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To: Lela Landes Shoup  
Gladys Cool Royer  
Rosa Yoder Brovont

Enclosed find several printouts re: Flora. I'm sending identical pages hoping that one of you will confirm the relationship. It is obvious that the connection is there but the birthdates are a little bit different. I hesitate to make connections (in the computer) if I don't have something to base it on.

It's a few days before Christmas and I'm truly blessed! The boss is gone until the middle of next week. Most of the co-workers are taking vacations. There is a limited amount of work to do in the office. All I have to do is sit here and answer the phone (but there are very few phone calls.)

I'm getting a lot of "proofing" done. The "proofing" seems endless!!!!!! I'm working on volume one right now and there is a lot of "text" in the beginning of the book. There are a lot of narratives written by Dore M. Frantz that I am typing into the book (info that wasn't included with the genealogy). I'm using the "spell checker" on the computer software program but I'm also checking the printed pages against Dore's originals. In some instances, Dore typed the narratives three or four times. He may have changed the wording so I decide which I like best. Also some of the info may be with two or three people so I have to type in part of the narrative and say "Copied from The Dore Frantz Manuscript with the exception of selected information that appears elsewhere in this volume." Where I leave out info, I put the three or four dots at the end of the sentence. I'm really impressed with the extent of Dore's research (all over again, I am impressed). He seems to have been very tenacious about collecting and documenting. (A man after my own heart!!)

As I work with his information, I see areas where I should do some more research. It would be better for the books if I did the research and confirm some of his data. However, if I wait to publish until I've checked and double-checked, I might never get the books into print. Frankly, I'm very suspect of some of our "tradition" data. Maybe I'll be able to eventually do research in Pennsylvania and unravel some of the duplication of names against land records and wills. Maybe, when the books are out, others will "jump on the band-wagon" and help me with documentation.

I mailed over 240 Christmas cards and 230 with newsletters. I have received five more orders for Frantz Families -- Kith & Kin. I'm grateful for the extra orders but still not enough to bring the cost of publication down. (52 or 53 now, I think.)

Dear Lela & Marvin,

I've had two delightful phone conversations with Ruby and Jerry Wagoner recently. I've sent Christmas cards/newsletters since 1991 but this was the first year that I received from them. Jerry has a computer now and was asking me for suggestions about genealogy software programs. I sent information and also a printout asking if they can help me with a Swartz/Wagoner (in my lineage) that I lack information about.

I plan to go to Modesto to Annual Meeting and I plan to go to Ohio, in June, for the Studebaker Family Reunion. It sounds like the Studebaker's really put on a remarkable reunion. My plans are always "subject to change" but that's my plan right now. (Let the co-workers take days off during the holidays. I'll take my vacation(s) next year!!!!!!) I kept hoping that the Studebaker Family Association would buy a set of books for their library but no such luck. In fact, I'm very disappointed because two of the co-authors haven't expressed enough interest to order the books. I hope they aren't waiting for me to give them a set. Already, I will have the cost of two sets for the copyright office. I have planned to give a set to Allen County Public Library and a set to Family History Center, Salt Lake City, Utah. I'm "on the fence" about whether to give a set to the Church of the Brethren Archives in Elgin, Illinois. Right there is over \$400 (or \$500). Do they expect me to give them copies? (But don't, don't, don't say a word to them, Lela. We are just having "girl talk." OK???)

Changing the subject: Our weather is very nice. We have had some freezing temperatures but not bad. The weather all around the U.S. sounds so terrible. That makes me glad I live in Southern California! I don't think we have any bad weather forecasted for this holiday season.

In closing, I hope you all enjoyed a happy Christ's birthday AND THE WEATHER WASN'T TOO TERRIBLE. I'll have a happy Christ's birthday at my computer. If there are any restaurants open, I'll take myself out to dinner. On Thanksgiving I went to a very nice "buffet" restaurant and spent about two hours eating dinner. I'd take a small plate of food and eat slowing while reading some genealogy ("proofing," in fact) and then I'd go back for something different while reading. Anyway, I got my money's worth and had a very delicious Thanksgiving dinner.

Will close and personalize a letter to Rosa and Gladys. I'm sending these because I hate to have extra pieces of paper laying around. I have so many pieces of paper, and notebooks full of info, I try to keep things organized (if possible).

Love and best wishes for 1996.

Lorraine