

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA

What an interesting and exciting year this has been for the John Hendricksons. It has been a whirlwind of activity each and every week that keeps us deeply involved in the lives of all the children--even the four who are now gone from home--through phone calls, tapes and letters.

John (28), and Janean and little Johnny and Janalyn are working hard at a senior year at Brigham Young University, and he hopes to continue on for a Masters in Public Administration.

Caryl (26) and her two little ones--Ron and Amy--after spending a year with us are also at BYU making a new life. Both she and John are thrilled to be able to attend such an excellent school as BYU. She reports everything going along smoothly and they are all happy.

Stan (24) finished Army boot camp early in the year and has completed a six-months special training course in Arizona. He is now in Language Training School at Monterey, California, and is making plans to spend Christmas with us here in Virginia.

David (20) is presently located in San Jose, California, half-way through a two-year mission for our Church. He reports that all is well and he is very happy in his work. We are so very proud of him.

Robert (21) will leave soon after New Years to begin his two-year mission for the Church laboring in the Southern California Mission. He worked this past summer as a painter, and then helped Caryl move to Utah. He enrolled for his second year at Ricks College but shortly thereafter returned home to await his mission call. He is driving a school bus and working in a local department store selling men's clothing. He enjoys the company of a special young lady.

Bill (18) is a senior in high school and is striving hard to earn a baseball scholarship at BYU. He is receiving many opportunities to go elsewhere but his goal is the "Y". He is first string varsity basketball this year and has the lead in the Church drama. He, like Bob, enjoys the company of a special young lady from a rival high school that he met at Church.

Craig (14) is a freshman in high school; first string freshman basketball, and at most other times is the lead drummer in the high school concert band and three different community bands. He is shooting up like a weed and may be the tallest of them all.

Andrew (13) is now in 7th grade. He has had a great year in Little League and Boy's Club football, excelling in both. His goals include always making the honor roll in school. Incidentally, concluding his participation in the Little League program this year also concluded 20-years of participation by John and Naomi.

Naomi is starting her fifth year teaching 25 active 10-year olds in Sunday School, but she enjoys it and the kids seem to like her too. Other church activities such as Relief Society, visiting teaching (5 families) and her own brood keep her busy and wore out.

John enjoys his work with the International Joint Commission and the Canadians more each day. He continues to teach the adult Gospel Doctrine class at Sunday School and in his spare time watches the boys play ball.

The biggest event of the year was a trip West in June to attend a family reunion. The five children of Fred and Gladys Adair (Naomi is one) and their families met for a week in Boulder, Colorado. We enjoyed the hospitality of Stan and Miriam Hendrickson (John's brother), and cousins got acquainted at last. On the way out we were able to visit other friends and relatives. And now as we enter the holiday period Mother Hendrickson has come to visit us from Chicago and will be here until after the New Year.

So we have much to be thankful for. Our lives during 1972 have been busy, challenging, exciting and rewarding. We wish you all a Joyous Season and a Happy New Year. God Bless you all is our earnest prayer!

JOHN AND NAOMI HENDRICKSON AND FAMILY!"

(over)

January 5, 1973

Dear Alice & Ralph,

I'm trying to finish my Christmas list even tho' it's post Christmas. With so much doing & so many here I'm responsible to care for, I didn't get them all out.

We still haven't had any snow here this winter, so it's been more pleasant to get out & around to do our errands.

I had a hard time with my arthritis & had to take several weeks of heat & some "Soma" treatments & friction. Am OK now though. Then, after New Year's we all had the London flu. It didn't seem to affect the rest of the family as much as it did me. But I finally got over it.

I am a visiting teacher (in our church) to 5 women and that has taken quite a time as they were sick or needed extra care or spiritual support. So the past few weeks this has taken quite a lot of my time.

Everyone's gone now except Bill, Craig & Andy (& John & I). So it's much quieter & easier to get my work done. But I find I have a hard time getting letters (long ones) off to all our children. And they all want long inspiring letters often, it seems. I need a secretary. Ha!

Bob is now in San Diego on his S. California mission. David is starting his second year at Hallister, Calif (just a few minutes from Ston). Stan is going to classes from 8 AM - 5 PM each day of the week (except Sat. & Sun) & at times it gets really hard to sit there & keep plugging. So they all need letters of encouragement often.

Caryl's alone with her 2 children & so needs love & letters from us often. So letters writing is a major activity around here with me. (S)

We are just as thrilled (more & more each day) with our church as we always were and it means every thing to us to help us direct our every decision & our lives. Our friends are mostly in the church.

Sports continues to take up a lot of thought & time - either playing or watching the other family members play. Craig says he hopes to major in music in college, however. More power to him! Our world surely needs music!

Tell me about your work & how life is treating you! Are Mary & Earl with you this winter? Someday, I think they are in Arkansas! We aren't that far away - they should come on to see us. God Bless!

Love - your Bessie Young