Tuesday, July 8, 2008 c:/wklylt8.8wc30

2008 NHN&WR letter/story #12

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Background.

This letter was written in early July as the above date indicates. It is unchanged save for the epilog and letter number.

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**Cheers**

(Sorry, ... we missed last month. this was mainly due to earthly visitations, see below\*. You may all feel free to cancel your subscriptions. )

We are fortunate to have homes in two lovely spots, an Ottawa one and a Vermont one. Sort of like pre-WWII neighborhoods, i.e. *... "Where Everybody Knows Your Name"* We are presently in Vermont. There are thirty-two houses on our street and we know all the people in them. Our recent change in driving habits, (gas price), brought this theme to mind. We carefully ‘batch’ our errand runs now. Last week’s batch included: Post Office, Town Clerk Office, C.I.D.E.R., Insurance Agency, Hardware Store, Caution Auto Repair, and A&B Island Supermarket. Come with us as we do our out of house chores. Oh, but first we must call Kelly. We use her services to clean our cabin twice a month and she’ll be coming while we’re gone.

*"Kelly, it’s Lucile. We are going out. The house is open, your check’s on the table. Just shut the door when you’re finished."*

*"OK, fine. We’ll see you then two weeks from today, bye."*

The NHN&WR Team heads for the car.

Stop 1: Post Office, Post Master Jim.

*"Good morning Jim, nice day huh?".*

*"Hello One Fifteen. Will be good to have one day without rain for a change. You’ve got a package that wouldn’t fit in the box. I’ll get it."*

*"Thanks a lot, have a good day."*

Stop 2: Town Clerk’s Office, Town Clerk Ruth. We enter.

*"Ah, it’s .... The Jeffersons. What can we do for you today?"*

*"You can take some money, we’re here to pay our water bill.*

*"Would you like to pay mine too?"*

*"Do you still have that nice winter home in Florida?"*

*"Yes."*

*"Well, I think you can afford to pay your own water bill. Where’s your Dog?"*

*"Still upstairs resting. Had a hard day yesterday."*

*"The grass at the corner of West Shore Road and Station Road is so high I have to get out of the car to see if anyone is coming."*

*"They’ve started mowing this morning. Not sure where they’re starting ,but should be done soon."*

*"Wonderful, take care."*

Stop 3: C.I.D.E.R. Champlain Islanders Developing Essential Resources.

*"Hello Lee, Carol, Robin, Jim, how are you all this morning? Just dumped a few books in your Blue Box."*

*"We’re all fine Ken, ... and as long as you’re here, can you take a Gentleman to St. Albans tomorrow morning?".*

*"Guess I should have just dropped off the books and sneaked away, ... but yes, I can do that."*

*"Are Lucile & Bailey out in the car?"*

*"Yup."*

*"I’ll go out and say hello while you get the trip particulars.*

Stop 4: Insurance Agency.

*"Hello Eleanor"*

*"Hi Jeffersons."*

*"Our daughter gave us a check to pay her home insurance last weekend. We’re 2 days late getting in here. You won’t tell on us will you?*

*"Nope, no problem."*

Stop 5: Hardware store.

*"Hi Cindy, just finished a watercolor and need a piece of glass, 14 1/2 X 10 5/8.*

*"Okay, but I see Bailey in the car. I’ll take her a doggie biscuit first.".*

Stop 6: Cautions Auto.

*"Hello George." (Still half Ken half George)*

*"Hello Brian. Can you check the brakes on my truck this week"*

*"Can you bring it in and leave it till Friday?"*

*"Can bring it in, but need a lift home."*

*"No problem."*

Stop 7: A&B, The Islands locally owned Supermarket.

*"Hi, is Michelle in today?"*

*"Yes, in the back."*

*"Good."*

*"Michelle, looking great."*

*"So are you folks. What can we do for you today?"*

*"Running low on ‘Hershey Dark Chocolate Bars’. Can you get us a couple boxes?"*

*"Sure thing, have them here Monday noon."*

*"Thanks, have a good day."*

Stop 8: Home.

And that was the shopping/errands for the day. Knew everyone we did business with and the cabin was spanky clean when we got back. Can’t beat that.

From North Hero, Lucile, Ken & Bailey.

\* Earthly visitations this Spring and Summer were; 39 family, one friend of 70 years. And were in, Connecticut, Ontario, Pennsylvania and Vermont. (Art Ward; Hi Guy, didn’t have an A, so you made the list.) Enjoyed seeing all you folks and come next week we will enjoy a bit of solitude too. All you folks being, ...

Art, Beth, Bill, Bill, Carol, Carole, Claude, Colin, Danny, Dave, Etta, Frank, Gerry, Guy, Heidi, Jennine, John, Julian, Julio, Kelly, Ken, Linda, Linda, Lucile, Marc, Marz, Matt, Michael, Michelle, Morgaen, Myr, Nancy, Nick, Norman, Oliver, Rowan, Sara, Sara, Thomas, Willow. Didn’t really see Julian, but he was here with Morgaen.

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Epilog.

That was Tuesday July 8. Today is Tuesday, October 7 What a difference three months can make.

Kelly has broken up with her boyfriend and moved to Massachusetts. (Ken vacuums, Lucile dusts, Bailey sheds)

The 72 chocolate bars are also gone.

Our super Town Clerk has resigned.

Cautions Auto has been closed by the Tax Dept.

Islands were a Disaster Area after a huge storm.

Insurance Agency took care of a new roof for the neighbors.

Ken had a heart attack.

Julian is now with us in person.

And finally, we are only 1 week late with our letter and North Hero remains pretty much the same. Love it.

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