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HANDSOME
TO JOURNAL

Frontispiece

Handsaker's
Journal

1979

from 1979



Summary 1979

HAD BECOME quite demoralized by my falls and other problems of last December, and as the winter continued very cold and icy, I hardly dared go out alone except when Bill came; I even gave up going for swims. Bill took me to see Dr. Schanfield, but I vetoed his idea of spinal surgery to improve my legs, as I thought the cure might create greater problems.

On January 23rd, I flew to California, to spend the rest of the winter with Betsy, Don, Penny and Bob. I was at Camarillo seven weeks and at Berkeley four weeks. At Betsy's I used a borrowed walker around the yard and used Don's exerciser. I had talking books at both places. Betsy took me to a neurologist, whose tests showed hardening of my leg arteries as my main trouble. Betsy and Don played golf frequently, and once I went with them and rode around the course in an electric cart with Betsy. We had quite a lot of afternoon or overnight visitors. We had dinner with Janet and Don Carson at their South Pasadena apartment; we picnicked at Point Mugu.

On March 9th, Mike and Jeanne announced the birth of a brother for little Alice; naturally, with so many Williams in his family tree, he had to be Billy.

I moved on to Penny and Bob at Berkeley on March 16th, by Amtrak. There I had my own walker, a gift which was useful on our local hillside walks; around the house, patio and new deck my cane sufficed. For a while Penny and I had colds and we didn't swim until the last week.

Bill and his friend Ann, after skiing in Colorado, flew out to visit all of his California folks. I saw Robert and Audrey when they drove from Sacramento.

April 4th, I flew home, and resumed dining with Mac, and attending Central Presbyterian Church with him. (I did not transfer my membership there until December.) I began swimming again, but cut that to three times a week. My walking improved, I got around downtown and by bus to my Midway doctors.... In the summer, with earlier services, I attended Macalester-Plymouth Church again.

In August I had a telephone call from Thomas Handsaker at Coos Bay, Oregon, a grandson of Baker, opening a new chapter of family connections.

For Labor Day week-end, Bill and I had Mike, Jeanne, Alice and Billy as our guests at a Clearwater Lake resort near Annandale. Bill saw that sail- and row-boats and a motor-pontoon were available, and I got to feed Billy.

October 13th, Jim Mcmillan fell again, in his room, and while no bones were broken, he was in hospital and nursing home from then on, and he never came back to The Towers. I miss him a great deal.

One morning, Bill got me up early for an all-day drive to Cloquet, Duluth and home. I saw the Duluth railway museum and some autumn color. And on November he invited me to his sumptuous Thanksgiving turkey dinner which he cooked and I stayed overnight.

Winter began mildly (54° on December 10th), and I did not have last year's problems; and when Bill and I flew to Denver for another Christmas reunion of all of us, I got around all right, and had a great time.

JANUARY 1st TO 23rd, IN SAINT PAUL. Mac came in to see the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl game, the 1st. I was inside all day, as I was nearly every day. Weather these days, cold with much below zero; snow flurries and wind. After my falls last month, I lost my nerve, and hardly stepped outside except with help. I did my exercising by walking our ramps and going on my exerciser. I couldn't reach the Y for any swimming.

The 8th, Bill took me out for supper and some shopping. The 12th, I went to the Eye Clinic by cab.

As my legs had got so weak I had to hold onto chairs to get around my room, Bill took me to see Dr. Shanfield on the 18th, with dinner and shopping afterward. The doctor hinted at spinal surgery, which I would veto.

The morning of the 23rd, Bill took me to the airport, got me an electric cart and I rode to my plane, to fly to Betsy's for long visits with her and Penny.

Margery Brubacher died on the 3rd. She had broken her hip after a long decline at Wilder infirmary.

Saint Paul:
January 1-23, 79

Camarillo:
Jan. 23 to Mar. 16
1979

WITH BETSY AND DON at Camarillo, Jan. 23 to March 16th.... I had a smooth ride above the clouds. In L.A. I rode in a wheel chair; Betsy and Don met me and we took the long ride to Camarillo. Weather, 65° and fair. Next day, Mrs. Hahn lent me a walker to use while here. From the start, I slept well in California. Days were cool, breezy with sunshine and often a shower. I had quiet times with Don and Betsy who worked at their miniatures and played golf twice a week. I'd walk around the yard with the walker until I got brave and I found that my cane was all that I needed. Also I used the exerciser. Betsy set me up with talking books; and there were quite a lot of special events to remember:

Jan. 27, Barb and Lynn Thomas, and Janet, were here overnight....29th, we had visits from Ed Snekvik and Carman and from Margaret and Sherm Torbenson....31st, Betsy took me to Dr. Amorteguy at Oxnard. Noting my weak legs and cold feet, he had tests made which showed hardening of the arteries and pre-2 scribed papaverine....Janet and Don Carson were here Feb. 3rd....The 8th, on one of their golf days, Betsy and Don took me along to ride in an electric cart with Betsy while they played....We drove to Redondn Beach the 15th, for an afternoon and dinner with Gene and Frances Handsaker. Some of the younger generation were there, too....The 28th, after shopping, we had dinner at Rusts', who live on the south side of Camarillo....March 2nd, we drove to South Pasadena, making business calls and dined with Janet and Don Carson....Next day, Ed and Alice Lewis and their son were here. Ed and Alice both showed signs of aging....The 6th, we had our first strawberries. The crop is late this year....The 7th, a picnic at Point Mugu, on the seashore....THE 9th, MIKE AND JEANNE'S SON WAS BORN....Janet and Don and Don's family the Carsons were here Mar. 10th....We had drinks and dinner with Weste, next door, the 11th. The 16th, I went to Berkeley, a ten hour ride, by Amtrak..

Berkeley
March 16
April 14,
1979

MARCH 16th TO APRIL 14th, with Penny and Bob, in Berkeley. I arrived in a drizzle, and we had light rains frequently but it usually cleared by noon, so I got outside; I tried the walker on short local walks (Penny bought a good walker at a garage sale) but mostly used the big new deck, going around it 69 times a day, to make a half mile; or 30 circuits of the patio, using my cane... We had a phonograph and talking books for me while Bob was at Hayward or Bancroft Library, or Penny was making jewelry; and I took many naps. Penny had a severe cold, and I caught it, so we did not swim until we were well, but I kept up Dr. Shanfield's leg exercises. We ate dinner at the Club Tuesday nights and had one dinner at a hotel. Bill and Ann had been skiing in Colorado, then flew to L.A., rented a car, saw Janet, Betsy and the Dons and drove up the coast. We saw them March 25th and 26th, then they flew back to the Twin Cities. Penny and I were over our colds. Bob and Audrey Handsaker were here April 5th. Penny and I swam at the Club, my last week; after four and a half months my first swim was two laps but the third and fourth were nine. The morning of the 14th, they took me and my walker to San Francisco airport and I flew home, the day before Easter.

William
H. Ruder
Ruder



Billy

Born Mar. 9, 1979
my great grandson

Saint Paul April 14-30, 1979

DILL MET ME at the airport and we walked to his car. After three months, my room was not even dusty; but the refrigerator! I had left it on and the door ajar and it was so iced up that I had a day's job putting it in order. Next day was Easter, and I went to Central Church. Mac and I now go to breakfast at 7:20, dinner at 12:20, so I swim at four o'clock. I swim only three times a week. Mac and I resumed walking up to our rooms together twice a day. The 20th, Doug Melges invited Mac and me to his room for refreshments and conversation....The 23rd, I moved contents of one of my lockers to one next to the other. Heavy lifting.... The 24th, Bill and I dined at the Embers and shopped after driving nearly to Stillwater after diesel fuel....The 30th, Bill and I went on a tour of Wilder Residences, and I surely prefer Central Towers, even not considering the price. Easter was a fine day; it warmed up to 65° and we continued with sunny, warm afternoons up to 78° the 23rd; then with got chillier, in the 40-50° range. As I was inside most of the time, it was all the same to me.



Joanne and
Will Hennessy
Kevin's sister
Billy, born
March 3, 1979
is my great-
grandson



May 1979

IT TOOK quite a while for spring to make up its mind: there were many nights in the 30s and days were in the 40-50 range, but the 6th hit 82°, the 17th, 91°, with drops back to the 40s. There was a good deal of wind, even a small tornado at Bloomington.

I continued to walk with Mac up the ramps twice a day, to pedal the "bike" 10 minutes before breakfast, to do Dr. Schanfield's leg exercises and to swim a quarter mile three times a week.

The 1st, I bussed downtown, no great deal, but when I took the bus to the Eye Clinic the 9th and walked to Samaritan Hospital for lunch and a check-up by Dr. Lillehei, I thought I had it made. I had begun walking around the block; the 17th, I ventured west on 9th St. to find a grocery store that I heard of, and felt so good that in the afternoon I walked downtown, shopped at four places and carried some groceries home. I guess I'm back to last fall's normal.

I went to Central Church every Sunday.... The 8th, we had a very successful sing along "downstairs".... The 10th was rainy and we had rain at night.... The 12th, Bill took Mac and me to dinner, his treat this time.... The 23rd, Bill and I went to a Pon-derosa steak house, more cafeteria style.... And the 29th, Bill and I ate dinner at an Embers.... Memorial Day weekend, Friday the 25th to Monday the 28th we had perfect weather, and I had a dull time. (No block party this time.).... The 29th, 30th and 31st, we had at least one thunder shower each day, and the temperature fell from 83° to 52-64° on the 31st. My shopping on the nights I go out with Bill takes care of most of my needs.

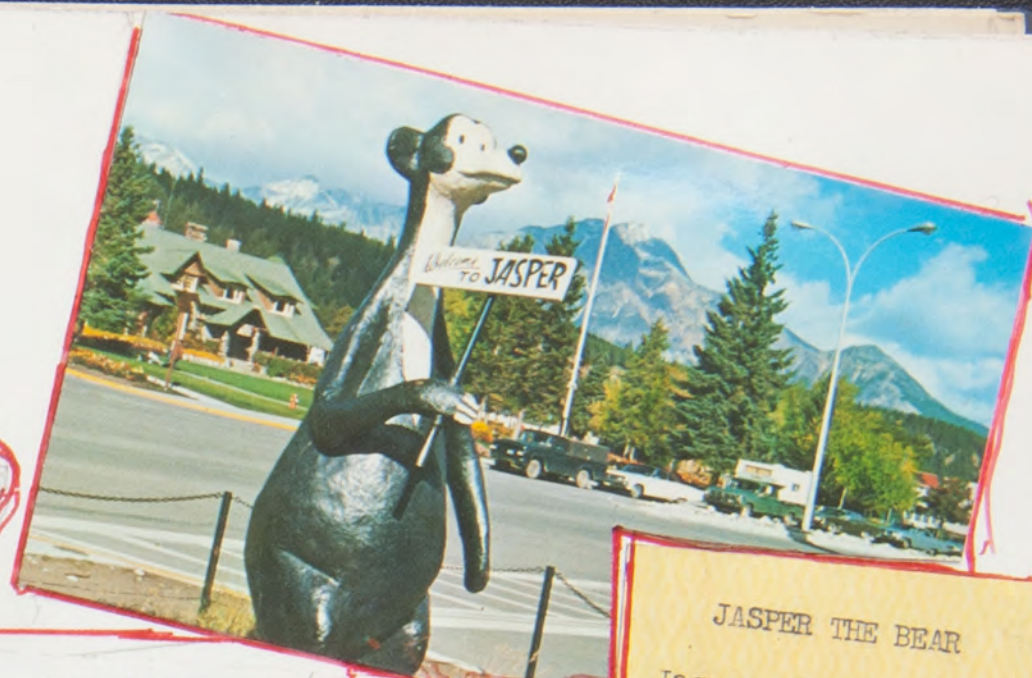


My great-grand-daughter
Alice Elizabeth Raudenbush Age 2 years, 10 months May 1979





June 1979



JASPER THE BEAR

MY MONTH was uneventful. Two thirds of days were fair and warm, over 90° twice. We had four black, windy, rainy thunderstorms with tornado warnings (one was a touchdown with sirens blowing.) Quite a few brief showers. I exercised as in May, but it got hard to walk around the block; my lrgs are getting weaker, but I walked downtown once and back with groceries. I usually shop Tuesdays when Bill and I go out for dinner.

Jasper, June 26, 1979.
"Dear Grandpa:
Don and I are enjoying our bicycle tour thru the Canadian Rockies very much so far although the weather is cooler than we expected.... but the beautiful scenery makes up for it. Today we leave the mountains, toward Vancouver. — Janet



After two false starts I tape-recorded my railroad career with the Northern Pacific, from 1902 to 1955..... I attended Central church twice and went to Macalester when they began their early summer service. We had a sing-along at the Towers the 11th with violin and piano.

Bob and Audrey Handsaker of Sacramento went through our airport the 9th, but had no time to telephone as planned.

The 28th, I took Bill to Forepaugh's restaurant in Irvine Park, a restored mansion, as the 29th was his birthday... Mac went to his foot doctor the 13th, and changed from despondency to good cheer.

Jeanne, Alice, Billy
(Taken April 1979)
Alice, Taken July 27, 1976
Billy, born March 9, 1979

July 1979

MY DAYS are all much alike, so I'll describe one of them: Up with my alarm clock, electric-shave, then wash, dress, pump the exerciser 10 minutes while TV news is on, call Mac at 7:15, meet him downstairs and order 2 slices of toast, jelly, hot cereal and coffee (94¢) and sit with Mac and other fellows until 9:30. Then we walk up the 10% ramps to the 7th floor; thrn I work a cryptoquote, get my mail at 11:00, go around the block. About 12:15 Mac and I go down to dinner, a full meal, and again, talk with the fellows and drink coffee till 2 o'clock. Up the ramps again. Three days a week I go to the YMCA at 3:40, shower and start swimming at 4: a quarter mile— nine laps— takes 35 minutes.. I dress, walk around the block again and home at 5:15. More TV news while I prepare a sandwich, salad and milk. In my roomn night news, to bed, at 10:30. Sometimes an evening picture show or music in the dining room. Six times a day I do 20 leg-stretch exercises. I fill in with TV, radio, talking books, sol, a trip downtown. July was mostly fair, some highs 85° to 92°, a couple of thunderstorms but very little rain.

Bill took me out for dinner three Tuesday evenings and we planned a birthday inner-tube ride on Apple River but we put it off because he had a cold. My 92nd birthday the 19th, Betsy and Penny 'phoned and sent gifts. Cards and candy from friends and the 24th, we July people had coffee and cake in the dining room.

I went to Macalester church each Sunday. Once I got on the wrong bus for Mac, got back in time for Central. Mac's daughter Jean was in town for several days.



My great-grand-daughter
ALICE—
Nantucket—
June, 1978

July 1979



Thomas Edward Handsaker of Coos Bay, Oregon, grandson of Edward Baker Handsaker, son of my great-uncle Samuel Handsaker. Thomas is adding a lot to my family history.

THIS WAS another routine month, with several high spots. The weather was mostly fine, not too hot; but the 6th, when I went to Retired Rails the first time this year, it hit 96° (Elmer Linell's wife is in a nursing home and he is batching). The second half of the month there was some showery weather specially the last week, State Fairweek; I did not attend.

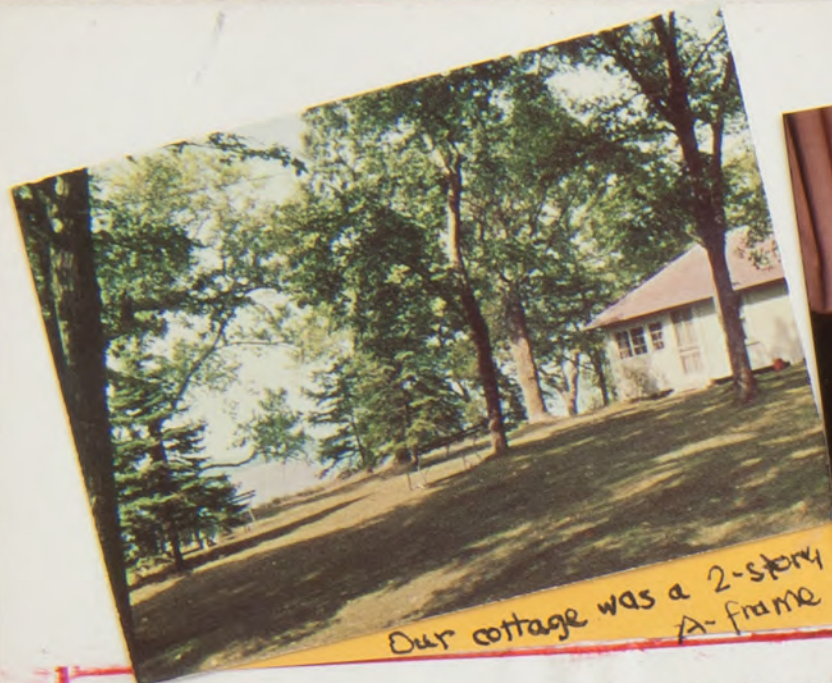
I walked downtown and back several times to the grocery or bank and three times to see Yankee Girl, the tiny 10-foot cabin-cruiser sailboat which Gerry Spiess of White Bear Lake built and sailed across the Atlantic alone in 54 days.

The 2nd, Bill took me to his house overnight, planning to float down Apple River next day; Instead, we took Elliott Magraw to lunch and a drive..... The 8th, I went to an ice cream social at my church; I saw few friends.

President Carter started his Delta Queen trip to Saint Louis from Saint Paul the 17th..... I'll leave the great event beginning the 31st for next month's story.

It was this month that I got acquainted, by phone, with Tom Handsaker of Coos Bay, Oregon, and exchanged information which opened up to me a new group of our family.

August 1979



Our cottage was a 2-story A-frame

MOST MEMORABLE was our reunion with Jeanne and Mike, and my great-grandchildren Alice, three years old and Billy, 6 months at Clearwater Lake near Annandale, arranged by Bill, Aug. 31st to Sept. 3rd. A pontoon, rowboat, canoes and sailboats were provided. I swam a little, from the pontoon. When Mike fisher, Alice played with the bait worms. We were well fed by Bill, our cook. My most fun was bottle-feeding Billy and observing him, trying to use his tiny hands making talking noises. Sunday at St. Cloud they played racket-ball and we dined at a fine old hotel.

Then, the month was mostly routine: fair except two days of rain. Getting to the Eye Clinic and hospital across street work was a real job. On the 25th, a perfect day, Bill picked me up early for a drive to Duluth and back. We saw autumn color beyond Hinckley and from the Duluth hills we saw the grain fleet in the Lake, delayed by a strike just ended; and we saw the railway museum at the old N. P. depot.

Back home at nine.



Alleged to be me with Billy-boy
AT CLEARWATER LAKE
ANNANDALE
Jeanne, Billy, Alice and me



September
1979

THIS WAS a quiet month for me. Aside from the evenings out with Bill, about all I can chronicle are (1) the visit to this country of Pope John Paul II, which made some interesting TV programs; (2) a bus ride to Lake Josephine on the 16th; a pleasant outing though I was below par that week: a touch of flu? (3) Jim McMillan fell again, in his room; the 13th; no bones broken, but he was so shaken up that he stayed in the hospital for more than a month, and he never came back to the Towers. I had to learn to find meal pals without him.

The weather was mostly dry and sunny, or a light overcast; except for the 12th, 38°, most days were in the 50s or 60s and overcoats and hats were unnecessary, -- 70° the 16th.

October
1979



Jim McMillan (Mac) and I photo by Fred Wright

November
1979

INDIAN SUMMER: four days in the 60s, 16th to 19th; before and after, mildly freezing; snow, 2" the 9th and a half inch for Thanksgiving: it made the trees pretty. I got around OK, wobbly but no falls, and I kept up my exercises.

After a month in Bethesda hospital, Mac was moved to the White House nursing home by his son; he will not return here.

I was at Bill's for Thanksgiving, the 22nd, with three other guests. He cooked the turkey dinner, and champagne and pie were brought by guests. I stayed overnight. When Bill brought me home we visited Mac, in hospital again briefly.

I read four talking books: STARS ON THE SEA, TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, NUMBER 290 and ARREST SITTING BULL.

About Nov. 2nd, Iranian students, abetted by the usurper Iatola Houmene, seized our Teheran embassy and made our staff hostages for the surrender of the deposed Shah to them to be tried. By the month's end fifty hostages were still held.



Bill and I on his deck, Thanksgiving Day, 1979

December
1979

THIS WAS the driest and warmest December in many years; see my 1939 Annual. It was up to 54° the 10th. (but fell to 11° all day the 12th and 14th.) There was scarcely any moisture. I made three trips down town and went out with Bill twice. I sprained my knee so it bothered me for a month. The exercise class met twice weekly until the 19th. for a

Mac was back in the nursing home all month, waiting for a vacancy at Wilder East, but there was none.

Mike and Jeanne had another Christmas family reunion in Denver; Betsy, Penny, Janet, Bob and the two Dons were there and Bill and I flew there the 23rd, missing our flight but we got a later one. The 24th there was greeting and shopping. I



Alice and her brother Billy at Christmas



stayed indoors. Christmas morning little Alice handed out gifts, and we all took a walk around the block in mild sunshine with just enough snow to make a white Christmas. Then the big turkey dinner, and in the evening Alice put on an impromptu dance to TV music. Billy, 9 months old, was happy and busy, riding his trike (but he can't quite creep yet,) and jabbering in his own language.... The 26th, we went home. Bill put me on a one o'clock flight and I was home by 3:15.... but he stayed to go to a mountain camp "Outward Bound" for two weeks. The weather stayed mild with dense fog until New Year's.

The world situation got worse: hostages still held in Iran and Russia invaded Afghanistan.





Winter
Olympics



More Pictures
of the Xmas
Reunion
in Denver
1979

Alice and
her Daddy



Betsy and her grandson
Billy
More Pictures
at the
Christmas Reunion
1979

Some of my ¹⁹⁸⁰ 1979 Christmas Greetings



*Peace
and Joy*





Family in Denver

Xmas 79



SPRING
1980

Alice and
Billy Raudenbush



Billy and
his dad

1980 - 1980
January 1980

WINTER was here, but no blizzard. From the 7th to the 12th it was around zero with wind chill to -45°; then on the 13th it was up to 48°; to the 22nd, mildly freezing, and the month ended with more zero weather. Snow piled up but the walks downtown were clear: sometimes slippery. I kept inside much. I missed several swims and one Sunday church service. My walker was useful once. I went downtown several times and had no falls.

Bill took me out to dinner four times; the 15th, we saw Mac, at Bethesda Hospital, again. He seemed confused; a slight stroke? He will soon be put in Bethesda's Infirmary where he wants to stay. I attended the exercise class twice a week. I started making out my income tax reports the 10th, and finished them on the 27th. My eyes got very tired doing this work and I may have to get help next year. The little co-op grocery on 9th St. has opened. I've bought very little. Bill is leaving for a Bermudas cruise with Caldwells.

February in
Saint Paul
1980

FROM FEBRUARY 1st to 22nd, I was in Saint Paul. As winter weather rates, it was enjoyable: freezing and often down to zero, a little snow, sunny days and not much wind. But walks were often slippery and I did not go out very much. I saw the Winter Carnival parades the 2nd and 9th, only on TV. Few floats and bands, very short route but good crowds. I swam regularly, three times a week, walked down town or around the block a few times, and to the church on Sundays and Thursdays (once with my walker). I got my ticket and money for my visit to California, and Bill, back from his cruise, took me to the airport on the 22nd, after Betsy had phoned that the rain had stopped.



The Moscow Olympics
(sale discontinued)

also in Camarillo and
Disneyland 1980



Helen-Ornan Lee
Nelson, Bob Handsaker
Penny, Bob Miller

PICTURES BY
ROBERT
HANDSAKER
MARCH

Bob Miller 12

Nelson
H.

Penny
Miller



CAMARILLO, February 22nd to March 24th: The flight was uneventful; Don and Betsy met me and we went home via the Blind Center to get talking books and a player. Weather was fair and warm, except for six rainy days. I walked in the yard and on the patio; after two weeks I tried walking clear around the loop, about a third of a mile and I did this every day thereafter; sometimes Betsy went with me and sometimes we drove to a culdesac and walked.

February 29th, we all drove to Santa Barbara for a picnic.

in the seaside park. March 14th, I visited with Lewises in Canoga park while Betsy went on miniatures business, both are aging, especially Ed. March 21st, Betsy and I drove to Ventura and walked on the ocean promenade.

Betsy and Don played golf about twice a week, including two all-day sessions with old Northridge friends. I went with them on several shopping trips to Camarillo and Oxnard. We visited with neighbors frequently; Janet and Don were here for dinner the 9th, and again the 22nd; they came with Don's folks then: J&D stayed overnight. Ed Snekvik was here the 7th: he's had open heart surgery, financial trouble. We did not get to see Gene and Frances Handsaker: they were about to go on a visit.

I seem to be free of two troubles; my hernia and my weak left knee.

Berkeley
Mar. 24-Apr. 15
1980

BERKELEY: On Amtrak March 24th, 12 to 9, good dinner. Penny and Bob met me at Oakland. I began a routine of walking on deck and in patio, and often to the playground with Bob and Penny, a swim with Penny twice a week. It was fair and warm: a few rainy mornings. We got talking books in Oakland and Penny read nature stories to us most evenings.

Bob taught twice a week, and studied in Bancroft library most other days; Penny was busy with her jewelry and both garden and made home improvements. We dined once at a hotel, and twice at City Club; and once at Lois Stone's with four pleasant hours of talking. We took three all-day drives: the 24th of March to Sonoma (Lois along); we saw General Vallejo's historic mansion. April 10th we picked up two El Paso friends in San Francisco; thence to San Rafael via Golden Gate, to see some antique bedspreads. The 12th, to Sacramento to call on Cousin Lois, troubled by a stroke, and then to Cousins Bob and Audrey, where we had lunch with them and Cousin Helen and her husband Ornan Lee. Helen is Uncle Maurice's daughter.

Janet was with us one night: business in San Francisco. One morning we felt a tiny earthquake: just a single bump and Mount Saint Helens in Washington was shaking and erupting lava and ash all spring, after 123 "extinct" years.

April 15th, I flew home over white clouds. Bill met me.

Camarillo, Feb. 22nd - Mar. 24
1980

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Lewis County 77

Army post was named in 1900 to honor Maj. Gen. Henry W. Lawton, who was killed in the Philippine Islands in 1899.

Leadbetter Point (Pacific). The southern tip of Willapa Harbor entrance honors Lt. Danville Leadbetter, one of the officers of the U.S. Coast Survey expedition of 1852.

Leadpoint (Stevens). Named for nearby Electric Point Lead Mine.

Leavenworth (Chelan). Original community of Ice became a Great Northern Railroad construction camp. Platted in 1893 by the railroad's "Captain" Charles F. Leavenworth, nephew of the founder of Leavenworth, Ks., the town adopted the family name.

Lebam, li-BAM (Pacific). J. W. Goodell created the town name by spelling his daughter Mabel's name backward.

Leland (Jefferson). Name was intended to honor Mrs. Laura E. Andrews, the first woman to settle in the valley, by coining a name from her initials, but the postal authorities spelled the name Leland instead of *Lealand*.

Lemolo, lee-MOH-loh (Kitsap). A Chinook jargon word meaning "wild" or "untamed." A French-Canadian addition to the trade language, meaning "a runaway Negro slave," derived from the French word *Le More*, which was converted to the present form by the Indians' inability to pronounce the letter *r*. It was used to describe anything or anybody untamed.

Lester (King). Established in the 1880s as Deans for Dean Sawmill Co., the town was renamed, circa 1891, for Lester Hansacker, a telegrapher who worked at the section house there during construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

Lewis, Fort (Pierce). Constructed in 1917 as Camp Lewis on land donated by Pierce County, and redesignated as a fort in 1927, the post is named for Capt. Meriwether Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Lewis County; 2,447 sq. mi.; 6th in size; seat: Chehalis. Named in honor of Capt. Meriwether Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-6 which spent from 11 October 1805 to 5 May 1806 in

- From "Washington State Place Names"
by James W. Phillips -
Published by Univ. of Wash. Press, 1971.
Page 77

My own view is that mere logographers with no proprietary interest in railway stations don't get their stations named after them, but what else?

April at home
15-30-1980

ARRIVING home the 15th, Bill met me and we dined and bought groceries; and on the 29th we were out again. The weather warmed up to the 90's the 21-22nd, then fell to the fifties, with a good deal of wind; only a few traces of rain. I ended the month with a head cold, unusual for me.

May 1980

ROUTINE is the word for May. I swam a quarter mile, three times a week; every Tuesday evening Bill took me out to dine and shop; each Thursday I lunched at Central Church, with a movie-recorded sermon. and Sundays, I went to Bible class and worship at Central. Saturday was always dull. The weather was rather chilly, without rain, until the 19th, when it began to be hot and humid, in the 80's and 90's then thunderstorms, rain and it was moderate again. My best dinner with Bill was at the K. of C. Club, where we shared a steak and fresh salmon; and one hot evening Bill drove to White Bear... The exercise class started again. May 18th, Mount Saint Helens had two great ash eruptions, after 40 years quiet.

Paul-
June 1980

GENERALLY warm, sometimes a little hot but mostly pleasant. but rapn and thunder the 1-5-6-12-16 and 22nd. I was pn- doors with a sore left foot most of the time from the 11th to the 25th: it felt like a sprained ankle but might be due to my bad leg circulation. I went to Share clinic by cab and bus. It was all right by the 30th, but I had missed some swims. I read talking books, "King James VI of Scotland", "Fatu Hiva", and "Fair Winds, Far Places". The 4th, George Pepin dropped in; his mother had broken her hip... The 15th, I had a ride to Mac-Plym. Church: flowers were in memory of Bertha... The 17th, out to Embers with Bill, and the 24th, he drove to Prescott: we dined at Steamboat Inn. This month Ed Lewis died and Alice had a stroke and is in a nursing home, speechless and paralyzed.

July 1980

MILD SUMMER weather (80's and below) for 22 days, but the 9th to 15th it went up in the 90's and that was HOT.. We had three or four thunderstorms, one with hurricane winds did a lot of damage. On the hottest days I felt weak and lazy and avoided exercise; but I walked downtown several times, and swam pretty regularly. Most of the month I felt fine, and my sore ankle gave no more trouble.

Bill and I went out twice to dine and shop; the 16th we met Gudrun Hertsgaard and Irving Satrang at Lee's for dinner, then we adjourned to Gudrun's porch. On the 19th, my 93rd birthday, Bill took me to his home to see his new bay window and eat broiled steak, watermelon, etc. Betty was there, too. I stayed for the night and next day we swam in a club pool. I had phone calls and gifts from Betsy and Penny and a new clock from Bill and Penny, a wall clock that runs a year on a pen-light battery.

July
continued

In July I read "The Grapes of Wrath", and was much moved by Steinbeck's vivid story, but not by his indictment of bankers. I should never complain at anything after the troubles the Joad family had.

Bill Boland was found dead in his room, July 1st. He was one of my good friends here, and I did not know his heart was in such bad shape.

The Chicago Union Depot was gutted by fire on the 25th.

MOSTLY TEMPERATE: only three days got over 90°, but there were six rainy days and half the others were very humid. At night, three thunder-rain-windstorms caused many power outages. It was a comfortable month for me: mostly I felt good and got my usual exercises including four or five six-lap swims each week.

The Town Square development closing a block of 7th Street was opened and I walked through it 3 times. We gave away our best street and got gypped in return.

The State Fair opened the 21st and closed Sept. 1st, but I only heard of it on television and TV news began

to be mostly about the presidential campaign: I don't like either Carter or Reagan. Carter's an honest fumbler, Reagan's an opportunist.

At the Towers, 2 movies, 2 singalongs. Bill was sailing on Lake Superior one week, but I went to dinner with him three times..... Janet and Don were bicycling and Eurailing in Europe.

August
1980



September
1980

EARLY FALL weather, mild but once above 90° and one frosty night. Dr. Carroll examined me the 8th: My blood pressure's up a little. Streets near the hospital are torn and all day I lay on my couch, perfectly comfortable, having no will to do anything; I went to breakfast and dinner: had no appetite. Much better next day but not par for a week. Richard Lewis, son of Ed and Alice, was in town the 16th and 'phoned me... I was out with Bill three times. He says that Jeanne and Michael are divorced; a very immature action, I think.

INDIAN SUMMER the 5th to 10th: 84° the 7th. The rest of the month mostly below 50° with some rain and a snowflake or two. My hips and legs often felt rusty, but with an occasional indocin pill I got around downtown as usual; and explored the new "Town Square" development (I don't like it). Most days I swam 6 laps, about half an hour. I had the big event was bug extermination in the whole building. We were told to empty all drawers and shelves, but after I had done most of this, the order was simplified. The big day was the 9th, when spraying was done. Special events were: the 8th, our Board of Trustees had refreshments with us; the 14th, I bussed to the hospital for medicine. (Streets still torn up) I was out with Bill the 7th and 14th, and had dinner with the Hoffmans, the 22nd. I went to Central Church every Sunday, and had lunch there each Thursday.

November
1980

INTER is slow in arriving: temperatures about 30°-45°, with a good many fair days and almost no snow, so I got around freely. I went shopping several times and walked around the block frequently. I swam regularly till the 14th when I found I couldn't see the lane lines, so I quit. Presidential election day was the 4th. The predicted near-tie was a landslide for Reagan. I didn't like either. I went to church and its Thursday luncheons regularly, and was out with Bill twice; then on the 27th he took me to a friend's home for Thanksgiving dinner. It was a very congenial group, and grandma told us how she came from Poland alone, as a girl..... I bought Christmas cards, had personal inserts printed and had them all ready to mail.

December
1980

BETSY invited the family to gather at her home for Christmas, so I was in Saint Paul only until the 15th, end day of \$115 fare to Los Angeles. I did my usual walking but no more swimming due to my vision. The weather was fair and above freezing (but 1st to 3rd, near zero).

The 1st, Bill and I discussed my left eye surgery with Dr. Carroll. That evening I had the Hoffmans for dinner at The Towers.

I was out to supper once with Bill, and he took me to my plane the 15th. After a smooth 3 1/2 hour ride Don and Betsy met me at L.A. airport.

The weather was fair to hazy, about 70° (80° when I arrived and I took daily walks, usually with Betsy when I went around the block, about 1/3 mile. When Don and Betsy went golfing, I had my talking books. When Don and Betsy

Bob and Penny drove in from Berkeley the 21st. Christmas day, after getting our gifts from under the tree, we had a picnic at Malibu Beach, and a turkey dinner that night. Janet and Don Carson drove from Reno the 26th and we had another celebration. They are buying a house in Reno. The Millers and Carsons left on the 27th-28th, and things were back to a quiet routine.



Glory to God
in the highest, and on
earth peace, good will
toward men.

Luka: 2-14

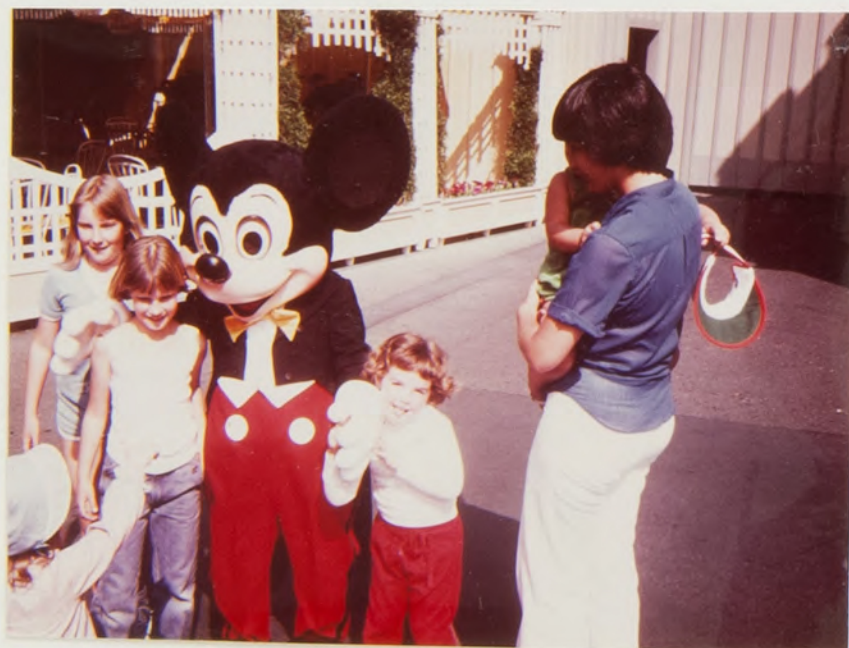
1980 in ...



Alice making lemonade.



Billy



Alice in Disneyland.

1981



Poinsettia (Euphorbia Pulcherrima)

kindle cut by Penelope & Bob

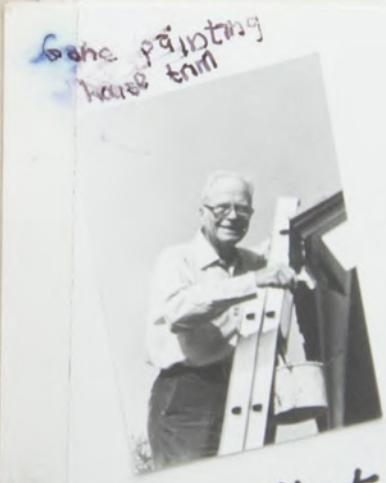


Love from
Sara, Amy
(5 1/2), Anna
Bryn (8 mos.)
+ Tom

Greetings
from our
winter
wonderland



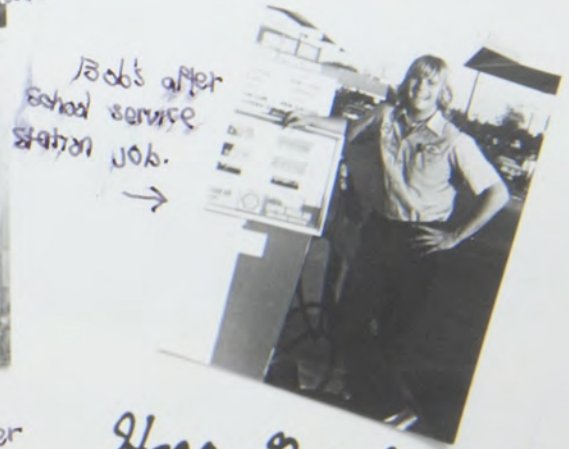
1980 in album along line



Gene painting house trim



Joan's picking tomatoes



Bob's after school service station job.

Merry Christmas!
Tom & Karin on vacation in Mexico.



Laurie, Jim, Christopher at home in Toronto.

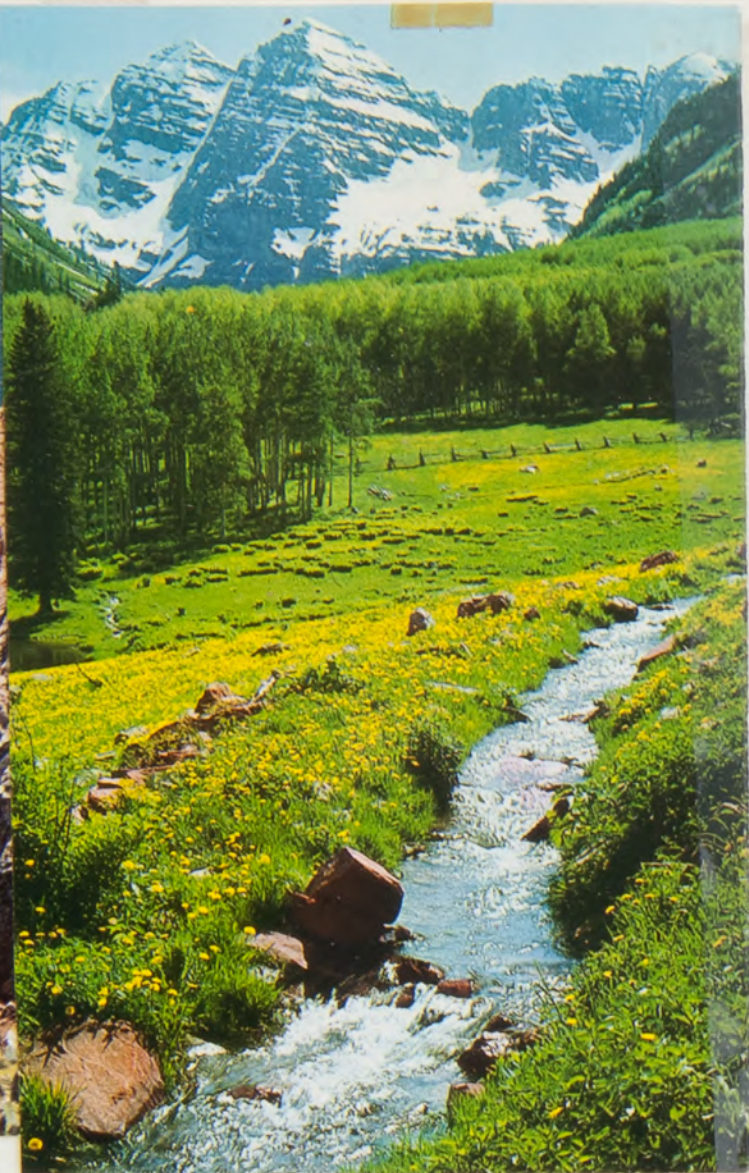
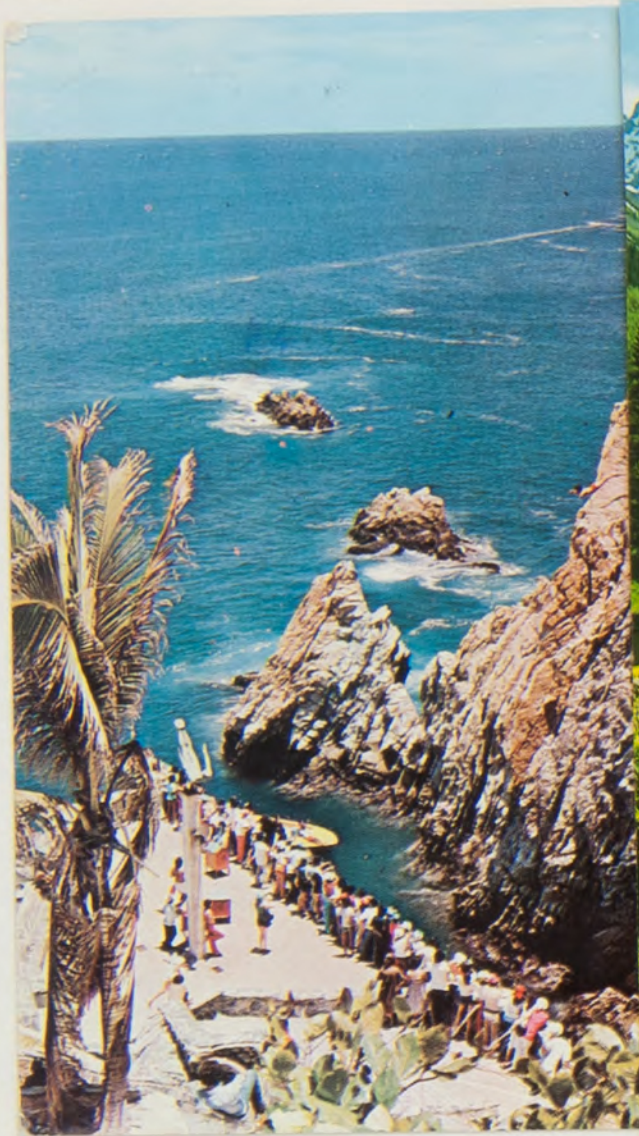


The Handakers
12-25-80

Happy New Year!
Jim, Kathy, Brian at Issaquah.



1980 on road along 1000



Alice Raudenbush
July 1981

July 1981
Billy Raudenbush



Billy Raudenbush
3 months old: born 3-6-79

WEATHER continued mostly fair, 65°-70° with some wind; one day it rained half an inch. I got a cold or a mild type of flu: sore throat, cough, a little fever, but it did not keep me from my daily walks, mostly with Betsy. My legs rebelled once or twice. Wednesday mornings, Betsy worked at the hospital. She and Don played golf about twice a week; once the golf-bridge group met "here" and I had wine and lunch with them. A lunch was always left for me, when I was left alone. We shopped in Camarillo and Oxnard and they worked on Pacific Coast Miniatures."

My cold was about over when we visited Gene and Frances Handsaker at Redondo Beach, the 10th. Claire Keeney and Belle's daughter Mary were there.

The 21st, an evening dessert at Kounsas, and the 28th we dined next door with Helen and Barney West and his mother.

The 23rd, Ed Snekvik and Earl and Kernice Linvog drove in for lunch; we heard about Linvogs' visit to Oberammergau. That evening Barbara (Samuelson) and Tom Richey stayed overnight. They breed horses in Arizona and sell real estate.

I left on the 27th, and rode all afternoon and evening on Amtrak's new double deck train, for Oakland.

Jan. 81
in Camarillo
January 1981
Camarillo

At Berkeley
Feb. 17-28
1981

PENNY AND BOB met me at the Oakland depot Tuesday night January 27th, in rain which lasted, off and on, for two days. My exercise was mainly walking 20 laps daily on the patio and, with Penny, I had five swims of 2 to 4 laps in the Club pool. One day we walked nearly a mile along Lake Merritt, and once to the playground.

We dined at the Club three times, and once Lois Stone had us for dinner, with the Cohns.. We were at the Nichols one evening.

February 5th, Bob and Audrey Handsaker drove from Sacramento, with cousin Helen Lee and her husband Orrin. They said that cousin Lois is in a nursing home. Then the 14th, Jane t and Don Carson drove from Reno and stayed overnight. They are dickering for a house in Reno.

Penny worked at the Art Co-op once a week; Bob was at Bancroft Library most days. I had the talking books; I read Jane Eyre again, after many years.

Meanwhile, Bill went briefly to Acapulco, and meant to ski in Colorado next, so I flew home and he met me the 17th.

It cost me \$115 to fly west; the regular return rate was \$232 but I got a senior citizen rate of \$188! Crazy!

As usual, after my most enjoyable visit with the girls, it's comfortable to slip into the old routine at the Towers. One friend who didn't greet me was Gil Hare, who's been laid up. WEATHER in St. Paul: springlike, up to the 40-50s daily, dry.

SPRING came gradually: freezing at night for three weeks but mostly mild; fair days with lots of wind; it got up to 75° on the 28th. I was outside quite often, around the Arts & Sciences block and downtown occasionally, to the church Sundays and Thursday luncheons and of course out with Bill most Tuesdays for a steak.

I fell down 3 unmarked steps, at the new Bremer branch of Commercial Bank, the 2nd. My lame left leg became a lot more painful and sleepless nights became chronic.

I mailed my income taxes and compiled these summaries.

Dave Morris, fragile for years, died this month.

President Reagan was shot, the 30th, by a young fool and seriously wounded but recovered rapidly.

Gil Hare returned to The Towers after a slow recovery from a broken shoulder.

March 1981

The new home
of Janet and Don
in Reno



MOSTLY COOL, fair, windy (one night storm.) Warmest day, 2nd, to 78°; coldest, 4th, 31-35. I went to church and the church Thursday luncheons. The 19th was Easter; in the afternoon Bill took me to dine with his friends and watch their kite flying. Bill also took me to the Embers a couple of times and John Hoffman took me home for another family dinner.

My left thigh and knee pained me day and night, and it was so weak that I often avoided walking. I saw Dr. Little and he increased dosages of indogin but had no effect. I'm not swimming, because of poor vision, but Bill and I arranged to have my left eye cataract removed with implant next month.

Another loss of exercise: the push-pull pedal bike the children gave me three years ago wore out.

John Bjorklund called on me the 15th. He is still with Ford Motor Co. Ed Panushka died this month. We had one or two movies and a church group's musical entertainment.

April 1981

In Feb
Mike
were e
k howes
with C

1980 in Midway along the river

CATARACT SURGERY with implant in my left eye: Bill took me to Midway hospital May 4th PM., stayed till 7th noon with surgery PM. of 5th. Local anesthetic, no pain; all went well. Temporary glasses the 27th, had been wearing a patch, then an old pair of glasses.

But my worst problem all month was pain in my left leg, mostly the knee and thigh, which kept me tossing all night, gradually realizing that I must be getting a good deal of sleep, for I get up refreshed and am seldom sleepy.

The weather warmed up: heavy frost the 10th to 60-78°, a few showery days. Despite the weak leg, I was downtown on foot a few times, but found it worth a senior citizen dime for even a few blocks by bus. I went to church, the Thursday luncheons. I climbed the ramps less frequently. I started chiropractic treatments with Dr. Lee.

Pope John Paul II was shot and nearly killed by a Turkish criminal in Rome the 13th.

May,
1981

Como Park
Conservatory, St. Paul



June
1981

MOST DAYS were fair, breezy, warm but not too hot; but we had some rainfall on 12 days and two thunderstorms.

My big event this month was the resumption of swimming on the 4th when my eye was healed. My daily stint is 6 laps instead of my former 9; I enjoy it very much, but I thought at first that I'd need my walker to get there: for my left leg's problem continued. The doctors say it's the spine, but it feels more like a local injury. Since my doctors offer no cure but spinal surgery not advised at my age, I had 6 chiropractic treatments; they didn't help at all. Betsy sent me a thick sponge rubber bed pad: it was no help. But I put the bedboard which Bill made, on the bed to reduce any sag in the bedspring.

Bill took me out to supper four times, and he ate here the 28th after we had gone to Macalester-Plymouth church on account of my memorial flowers for Bertha. On the 16th, he brought a new exerciser, a gift from my three children. The one they gave me on my 90th birthday had worn out.

For most of the month my TV set was away for repairs.

Alice and
Billy - July '81





Helen Handsaker Lee
Robert Handsaker
Mary Paige

1981

Mike Alice
and Billy



Alice Raudenbush



Alice
and
Billy



The Raudenbush
Christmas Tree
1981

Christmas
Dinner '81
(I was there)



The Family
Outside,
at Cameron/O.
Christmas '81



Billy Nelson, Michael
 Photo by Alice.
 July 5, '84
 (Polaroid color print)



"say 'cheese' Betsy & her Dad Feb 1982
 on the patio at Camarillo"

Obituary
 of Jim
 McMillan.

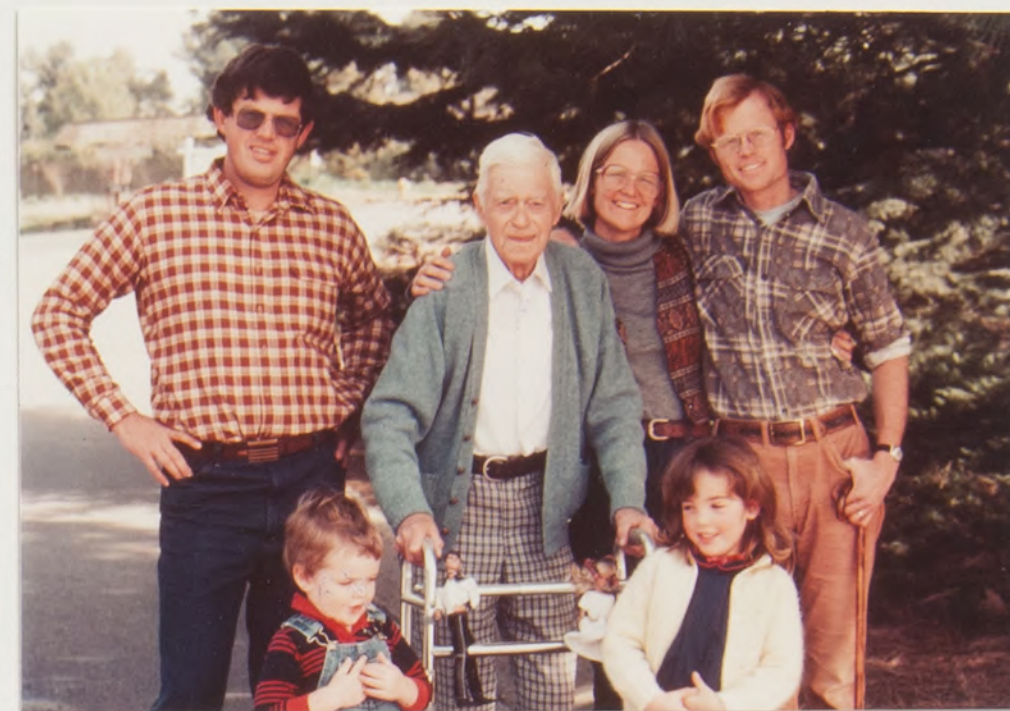
McMILLAN — James S., age 88 of the Bethesda Infirmary, on Feb. 21, 40 year employee of Minn. Highway Dept. Survived by daughter, Jean McMillan Apgar, Mt. Prospect, Ill. & son, Wesley McMillan of Anaheim, CA; 5 grandchildren & 2 great-grandchildren. Memorial Service Thursday 3 pm at Macalester-Plymouth United Church, 1658 Lincoln Ave. Private interment in Roselawn Cemetery. Memorials preferred to Bethesda Infirmary Activities Dept. for Audio-Visual Equipment. Arr. THE HOLCOMB - HENRY FUNERAL HOME.

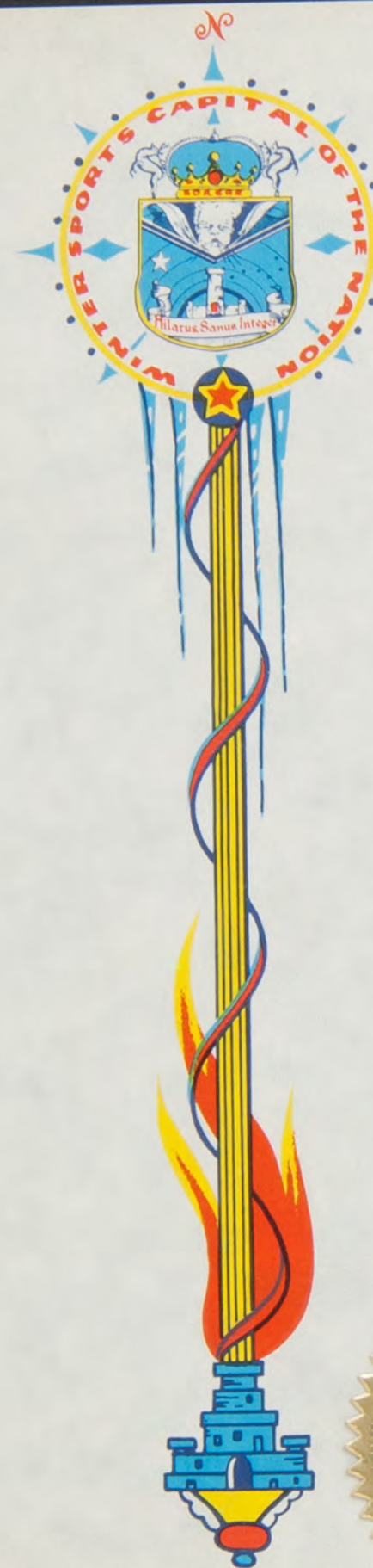


Bob Miller, Helen Handsaker Leo
 and Nelson Handsaker

Nelson ("Willard") Handsaker
 Looking at his book, "Samuel Handsaker,
 Oregon Pioneer."







W

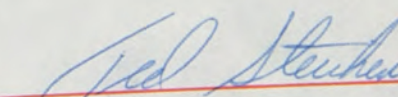
e, Boreas Rex, King of the Winter Carnival, in token of our esteem and reposing the utmost confidence in your ability to do honor to this illustrious position do hereby appoint

Nelson Handsaker

Elder Statesman So Fine At 99

To Have and To Hold the said office with all the rights, responsibilities, appurtenances and hereditaments thereto belonging, or by law in anywise appertaining, for the full term of our reign.

In Testimony Whereof, We have hereunto set our hand and caused the Great Seal of our Dominion to be affixed in the City of Saint Paul, Minnesota, our right royal Winter Capital, this 29th day of January in the year of our Lord 1987


Boreas Rex LI

