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Dear Hazel & Bruce

"Twas so pleasant to visit with you the other day. Thanks for calling.

Enclosed are the printouts I mentioned. As you read through, you will notice the places that I had to make corrections. Some of my "culprits" are cousin charts. If I don't have children listed, there is less width for the chart so the names "wrap around" to the next line. I have to "narrow" the chart. Actually I've gotten wiser (with time) re: the charts and put them in "narrow" if no children. The charts have been a BIG challenge! You should see how complicated some are. *One mildly complicated on p. 50 of Desc. of Emig.*

I think I've located most of the "footnote" problems. I'll never understand why Roots3 changed major footnotes to name of an individual. I spent months tracing down those problems but find more every time I print. ("More" meaning different ones because once I change them back to what they're supposed to be, they stay.)

I'm in the middle of the Eby book that Elinor (Frantz) Thomas sent. I'm glancing through each page (but not examining everyone or reading every word.) It's uncanny how my eyes "catch" a name (a familiar name) on the page. I'm remembering names that aren't Frantz, or the other familiar Brethren names. Sure enough, I do a "search" and there s/he is. I say "Thank you, Lord" and proceed to enter the additional information and add the new source (footnote). Well, I've found an awful lot more information! Lots of dates and locations that I didn't have; tied families together; found more cousin marriages. (The cousin marriages are driving me crazy!! Almost 300 in my database now--of 20,000. I'm positive of lots more but don't have the "links"....)

Enclosed is a copy of the article (or advertisement) for the books. (I read it to you on the phone.) Well, the dye is cast: The ads are enroute to several publications. I don't know whether the several publications will print... but I mailed them original copies in large envelopes with cardboard to keep them from getting folded or wrinkled (75¢ each to mail). I also sent SASE so they can write back if they are going to reject the ad. Time will tell.

I bet you wonder why I have Eby, Royer, Metzger, etc., etc. Because the OGBB have been so good about supplying info! and the families are so interwoven. And there are lots of Frantz connections!!!!

You or I should contact Marwin Brubaker and see if he has his enormous amount of Brubaker information ready to share. I keep running into Brubaker at every corner!

Also enclosed: A set of pages that will precede the genealogy (of the four books). I've been working on Introduction, Acknowledgements, For Your Information, etc, for a year or more but occasionally revise the wording a little. Perhaps another change or two before the pages go to press (especially in the section called For Your Information. I'm trying to supply answers to all the questions that the reader might ask). What do you think of the opening pages? Any Questions?

I hope to include several photographs in the books. Eleanor Frantz (Dore's daughter) is sending picture of Dore; Lowell is sending pictures of his family. I would like a studio-type photo of you, Hazel, for the book. In other words, I want photos of the primary compilers. No big rush; it will be several months before I ship the "camera ready" pages off to the publisher.

Sincere thanks for the manila envelop of information that you sent recently. I'll get to it as soon as I can. I'm just so "swamped" with stacks of unprocessed material and I have so little spare time!!!! (Sometimes I'm so exhausted in the evening, after I get home from the convalescent home, I just go to bed and watch some T.V. My mind tells me I should be at the computer but my body is "too tired.")

Getting this material into print has become an obsession with me! I feel such an urgency! A month ago a cousin died of cancer. She was doing a lot of genealogy, including Alderfer and Traxler. She was in her 60's--the widow of my first-cousin Bud Stilwil (who died in his 30's of cancer. Bud was one of my triplet cousins.) --- (I bet I didn't punctuate that last sentence right; I should have reworded it. I'm typing this as I think. I do better if I scribble a story, article, or letter and then revise it so the garbled sentences don't make it into print. Forgive me!?)

Parkinson's Disease can be an inherited disease. I hope and pray to the Lord that I never get it. It is terrible!! My mother's mind is still sharp and alert. Her body is breaking down so that soon she won't even be able to feed herself. She has no feeling from the waist-down; can't walk, can't move her legs. Her hand and arms shake very bad when she feeds herself. It is virtually impossible to understand what she says. Her throat is so affected that she can't talk and she strangles and choaks on the puree food. Her mind is a prisoner in a body that doesn't function properly. I pray that I'm spared of that horrible fate. In the meantime, I want to get the Frantz info into print!!!!

Fortunately, I have a job that allows me a lot of time for letter writing and proofing. I'm at the typewriter, waiting for the phone to ring. It's 11:20 and my work is caught up; I'm here to take phone calls and occasional person at the counter. Praise God for the time to work on "proofing" while drawing my salary.

Friday, June 10, 1994

Back again....

I reread the letter and see that I didn't include information about my new printer. (Maybe I told you on the phone?!) I just purchased a new printer to use for the final "camera ready" pages of the books. It's a Xerox ink-jet printer which is advertised to deliver copies with as good of quality as a laser printer (but without the high price of a laser printer). My 24-pin dot-matrix printer has been fine for everything I've done so far. However, for the books, I want every page to be equally sharp. With a dot-matrix the ink on the ribbon gets fainter after 100 pages, and fainter still the more pages I print. Of course, I could have purchased 20 new ribbons and changed ribbons every 100 pages but the new printer should do a super job. I haven't hooked it up yet so don't know for sure. (Everything will be reprinted.... The pages I'm sending of "Intro," "Acknowledgements," "For Your Information" are just "draft" copies right now -- working copies.)

This is Friday (9:45 a.m.) and I hope to get several packages into the mail tomorrow. I really haven't had time to stand in line, at the Post Office, this week. When I mail this to you, I'll mail the same package to Rosa (Hufford) Yoder Brovont and Gladys (Cool) Royer.

I'll also send the printout to Donald Billet. I resent people who write for information and don't send a SASE. Donald Billet has written twice; I ignored the first letter without SASE. I reconsidered this time and sent what I had (which didn't answer his questions). I sent him an advertisement and asked that he circulate it to Frantz researchers that he may be in contact with and/or any Pennsylvania-German organizations that he has contact with. I hate it when people don't send SASE!!!! On second thought, I usually send information because I remember how generous others were, with me, in the beginning. You, and Lowell, shared so much information.... Gladys Royer send her notebook (full) with original research and told me to make copies of anything (and everything) I wanted.

I never cease to be grateful for all the information that folks have shared with me. I hope I don't offend anyone by excluding them from the "Acknowledgements." Example: I didn't include Gladys Royer in the " " but made special reference to Rosa Brovont and her OGBB Obituary Notices from the Vindicator. I don't want to "step on any toes." I sure hope the "cousin charts" don't offend or embarrass the individuals or their descendants.

Re: cousin marriages, here is a quote from the latest publication from The National Genealogical Society Quarterly (received in the mail yesterday). This is a special publication called "Your Family's Health History, An Introduction." The quote is long so I'll type it on the next page.

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"Consanguineous Marriages

Genealogists often find ancestors who married cousins. In such cases, the family health historian should document the union and the relationship, and inquire whether there were excessive time lapses between known children or whether any of those children had particular health problems. However, one should not latch onto the intrafamily marriage as the explanation of problems in much-later generations.

The increased risk of genetic problems from cousin marriages applies to the children of that particular couple, but not to the grandchildren or later descendants. Why? Because the risk lies in inheriting the same recessive gene through both parents, thus causing the child to exhibit that problem. If a child of a consanguineous union did not inherit two copies of the disease gene, then his or her descendants are at no greater risk for that problem than is the average person."

Article: "How to Be a Family Health Historian" National Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 82, No. 2, June 1994, p. 88.
Oh yes, the author was/is Anita A. Lustenberger, C.G.

Hazel, do you think I should include some or all of the above in "For Your Information" because "inbreeding" in Royalty, etc, carries some negative connotation. As I said in "FYI": "It is my desire to illustrate the positive nature of the relationships and not to embarrass families and/or descendants." I'm concerned about how you, and Lowell, feel about the material because I put your names in a prominent place!! This reminds me that I ought to add a statement somewhere that identifies statements and comments as those of the editor and not necessarily the opinion of Dore M. Frantz Sr., Lowell H. Beachler and Hazel Frantz Turner.

Well, I've "bent your ear" long enough. You have more reading material here than you probably want. Happy reading!

Warmest regards,

Lorraine