

1805 Corso Serrace

August 22, 1965

Dear Click,

My, but your letter was an interesting one. I had no idea that you had a flare for sculpturing but of course, you had so many talents I'm not surprised at anything.

Our trip took us up the redwoods and we stayed overnight at Medford with an ex-Goodyear couple from here, and then on to Portland where we stayed 3 days. Joe has an old school buddy there, a Fr. John J. Kelley, who is now provincial father over Ore. Wash. Montana, Idaho, Alaska and one mission in Africa. He had just gotten home from Rome on a 8 months tour and a visit to his African mission. Joe tells me that he and another Glendale friend and Jack Kelley used to swap girl friends "in the old days". The Kelleys were from Seattle and came to Glendale for the dad's health. They were poor as church mice but ever so devout religiously as to produce 3 priests and 2 sisters. He's a charming fellow and ever so humble.

From there we visited Mt. Hood and the Shrine to the most Sorrowful Mother in Portland is the most beautiful place one can ever visit. We took in everything along the Columbia River; dams, salmon ladders, falls, water docks and got to Pendleton. I had to visit the Woolen mill and pick up my share of woollens for my tailoring class next fall. After I bought \$30 worth we toured the mill and I went back in the sales room to buy an Indian blanket and about that <sup>time</sup> my husband came in and pulled me out by the scalp. To keep him happy I got one yardage for a ski shirt for him. In Pilot Rock we visited the US Gypsum mill and then to Klamath Falls for a boat race and then the relatives started at Napa. Joe's brother, Brother Timothy is the Vice-Pres. of the Christian Bros. Winery, but he was on vacation so we visited the St. Helena winery and the sampling room and visited a few other wineries just for comparison. Joe's sister works at Macy's in San Jose so that was next. Then we made the ranch near Riverdale (Fresno Co.) where one brother owns a 10 section ranch, cotton, safflower etc. This is like the LBJ ranch - lush. Of course, Visalia was next and I saw almost all of them, but Zella who was in Hawaii on vacation. John is salesman for Lucky Lager, Jay is head of Press at dear old Times-Delta and also Pres. of Sons of Italy Lodge, 2nd generation of original S. of I. Lodge. A Visalia girl won state honor as Queen this year and they were all down here at Disneyland Hotel for a 4-day convention. We went to the Grand Ball and what a blast. I hadn't seen a bunch of Italians get together like this for so long I had forgotten what nuts they really were. They found an Italian orchestra from Montabellio and everytime Solo Mio or OH Marie struck up they all stopped dancing and sang and kissed one another.

We saw Orsolina in Bakersfield where her husband works for the Bkrfd Californian, type-setter and president of the typographical union. He was in Wash.D.C. for a union meeting and they have one daughter eight, adopted. Orsolina works for the school principal in her district.

As we drove home Friday we caught all this riot news on the way and I hated to come back to it all. The Goodyear plant is right in the middle of the prohibited area and they employ lots of negro so they shut down Fri. night. Joe went in Monday morning with an army escort but not enough people came to work to start production so closed again until Wed.



He said he saw enough to satisfy him. Blocks and blocks completely wiped out. The negroes went after every Jewish stores, Japanese and Philipano stores. This was all led by outside negroes and mass psychology took over from there and I guess you know the story from there. Glendale was alerted but so far we have not been touched. This city is one of the most conservative cities in the US and the fewest negroes therein. We know eventually the negroes will come as there is a large section of Pasadena which has all gone negro. The way they say in Pasadena, they don't want to integrate - just inseminate. I see now the insurance companies are all going to pay off and so will all of us in taxes. By mid-Sept. you may find it safe enough, but El Monte is beyond Pasadena and not there in the hottest area. Be sure to call us when you come by and I hope Ginny is along and we will take you to some "Cool spot" in the city. I'm sure I would find her most interesting as I have turned out to be a perpetual student myself. When I came to LA in '45 I took up electrolysis and back to the books. From there I attended UCLA extension at night taking psychology, public speaking, voice training, Italian and you name it, I took it. This zest for learning must have started somewhere in Visalia with an old friend who also had a terrific amount of drive for the better things in life such as culture, art and just plain work. One doesn't meet many friends like this but I was lucky to find two. The last one I found in a Catholic youth club in Hollywood - a 35 year old bachelor, a diamond in the rough, and I latched on to him.

Our sons are 7, 11 and 12 and of sturdy stock. They will all be six-footer like their dad. My husband tells me I'm just a PTA goofer-offer. By the end of last May he said he hoped I'd stay home long enough to darn some of his socks.

If you are interested in seeing some beautiful sculpturing, there is an elderly retired man who is molding the disciples of Christ, the events of Christ in 10 foot tall figures on a hill at Yucca Valley out towards Palm Springs. It will be quite hot in Sept. here but by the first of Oct. it is liveable. This trip would be worth your while as he has made some 25 or 30 by now and is in connection with some church there. Bring your camera as this would be a terrific feature story. Yucca Valley is a quiet little dessert town and we go through to visit friends in Homestead Valley just beyond there.

I don't know <sup>what</sup> else to tell you. My husband works in the engineering dept at Goodyear and his hobby with 9 other fellows is a "non-profit" ski-area called Kratka Ridge and they have been at it for 15 years and are still hoping to make it. They have the necessary manpower and brains but not the needed amount of snow at the right time. They have a lawyer, electrician, lumber man, sheet-metal shop owner, good public relations man - Randy Zimmer a husband of Norma Zimmer, Lawrence Welk champagne lady, Joe's mechanical genius, a stock broker and otherwise handy sportsmen. They have built one 1000 foot chair lift, 4 rope tows, lodge, food counter, ski rental area, beer room with large fireplace, outdoor fireplace and warming area, ski school and also living quarters attached to the lift for the member and family who lives there as permanent attender. Each year they say, now this is the year but the government grabs first. We really enjoy it and I still ski at it and do my bit. We have slept 35 up there for parties in the summer. It's a nice place to catch everyone's leftover furniture.

Do stop by - we would enjoy seeing you. Phone 241-5419.

Bye now Jeanette



July 20, 1966

Hello again,

There is so little time for letters that they just don't get written.

Your bronze Indian characters are quite amazing and reflect a great deal of talent in sculpturing. You must have spent a lot of spare time chewing the fat or smoking peace pipes with your Northern Indians to capture the expressions of the Indians. Of course, Tulare Co. offered a good start. When we go to Visalia the first week of August I'll give this newspaper story to Jay so that he can show it to some of your cronies who are still at the Times-Delta.

Since the first of May we have been caught in a Little League series, 10 to 12 year olds, and the finals were just played off. There are 8 leagues of 5 teams each and Donald's team won 18 out of 20 games to win the 20-30 league. Then there were 3 consecutive games while the 8 winners play off and our team won the all-city championship, so we have had an exciting week and two trophies to show for it. Our 13 year old son builds motorbikes and go-carts and is always firing away at some motor in the garage (right now it's the ski area generator that is being worked on). Our little fellow has many friends in these hills who all have bikes and three of them have swimming pools. So in order to escape this all-male household a "girl friend" and I have taken up Hawaiian dancing for the past year. It's wonderful exercise and lots of fun - and don't laugh as age has nothing to do with it. Hilo Hattie is still going strong in Hawaiian restaurants here in the Southland.

As for the ski area, it has not gone well for the past few years as there hasn't been enough steady snow. If someone would make them a good offer they would sell it. A 10-owner ski area is not a good arrangement. It was fun while they were in their thirties but after 15 years the fun has worn off and no one wants to go up and do some of the work of operating.

We hope you are both enjoying your summer - especially Ginny who has been cramming all year; and you Click, take it easy on that midnight oil. People get time-and-a-half for that sort of thing down here.

Bye now,

Jeanette & Joe