Provincial Park offered a splendid vacation.
Georgian Bay scenery was spectacular as we hiked and canoed,
Studied the area, the brain, ate great food.
In June to Albany we headed for art/math
Where Cliff even tried a stonecarver's path.
A mathematical surface he's made in alabaster
And now one in marble he's planning to master.
Moderator of Presbyterian Women's my new role;
Maumee Valley's "my" area--pledging's one goal.
PW synod gathering brought 400 to BGSU--
Information, inspiration--lots to do!
Then off to Kentucky with the church mission trip
For constructing, painting, saws made boards rip.
The Clines reunited at Brown County in July
With thirty seven present, how the days did fly!
Most of the Long/Gedeons are involved in classes--
Studious people those lads and lasses!
In school on all levels our folks are attending--
Some listening and others doing ear bending.
Mindy & Mark are teaching and "did" summer studies
Enjoying both, those long time ole buddies.
Sammy's in pre-school, cliff's in kindergarten;
While Tchapo first grade is startin'.
Thad got his master's, Anna's near her GED
Andy continues to work on a Ph.D.

Cliff is planning to retire (part-time) in May
(So we can travel and just loaf and play!).
Kim and Steve a good year have had.
Their youngsters' antics mostly make them glad.
Quite a lot of travelling Steve's done through work.
On squash courts and softball fields he continues to lurk.
In July they acquired a doggie named Abby.
Taking her for walks will prevent being flabby.
They've just become owners of a spacious new van
And enjoy frequent gettogethers with the Long & Wiley clan.
Andy, Anna, Tchapo are still in Arizona heat
Which, most of the time, they think is neat.
To Ohio they came to beat the summertime heat,
For the family reunion and with friends to meet.
Cool and rainy they found it here--
Our greenest summer in many a year.
Anna and Tchapo joined me in gardening fun,
Enjoyed the zoo and Cedar Point in the sun.
Thad finally finished his stint in grad school,
So he bought a car he thinks is real cool.
He drives the Saturn to his new job at BGSU--
Intramurals and sport clubs make free moments few.
Some fun in Las Vegas he'll have for BG's bowl game,
Colorado skiing with friends will surely bring the same.
He's met a young woman who's quite the steady date;
Five months with Debbie (currently in New York state).
Thad's furnace quit same time as his Nova clutch failed.
"This is getting expensive", he sorrowfully wailed.
This month Mark & Mindy move into their house
With a new inhabitant to join them (no, not a mouse).
A baby! In Feb. we'll be grandparents again--
Til then Mindy keeps teaching, no longer thin.
Math and fourth graders they've been teaching this year
And as coaches, for their teams enthusiastically cheer.
Best wishes to all at this glad Christmas season
We hope that in all ways for you 'twill be pleasin'.
We rejoice once again in the birth of the Savior,
May the world be blessed with peaceful behavior.

Dear Aunt Ethyl, (Whoops! Ethel)

We had another great year and are enjoying the holiday season.
We hope to get up to see you early next year and hear of the
activities of you and your family. We know where to find you, but don't
have your address. Best wishes to you for a healthy & happy '93.
Love, Marilyn & Cliff

Mr 2

1993



Once again we're approachin' the holiday season
 (Keeping in mind that Christ is the reason).
 We hope the year has been a good one for you--
 You're happy 'n healthy and have lots to do.
 In January a southern site to travel we chose--
 Indianapolis--for a weekend at Sam & Jo's!
 With 5 Cline "kids" (& spouses) 'twas a lively time;
 Game playing was fun--some with mime.
 In February, Alexis Lyn arrived on a blizzardy day
 With Mindy & Mark as parents, she's found a great place to stay!
 Beautiful eyes, not much hair (strawberry blonde)
 Feb. 16 was when this angel's birth day dawned.
 On March 30, Mindy ceased her maternity leave
 (And her sub a sigh of relief did heave?).
 When Mark's basketball season came to an endin',
 He helped with softball...loves sports...no pretendin'!
 While gaining a grandchild in Fremont, we lost 2 in BG
 As Kim, Steve, Cliff, Sammy moved to Cincinnati!
 A new challenge has Steve as a statistician at IRI
 So off to the Queen City in February they did hie.
 They looked at homes in Cinci & bought one right away
 But it wasn't available to move in till May.
 It's spacious and there are lots of playmates,
 A feature the family celebrates.
 They've joined a church there & Kim's in a choral group--
 And spends lots of time on the chauffeuring loop.
 Cliff's in first grade & likes reading a lot.
 Sammy enjoys nursery school (& sprinklers when it's hot).
 All 3 of our grandsons had chickenpox this year.
 The fact that they won't get it again they cheer.
 Tucson remains home for part of our crew
 Where they like the weather and the view.
 Tchapo likes being in second grade
 And a variety of sports has played.
 As a result, Andy too is a coach.
 "Do your best; have fun", that's his approach.
 Andy spends time on his dissertation too
 And hopes in May or August he'll be through.
 May his "dream job" be awaiting him then;
 Maybe they'll even move nearer their kin!
 At the U. of A. hospital, Anna's a volunteer
 An activity she enjoys and she brings good cheer.

Handwritten signature

Thad's been busy as can be--
Is glad Debbie's now back in BG.
He has a lovely office in the new field house
And is rarely heard to grouse.
He's flown from Washington to southern Cal
Visiting relatives and many a pal.
Two Lab puppies he's acquired--Truman 'n Lincoln
They'll keep him even busier, we're thinkin'!
In April we went to Traverse City
Where cherry trees in bloom were oh so pretty.
Synod Presbyterian Women were meeting there
We sidetripped to dunes--Sleeping Bear.
To Colorado Springs we all went in July.
The Arizonians drove, we others did fly.
Thirty seven family members were there in all
Some of the short ones are now getting tall!
The motel pool really got a workout
And the many attractions we all did scout--
A real live rattler, Garden of the Gods, Pike's Peak--
Of many of these wonders we often speak.
To Wooster's Light Opera we went in July
For productions making one laugh...and cry.
To Chautauqua, N.Y. in late summer we drove,
Plans for a next-year-trip there we wove.
Camping 'n canoeing in Indiana was fun.
Shipshewana, Gene Stratton Porter's home were then "done".
This fall to Indy then Galesburg we wended our way
To celebrate with Louise on a special birthday.
It's ironic to say Cliff retired this year;
He's never worked harder, poor dear!
For 2 more years, one semester he'll teach
But has no desire to retire to a beach!
He's currently making a math surface in marble!
His stonecutter skills make one marvel.
King's Daughters & Presbyterian Women keep me occupied--
At times I think too many activities I've tried!
As we celebrate the birthday of the Prince of Peace,
Though wars continue, let's pray that they'll cease.
A blessed Christmas we wish you & a healthy '94.
We hope for you good things will be in store.

Marilyn & Cliff

CHRISTMAS 1994

What a fall! Lots of days warm and sunny
(The bees this December were still making honey!
These days are a bonus...but we know they won't last,
Any moment now, we'll feel winter's icy blast....

Which reminds us that Christmas is near
A time to exchange news with those who are dear.
In January to Cincinnati Cliff and I went
To the winter math meetings and to observe An Event

A meritorious service award from the MAA
For the Ohio Section, it made his day!
This award goes to an Ohioan every 3 years.

Congratulations, Cliff, best wishes, three cheers!!
Then to Louisiana we headed for an Elderhostel week
More knowledge (and warm weather) to seek.

Cajun culture, Mardi Gras were topics two
And The War for Southern Independence. Whew!

Visiting family and friends along the way
Made for a most enjoyable stay.

Two trips to Indianapolis we made in the winter
To Jo and Sam's, then to a motel center
With Cline brothers and sisters (and outlaws) dear
We had our first reunion of the year.

With Gresham Church friends we had lotsa fun
Great weather too--tennis played in the sun!

In May, we off to Arizona flew
New things to see and learn and do.

An elderhostel (Prescott) in red rock land...
Where hiking and birding & lectures were planned.

To Flagstaff & saw the Cline Library there.
(We must have rich relatives somewhere!)

Then to Tucson to visit Anna, Tchapo and Andy
And see some of the wonders of desert sandy...

The Desert Museum, Bisby Copper Mine,
Colossal Cave, cactus blossoms looked fine.

To Des Moines went Cliff on the church mission trip;
Repairing flood damaged homes required boards to rip!

He went in June, I followed in July
To Ames with 5 others, on the ground we did fly!

'Twas the churchwide gathering of Presbyterian Women...
Four thousand total, 5 days with activities brimmin'!

At the end of July, I led a trip for King's Daughters
To Chautauqua, New York beside lovely waters.

There for four active, fun filled days
Cultural & religious activities we did praise!

Then home for a Very Special Event
(In February we "got the hint"

That Debbie Harris and Thad would be wed)
With much happiness may they through life be led.

August 6th--a handsome groom, a lovely bride



Were surrounded by loved ones, glowing with pride.
At the reception, guests were invited to ice skate!
What an unusual way to celebrate!
At the end of the month, off we went in our wagon
With passengers and load, the buggy was draggin'!
Andy met us on campus in Oshkosh
Where they'll be living this year, b'gosh!
Cliff back to teaching soon went in the fall
(Retirement hasn't given him much chance to lolll!)
We seem to keep busy and that's how we like it
With opportunities to "hike it & bike it".
Cliff likes playing squash while I play in the dirt.
As a gardening assistant, he's great, I assert.
We've enjoyed visits from a number of you
And encourage stops when this way you come through.
Steve's family (now in Cinci) we've seen quite a lot
As in that direction our travels we plot.
Kim and Steve enjoy being in singing groups
And business travel oft keeps him flying in loops.
Cliff and Sammy enjoy sports and being in school
And computers--The new learning tool!
Steve flew to Tucson in August to help Andy move--
Quite an adventure that did prove!
They made it safely but the home folks were frettin'.
(How to use the phone were they forgettin'?).
Steve even got to help Andy look for housing
Quite a number they looked at in their browsing.
In August Andy became Dr. Long, Ph.D
We wish him success with that degree.
Early in the year, he had surgery on his knee--
Seems to be a Long vulnerability!
Anna studied hard for her U.S. citizenship test
And passed it. Great! We wish her the best.
Tchapo too likes school, sports and scouts,
Living on a lake and fishing bouts.
Debbie and Thad worked on their new house
And with the results, noone can grouse!
Their lively Labs are known as "The Boys".
After obedience training they gained lots of poise (?).
We're glad Mark, Mindy & Alexis are also near
And enjoy their company--in Fremont or here.
BGSU classes Mark and Mindy took this summer
(Sometimes wishing they'd studied to be a plumber).
Home improvements they've accomplished quite a few--
Probably will soon join Tim Allen's crew!
Good health and good fortune we wish you next year
Hoping wars end & folks fill with good cheer!
This season we ponder with wonder Christ's birth
And hope for, "Goodwill to men; Peace on earth".

Doris

1995

It's become tradition to do a "rhymed" Christmas letter. One of the times I didn't was in 1973--the year my Mom and Dad died...and I turned 40. This is another of "those years"!

The year started out well with a trip to sunny (?) California. We flew to San Francisco for math meetings there on Jan. 3. Not only didn't we see the sun, there was so much rain that there were mudslides & floods which were very much in the news. We rented a car and visited special friends along the way to Costa Mesa (stopped at Hearst Castle in San Simeon where it was so foggy we couldn't even see the ocean!) where we attended an Elderhostel (stayed at a Holiday Inn & had great food...Cliff met a fellow participant who he worked with at the Naval Ordnance Lab in Wash. D.C. in 1960!). On to Alpine from there to spend a few days with sis Diane and Al. We had an interesting visit at their church & then visited with 2 of their children and families. How special! We played a lot of bridge & watched their pond fill up! If we hear they're having a drought in Calif. at some future time, I think they'll hire us to come back as rain makers! We did see the sun on the 17th when we flew back to Toledo!

In February we spent the President's Day weekend in Indianapolis at Sam & Jo Cline's with Fred, Louise, Ellie & Diane. Unfortunately Ellie's husband, Jack, had had a bad fall & wasn't able to come. One special event was hearing the Purdue Men's Glee Club...go hear them if you have the chance! You might imagine that we did lots of reminiscing while we were together, laughin', playing cards, looking at photos.

March found us back in Indianapolis. Thad, Debbie and we met Steve, Kim, Cliff & Sammy (from Cincinnati) at Sam & Jo's. Next day we headed on to Turkey Run State Park (where we'd gone a few times when we lived in Champaign) to meet friends from Chicago, the Bob Lawsons and Dolores Oberg. All 18 of us found enjoyable things to do...swimming, hiking the trails, eating, chatting. Great time. The usually healthy Cliff was feeling punk with a cold during much of the month & didn't engage in his usual physical activity.

On May 1 Cliff resumed squash playing but came home complaining of muscle spasms. They were so painful that he couldn't sleep in bed, so for the next couple of weeks he slept in the recliner. A visit to our doctor resulted in some pain medication for the spasms. We'd planned to go to Cinci May 5-7 during which time Kim's parents were there too & we took in the performance of her musical group (good job!). On May 12 we'd planned to go to Lake Erie to view the bird migration. Even tho' Cliff wasn't feeling great, he thought he'd feel no worse engaging in some activity instead of staying home so we did lots of binocular viewing and then on to Milan to look through the interesting museums there. The next day Cliff really was having excruciating spasms so we went to the local emergency room. Xrays were ordered & the physician came back to tell us he was looking for bone cancer but saw only arthritis. Whew! What a relief! Hot wet packs & muscle relaxant were his advice. We had a Mother's Day picnic in the living room with Thad & Debbie, Mark, Mindy & Alexis so Cliff would be as comfortable as possible in his recliner. On May 15 we had an appt. with our doctor. He thought perhaps Cliff had a pinched nerve & had no objection to our going to Mindy's doctor in Fremont, an osteopath, next day.

Ah, that next day...the 16th! I was out planting one of my Mother's Day rosebushes when the phone rang and our doctor was telling me that Cliff had a very serious medical problem. The report of the radiologist of the x-rays taken in the ER on the 13th had just reached his

desk!! Cliff was to be at the hosp. for an MRI & should have a cervical collar on. Thad and I managed to get Cliff into the car. He was starting to lose feeling in his hands and feet! He was admitted to the hospital, seen by an orthopedic specialist who recommended that Cliff be seen by Dr. Sullivan, a specialist in Toledo. It turned out that Cliff had been walking around with a broken neck since May 1. Late that night, we went by ambulance to St. Luke's Hospital in Maumee. Dr. Sullivan appeared around 2 a.m., examined Cliff, told us he would be paralyzed if something wasn't quickly done, rearranged his schedule and Cliff went to surgery at 11 a.m. By then Steve had arrived and Andy was on his way from Oshkosh. Funny how things work out! He'd just finished grading his last finals, turned in the grades & headed for St. Luke's. Debbie, Thad, Steve & I had a long day of waiting and wondering but had friends & our minister supporting us with care packages & love! Mark, Mindy and Andy arrived shortly before Dr. Sullivan came to talk to us at 6 p.m. (How can anyone do surgery for that length of time...or longer???) He sketched what he'd done (removed a piece of bone from Cliff's hip to transfer to his neck where the vertebra had disintegrated, done additional surgery on his lower spine and put a "halo" brace on to hold the bone graft in place) and these were reproduced by Cliff's children so they could be explained to Dad! We got to see him a little later in the Intensive Care Unit and he was alert & talkative. Kim and the boys arrived and during that weekend, we more than filled his hospital room. The staff was wonderful in dealing with our big group & turned his room into a private one for most of his stay. That enabled Andy and Thad to stay overnight with him so someone was always available to him. Fred and Louise Cline came to offer their support and help. By the 24th, Cliff had been to physical therapy several times, been seen by the occupational therapist, had a bone marrow biopsy which finalized the diagnosis of multiple myeloma (cancer involving the bone marrow) and was raring to go home! Getting in & out of a car wearing a halo brace isn't easy! We managed, stopping to be marked for radiation before heading for 1005 Gustin! Cliff was so happy to be home...and we to have him here!

May 25th Cliff went for the first of 20 radiation treatments aimed toward taking care of the tumor in his spine. Next day our neighbor & friend, Melvin Johnson (who built our house) came over to put railings on the up & down stairs & make 3 levels of our house accessible to Cliff (especially bathrooms!!). On the 27th, friends from the math dept. brought his BGSU computer over and hooked him up to the global community! He and Andy spent many happy hours on projects during the summer! Andy returned to his family in Oshkosh the 30th and then Anna and Tchapo returned with him June 8th, after they'd finished school.

Cliff kept busy with some consulting, many visits from colleagues and friends, and lots of good times with family during the summer. Mark & Mindy took classes at BGSU in the summer so we saw them a lot & had the pleasure of entertaining their enchanting little daughter many times. Mindy took her comprehensive exams for her master's degree in late June, passed them (of course!) & received her degree at the August graduation. Next summer is Mark's turn! Anna and I enjoyed gardening & reaped a good harvest. Tchapo was on a Little League team, softball team and played soccer and enjoyed being helpful to Grampa. Steve, Kim, Cliff and Sammy were up often to check our progress. Cliff had almost no pain until the jacket to his halo brace was adjusted. Since then, pain has been a problem but is somewhat controlled by pain medication. He used a walker briefly and has used a wheelchair if great distances need to be covered. He does have tingling in some of his

fingers and toes - a minor nuisance.

On July 5, the halo came off. Hurray! It's saved for posterity. There was great danger of infection in the posts which fasten into the head & Debbie and Andy were diligent in cleaning those areas every day & Cliff had no problems with infection.

Sister Diane was flying from Calif. into Indianapolis for our Brown County reunion July 7 and decided to join us in BG so borrowed Jo's car and came the 8th. Her son, Bruce and family from Phoenix stopped to see us the 9th! On the 10th, Cliff had his first chemotherapy and then Diane, Mindy, Alexis, Thad & we headed to Brown Co. to join the others. We were there til the 14th & had a grand time. It was very hot...thank goodness for air conditioning!

Andy, Anna & Tchapo headed back to Wisconsin July 26, taking our tent camper with them. We hope they'll have many enjoyable excursions using it, as we did! We were pleased to have cousin Lila Oster stop by to see us. I made a quick trip to Chautauqua, N.Y. in connection with my King's Daughters responsibility. Steve came for the weekend to give Cliff a hand...& did our packing for Alaska!!!

In Feb. we'd arranged to go on a U. of Ill. trip there...& Cliff insisted we should still go! Thad took us to the plane in Toledo July 31, we put our luggage on & that's the last we saw of it til we got to the cruise ship in Vancouver! We were well looked after & enjoyed those days with the Gammons, Fred and Sam Clines. Cliff bore up very well. He was supposed to keep his weight up and being on a cruise was the ideal way to do that!!! They could've rolled all of us off the ship!--Cunard Dynasty. We learned it rains a lot along the inner passage! We managed to keep dry on shore excursions & 2x rented vans & Sam chauffeured us around. We stopped in Skagway (totem poles!), Sitka (Russian influence) and Juneau (the capitol). We saw whales and glaciers...and lots of water. We disembarked at Seward and motor coached to Anchorage. Then we flew to Fairbanks where Sam & Jo had an 8 p.m. tee time & played 18 holes...in the light. We went on a paddle wheeler there to an interesting village to experience how life might've been in the past. Susan Butcher stood on the bank of the river to tell us about her Iditarod race experience, we saw some of her dogs, her husband & baby! We went by train to Denali National Park...didn't see Mt. McKinley. We're told that only 5-10% of those going there see it. We were going to take a helicopter ride but it was too cloudy to see Mt. M. even that way. We went on a 7 hour bus ride to see the wildlife and were lucky to see grizzlies, moose, caribou, Dall sheep...& a fox carrying many ground squirrels in its mouth! Dinnertime! Back to Anchorage and we went to an interesting museum there. We flew home on the 12th via Salt Lake City & Cincinnati & there were Debbie and Thad waiting for us in Toledo.

I discovered I had shingles (2nd time!) right after we got back. Stress?? If you ever have shingles, take L-Lysine. It helped immensely both times! Cliff had an MRI done on the 18th. On the 24th, his computer which had been ordered earlier, was delivered & has had lots of use since! We'd been intending to establish a living trust so spent some time getting that in place.

Andy called Sept. 1 with their new address & phone number in Ripon, Wi where he's now teaching. An area of Cliff's back/shoulders was still painful so he had x-rays which indicated more radiation was needed. He got 10 more treatments starting Sept. 11. He skipped a few as we left for Ripon on the 14th. Cliff was asked to bring some of the beautiful mathematical surfaces he's carved to share with math students & faculty at a

picnic there. We went to Oshkosh to see where they used to live & visit the Experimental Aircraft Assn. museum there (Wow!), toured the Birthplace of the Republican Party (!) and generally had a good time. On the 18th, we headed for Lawsons in Elk Grove Village stopping in Edgerton, WI and Woodstock (couldn't locate the Morozinks...we tried!) along the way. We had a wonderful dinner and evening with the Lawsons, Richards & Dolores Oberg-- Chicago church/high school friends of Cliff's. As we look back over the last few months, we're amazed at the number of things we've done & places we've been! What a gutsy guy! We're so thankful for our community of friends & family who've brought food, taken us places, invited us over for meals & fun times. God is good! We don't understand why things happen as they do, but surely something can be learned from each life event.

Another blessing this year has brought is Jack David Gedeon who arrived on his due date--Oct. 2-- at 6:30 a.m. weighing in at 9# 5oz! Wow, wow!! Mindy retired from her 4th grade classroom for 6 weeks & during that time we went to Fremont at least once a week to be with her & her little ones. Mark was named varsity basketball coach this year and moved from junior to senior high math teacher. Right now with the basketball season just getting underway, he's one busy guy! His first game was against his alma mater (and three special friends came from Vermont, Ann Arbor & Chicago for the occasion!) which went in the loss column. His team played well & competed right up to the last second. He won his 2nd game. We hope that will be the trend from now on. Mindy returned to teaching Nov. 13 & loves her kids. She's busy too!!!

Cliff will have his 6th chemo this month & tolerates it well. He's had very few bad days and has a very good attitude. He's gone to his office at school quite a few times & stays for seminars & colloquiums. We were pleased to have Dolores Oberg come for a visit in October and also to have John & Betty Miller, Bill Miller, Gloria McLaughlin, Canadian cousins, come for a too brief visit then also.

November 2 Diane flew to Toledo, the 3 of us drove to Cincinnati for a nice weekend with Steve's family (had a ride in his "new" red (white interior) '90 Mustang convertible-- too cold to have the top down, unfortunately) and then on to Hendersonville for a brief but lovely visit with Lance & Karin Gammon. On to Nashville (in the rain, of course!) we went & stayed at the lovely Vanderbilt Lowe's Hotel--headquarters for the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics convention. Cliff went to meetings & Diane & I toured some of Nashville. We were happy to have Diane along! She flew back to Calif. the 9th from Cincinnati and we returned home the 10th after another short visit with Kim, Steve and boys.

Anna took a nurses's assistant course in Oshkosh and started working in a nursing home in Ripon in September. By Thanksgiving she hadn't accumulated any days off but has managed to get a week off for Christmas! Thanksgiving was really special with all of our kids and their families here except Anna plus Sam & Jo from Indy and Jack & Ellie Gammon from St. Louis. Debbie & Thad are so hospitable ..& lucky to have a big house. They keep very busy but check up on us & stop by to see us often. We look forward to being together for Christmas & then going to a cottage at Maumee Bay St. Park from Dec. 26-28.

We hope it's been a happy, healthy year for you and yours!

For computer users, we can be reached via: long@math.bgsu.edu or
<http://www.bgsu.edu/~long>

1996

How quickly 1996 has passed—
Each year more quickly than the last!
In January we headed for Florida sun
To Orlando math meetings; Andy joined in the fun.
To a middle-of-the-night space shot went Jo's parents, Sam, Jo and I.
After some waiting, that "bird" took off, lighting the sky.
In our rental car, to Punta Gorda we wended our way
With the hospitable McLaughlin cousins to stay.
Beautiful scenery was on their tour—
In BG, palm trees seen are fewer!
On to Sanibel Island to visit the Rocks from BG
Where wondrous shells and birds we did see.
Too soon 'twas time to head back to the north
But a mild winter turned out to be forth.
February found us in Indianapolis for a five Cline gathering—
Lots of eating, reminiscing, laughin' and blathering!
Andy joined us in March for his Spring break
And with math & computer problems the guys hours did take.
Alexis and Jack came for a short stay
While Mom & Dad to the state tourney went to watch, not play.
We were visiting Kim and Steve on the Reds' opening day;
There was a snowstorm so ball they didn't play!
To Akron went Cliff for the Spring math meeting
Where colleagues and friends he was glad to be greeting.
Back to Indy in April Steve's family/Chicago friends to meet.
As a meeting place city, it's hard to beat.
A trip to Detroit's renovated opera house was a May treat
Where scenery, costumes and musicians were really neat.
Then to Galesburg to celebrate a 95th birthday
Joining relatives and friends, what a nice stay!
The Baldwins from Missouri met us there—
A several day visit with a special pair.
What a surprise we got on the 17th of May—
A party celebrating Cliff's one-year-since-surgery day!
Our supportive kids and friends surrounded us.
"Carpe Diem"! Cliff's lived it! What a plus!
'Twas a wonderful weekend we'll not soon forget
And we treasure each day; on that you can bet!
In June to Ripon went friends Stanton, Thad and we—
Helpers in the move to LaGrange to try to be.
Andy, Anna and Tchapo had many boxes packed
And for carrying/loading help didn't lack.
Andy has a "post doc" at Loyola Medical Center
And of a nice home and yard they're currently a rentor.
To Togo the three flew off later in June...
Hadn't been there in many a moon!
Seven northwest Ohioans from Detroit to Rapid City flew
Nonstop? Nope! Though stops made were few.

Mark stayed at home, attending classes at BGSU
So in August his master's diploma would be due.
To Custer, South Dakota we headed in "our" van
Where Cline family members gathered—our clan.
Forty-two of us were there in a Cline cluster
Swelling the population in our host town of Custer!!
Mt. Rushmore is known to us now as "The Four Guys"—
A name given them by Alexis, (three year old size).
Swimming & miniature golf were played by the hour
And scenic drives we enjoyed, with mountains that tower.
An important announcement was made by Debbie and Thad!
They're going to be parents! For them we're all glad.
An August weekend, Steve came and we went to a reunion of Longs.
(When all 4 Long guys are here, we hear barbershop songs!).
All our family was here for the weekend celebrating Labor Day
Probably better noted as a day for play.
We returned to Galesburg in October for Spoon River Days
And with our LaGrange family and Fred & Louise had lovely stays.
The scenery was lovely, the weather was great
For good times like this, 'tis better not to wait.
For Thanksgiving, guests from Illinois, Indiana, Missouri came;
Nineteen including Gedeon, Gammon, Cline, and Long name!
Four couples stayed with Thad and Debbie at the "Long Hotel".
Their hospitality is outstanding; they do it very well.
To Fremont for Mark's first basketball game;
They won! (Thirty Gedeons & Long family came).
Steve, Kim, Cliff and Sammy Cincinnatians still are;
In summer, enjoying their Mustang convertible car!
They're busy with church activities, Scouts and sports
In summer toured Yellowstone, the Tetons and forts.
Teaching and coaching keep Mark and Mindy busy as bees.
Activities and family make them long for more "zzzz's"!
Jack (one) and Alexis get along very well.
What's their favorite pace? You've got it—pellmell!
Debbie and Thad's blessed event in March is to be—
Changes in life their two Labs can't foresee!
Thad's painted for us and comes when "help!" he hears;
Helpful and hospitable are these two nearby dears.
On a maintenance basis Cliff receives chemo
Oft goes to his office and we keep "on the go".
We hope '97 will be a good year for you
With good health and happiness visiting you anew.
We keep hoping for that nebulous "peace on earth"
And that all earth's inhabitants will celebrate His birth.

Happy holidays!
Mari Lynn & Cliff



Season's Greetings

1997

January--To San Diego to the math mtgs; Andy flew from Chicago. Stayed with my sis, Diane & had a great time. Enjoyed having Sammy & Cliff with us from the 17th-20th while Kim & Steve spent pleasurable time in Louisiana and Mississippi.

February--To Indianapolis for a reunion of the Cline "originals"--Fred, Eleanor, Diane, Marilyn, Sam and spouses. Lotsa fun. Cliff's carved mathematical surfaces now on new plate rail...nice art gallery! Cliff's cancer is in remission! PTL!

March--Connor Allan (same initials as Grampa) puts in an appearance on the 17th! Lucky little guy to be living with Debbie and Thad! and doggie friends! Son-in-law Mark's Fremont basketball game does well, winning sectional & district & advancing to regional (for first time in Fremont's history!). Alexis & Jack with us a couple of days while Mark & Mindy go to Columbus for the state tournament. Fun!

April--BGSU men's chorus annual concert invites alumnae to join in singing. Steve comes to do so and all 16 of us are together for a wonderful weekend. To Canada to celebrate with Jim & Rachel Eyre (40th anniversary) & catch up with relatives.

May--To Marietta OH for a Nature Conservancy trip on a paddlewheeler. Nice town! Meandered through southern OH a few days, ending up in Cinci for Kim's choral concert. Nice! Surprise when we got back to their house! The rest of our family was there--another "carpe diem" celebration--2nd anniversary of Cliff's surgery.

June--Math department retirement party for Cliff--lovely meal and bountiful gifts indicating the respect of his colleagues for his contributions during his career. Trip to Abingdon to surprise Diane & Al back from CA for her 50th class reunion. Originals meet again! Stopt for a visit with Andy, Anna, Tchapo in LaGrange, IL. Great friend, former minister, Norma Jones, makes a too quick visit to BG from Vicksburg, MS (just recuperated from first hip replacement). Thad & Debbie joined the Methodist Church.

July--I to Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering in Louisville from 9th-13th. Packed days! Steve accepted new position in the Cincinnati area. To the Ozarks for a reunion of 38 Cline members--swimming, boating, eating, HOT, togetherness--from the 20th-27th. On to Branson in a "chugging" car. Made it to the motel parking lot before it died! Jim & Jean Baldwin chauffeured us around in their new car--good shows (including Brass Theater directed by Ray Cramer, also formerly from DeLong!). Spent an extra day there til our car got fixed so saw another show & enjoyed Jean & Jim's company. Got home the 31st.

August--Repacked and left for Chautauqua, NY along with Maxine & Mack Miller, Jay & Brenda Kirkbride, good friends from BG. Peaceful setting, lovely weather, lotsa cultural events & interesting speakers from the 2nd to the 6th. Eric James Gedeon was born to Mindy & Mark on the 19th Alexis & Jack like their new little brother. Mindy got a late start in



teaching her 4th graders...in a portable classroom.

September--Our 40th anniversary & our kids really know how to put on a party! We partied from the 5th into the new week and enjoyed having friends & family from OH, IN, IL, MI, MO, TN & CA present for the occasion. It was an unforgettable few days. We saw Andy, Anna & Tchapo off to Benin, West Africa on the 15th. Andy has a Fulbright at the U. of Benin & will be teaching math (in French) for the academic year. (They'll be spending Christmas with Anna's family in Togo.)

October--Cliff has hernia repair on the 3rd in anticipation of our upcoming trip. Mindy becomes a Lutheran. Doris and Bob Lawson come for a nice visit.

November--Off to Australia/New Zealand--the trip a gift from our kids! It's been a long time dream of mine to make that trip and it lived up to my expectations. We left home the 6th, returning the 26th. Our flight from L.A took us to Fiji (10 hrs) where we stayed overnight & began to appreciate warm weather, lovely flowers & tropical fruits. Cairns was our next stopover where a main attraction was The Great Barrier Reef which we saw some of on a glass bottom boat & where I returned to snorkel (along with 19 Japanese teenagers!)--my first experience & if I can do it.... While there we also rode to Karunda, an aboriginal village, by gondola, high above the trees. We rode on a "duck" (made in MI for WWII service) thro' the rainforest, saw demonstrations of spear & boomerang throwing & dancing. On to Sydney & what a thrill to see the opera house For Real! We went to a ballet there, cruised the beautiful harbor & saw as many of the attractions as time allowed. A bus trip took us to the Blue Mountains..interesting to see the countryside & orchards covered to protect them from hail! Melbourne was next & another huge city with lots of green space & a free tram to take you around the inner city! A bus trip took us to Phillip Island to see the tiny penguins emerge from the ocean at dusk to return to their family burrows. Cute little guys (& gals) which we were able to observe "up close".

On to New Zealand...Christchurch on the south island. We circled south by bus going to Dunedin, Te Anau, Milford Sound, Queenstown & back to Christchurch. We saw quite a few of the 50 million sheep residing there, even ate some! Milford Sound acquainted us with a fjord and we traversed it by boat with many waterfalls cascading down! Christchurch was beautiful with roses blooming profusely, interesting museums, Cathedral Square... On to Auckland on the north island. Take your mountain climbing equipment along! Hilly! We bussed south to Rotorua to see the thermal pools & geysers & visit the Maori craft center (saw many exhibits of Maori art & saw a show put on by Maori at the museum at Auckland). Sam & Jo came from Indy & Steve's family from Cinci the 27th & we enjoyed Thanksgiving together. We tried to stay awake (not nice to sleep when you have visitors!) & succeeded!

And now it's December! The thing we most hope to do is remember what the Christmas season is all about! God in His goodness gifted us with His Son who, through his sacrifice, made it possible for us to have eternal life. What gifts from God and His Son! May Christmas live in your hearts all year round and make us all aware of how blessed we are and how we should reach out to others who don't have the material blessings that we do. We thank you for your concern and prayers for us and ask you to continue them. They have certainly helped and we appreciate them very much! May the Lord continue to bless you and yours!

*12/18
Dennis reports a visit to you recently & that you're doing well. Sorry we didn't get together at the Gathering. Love, Lynn*



Season's Greetings

1998

From
Mari-lyn and Cliff

'98 started, for me, with a bad case of flu.
Cliff's a good nurse and didn't get the flu (whew!).
In February, to Cinci where they'd had a Big Snow
To see little Cliff as one of the stars of a show.
Then to Indy for a reunion of 5 "kids" named Cline
With spouses attending; we had a time fine.
March--Lawsons visited as did Gedeon kids three
Which kept Grampa n Grama busy as could be!
In April, Andy came from Benin for a job interview.
The week he was in Bowling Green just flew!
Back to Cinci in May for another performance
To see Kim & friends emote, sing and dance.
To Toronto for math meetings we drove in July.
Where we went in the summer, temperatures were high!
Then to Indiana to a lodge near French Lick
For a reunion of Clines--good location to pick.
Of our total number, Longs were nearly half
Lotsa eating, card playing, and many a laugh.
From there to a Presby Women synod event in BG
Where friends and special events I did see.
Then Cliff and I flew to the City by the Bay
And from there, to Bogarts in Sacramento to stay.
Royal treatment we received at their hands;
They did everything but hire brass bands!
To a math/art conference at Berkeley we went
Where Cliff displayed sculptures; a special event.
To Chautauqua, New York for our next expedition.
Soaking up culture & info our mission.
Our African trio in August returned
With many things taught and many things learned.
Items stored in Thad & Debbie's basement were removed
As the job and move to Ann Arbor were approved!
To the Long reunion we 5 went soon after,
Canadian relatives to chat with, much laughter.
In September of sister Diane's anemia we learned;
Low hemoglobin & weakness have kept us concerned!
In October to Oxford (Miami) we wended our way



Where Cliff showed his models; then on to Cinci to stay.
At the Stratford festival we were joined by Louise & Fred
To see plays enacted, previously read.
An Eastern Europe trip was a November treat;
Interesting scenery, nice people to meet.
Warsaw, Krakow, Budapest, Vienna, Prague were cities seen
And we bussed through the countryside in between.
The castles & cathedrals were sights to behold;
No wonder that part of the world's called old.
Now free from Communist rule, those nations.
We hope that's always cause for celebrations.
Thanksgiving has more meaning each year
As we join to celebrate with family dear.
Next day after leaving BG, brother Sam had a heart attack;
Angioplasty, a stent...and a fast comeback!
That was cause for more thanks giving
Some minor adjustments he'll make to his style of living.
Now Christmastime is fast approaching...
And Mark's basketball season (4th year of head coaching).
Our number will increase early next year
With the arrival of Debbie and Thad's little dear.
Cliff keeps busy with projects galore..
Were he totally healthy, he'd even do more!
We're thankful for doctors and chemo and pills;
For such helpful service, you don't mind the bills!
Enjoy the festivities of this advent season--
The gift of baby Jesus, the wonderful reason.

An update on the family:

Steve and Kim, Cliff(12) and Sammy(10) live in Cincinnati, OH
Andy and Anna, and Tchapo(12.9) live in Ann Arbor, MI
Thad and Debbie, Connor(1.7) and ? (-.2) live in Bowling Green, OH
Mindy and Mark, Alexis(5), Jack(3) and Eric(1.3) live in Fremont, OH

1999

From
Mari-lyn and Cliff

It's time for Christmas messages to be sent out once again...
With a wish for "peace on earth, good will toward men".
We hope '99 has been a good year for your loved ones and you.
It's not been the best one for us, 'tis true.
Two terrible losses the Cline clan suffered this year--
Brother Fred's wife, Louise and sister Diane, both so dear.
In February to Illinois we went to celebrate Louise's life
With tribute to her as A Lady, mother and wife.
To be with Diane in California we went in the Spring
And were privileged to be with her as her spirit took wing.
Steve and Andy were there too for those last precious days
And for the strength of her daughter Elyse we give praise.
A sad time for Mark and Mindy it was also then--
The death to leukemia of Mark's brother, Ben.
Such a tragedy to lose one so young and good.
For the best of virtues he truly stood.
On a happy note, January added to our family tree.
Rachel Elizabeth was born to Thad and Debbie!
Travels have been on our continent this year
To be with friends & family, special and dear.
In May, we met Doris & Bob Lawson in Battle Creek,
Toured Cereal City & the wonders of Marshall did seek
Reenactments at Greenfield Village were seen and heard
With Andy's family...& a throat singing concert eardrums stirred
Rachel's behavior at her baptism was exemplary in June;
Unlike at her Daddy's (could be heard on the moon).
Productions at Ohio Light Opera in Wooster were fun;
Talented musicians they have there by the ton!
To the Long reunion in Canada we went in July.
Fun, food, games and visiting made the time fly!
A stay with Sue & Bill Rock at Lakeside was a treat,
Joined their Lutheran gathering; nicer folks you'll not meet.
In August to Illinois for a reunion of Clines
With special T shirts, activities; many people made long food lines!
Almost the entire church service we "did" on Sunday
and with Fred and family as hosts, each day was a "fun day".
In September Fred came for a short stay
Which included our 42nd anniversary day.
In Wisconsin, we joined the Lawsons in exploring County Door
With biking, hiking, viewing scenic vistas galore.
Then to Chicago where we experienced traffic bad
But at Cliff's 50th high school reunion, a good time we had.
Lawsons came in October to join us for an excursion--
To the Shakespeare Festival in Ontario to hear their version.

A stop at Jack Miner's bird sanctuary we made on the way
Where migrating birds stop for a short stay.
The plays we saw at Stratford were mostly a delight,
And at the costume warehouse "tried on"--which was "right"?
To Albuquerque we flew in November
For meetings and a visit we'll long remember.
Cliff heard lots about computer aided design
From which he carves wooden models fine!
We rented a car and went to artsy Santa Fe
And the next day, on to the Canyon de Chelly.
In northeastern Arizona you'll find that scenic spot.
Tour by vehicle, horse or foot...you'll enjoy it a lot!
The meteor shower I anticipated greatly.
A fizzle! In 33 years, we hope it's more stately!
Thanksgiving was celebrated with family dear--
An event we look forward to every year.
Christmas preparations we're now making;
Candymaking, card writing, decorating, baking.
We're glad that our kids & their families are relatively near
Here are some highlights of those so dear
Steve's now consulting and works out of their home
With church mission friends in summer to Guatemala did roam.
Andy's family from a 3 week trip just made their return.
He gave talks in Paris and Benin; more details we'll learn!
Thad and Debbie have kept busy with their new little daughter
And 2 year old Connor, lots of things he has taught her!
Mindy's trying to end lymphoma, leukemia & MM (*), all cruel
With a fund raising campaign, planned with others, at school.
Busy folks they are and we're as proud as can be
And wish all parents could so enjoy their family!
Now as we celebrate this season of our Saviour's birth,
We reiterate our wish that next year peace will come to earth!

*multiple myeloma--what Cliff has, Diane had lymphoma; Ben leukemia

An update on the family:

Steve and Kim, Cliff(13) and Sammy(11) live in Cincinnati, OH
Andy and Anna, and Tchapo(14) live in Ann Arbor, MI
Thad and Debbie, Connor(2.8) and Rachel (.11) live in Bowling Green,
OH
Mindy and Mark, Alexis(6), Jack(4) and Eric(2) live in Fremont, OH