

Feb. 16, 1967

Dear Bernice and Jack:

Well just a short one this morning before I leave for A. J. for refills and supplies.

We are all mended and look O.K. again. Travis doesn't even limp and he had a skin graft and healed just fine - we flew to California for Xmas & N.Y. holidays and of course he had to soak his foot twice a day we made real nice house guests that way, and by the time we came home 1-3. he was walking fine - he now wears ace bandage only when wearing boots and walking a lot in them.

We are lucky to have come out of that so quickly.

Are you two going to really give up Arizona this year for some other State. we will miss seeing you along about April or May. Or perhaps you just won't be able to eliminate Arizona from your vacation. ?

I think flying must be for the birds! I'm rather a calm person on the ground (in spite of our present activities) but in the air, my hands get clammy, my mouth waters, (like wax) and my heart does a double time, and I come in for the landings really lit up. The return trip was better, guess I did trust the plane a little

more by then, but I sure
was glad to set down correctly
and use my own legs on
Terra firma. The car had
set at the air port 12 days &
started O.K. and was all there.
Old cars are very seldom tested
and at license renewal time
shirk a dream.

Well its 9:am. already and
I must get going. Hope
you are both as usual,
which is very good. and we
do look forward to seeing you
again.

By now,
Love from
Grace & Travis.

May 18, 1967

Dear Bernia and Jack:

Well we have stoped selling on the floor and honestly that really takes the prize. Barry was in trouble in Arizona in 1940 with the I.R.S. and the S.E.C. for selling part of himself + interests in his treasure hunting and he now has some new angles, due to the Life magazine article. Oh Boy! We are going to have to lay off of the Peralta Superstition deal for awhile, and get busy and make some money now. Funds have been real low since the skin grafted ankle, and we don't have that all paid for yet so just have to tackle more profitable work.

This is the time for your vacation, so you might just be in Oklahoma now gathering your material and a flock of new friends. I don't see how you manage to write to all that you do, I just am getting worse and worse about writing any letters at all. I think it's because our minds have been so unsettled lately as to what to do. The wages in Arizona are terrible, so Mitch can't make much here. The weather in Arizona is wonderful! Had a perfect winter and cool spring it is just beginning to warm the whole out side up, now - was 98 yesterday and about the same today - it's noon

and we don't even have the refrigerator on yet,
a cool breeze coming in the windows

You asked about Storey and wife. An article
in Brooks newspaper 11-18-66 ^{quote} "Reavis Ranch
Being Sold To Forest Service". The old Reavis
ranch in the heart of the Superstition Mountains is in the
process of being acquired by the U.S. Forest Service, it was learned
earlier this week. James Cochran, Lands Staff Officer of
Tonto National Forest, reported that transfer of land from
Hoyt Storey to the federal government was nearly completed.
The U.S. Attorney General still must accept the title.

Sale of the ranch property will involve the old IV Ranch
headquarters just beyond the Fish Creek Highway Camp. The
Reavis Ranch included 60 acres of private land and one of the
best springs in the Superstition Mountains. The ranch is
surrounded by the Superstition Wilderness area except for a
narrow corridor on either side of the road into it from the
Apache Trail. The corridor could be eliminated now, but
plans for its future are still indefinite. When title is
accepted the transaction will involve approximately \$80,000.
from Land and Water Conservation Fund money and exchange
of some National Forest Land outside the Wilderness area
Unquote:

So they have been very busy moving and
possibly even building on their new property.
Helen Martin could give you the latest on
our them. It's been round up time too
so the Martins and the Stores are all
busy.

Queen Valley just has one more house now

than it had when you were here last.

It's ^{2 valleys} quite a ways from town and any conveniences and just hasn't taken off, but it is still just the way we like it.

Hav'nt had any Moscow Mules lately. Think I'll have to get some ginger beer next time I'm in town, now that I think of them, we also hav'nt been to the Grayhound races yet, I'm still golfing and getting a little bit better.

We're going to miss your visit this year, but will be anxious to see what you find about the different stones that were marked many centuries ago and have been found in various parts of the world. Don't forget that the earth has flipped many times, like in Siberia found frozen in ice a group of standing horses with green grass being eaten (at the time of the quick flip) just when this all happened and how the years or ages could co. inside

I sure don't know, but please don't pursue these ancient histories toooooo seriously, it can also flip you off of your rocker, as it is so hard to prove any thing, but most of all it's fun, and have a good time in Oklahoma, and write us about it please.

Carol was over for two days, a short visit she and her friend Maime are going on a three week vacation

starting the end of May, way up into Canada
and also visiting relatives in Wash. State. They
have a V.W. Combie all equipt for very
pleasant camping.

Sammy weighs about 80 lbs. now and
really finds each individual a personal
curiosity and challenge. When he looks
me right in the eye, eye ball to eye
ball, the chills really scurry up my spine.
He is on a chain in the yard, but has
broken it a few times and gone over the
fence to see what the rest of the world is
like. Bill says the dogs really scatter
when Sammy bounds along. Bill was
walking Sammy around the out side yard
and Sammy came upon a cactus, and put
both front paws around it before he ^{Bill} knew what
he was going to do. His paws were all full
of stickers which he very calmly let Helen
pull out with the tweezers and then he licked
his paws and pondered that experience
over. Helen really enjoys the cat. Me, too, but
a little differently. At a distance!

Well Bernice and Jack, please think
of us as often as we think of you.
Thats often, by for now.

As Ever,

Love from Grace and Travis or Mitch

Nov. 2, 1967

Dear Bernice and Jack:

I don't know if you have heard from some one else that we sold our place at Queen Valley or not. If you haon't then this is news to you. Any way July 25 we left Arizona, a big U Haul truck & car following. Stood every thing & had a small trailer, was on the Al 49 in highway in Calif. for the summer dredging, panning, and looking for gold nuggets. Did fair and sure had a lot of fun. Fall finds us again in Arizona working on 'you know what', living out in the Tules in small trailers and enjoying the sun again! We haon't seen any thing yet we like any better than Queen Valley. The house we sold tho was really too small for us

but we needed to re-finance
our selves so we could continue
and we do believe it will pay off.

Bary Storm is here also and work-
ing on the Pratta treasure maps, he
isn't in our territory tho so doesn't
bother us one bit. There are dozens
of big out fits working on the Pratta
treasure, but not in our area.

We get our mail at Apache Junction,
P.O. 99 - but address it C. O. Mitchell

we have a party taking care of the
book dept. Irovis Marlowe for us, and
they take that mail.

I'm way behind on our letter
writing. One every one. altho it
seems I was waiting for details
of your trip. When is your article coming
out. Be sure and read "Apache Tears" by

Nino Cochise in Old West Winter 1967
Wonderful story by grandson of Chief
Cochise. My only sheet of paper I
have. We think of you, two real often & hope
to see you again. As ever Grace & Mitch.

back in time
not all
people who know
Martins about this

Dec. 15, 1967

Dear Jack and Bernice;

Can you picture us huddled in a 14 ft. trailer for 4 days as it snows and rains, yes in Arizona, it snowed all over Arizona this time. In Flagstaff they have 44 in. of that white stuff, and all the hills around here are white, believe me I appreciate this at a time that I want to work in the hills so darn bad, so I guess it will be weeks before I feel those rocks under my feet again, and this trailer is getting smaller by the day.

One of these days we plan on going to Texas, maybe this summer, and we wish to see the Mc Gees, we can then tell a story which might sound unbelievable. We have never been to Texas, and we would like to see the Mc Gees.

When we get settled we would like to build a new house in Queen Valley on



5 acres of ground so that we can keep horses for you to ride when you visit us. I know how you love them. Ha.

Right now we wonder if the sun will ever shine again, but knowing Arizona as we do I am sure of it.

We are going to Calif. to our daughters for Xmas if we can make it, right now most of the roads are closed, either with water or snow.

If we can get to Texas between April 6 and Oct 6, 1968, we will take in San Antonio and their Hemis Fair, this should be good.

They call this place the valley of the Sun, well it has its moments.

We want to wish you both a Very Merry Xmas and a very happy New Year

Sincerely

Lavis + Grace

Written by Lavis.

