

KRESHA KRONICLE

Volume 1, No. 1

Printed at Pleasant Hill, Missouri

September, 1975

FIRST ISSUE AT LAST

Here it is, volume 1, number 1. A first edition is always a collector's item. How would it be if everyone started a notebook of copies of *KRESHA KRONICLE* a chronicle of family happenings? You will doubtless refer to it again and again.

This *KRESHA KRONICLE* is for YOU and about YOU. It goes this first time to all the brothers and sisters and to as many of the nieces, nephews for whom I have addresses. There will be no set subscription price and it will be sent to all. So if you appreciate hearing about your family, send a bit now 'n then to defray expenses. There is one other thing I would ask of you besides the subscription: that you Kreshas and descendants of Kreshas drop your editor (Pat) a line or two (postcard or letter) every month, if possible, before the 20th or as often as you can. Even if you just stubbed your toe or have the sniffles, every one will want to know how your are because they care.

This newspaper replaces the round robin in the second family, so all the letters are reprinted here and pictures that were enclosed have been, or will be, returned to their owners. For this paper we can use clippings from other papers, including pictures, and maybe a picture or two of interest each month. As you will see there are several included in this issue.

Charles and Adrian were elected to the committee for next year's reunion. Now Ade is an old pro at feeding a crowd. It seems he was in charge of a company picnic of 1500, and says they want him to be in charge of next year's for 2500. Now with a little over 100 Kresha descendants, don't you reckon he'll do a bang up job? It will be one we won't want to miss.

Dolores Nyffler was telling about something they do at the Nyffler reunion. As each family arrives, their picture is taken in a group. A scrapbook is kept of all the pictures. She says already they have a big laugh about some of the styles they (we) were wearing a few years ago. It would sure be a great idea and an added attraction for the reunion each year.

I had a letter from George and Margaret Kresha. They got back to Bakersfield and had time left on his vacation. So they went right to work on their fruit, apricots and peaches. George got a new bus route, also back driving the big bus again. It has a floating driver's seat.

• Harold and Lillian Witulski drove down to Pleasant Hill, Mo. early in August and had dinner with the Gene Thomas family. It was a short visit. They took a tour of the yard and garden, picked some grapes to take home, and then were on their way home. A week later, Harold's brother, Charles, and family, were on their way home from a trip to the Ozarks and stopped in at the Pleasant Hill Times to visit.

Need addresses for:

Paul Kresha	Leon Kosch	Tom O'Brien
Mike Kresha (Calif)	Michael Kresha	Richard Kresha
Dr. Wm. Gabriel	James Block	Mark Wolfe
Wanda Lukassen	Nadine Lukassen	Jim Kresha
Raymond Kresha	Michelle Kresha	Andrew Kresha
Robert Mausbach		

This volume 1, number 1 will be sent to the above people as soon as we receive their address. To those of you who received your family book at the reunion, please write the corrections to me. They were coming thick and fast at the reunion, and I'm not sure I got them all. We can print them in a future issue so that all may correct their books. If anyone didn't get a book and would like one, let me know that, too.

Letters from the Round Robin

Feb. 18

Hello Gang,

Income tax time and inventory has come and gone, thank goodness!

Did all you farmers do your part by filling out the ag. census? That was a real chore for me, wish they would pay one for their time spent on such reports.

We are making ready the maternity ward as the cows should start dropping calves this weekend. We have 250 cows to calve, the men usually take turns babysitting at night.

Last week we sent 50 head of heavy steers (988 lbs.) to market and got 29.70 for them. We couldn't afford to put any more wt. on them at the price of corn. We have some more to market next week and are hoping for a better market.

We have all been fairly well on the home front, except I've been battling sinus all winter.

Lillian and Pat we're hoping you both are recovering nicely from your recent surgery. We're remembering you in our prayers.

Glad to hear Patrick is 'Black Belt' bound, more power to you Pat!

Congratulations, grandparents on the new boy and girl added to the family, fill us in on the details.

It is very interesting to note Dian G's ability with guns. This week I sold our T-D 20 dozer, still have 2 scrapers and a grader here to sell. This all takes time. My farm foreman is interested in buying some of this equipment to do soil conservation work in our area.

The 'Best to You-All' and a Blessed Easter!

Love, Mary and family

Hello!

Sitting out on the porch enjoying the early evening doing nothing, so decided this was just as good a time as any to write a letter. Air conditioning is fine but it feels good to be away from it, too.

LETTERS FROM THE ROUND ROBIN

According to all letters everybody is very busy. We seem to be very busy too. Didn't even plant our usual three tomato plants. Ha! Am still working in old St. Mary Hosp. Accounting and insurance departments are only hospital depts. left. OB moved over to Behlen Memorial Hospital today. Art keeps himself busy with the few enterprises we have. Always something to do.

Art and I attended Dr. James Block's graduation from the University of Nebr. Jim and Donna are moving to Minneapolis. Jim will be a resident in oral surgery at the University of Michigan. Mary, I thought we might see you there. (graduation) No such luck - with so many people there.

George and Margaret are to arrive today or tomorrow and headquarter from our house for the weekend. We'll be visiting with many of the Kresha family Sunday at the east shelter of Pawnee Park.

I knew Sis and Charles would be proud of their Granddaughter - but not quite that proud. Ha! She is darling!
Irene and Art

Dear Robins,

Spring here is beautiful, got to get the garden & flowers in. We're increasing our spot this year & hope to learn from our mistakes last year.

Jason will be 5 in a couple of days and looks forward to summer and then kindergarten. Johnna's anxious for school to be out and then swimming and Brownie summer camp. John and I are planning on playing on the men's and women's softball teams this summer, so we'll probably have lots of sore muscles! Get out the Ben Gay! I doubt if we would make a reunion in June as we are scheduled for vacation the last of July. But best of luck to all relatives. Sunny summer to everyone!

Peace, John, Cindy (Lukassen)
& kids

Dear Round Robins,

We're nearly finished planting milo and have the alfalfa chopped. The past 2 weeks we've had 4-5 in. of rain. May was fairly dry - now it's too wet. We've received more rain now, than we received the entire year of 1974.

I'm feeling well, but tire very easily and have no stamina. Dr. says it'll take a year to recover.

Larry couldn't find a summer job so he's taking a few courses at Nebr. U. now. They offer more subjects in journalism.

Grandpa Kosch passed away on May 20 after having his 90th birthday. His heart wasn't too good and then he kept having gall bladder attacks. He died the day Leon and Sharon arrived from Seattle. Leon was pall bearer as Larry was for Grandma Kosch.

Leon and Sharon stayed several days - went to Beaver Lake to see O'Briens. Marcia and Jennie flew to Lincoln for the funeral, too.

The people who have lived in my house 4 years now, are purchasing it. Sale should be final July 1st.

The 7 white pines, 8 black walnut, 2 nemaha plum, 2 golden current and 4 Juneberry trees and bushes are doing fine. Only 2 red raspberries grew. It is a good year to start trees.

The cherries are turning red. Pears set on, also peaches and plums. No frost came to damage the buds.

Rita, good luck on your trip to Spain. How many birds do you have in your personal count?

Congratulations to Andrea on her graduation and scholarship.

If it isn't harvest time, we'll see you at the family reunion. Nice pictures of Hawaii!

Love, Lillian

4-18-75

Hello to all,

My last letter was dated Dec. 23, so this robin better hurry this time. So much has happened, it seems eons since then.

I am doing just great, thanks so much for all your prayers which helped me along the way. This is my 3rd week for physical therapy to re-educate the shoulder and arm muscles and strengthen them. It has done wonders and really made a believer of me. I also use the moist head pack and do the exercises at home, go to therapy 2 times a week. Oh yes, I got my prosthesis (replacement part) today, had to drive to K.C. in a storm by myself but did okay. Gene drove me every day for three weeks to take cobalt treatments in K.C. before Easter. The other therapy is in Harrisonville at the hospital. The cobalt makes a person very weak so I was resting all the time. By the end I had difficulty swallowing as the Dr. warned that I would. But that is all gone, I feel strong and go to the office every day. The therapy is usually done after all leave the house in the morning, then I get to the office about 10:00.

Rita's trip sounds wonderful. Are you brushing up on Spanish or taking a conversational course? Bet it would be helpful. Teresa will be in 3rd year Spanish (now) but book language is not like conversational kind.

This has been a strange spring in Missouri, especially since it is so late. We had snow and an ice storm earlier this month. Needless to say we have no garden in, haven't even tilled it yet. However, we have been harvesting green onions left in last fall by mistake, and parsnips.

About the pictures; All are super. One of Mom with cat looks like our new cat Obie. The lady we got him from is taking 3 to a cat show in Lincoln. The one of Lillian and girls' families is ours so I'll get one to you, Lil, also the one Mary marked to her. (Hope to print both of those in next month's issue. Ye ed.)

Well, Karen has a horse She started with a POA palomino (3/4 size horse), traded plus \$\$ for a buckskin, and is now dickering for an Appaloosa. Too bad her dad isn't a rancher. (Latest news: she sold the Appaloosa and bought a 10-speed bike, which doesn't eat hay and is a whole lot easier to care for.)

Love & good wishes to all, Gene, Pat & family

April 22

Hello Everyone,

The R.R. finally flew in. Guess he was down south a-while and flew back okay. Lets move it as soon as possible.

Our mild winter was dry with wind. We had moisture this month. So Dale is helping John Palmer put in alfalfa on the farm north of Pueblo. The Palmers, Conney, John and Kristina like farm life but it keeps them busy. To get ahead we must plan and work for what we have.

LETTERS FROM THE ROUND ROBIN

We are sorry to hear that Mary lost so many calves in the Easter weekend blizzard. Our sympathy to Pat in her recent loss of her step-mother. We hope you had a nice visit with your Dad.

Our congratulations to Lucy and Charles and their new granddaughter, also Art & Irene on Bobbie's new (do) oops! almost said daughter. Art and Irene — you had the girls now you are getting the grandsons. Seems like we can make over our grandchildren 'cause our children at home aren't babies any more.

We are gratified to hear of Pat's tremendous stamina and recovery, and also Lillian's successful surgery. They both are green thumbs and will surely have a nice garden and everyone will reap a bountiful harvest I'm sure. My left thumb is worse so I will see the Dr. that did surgery some years ago on my right thumb. Arthritis is debilitating for those of us that have it.

We admire your sons, Elaine and Martin, for their Karate work. Do the twins get in on their lessons?

Rita, we hope you & Karen have a wonderful trip to Spain. We enjoyed your pictures of Hawaii, Lucy. We'd like to take a trip some day. Reunion sounds good if it isn't hay making season. Curt works at Dix this year. Bart graduated at Laramie Mar. 27 major in body & fender & paint. Has job at Windsor, lives with Bowles in Greeley.

2 May

Love, Millie, Dale & Boys

Dear Folks,

I had this past week off on vacation, so my mood is better than it has been for several months. If I don't take time off every 3-4 months, I really get strung-out from the worry, etc., of my work. The week was spent sailing and working on the new sailboat; housework and getting summer clothing ready; and gardening. Usually our veg. garden has been in a month ago, but this year was too wet and cool. This year the emphasis will be on corn and cucumbers. We tend to plant according to what the deep freeze and storage cupboards look like at the beginning of the season.

To prepare for the Spain-Portugal trip this fall, we are doing a lot of reading. Both Karen and I have a basic Spanish vocabulary, and there will be Spanish-speaking people in our Audubon party of 25 people.

Enjoyed all the round robin pictures - There was more news in this particular bunch of letters than ever before. Does anyone

I got some Rhode Island Red pullets (six), built a coop, and plan to keep enough hens on hand to provide eggs and fertilized compost for the garden. Going back to nature more and more.

Best wishes & love to all, Rita

May 12, 1975

Dear Family,

Is this a long day! Greetings from Kimball! Came out to Mary's with them on their way home from Nadine's graduation at Lincoln. Mary stopped on way down so I decided to vacation at this time. Took Father's advice, suppose he wants my vacation out of the way, as he plans to be away later on. Was too early for my yard's planting, so I packed up and came out here.

Had an accident yesterday, not too good of a start.

Was going down stair steps & sprained my bum knee. Am spending the day in chair, with Mary's heating pad on knee, keeping me comfortable, but day is long.

Our parish has Confirmation on May 31.

Congratulations to all my grandchildren who graduate from high school at this time. I wish you all the best of success.

Really surprising to see all the Lukassen relatives, now grown up, where they

now grown up, when they were, most of them, children when last I saw them. Wayne's wife entertained, honoring Mother's Day.

Having a wonderful rain here. Water trickling down hill. Is very good for the wheat. I've heard moisture is needed. Till next we meet, good luck and happiness to all my family. Don't work too hard, these busy days.

Love ya ver' much, Mother K.

(Noticed there were 2 letters from Mary, but both were so interesting I decided to leave both in. Ye ed.)

5-17-75

Hello Everyone,

Last weekend we were in Lincoln to attend Nadine's graduation from the "U". We helped her move, then headed for home, Sat. nite we bedded down in Kearney. Sunday morning we drove to Holdrege, picked up Mom and then on home. Mom turned her knee (Sun. Nite) so has been sorta on the "blink", however it is much better just needs some TLC.

We are planning a "mini" family gathering at Brighton at Pat and Ade's house on 5-18-75 and expect to see Geo. Strausses, Dale Lukassen families, also Wanda, Nadine, Bartley and of course, our family.

Nadine has a job in Greeley with a seed co., she will be required to do some traveling. Will see how she likes this arrangement.

Dave is planting corn and other 2 men are discing with two outfits and the third fellow is spreading manure. We are about a week behind in our work and of course everyone wants theirs done now, so we're doing our best. The moisture is good now after several rains. All the wheat is looking better each day, we were very concerned after the severe winds and dry winter. We won't have to destroy any poor stands.

Our last count of cattle lost from the blizzard was 5 cows, 2 yearlings and 71 calves. We have a lot of cows to sell now, am glad the price is good.

Am planning to garden this week, 'tis late but the ground just got warm enough this week.

Hope to see you all in June.

Love, Mary & gang

P. S. Irene, where are Dr. Block and Donna planning to live now that he has graduated?

May 26

Dear R. R.,

Another day is gone and I still haven't gotten this out. So will get at it this a.m. first thing. Times are busy now as I'm sure they are for everyone. We have our garden all in now but still have some flowers to put out. Finally got my rock garden going. Sure takes time just getting the things you want done not counting the things you have to do.

We are all just fine here. Looking forward to vacation

time. We are going to Lake Granbe for a week the 10th of June and when we get back we'll be coming to eastern Nebr. for the reunion. So we will be having a busy June. Have a lot to do before we go so hopefully I'll get it done.

Our kids had a surprise anniversary party for us last night. They planned the whole thing by themselves and with the help of my sister it came off nicely. We had no idea at all about it so was really surprised. Yesterday made it 12 years for us. We enjoyed sharing it with our friends and neighbors.

Well, breakfast time is here and have lots I want to do today so better get with it. So take care everyone and we hope this finds all well. Hope to see you all at the reunion.

Love & Prayers, Ade, Pat & kids

June 22

Dear Family,

Must get this written and off – raining now. We had 3.20 in. mid week last week, 3.50 in. Fri. and Sat. and whatever this a.m. It started raining about an hour ago and is still going strong – guess there is no use crying about it.

We have been keeping generally well. Jolene stepped on a nail about 3 weeks ago. Ran it nearly thru her foot. Dr. put her on crutches for a week. She is super-fine now. Lois and Kenneth picked up a strep infection, probably at the swimming pool. They are taking penicillin.

Kids go to Columbus every morning for swim lessons at the "Y". Have been at it for a month and can do quite well. Still far from experts, but I can see progress. Maybe by the time summer is over they will be able to swim to save themselves.

Boys tested for Karate advancement, Sat. June 14. They are anxiously waiting for results. Patrick is certain he advanced to blue belt, Kenneth is uncertain. (Last year Patrick only advanced to high green.) Kenneth hopes to have advanced to green belt, but thinks he "goofed" when he was being tested. Bernard dropped Karate, it wasn't for him.

Jolene and Colene received First Holy Communion May 4, only 1 to go. Golly, time goes fast. This fall Patrick will be in 8th grade. Lois in 2nd, others sprinkled in between.

We are looking forward to reunion June 29. Hope weather is nice.

Observed our 15th anniversary June 14. Didn't even go out. Martin & boys were in Omaha all day and when they got home, he was tired and so were the boys. Sure sign of old age!

No news is good news, so my letter is FILLED with good news!

Our love – See some of you on the 29th!

Martin, Elaine & family

Aug. 1

Dear R.R.,

We had a most enjoyable time at the family reunion and were glad to see most of the relatives there. Pat and Gene stayed overnight and George and Margaret were here for supper.

Charlie is busy combining small grain and it is yielding very good. Imagine combining this late, but it got a late start. We got about 3.60 in. of rain in July. Guess we

were quite lucky as the area wasn't too big.

We dressed 150 chickens last week with the help of a borrowed chicken plucker. I told Charlie no more chickens unless he buys me a plucker. They sure do work nice after you catch on how to use them.

The kids are looking forward to school starting on Aug. 25. I guess I am too.

Nothing else exciting has happened around here except more work, so until the next time, so long.

Love, Charlie & Lucy

(This is reunion clipping from Osceola Record.)

ANNUAL KRESHA FAMILY REUNION

The annual Kresha family reunion was held Sunday, June 29, 1975 at Pawnee Park in Columbus.

Births during the year were Ryan Patrick Wolf, 12-16-74, to Bobbi (daughter of Art Kreshas) and Mark Wolf; Tammara Renee Mausbach, 1-10-75, to Kathryn (daughter of Charles Kreshas) and Robert Mausbach; and Roger Dean Smith, 2-5-75, to Ramona (daughter of Adolph Kreshas) and Ronald D. Smith. There was one death, Edwin Kresha, and no marriages.

Present were 101 Kresha descendants, a cousin, Joe Karges, and five guests, Rev. Anthony Trausch, Louis Trausch, Dean Alt, Lou Logan and Ted Preister.

Those attending were Adolph Kresha family, Martin Kresha family, Glenn Kresha family, Allan Kreshas, Leo Kreshas of Osceola; Max Gabel family, Ronald Smith family, Larry Kresha family of Shelby; Lee Dunekackes of Rising City; Bernard Hilgers and Bob Hilger family of David City; Dan Hilger family of Bellwood; Richard Nyfflers, Art Kreshas, Wilfred "Bill" Kresha family, John Kreshas, Dennis Kresha family; Jerome Jarecki family, Mrs. Edwin Kresha family, Wayne Grosch family of Columbus; Harold Witulskis and Larry Kosch of Beatrice; Charles Kresha family of Humphrey; Bob Mausbach family of Omaha; Sophia Kresha of Mitchell; Mrs. H. J. Lukassen family of Kimball; Eugene Thomases and Gloria of Pleasant Hill Mo.; George Kreshas of Bakerfield, Calif.; Mrs. George Strauss and Jennifer of Boulder, Colo.; and Adrian Kresha family of Brighton, Colo.

Elected to the committee for next year's reunion were Charles and Adrian Kresha. Copies of the family geneology book were distributed.

(This is reunion clipping from Columbus Telegram.)

Columbus Hosts Kresha Reunion

More than 100 attended the annual Kresha family reunion June 29 at Pawnee Park.

Births noted during the past year were: Ryan Patrick Wolf, born Dec. 16, 1974 to Bobbi and Mark Wolf; Tamara Renee Mausbach, Jan. 1, 1975, to Kathryn and Robert Mausbach; Roger Dean Smith, Feb. 5, 1975, to Ramona and Ronald D. Smith.

There was one death, Edwin

Kresha, but no marriages in the relationship.

Attending from a distance were the Eugene Thomas family of Pleasant Hill, Mo.; George Kreshas of Bakerfield, Calif.; Mrs. George Strauss and Jennifer of Boulder, Colo.; Adrian Kresha family of Brighton, Colo.

Others were from Osceola, Shelby, Rising City, David City, Bellwood, Humphrey, Omaha, Mitchell, Kimball and Columbus.



Greg Kresha

Congratulations to Greg Kresha, new ACCO Seed dealer.

(Taken from Osceola Record.)

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1. Ade Kresha, Larry Kresha, Bud Hilger, Jennifer Strauss.
2. Mary Lou Dunekacke.
4. Phyllis Green, Lisa Kresha.
5. Clarence Kresha.
7. Connie Kresha.
8. Bernard Kresha.
9. Raymond Kresha.
10. Cindy Lukassen Emke.
15. Jerome Kresha, Bonnie Hilger Kobza, Edward Kobza.
16. Johnny Gabel.
19. Maxine Gabel.
25. Tim Lukassen.
28. Dale Lukassen.
30. Diane Kresha Chaisson.
31. Dick Nyffler, Stephen Kresha (Michael's son)

Obituary

John Karges

Friday 10 a.m. services were held at St. Lawrence Catholic Church, Silver Creek, for John A. Karges, 82, who died Tuesday in the Osceola hospital. The Rev. Stanley Mitera officiated and burial was in Silver Creek Cemetery.

A longtime blacksmith, Mr. Karges was born March 15, 1893 in Merrick County, the son of Martin and Anna (Kresha) Karges. He lived in Havens and Silver Creek, serving 50 years as a volunteer fireman in Silver Creek.

In June, 1923, he married Alice Mae White in Council Bluffs, Iowa. She died May 28, 1965 and he was also preceded in death by two brothers, Frank and George and infant sister, Margaret.

Surviving are two sons, Keith and Eugene of Silver Creek; brothers, Joe of Columbus, Martin of Silver Creek; sisters, Mrs. Leonard (Ann) Serio of Milwaukee, Wis., and Mrs. Marie Geiger of Cudahy, Wis.

(From Osceola Record.)

- Larry Kosch took 5 credit hours at the U. of Nebr. this summer. Then he worked the rest of the summer for a construction company in Beatrice making storm sewers.
- After the reunion, Pam, Ade and Pat's daughter, went home with Harold and Lillian Witulski and stayed for 11 days. While there, she went swimming and made some ceramics. Later in the summer, Harold and Lillian had their granddaughter, Katie O'Brien, stay with them for a week. She is in kindergarten this year, and Grandma Lil did some sewing for her.
- Gene Thomas, Joe, Teresa, Karen and Gloria took a trip to Colorado Aug. 15-24. They visited his brother, Curt, and sister and husband, Jay and Kathy Pershing in Denver, his parents and grandmother in Grand Junction, and had a family reunion while there. Gene took his dad and uncle to Towner, Colo. to revisit scenes of his dad's early days, visit relatives, trace genealogy, gather pictures, etc. On the way, they dropped Karen and Gloria off at Canon City to visit the Dale Lukassen family. They then went back to Denver to stay overnite at Kathy and Jay's cabin in Poudre Canyon near Ft. Collins before returning home. Ye ed. kept the store and got out the sheet that week, didn't have time to catch many extra winks, and didn't even squeeze in a little fishin'.



A photo from the olden days

HEY GANG! Do you recognize everyone in this picture? Starting from left and partly cut off is Alan, Art, Glenn, Pat, Mary and Rita in front, Ade up on hood, Charlie, Martin and Paul. That must be Bill in the car. Notice no trees in front of the house. Also, how about the stripe down that tire? Whose car do you suppose it was? Anybody care to make a guess what year the picture was taken?

—Photo courtesy Lillian Witulski

KRESHHA KRONICLE

Volume 1, No. 2

Box 8, Pleasant Hill, Mo. 64080

October, 1975

Comments and News by Pat

Thanks to all who sent letters, clippings, etc. and for all the good comments about the Kronicle. Just keep those letters coming and we'll keep the Kronicle coming. Yes, it is for all, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, all who care to write and some who probably don't. One thing for sure, if you don't write it can't get in the Kronicle. So all you who don't have a letter in this time, get busy and write.

Oh yes, if you don't get this epistle promptly at the beginning of the month, it's because the editor or printer or both got busy on this end, which will happen sometime. Please don't let that stop you from writing. Try to get letters here by the 20th of the month. Address to: Pat Thomas, Box 8, Pleasant Hill, Mo. 64080.

As for the family, we are all well. For myself, recent checkups with my surgeon and radiologist both were good, and next checkups were scheduled for 3 and 6 months respectively. So I'm pushing 'em way back!

Some of you receive the Pleasant Hill Times and have been keeping up with our football team. We lost the conference but still get to go to state playoffs. The first one will be at Gower, Mo., a little more than half way between K.C. and St. Joe. The winner will probably go to play the winner from the St. Louis side, or they will come here. Our Joe doesn't get to play much, but he is on the team. So there is some excitement, especially since he is a senior.

Remember, we need your letters to keep the Kronicle going. Would particularly like to hear from Raymond Kresha and some more of the California folks, and an account of Rita's trip to Europe.

Don't forget, too, to send the corrections you find in the family history book. If I have forgotten anything, let me know.

From Martin and Elaine Kresha

Dear Family,

Isn't the Kresha Kronicle wonderful? Congratulations to Pat & Gene for originating the idea, editing & publishing it. (Ed. note: It was really Marcia Strauss's idea.) We can hardly wait for the next issue. Think including RR is great. Now the "news" will still be news when we read it, not history. Now if only we remember to get our letters to Pleasant Hill before the 20th of each month. I'll be the first one to forget. This letter will just squeak under the deadline - at least I hope it does.

Summer went so fast. Those daily trips to Columbus were tiresome, but guess the kids advanced enough in swimming to make it worthwhile.

The karate experts advanced to blue belt (Patrick) and green belt (Kenneth). Testing was again Oct. 11, but we were too busy to take them to Omaha.

We are nothing but busy around here - as everyone is - esp. the farmers. Our harvest is being wrapped up. Crops didn't break any records, but weren't the worst either. We need rain so badly. A 2" rain probably would soak up so fast we wouldn't know that we had it. It did sprinkle a bit last Thursday & we got our hopes up, but it didn't amount to anything.

We are well. Bernard and Elaine had the flu about 6 weeks ago. Were we sick! Lots of different things going around. Hope we don't pick anything else up - for awhile, at least.

Kenneth will be confirmed Oct. 27. We (at CCD) are busy preparing for Confirmation. I am making red stoles for each one who is being confirmed. There will be 24 in the class.

I am teaching CCD - 3rd & 4th grades. Have 17 students and really enjoy it. Can't seem to get the urge to teach out of my blood.

Martin bowls on Thurs. nights in Columbus. He substitutes

on Wednesday nights in Osceola. Bowling is his physical therapy. Lucky for him that he enjoys it. Doctor's orders are for him to bowl as often as possible.

Kids are glad to be back in school. Patrick is in the brand new building (high school). Is it ever a beauty!

Kenneth joined junior high band. He has chosen to play a trombone. Suppose it will be 3 months or more before we can tell if he likes it enough to continue. Hope it works out.

Love, Martin, Elaine & family

From John and Conney Palmer

Dear Family,

Hi there. So good to see the Kresha Kronicle begin. Hope it lasts for years and years.

Probably by now some of you have heard we are expecting our second in January. Kristina will be 2 Jan. 13th. John said there's two other possibilities - a tax deduction or the first baby of the year.

We just found out my brother Tim and his wife Cathy have a new baby girl. Congratulations! Now mom and dad have 3 granddaughters and only 1 grandson. We hope to change that.

We had a good summer and lots of moisture. Our alfalfa turned out quite well. This year John and Dad invested in a baler & swather. So we baled everything and have haystacks scattered throughout. Last Sun. some friends of ours gave Kristina a shetland pony. The mare is approximately 6 yr. old. Her name is Freckles. Krista just loves her & rides like a real pro. Not a bit scared.

Curtis is playing varsity football for Abbey this year so we've been going to his games. For a sophomore he's doing quite well.

John is getting ready to deer hunting. He'll go for three days, sure do hope he comes home with a big buck. I prefer elk, but John just doesn't have a week to take off.

Hope this finds everyone healthy, wise and wealthy (!)

Love, John, Conney (Lukassen)
& Kristina Palmer
Rt. 3 Box 278 Pueblo, Colo.
81004

From Ann Hensel

Dear Pat, Eugene and all,

Thanks for your very thoughtfulness to mail me the RR. I enjoyed reading about dear ones I never hear from. Seems everyone is busy with their family. I keep busy myself.

I received the family tree book. I think you folks did a wonderful deed. I first received it about a month ago as the first time Margaret had a chance to give it to me when she came down by bus from Bakersfield.

We both went to the baptism of Lester & Luella Kropatsch's grandson. Their daughter Karen and son-in-law Larry Lawlor are from Colo. He's in the air force there.

I talked to Betts Yorty today. They're so happy as they're going to be grandparents in April "1976".

Well dear I have to sign off as I have to be up at 4:10 a.m. so my friend can be at the airport to pick up her husband, Dr. Kahn, coming in from Germany.

I'm enclosing some money for your expense for the book and RR. I appreciate your not forgetting me.

Love, Ann
19120 Bessemer St.
Reseda, Calif. 91335

P.S. Pat I hope you're recovering okay from your surgery.

From Art and Irene Kresha

Hello Everyone,

Dolores reminded Art that everyone's letter must be sent to the Kresha Kronicle by the 20th of each month for publication.

Enclosed please find donation to help defray some of the expenses. Also here are requested addresses.

Dr. & Mrs. William Gabriel, 1821 Olive Ave. No. B
Santa Barbara, Calif. 93102

Dr. & Mrs. James Block, 490 E. Skillman No. 102
Maplewood, Minn. 55117

Sp/4 & Mrs. Mark Wolf, 925 Claflin Rd., Manhattan,
Kansas 66502

We really don't have much news. What is the exact address we mail our Kronicle letter to? (Ed. note: Box 8 Pleasant Hill, Mo.)

Art and I did spend a weekend in Maplewood, Minn. a suburb of St. Paul with Dr. and Mrs. James Block. Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Wibbels and Mrs. Mark Wolf and Ryan spent last weekend with us. Mark is on regorger in Germany for approximately 6 weeks at the present time. Our visits with Dr. and Mrs. William Gabriel are mostly by phone — darn that distance although phones do make it seem much closer.

Our fall has been quite nice, but very dry. Our pin oaks are turning crimson red and the squirrels are busy burying the acorns from these trees. Next spring we'll see pin oaks sprouting up in all near by lawns. This happened last spring. We found this kind of amusing.

Love, Art & Irene

From The Strausses

Hello from George, Marcie, and Jennifer Strauss!

Wasn't the Kronicle a good idea? (ahem) I think it will get more and more interesting each month as everyone contributes.

Right now I am not working, that is, not outside our home! But I will be getting unemployment insurance — so I welcome staying home for awhile. George is busy with his last semester of school and he works part-time (internship) at a newspaper in Longmont, Colo. He will graduate in Journalism in Dec. I'd like to stay in Colo. but we'll see! He is also coaching the CU Men's Volleyball team. Jennifer loves school, begs to take ballet lessons and get a kitty, and has her first loose tooth.

I keep busy with plants, crafts, and genealogy. Right now I'm making some cowboy pictures (decoupage) on old wood plaques to sell here and at a Western Shop in Pa. Later on I plan to make pine cone wreaths to sell for Christmas. (Ed. note: sold- 1 to me.) I have been collecting the cones all year, much to George's delight, I have sacks-full stuffed in our closets.

I have gotten to know my relatives and made so many new friends with my genealogy. (Spend lots of money on stamps, too.) I hope to write some family history books, maybe in about 2-3 years. I want to find more info on the Kresha, Karges, and Kropatsch lines' ancestors. I'll bet most young Kreshas don't know that your name used to be "Krehsa" in the old country. I've written to Austria, Czech, Germany, Sweden and Luxembourg. Someday I'd like to go to those places and find some cousins.

A word of advice — talk to your oldest relatives about family history, names and dates NOW while you can. Later on you, or your children might find some of that information in a court house or library, but it's the expensive way, not as complete and accurate, and not half as interesting.

Hope no Halloween spooks get ya! Take Care.

Love, Marcie

Addresses:

Leon & Sharon Kosch, 2306 Thorndyke Wy., Seattle, Wash.
98199

Tom & Mary O'Brien, 585 Dawn Dr., Rt. 1, Plattsmouth, Nebr.
68048

(Ed. note: Marcie wanted to know if I was going to "correct people's spelling errors and bleep cuss words: ha ha!" You bet!)

From Dick and Dolores Nyffler

Hi Kresha Clan,

Wasn't our first issue great? A big Thanks to Gene and Pat which is just a small way to tell you how much we appreciate

all the efforts you have put forth for us. How about that picture — that was something else. Do you have to have the negatives to reproduce future pictures? Now gang get on the ball and get a note off to Pat so this paper can continue. (Now that I got the sermon over with — on with some news.)

First of all Thanks to all of you for the lovely cards sent for our 25th Anniv. It seems like just a few years ago that we tied the knot on that beautiful Indian Summer Oct. 11th day. With harvest in full swing and all the activities for the "Discover Columbus week-end" we didn't have a gathering but you all know you are most welcome to drop in anytime at our place for "Cheers and lunch".

The end of the harvest is in sight, hopefully at this time next week we will be finished. For you that aren't on the farm anymore this has been a very hot dirty harvest what with all the wind and heat we have had. The only good thing about it was the weather dried out the corn so we didn't have to dry too much of the corn.

Our landlord is visiting this week with us. As you all know they live in Denver so they make their headquarters here. They really broke my up when they gave us an Annv. card with a personal note saying they were happy to have us for tenants for 24 years and we could continue as long as we wish. Enclosed was a check for \$1000, yes, a thousand dollars. They have always been very good to us and we have tried to do our best for them by taking care of this place as if it was our own.

Funny thing happened in Sept. on the 11th to be exact. Our local radio station reads whose Annv. it is. They read our name plus others. From this group they pull a card and we won a free colored portrait. So we went and had our picture taken. They put so much white make-up on Dick as they said he would look like a Negro. As it turned out it made him like a clown. (Now no remarks) Anyway, we were very disappointed. Would you believe they read our name on the Annv. program on Oct. 11 and out of large group we won again. So to you that sent us cards on Sept. 11, Thanks but the correct day is Oct. 11th.

This Saturday we are invited to Joe Karges' granddaughter's wedding. (Linda Topinka)

Next week our little ones are due. Don't get shook — pigs that is. I know you town people are cussing the price of bacon but our smile is a mile wide. We were a week late of getting the top prices so we hit our usual down market, what a gambler a farmer is. Imagine the market is down \$8 in a week.

Have a Happy Day, gang, but especially Uncle Adolph and Aunt Rose on their 40th Annv.

Dick and Dolores

(Ed. note: negatives cannot be used, but regular black & white, or color if not too dark, and clippings can be used.)

From Ade and Pat Kresha

Hi Everyone,

Well the month of Oct. is almost gone but our beautiful weather is still here. we sure can't complain one bit. We are having the fall we never had last year. Just beautiful.

The Kresha Kronicle is just fabulous. We enjoyed every inch of it and the picture was great. Had no trouble picking out Ade. Andy looks so much like him.

Everyone in our house is well and happy. Kids are busy with school and scouts and Campfire Girls. Also keeps me busy trying to keep my calendar straight on who's to be where, when. It gets pretty crowded at times. Andy started taking saxophone lessons and with him on the sax and Pam the clarinet you should hear it around here. Danny is growing like a weed and learning twice as fast as the other kids.

Ade and I took a week out of our busy schedule and took a vacation. My sister's daughter, Dana, stayed here with the kids and we took off for Las Vegas. Had 8 whole days of nothing to do and no kids to take care of. It was great. We drove with another couple and went through Utah to Nevada, stayed in Las Vegas 4 days, came back through the Grand Canyon, Four Corners, Durango and back home. Sure saw some beautiful country and really enjoyed the trip.

Well don't want to make this too long so will close now. Keep up the good work Pat & Gene on the paper. It's great. Ade says hi to all.

All our love & prayers, Ade, Pat & kids

From Mother Kresha

Dear Pat and all,
 Tho't to get this writeup off to you (Anniv. story follows). Haven't heard from any other Kreshas lately. Was down to Martin's overnite, went to confirmation ceremonies at their parish church Mon. eve. Kenneth was member of class of 26, I think. Elaine took me to Osceola Tues. a.m. to return here with Father Howe. Was nice, too short a visit. All the family had grown a lot since I last saw them.
 We finally had frost on 25th, no rain as yet. Had but .11 for Oct., very dry here. Some wheat isn't coming up. Harvest is about over. I heard it is about like last year generally.
 Rita was due to return from her trip to Europe last week Sat. but haven't heard from her.
 Hope the Kreshas send lots of news to Kronicle. Be good to establish a deadline for publication date. Will close for now.
 Love ya very much, Mother

40th Anniversary for Adolph and Rose Kresha

Mr. and Mrs. Adolph M. Kresha observed their 40th wedding anniversary on Oct. 26 at a gathering hosted by their children at Legion Hall, Shelby. A reception was held in the afternoon, and in the evening, supper was served to about 300 guests. Later in the evening, dancing was enjoyed.
 Those attending from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Kielian, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kielian and families from Colo., Father John Howe, Mrs. Eva Kresha from Holdrege, Father Edward O'Leary of St. Mary's Pilsno, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kresha of Humphrey, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Kielian, Mr. and Mrs. Art Kresha, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Kresha, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Nyffler, Mr. and Mrs. John Kresha of Columbus, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kresha of Omaha, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Hilger of David City, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Witulski of Beatrice, and many relatives and friends from surrounding areas.
 Mr. and Mrs. Kresha live on a farm northeast of Osceola.

BIRTHS



Mr. and Mrs. Tim Lukassen of Curtis, Neb. are parents of their first child, a girl, Mande Lee. She was born Oct. 8, 1975 and weighed 8 lbs. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Dale Lukassen.
 Mr. and Mrs. Tom O'Brien are parents of a girl, Bethanie Berniece, born Oct. 24. They have two other children, Katherine, 5, and Matt, 3. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Witulski.

MARTIN GETS AWARD

Martin Kresha, Osceola, was among the employees of Midwest Breeders Cooperatives (Shawano, Wisc.) recognized for outstanding service to the cooperative. Midwest is the nation's largest direct-member, farmer-owned cooperative with more than 44,000 members.
 Kresha, who is Midwest distributor in Polk, Merrick and Nance counties, received a 5-year service certificate. Martin is a bowling and fishing enthusiast, a member of his church's parish council and the Knights of Columbus. He and his wife, Elaine, have 6 children.
 (from Columbus Telegram)

More addresses

Mike Kresha
 2705 Norman Ave,
 Bakersfield, Calif. 93304

Raymond Kresha
 513 North Market St.
 Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577

Paul Kresha
 6615 So. 135th St.
 Omaha, Nebr. 68137
 Michelle Kresha
 415 So. 41 St. Apt. 3
 Omaha, Nebr. 68131

Andy Kresha
 P.O. Box 3068,
 Holy Trinity Seminary
 Irving, Texas 75061

DEATHS

MSGR. JOHN KEAN

Msgr. John Kean of Odell, Nebr. died Oct. 19. He was formerly pastor of Sacred Heart Parish at Shelby, for many years. Funeral was held at Dawson, Nebr. his home parish, on Oct. 22.



Witulskis in Missouri. Taken in front of the Thomases house in Pleasant Hill. From left, Harold Witulski, Gloria Thomas, Joe Thomas, Lillian Witulski, Pat Thomas, Teresa Thomas, and Karen Thomas. (August 1975)



FAMILY AFFAIR: Jerome Jarecke, left, long active in the Knights of Columbus, congratulates and welcomes three new members into Columbus Council No. 938. They are his son, Jerry; his brother, Wally; and his brother-in-law, Dennis Kresha. The initiation was held at Monday's meeting.
 (from Columbus Telegram)



Reunion, 1975 (Photo by Elaine Kresha)



Reunion, 1975 (Photo by Elaine Kresha)



Coleen Kresha, left Jolene Kresha, right
First Communion May 4, 1975

(Photo by Elaine Kresha)

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Potatoes, or other vegetables, will get done sooner if put to cook in boiling water.

To freeze apples, pare and slice, into salted water, 2 T. to gallon. Drain, put in plastic bags, to freeze. Will not discolor, and keep to a whole year.

LIMERICK

A fly and a flea in a flue, were imprisoned, so what could they do?
Said the fly, "Let us flee". "Let us fly" said the flea.
So they flew thru a flaw in the flue.

KRESHHA KRONICLE

Vol. 1, No. 3

Box 8, Pleasant Hill, Mo. 64080

November, 1975

From Raymond and Mary Kresha

Dear Rounders,

We suspect that it's been a good long time since many in the family have heard from us . . . and for this reason appreciate the opportunity Kresha Kronicle gives us. Ray continues to pursue a career as a broadcast journalist and is the News Director at KBOE AM-FM in Oskaloosa. Oskaloosa, by the way, is located 60 miles south east of Des Moines in the south-east central part of Iowa. We arrived in Oskaloosa separately, Ray coming in February and Mary finishing up school in Omaha and joining Ray in June. Ray has accumulated quite a bit of experience in radio, having worked at KTTT in Columbus, KRNU and KECK in Lincoln, KAWL in York, KLNG and KOOO in Omaha, KRCB in Council Bluffs, and now KBOE in Oskaloosa. As mentioned, Mary has finished her B.S. in pharmacy at U of N Medical Center, passed Nebraska state boards and is now licensed as a Registered Pharmacist in both Iowa and Nebraska. She is currently practicing part-time in Albia and Grinnell.

We have both been in the Inner Peace Movement for two years and have found it to be very rewarding in terms of the wonderful people we have met and experiences gained. They also have practical techniques for relaxing in the midst of the 'rat race' to allow the most benefit from it. With a lively interest in philosophical and metaphysical areas, Ray is currently researching a book - no title yet. In addition to becoming a certified counselor for IPM, Ray has also held posts as State Administrator for Western Iowa and Promotional Aide for South East Iowa. Also in early November, Ray and Mary, as a team, were elected to the St. Mary's parish council in Oskaloosa. Mary teaches pre-school Sunday school at the 10 o'clock mass as well as taking craft classes this fall. We are making plans to stay in Oskaloosa, it's beautiful corn and coal mining country, with a beautiful small lake and two large reservoirs and two colleges. These all provide many recreational opportunities and seems to be a good place to start our family.

We are enjoying the football season. The local college, William Penn, is number two nationally in NAIA Div. two, and our alma mater Nebraska is also number two in their division nationally - both have good chances of becoming No. 1!

Love to all, Ray and Mary Kresha

From Tom and Mary O'Brien

Hi there, family,

We O'Briens were quite happy to see the Kronicle arrive as we missed the first edition. I was even happier to see our little Bethanie's birth announcement was included. She was due Oct. 1, but didn't arrive until Oct. 24. (Tim, we almost named her Mande, also!! - small world!) Our Beth is 3½ wks. old now and certainly well worth the wait. She was christened on Nov. 9 with my mom and Harold as proud God-Parents.

I am busy keeping tabs on our active family - including Katie and her year in kindergarten, this means a couple of trips to the bus each day.

Tom is always busy at Creighton in his computer analyst position. In addition, he is just completing a wood work class on Mon. evenings. It is his "new thing", I guess, and he really has a knack for making things. He's made a shop

bench, a captain's bed for Matt, and is now making an oak coffee table.

Beaver Lake is really pretty this time of year. We will have lived here for a year next month. The kid and I enjoy the migrating birds that drop in about this time. One Sat. we were hosts to a large flock of blue finches with a few warblers too.

We are looking forward to the holidays. We plan to spend Thanksgiving in Beatrice and perhaps help Harold on their new duplex.

Mom is in Washington, D.C. this week. Hope she has time to write a newsy letter.

Oh yes, one more special bit of news I want to share. In Sept. Pope Paul had a birthday and so we sent him a birthday card. In return, we received a thank you letter extending an Apostolic Blessing to our family. The letter was dated Oct. 24, Beth's birthday! Isn't that neat!

Until next time, God's peace -
Tom & Mary
Matt, Katie & Beth O'Brien

From Jim and Donna Block

Greetings from Minnesota,

We certainly enjoyed the first two issues of the Kresha Kronicle. On a crisp, fall day it certainly warmed our spirits. We were so surprised to read how much older the younger cousins were getting. (I couldn't believe how TALL Joe Thomas was in that picture!)

As most of you know, Jim and I moved to Minnesota following his graduation from the U. of Nebr. Currently, he's still in school but in the capacity of an oral surgery resident at the Univ. of Minnesota Hospitals - Minneapolis. I am an audiologist at the St. Paul Rehabilitation Center and provide a number of services from diagnostics to program development. Like all of you we are Very busy but Very happy with our occupations and life. The Twin Cities being what they are, we love to venture to many new spots and enjoy a variety of people. Even with tight schedules we try to squeeze it all in. Unfortunately, the distance keeps us from seeing our parents and other family members but the excitement when we do see or hear from them is tremendous.

Here's a pleasant bit of info.: About a year ago the sister of one of my college friends had a baby girl and named her "Kresha Lee". Since many friends always called me "Kresha" other people thought Kresha was my first name. They thought it was not only an unusual first name but also a pretty sounding name. I took it as a very nice compliment. (Was the new mother ever surprised to find out my first name was Donna instead!)

Best regards to all of you,
Jim and Donna Block

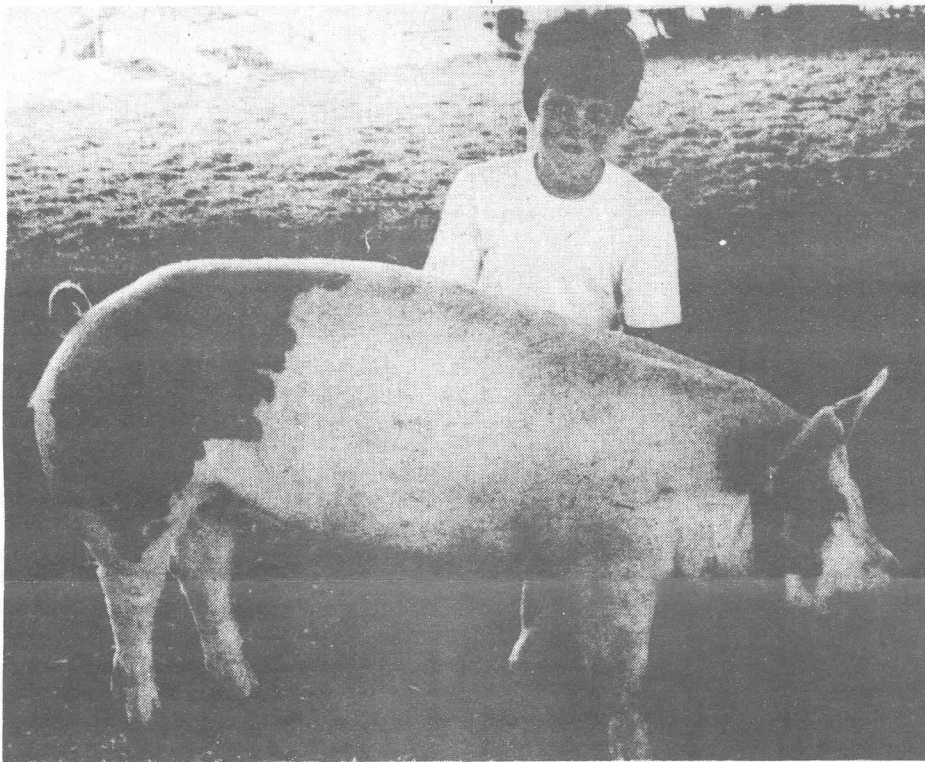
From Bud and Rose Hilger

Hello to Everyone!

We are already looking forward to the next issue of the Kresha Kronicle and the activities of our family.

Another year of field work has ended. Our corn harvest went rather smoothly, just a couple minor breakdowns. Only those living on the farm can know the joy of bringing in that last load of corn. We are thankful - it was a good year.

Rose and Adolph, we want you to know how much we



Bob Kobza was the champion junior swine showman.

Butler County Fair (from the David City Banner-Press)

enjoyed your 40th anniversary party. It was nice to see so many of the relatives and friends, again. Thanks to your capable family, too.

A funny thing happened here on Halloween night. A small ghost came to our door. Surprised, I asked what he wanted. The ghost replied, "Do you have any Campbell's Soup labels?" It was Mary Jane and Dan's 7 year old son, Mike. He attends St. Mary's School and they are collecting labels for sports equipment. Yes, I save them for him, also his sister, Michelle. (She was Raggedy Ann.)

Bud's father, Albert Hilger, was hospitalized with pneumonia for 1 month recently. He is now back at St. Joseph's Villa and does well for being 93. He depends on Bud so much.

Sue, Bob, Bud and I are leaving by bus early tomorrow (Nov. 17) morning for a 2 day visit to Kansas City, Mo. courtesy of our local Farmers Co-op Grain and Farmland Industry. A full schedule is planned, including the Jim Nabor Show at the American Royal.

It will be nearly Christmas time when this reaches your homes. Our Best Wishes for many blessings to all of you during this Holy Season, and happiness in the New Year.

Our love, Bud and Rose

From Art and Irene

Hi,

I think I'm a little late for this issue of the Kresha Kronicle. Linda and Kev Wibbels haven't received a copy of the Kronicle as yet. Could you send all three issues to them? (Ed. still had their old address at the Cornhusker Apts.) Their address is:

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Wibbels
3507 Woods Ave.
Lincoln, Nebr. 68502

Their name wasn't listed in requests for addresses so I assumed you had their address. We realize there are many nieces and nephews and it is hard to think of all of them.

We experienced about a 12 hour blizzard. Andrea Kresha spent the night in the blizzard in her car in a ditch. After a call

from Sis (Lucy) I didn't sleep much that night either. She was found about 5 miles from home the next morning.

Everyone, have a happy Thanksgiving. Linda and Kev Wibbels and Bobbi and Mark Wolf and Ryan plan to be home.

Art is busy trying to fix up a 1940 Chevrolet. He had it re-upholstered last week.

Will close for now.

As always, Irene and Art

From Martin and Elaine

Hello Family,

Not much news since last time. We are well. Kids are anxious for the first snow. Looks like they might be happy soon - it is drizzly here today. Forecast is for light snow. As far as I'm concerned it needn't snow for a long time.

Next week is Thanksgiving already! We are planning to go to Grandma Kniefels for dinner. We are having wild turkey, plus all the other calorie-loaded goodies.

Martin went to Crawford deer hunting Nov. 7-9. He got a turkey and a nice deer, plus had a tiring, but relaxing change-of-pace from his hectic daily schedule.

We stopped in to see Lucy and Charlie yesterday a.m. but found no one home.

Missed lots of the letters in the last Kresha Kronicle. Hope to read more next time. We really enjoyed those that were in. Glad to see one from Ann.

Our best wishes to everyone for the upcoming Holiday Season. A Blessed Christmas and a Holy and Prosperous 1976.

Love, Martin, Elaine & family

Pilfered Quips

Selling is a little like hog calling - it isn't the noise you make, it's the appeal in your voice.

A sense of humor is what makes you laugh at something which would make you mad, if it happened to you.

Bachelors, like detergents, work fast and leave no rings.

From Ade and Pat

Hi Everyone,

Better get this out today or I'll miss the Kronicle and that would never do. We enjoyed the 2nd as well as the 1st, only missed some of the letters. Get on the ball, you guys, and get your letter in. You're doing a great job, Pat and Gene.

Congratulations to all the new parents and grandparents, also Martin. Hope I didn't forget anyone. If I did, congratulations.

Everyone here is so-so. Pam & Danny have been sick with strep and colds. Ade doesn't feel too good today so I suppose he's coming down with it next. Hope all are over it before Thanksgiving.

The company (O.W.P.) has finally set days off for the guys. Ade's next days off are the three days before Thanksgiving. Then he has the three days before Christmas. So we are really enjoying this 3 whole days a month off that he doesn't have to worry about the phone or anything. Days he can do his "Honey-do" jobs.

My dad is flying out to spend Christmas & New Year's with us. He will arrive in Denver the 23rd and will stay 'til the 6th of Jan. We are all looking forward to it very much.

I have a recipe I would like to share with you all. It's the same coffee cake I made for the reunion. Some of you may remember it. Here it is.

CHERRY COFFEE CAKE

Cream together:

1 cup butter or oleo
1 3/4 cup sugar
1 t. vanilla
4 eggs

Add dry sifted ingredients:

3 cups flour
1/2 t. salt
2 t. baking powder

Spread in greased 9 x 12 pan, saving half for top. Spoon 1 can cherry pie filling on dough. Put on other half dough and spread out. Bake at 325 degrees for 1 hour or until set in the center. Frost while hot with powdered sugar icing. "Good eating".

Well we all hope you had a nice Thanksgiving and didn't eat too much. Sure glad Pat corrects the spelling in these letters. Mine gets pretty bad at times.

Better close now and catch the mail man. Hope all are enjoying good health. A very Merry and Blessed Christmas to all. Happy New Year, too.

Love and Prayers, Ade, Pat & kids

From Dick and Dolores Nyffler

November Hello to all,

Hope you all had a nice Thanksgiving Day and got your tummies full of all the holiday goodies. We will be having dinner here for some of my cousins on the Smagacz side of the family. They always include us other years so it's our turn.

On Friday Nov. 21st Dick's sister, Nadine and husband will arrive from Columbus, Ohio to be with us a week. They are football fans so on Saturday we will have to watch on TV the Ohio-Michigan game and try to listen to the Nebr.-Oklahoma game on the radio. It sure would be great if Ohio and Nebr. could play in the Orange Bowl - - sure would settle a family feud. We have a special interest in the Nebr. team since so many local boys we know are on the team. Butterfield is Dick's cousin.

With tickets being so hard to get for the Lincoln game, we only got down to one game but took a bus tour to the Missouri game and drove to the game in Manhattan, Kansas. We had our tickets for the Missouri game before we knew it was going to be on TV. We left Columbus on Friday morning and spent the night in Kansas City, Mo. The next day we went on to Columbia. That evening we returned to KC and enjoyed the sights of the town. After church on Sunday we took a short tour of Independence and saw where Truman lived. Bess didn't invite us in for coffee but she probably would have if she would have known good Democrats like us were outside. HaHa. We were surprised to find out that town is the headquarters for the Mormans, National headquarters that is - it's a huge building. Sunday afternoon we attended the Pro game between KC Chiefs and the Houston Oilers. We stayed across the freeway from this new stadium. It's really something. Their 2 1/2 million score board entertains you as much as the game itself. We aren't interested in going to a Pro game again as it's just a job with them and they don't have the hustle and spirit college teams do. If you ever get to KC, we highly recommend eating at the Plaza III, Victoria Station, and the Gold Buffet. This buffet has the largest selection we have ever seen for \$4.95.

As this is being written on Nov. 19th, snow is falling in western Nebr. and they say it will be here by evening. Boy this will be hard to take after all the warm weather we have been enjoying. The moisture is still needed very badly. We have been watering our lawn and trees right up to yesterday as they are warning people that the trees may not survive the winter if you don't water them. You wouldn't believe how long the leaves have hung on the trees this year. Ours all fell in one day after the only low



Johnna and Jason, children of John and Cindy (Lukassen) Ehmke.

This was taken in front of their trailerhome in Canon City, Colo.

temperature that we have had so far this fall of 15 degrees. People talk about how many bags of leaves they rake, well ours was 8 manure spreaders full.

With this lovely weather we got all our buildings painted and Dick did some plowing in the heavy ground.

The Kresha children sure put on a super duper party for Uncle Adolph and Aunt Rose. We weren't hungry for a week after all the good food. Thanks for a real good time.

Enjoyed the letters and pictures in the Oct. issue. Hope more try and write.

Dick and Dolores

From Harold and Lillian Witulski

Dear Family,

Though we had a drought, rains came at the right time for crops to survive and mature. Harvest time was fair weather and all the good crops were binned in record time. Praise the Lord! We have much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving Day.

We are busy this fall building a duplex in Beatrice at 16 and Jackson Street. Our contractor and his men are slow as usual. Since I sold my house in Lincoln, we are reinvesting the money. It is a two level building.

Pheasants are in short supply but Harold shot a wild goose which was a young one, so I'm saving it for a special feast. It had our name on it (on our pasture pond).

I suggest in the December issue of the Kresha Kronicle we all get our Christmas messages to Pat in record time, and thus save sending out Christmas cards and postage. If this is agreeable, the money we save can go into the Kronicle treasury. And Grandma Kresha's arm won't get so tired!

(Ed. note: what a grand idea! Y'all get them done now, and if you have any relative near or far you want included, send their address and be sure to include zip code.)

Alice, Jim and I attended Peru State's homecoming football game last month. Larry is in the marching band (drummer) and also in the stage band. He has 2 jobs in school, so hasn't been home since school started.

This fall I am in a ceramics class and am painting flower pots for all the macrame pot hangers I make.

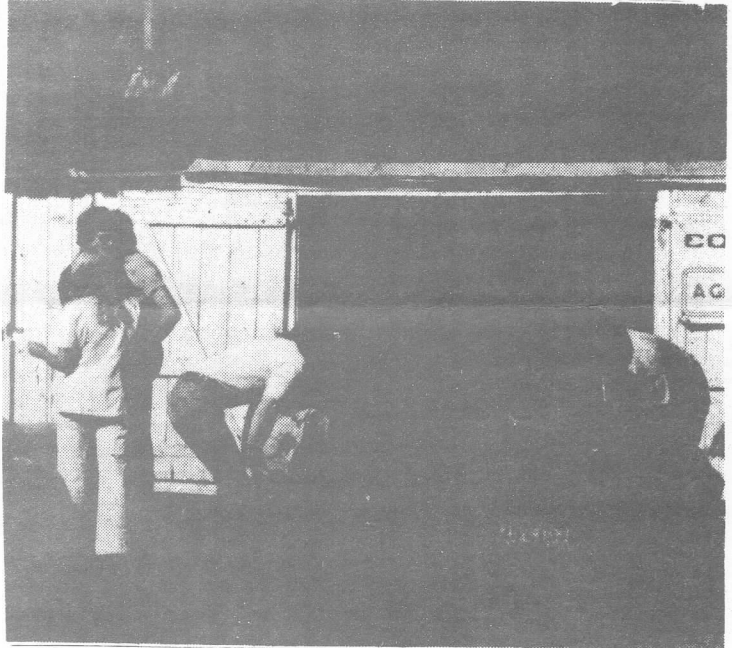
Harold is taking a Mechanical Engineering course one night a week in Beatrice High. He always has wanted to learn more. It is for college credit.

My expenses were paid to Washington, D.C. to a seminar

at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Church for 4 days. I got to tour the city and got only a taste of all there is to see. Want to go back for 2 weeks and see Gettysburg and Emmetsburg where the Shrine of the new St. Elizabeth Seton is.

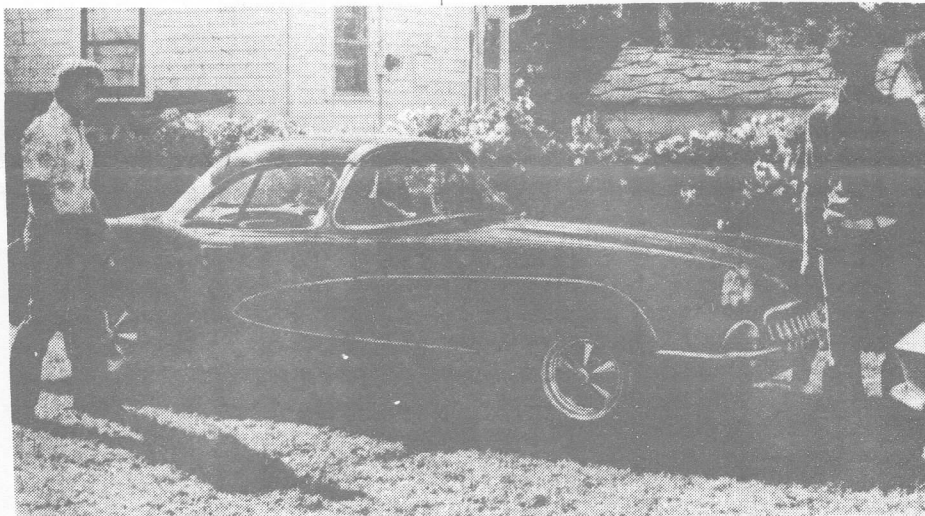
Thank you Pat and Gene for your wonderful efforts that are bringing unity to the Kresha family. Dad must be very happy with it.

Love, Harold, Lillian and Larry



THE SPLIT-WINDOW — A couple of the members take a look at the rare split-window coupe at a meeting.

Members look over Dan Hilger's car. Joe Kresha of Silver Creek also owns a Corvette.



AN OLDY BUT GOODIE — This 1956 coupe, owned by Charlie Prather, is in top-notch shape and is the oldest Vette in the group.

These pictures appeared in the Columbus Telegram as a feature on the Corvette Owners Club. They appeared for the first time in a parade in Columbus in October. Dan Hilger is at left.



St. Andrew's Church as it appears today.

Photo by Elaine Kresha.

Comments and News by Pat

Up to this time I have not fully explained the expenses in conjunction with the Kronicle. Right now I have 52 address plates which I will list at the end of this. So the paper to send them amounts to about 4.00, printing plates to print them 3.00, envelopes .75, pictures made .40 for 1 column and up to 1.60 for the big 4 column, pictures clipped from newspapers are free since they are pasted in, postage .10 each if not over 4 pages. Whereas contributions are welcome, each and every person in the family who is away from home is entitled to receive it whether they contribute or not. The idea is to promote family unity, so we should hear from each person receiving it at least once in a while to promote that unity. We can not use negatives, but must have a black and white picture or color if not too dark.

I am all in favor of everyone putting their greetings in the Kronicle for December. We would hate to leave anyone out, so get them here as soon as possible.

Addresses I still need are the Don Chaissons, whose first letter came back. Don't have Michael and Richard Kresha and Phyllis Green.

Here is the mailing list.

Sister M. Dolores, Catholic School, Lumberton, N.M. 87547
 John Ehmke, 2920 Ute, Canon City, Colo. 81212
 Max Gabel, Rt., Shelby, Nebr. 68662
 Dr. William Gabriel, 1821 Olive Ave. Apt. B. Santa Barbara, Calif. 93102
 Mrs. Ann Hensel, 19120 Bessemer St., Reseda, Calif. 91335
 Bernard Hilger, Rt. 3, Box 20, David City, Nebr. 68632
 Bob Hilger, David City, Nebr. 68632
 Dan Hilger, Rt., Bellwood, Nebr. 68624
 Jerome Jarecki, 315 Beacon Pl., Columbus, Nebr. 68601
 Henry Kobza, Rt., Bellwood, Nebr. 68624
 Leon Kosch, 2306 Thorndyke Way, Seattle, Wash. 98199
 Adolph Kresha, Rt. 2, Osceola, Nebr. 68651
 Adrian Kresha, 806 So. 9th Ave., Brighton, Colo. 80601
 Allan Kresha, Rt. 2, Osceola, Nebr. 68651
 Andy Kresha, P. O. Box 3068, Irving, Texas 75061
 Art Kresha, 2054 18th Ave., Columbus, Nebr. 68601
 Bill Kresha, 1716 Woodland Dr., Columbus, Nebr. 68601

Charles Kresha, Rt. 2, Humphrey, Nebr. 68642
 Clarence Kresha, 4130 Lund Ct., No. Highlands, Cal. 95660
 Dennis Kresha, 2503 9th St., Columbus, Nebr. 68601
 Mrs. Edwin Kresha, 1018 2nd St., Columbus, Nebr. 68601
 Mrs. Eva Kresha, 1202 Logan St., Holdrege, Nebr. 68949
 George Kresha, 711 Loch Lomond Dr., Bakersfield, Cal. 93304
 Glenn Kresha, Rt. 2, Osceola, Nebr. 68651
 Gregg Kresha, Rt. 2, Box 89, Osceola, Nebr. 68651
 John Kresha, 758 21st Ave., Columbus, Nebr. 68601
 Larry Kresha, Rt., Shelby, Nebr. 68662
 Leo Kresha, Rt. 2, Osceola, Nebr. 68651
 Martin Kresha, Rt. 2 Box 100, Osceola, Nebr. 68651
 Michelle Kresha, 415 So. 41st St. Apt. 3, Omaha, Nebr. 68131
 Mike Kresha, 2705 Norman Ave., Bakersfield, Calif. 93304
 Paul Kresha, 6615 So. 135th St., Omaha, Nebr. 68137
 Raymond Kresha, 513 No. Market St., Oskaloosa, Ia. 52577
 Rita Kresha, 4229 Berrendo Dr., Sacramento, Calif. 95825
 Sophia C. Kresha, Box 403, Mitchell, Nebr. 69357
 Dr. James Block, 490 E. Skillman Apt. 102, Maplewood, Minn. 55117
 Lee Dunecacke, Rising City, Nebr. 68658
 Louis Kush, Rt. 1, Monroe, Nebr. 68647
 Callen Lukassen, Rt. 1 Box 1, Dix, Nebr. 69133
 Dale Lukassen, 130 Stinemier, Canon City, Colo. 81212
 Mrs. Mary Lukassen, Rt. 1, Box 42, Kimball, Nebr. 69145
 Steve Lukassen, 130 Stinemier, Canon City, Colo. 81212
 Tim Lukassen, Box 299, Curtis, Nebr. 69025
 Wanda & Nadine Lukassen, 2935 11th Ave. Apt. 4A, Evans, Colo. 80620
 Richard Nyffler, Rt. 4, Box 33, Columbus, Nebr. 68601
 Tom O'Brien, 585 Dawn Dr. Rt. 1, Plattsmouth, Nebr. 68048
 John Palmer, Rt. 3 Box 278, Pueblo, Colo. 81004
 Ronald Smith, Rt., Shelby, Nebr. 68662
 George Strauss, 1300 30th (E1-34) Boulder, Colo. 80303
 Kevin Wibbels, 3507 Woods Ave., Lincoln, Nebr. 68502
 Harold Witulski, Rt. 2, Beatrice, Nebr. 68310
 S/P 4 Mark Wolf, 925 Claflin Rd., Manhattan, Kans. 66502



(Photo by Elaine Kresha)

From Mary Lukassen and family

Hello Kinfolk,

We have certainly enjoyed the first two issues of the Kronicle. The deadline for the issue is a good idea, but it seems to come TOO fast.

We're having a howling blizzard today (Nov. 19). The school buses brought the children home at noon. We've had about 9 inches of snow with a 30 MPH wind.

Our crops were good this year. Wheat yield was surprisingly good considering the dry weather. Our pinto beans made a fair yield of 23 bu. The pinto bean price now is lower than I can remember - - - also the wheat market is giving me gray hair.

We have about 130 head of cows and 28 replacement heifers on our corn field cleaning up the stover that we didn't get picked up. Our cow herd is at an all time low. We have about 130 head steers in the feed lot.

The men (have 3 I board + Dave) are starting to overhaul equipment, they are starting with the corn combine while the problems are fresh in mind.

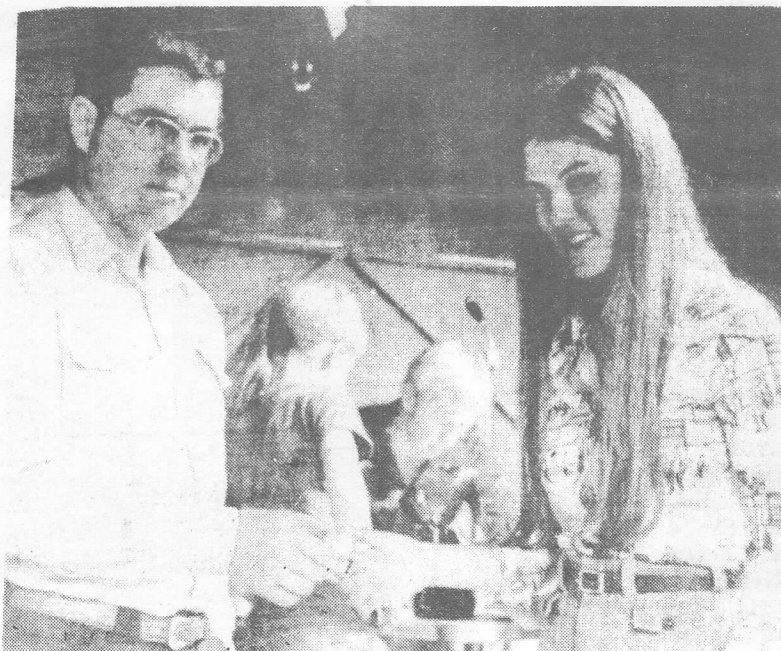
Pat and Chris did very well in their 4-H projects this year. Patsy judged clothing at the State Fair and was in the top 1/3 of 300 girls. She modeled her coat and suit outfit in the style revue competition and was awarded a red ribbon. Chris was a purple ribbon winner at State Fair with her robe and nightgown. She also competed giving a foods demonstration and was a blue ribbon winner. This fall Pat received additional 4-H awards. (See picture)

The past four months I've been plagued with a 'pain in the neck'. No Joke! The hospital tests were made last week, and the myelogram located the problem in the cervical part of my spine, so I'm scheduled for surgery the first part of December. I'm looking forward to relief.

Am considering NOT sending individual holiday greetings this year - will send our best to you all via the Kronicle. Blessings of the Holiday season to you all!

Lots of love, Mary & family

P. S. Wanda and Nadine live together and work in Greeley, their address is: 2935 11th Ave. Apt. 4A, Evans, Colo. 80620.



PATSY LUKASSEN received the Ak-Sar-Ben Outstanding 4-H member award Sunday from 4-H leader Larry Stoddard. The honor was presented for her work with various 4-H clubs and in the county 4-H program.—Observer photo

From Mother Kresha

Dear Family,

Am having tough time writing. I hurt my right shoulder in a fall near 2 weeks ago, was pretty good, then I hurt it today so I'm poor with writing. Don't know when this gets mailed as we're snow bound, no mail today. Father has Wisc. company, they went visiting Tues. Last night they got snow bound at Wood River, Nebr., still isn't home. I'm snowed in, all the doors are either frozen down or have big snowdrifts blocking them. Our storm started with rain .44 inch, then snow and high wind still blowing. Heard all roads in Holdrege area are closed. Schools and businesses were closed.

Had a letter from Mary, still suffering with her shoulder, neck and arm. Was at DePaul Hosp. Cheyenne for tests traction etc.

Friday Eve. Fathers Howe and Schmidt of Wisc. got back from their trip this morning after being snow bound at Wood River, since Wednesday night. Sounded like they both were happy to be back. Father Schmidt said "We were lucky, we got the last room available at the motel". Father said some people sat up all night in the lobby, there were no rooms and they couldn't seek elsewhere, either. Father Schmidt drove to Omaha today, left here about 1:00 p.m. Still had 250 miles till he gets to his parish.

Sat. No mail here since Tuesday. Hope mailman goes today. A lot of streets were cleared today. Had some huge drifts — high as kitchen door on east side, a huge drift near parish hall roof, in our front yard. News on TV said they got much more snow in northeast Nebr. Verdigrée got 20 in. Here, paper said we got 9 in. not counting rain showers preceding and first snow was mixed with rain. We're thankful to God for sending moisture. Was very dry here. They got only .27 moisture in Kimball, mostly rain.

Love ya very much, Mother

PILFERED QUIPS

The worst thing about being a good sport is that you have to lose to prove it.

Math teacher: Now if I lay three eggs here and five over there, how many eggs will I have?

Pupil: To tell, you the truth, I don't think you can do it.

KRESHHA ^{merry Christmas} KRONICLE

Vol. 1, No. 4

Box 8, Pleasant Hill, Mo. 64080

December, 1975

Best Wishes

From Hank and Bonnie Kobza

Dear Kresha Family,

We send each of you Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

As usual, the year has gone by too fast. Hank has had a busy year with many sales and his hogs. I even get to work for a few sales which I certainly enjoy. Even get to visit with my sweet "sale-going" uncles and cousins.

The kids are busy getting ready for the big Christmas program at school. They have made out their Santa lists - some are short and some are unbelievable. I must be getting shorter as I can't see over John's (12½) and Bob's (11) heads anymore. They and Eddie (10) are sports nuts and have been playing organized football and baseball the last 2 years, but in 2 different age brackets. John got hurt in the first football game with a bruised backbone and ribs and was out the rest of the season. He is out for basketball now.

Was so nice to see Bob's picture in the last Kronicle - thanks to Grandma (Hilger) I'm sure. There is a little story behind it, though. Bob was junior champ, John was reserve champ, and Eddie top purple in this age bracket of showmanship. Mom and Dad were a little excited that day!

Marty (8) made his First Communion Dec. 7. His grandparents and sponsors were here for dinner and we had such a nice day.

Julie (6) still has her "white" hair. She loves 1st grade and is a big help to me. The kids are all very excited about the late Christmas present we have ordered. They don't care if it's a boy or girl - just so all is well. But how do you get 5 anxious helpers to share one tiny baby? So if there's a big blizzard in January, think of me!

Again, Season's Greetings to you all.

Bonnie & Hank Kobza & family

From Ann Hensel

To All, Every good wish
for a Happy Holiday Season.
Never a Christmas morning,
Never an old year ends,
But someone thinks of
someone,
Old days, old times, and family.



It was a nice surprise to find the Kresha Kronicle in the mail today. We have Pat & Gene Thomas to thank and be grateful for to take time out in this busy world. I'm sure everyone appreciated the thoughts of hearing about our dear ones like I do, one of the blessings we can be thankful for in 1975.

The first communion picture of Coleen & Jolene Kresha was so nice. Elaine and Martin, you should be so proud of them.

How are you folks taking the cold weather? We had our first frost Dec. 1st, so it does get down to 32 degrees

To hear about Mary and Raymond Kresha and their busy

life, their grandparents are real happy for them, I'm sure.

I spent Thanksgiving at the Yortys, had turkey and all the trimmings.

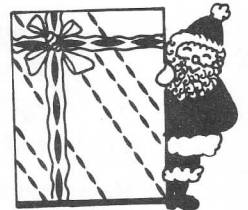
It was so interesting to hear of a baby girl called Kresha. My 14½ years at St. Vincent Hospital, I spent all that time in the newborn nursery. One of the students said my first little one will be called "Kresha".

Well, there is a chance I may be going to Germany next year. Dr. Hahn, a dentist, and his wife, a hygienist, are going to Germany next year. Their two small boys I care for are Chris, two years old, and Kia, fourteen months. They want me to go among for a couple weeks till they get settled. So I may go to the place Dad came from, too.

Well, again, my Season's Greetings to all.

Love to all,
Ann Hensel

Yuletide Joy



From Leo and Pauline Kresha

Dear Pat and Eugene and all,

I am sending you some money for Christmas gift and expenses, you are doing very nicely with Kresha Kronicle. So keep up the good work.

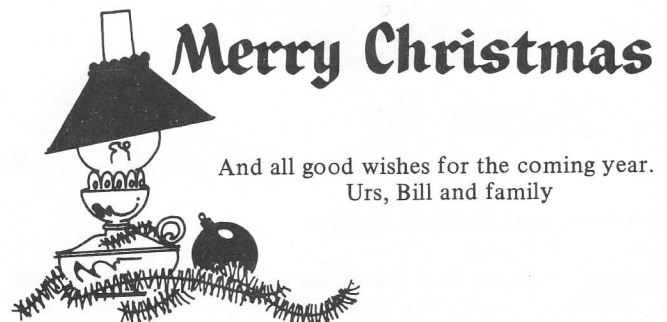
Some of us ladies, Elaine, Rose, Nettie, Josephine Schott had a nice party for Mother Eva at Josephine's home on Thursday, Dec. 11th. Also Father Howe was there. Each lady gave her a nice gift for her birthday. Also Elaine took some pictures of her blowing the candles out on her cake.

We are having severe weather here now. It's really hard on the farmers. Lots of livestock was lost. Today it's raining and freezing. We hope that we at least have electricity in our home.

Leo and I want to wish you all a Joyful Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Love, Leo and Pauline

From Urs, Bill and Family



And all good wishes for the coming year.
Urs, Bill and family



From Martin and Elaine Kresha and family

Christmas Blessings

Once more we are hearing the story
Of the Baby in Bethleem's inn
Who came down from Heaven's bright glory
to save us from death and from sin.
No matter how often we hear it
Its message will always impart
New beauty and new understanding
and a deeper belief in each heart.
May the story with all of its beauty
bring joy to your heart Christmas Day
And may He be with you and grant you
His love in the year on the way.

Love and peace to our family,
Martin, Elaine
Patrick, Kenneth, Bernard
Jolene, Collene & Lois



Christmas
Greetings
to all

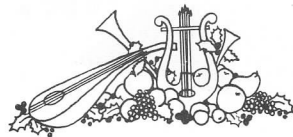
From Adrian and Pat Kresha and family

This Merry Christmas greeting
Holds another wish too
Everything good in the New Year for you

Always good times in holidays bright
Dear friends and family — a merry sight
Rounds of wishes to you for joy alight
Inspiring contentment, each day and night
A scene of the season, redbirds in flight
Newly fallen snow all clean and white

Keen gladness that comes with the best
Really gay hopes for cheer and zest
Ever thoughts too for those you hold dear
So only the finest is wished for you here
Happy anticipation for the coming year
A look now at the letters starting each line
See who sends you this Yuletide rhyme
May God Bless you all at this
Joyous Holiday Season.
Ade, Pat and family

Christmas Joy



From Dick and Dolores Nyffler

Dear Kresha Relatives,
Seasons Greetings from Columbus where we have had a good taste of winter already. The week of Thanksgiving we had our own big Christmas Picture with everything covered with the heaviest frost we have ever seen.

For the first time our local radio station is going to broadcast the midnight services Christmas Eve from St. Isidore's Church, our parish.

Weather permitting. Sr. Dolores will be home Dec. 23rd to

the 29th. On Thanksgiving they had 13 inches of snow, so it's possible she won't be coming as it's too risky trying to travel those mountain roads.

To all you, we wish God's every blessing and good health in the New Year.

Dolores and Dick

From Sister Dolores

Dear Relatives,

Merry Christmas and may God's blessings come upon each and everyone of you at this Christmas time.

As I write this letter I can think of much to say, because I know many of you perhaps have a vague idea of what I'm really doing. Hopefully this letter will give you some idea of what life in Lumberton is all about.

The mission where I live is on the northern border of New Mexico and close to Colorado. On some maps you will not find it, however we are three miles from Dulce, New Mexico. This town is on the Apache Reservation.

I am a teacher in the Upper Primary which is in the age group of third and fourth graders. There are twenty-five children in my class. In the entire school we have eighty-five children.

Just a few years back the population of our school was mostly Spanish children. This has changed. We have more Indians than Spanish and seven Anglo children.

We have a new school building of four years. The men who built it did a very poor job—the roof leaks, etc., etc. For any kind of repair we have to get someone from one hundred miles away.

Just up to recently we've had sulfur water. We could not use it for drinking or cooking, so we hauled water from Dulce weekly. We still do that to make coffee, as the coffee has a funny taste still after the water has been filtered.

At Thanksgiving time we had thirteen inches of snow. Since then the temperature has dropped to 12 below zero. The worst is yet to come with forty and fifty below zero which usually comes at Christmas time.

Each room in our house is heated by a small gas heater. When it gets very cold or the wind blows badly the heaters don't work, so we huddle around portable electric heaters.

In this area we just can't get sick, because there's no doctor or hospital for a hundred miles. The Indians have a clinic in Dulce, and non-Indians cannot get any assistance.

There are about one hundred people living in our town. The town looks like a ghost town. Everything is run down and the old buildings and sheds are part of the decoration.

Of all of the mission places which our sisters staff, this is one of the poorest places. It might be the poorest and along with that the happiest. This is the way St. Francis wants his followers to live.

Perhaps many of you have questions to ask about what I briefly said. I would be happy to hear from any of you.

Here's wishing also to all of you a Happy New Year.

Lovingly, Sister Dolores



From George, Marcie and Jennie Strauss

We wish everyone a happy and meaningful Christmas.
George, Marcie and Jennie Strauss





Greetings

From John, Cindy, Johnna and Jason

Dear Kreshas!

Season's best from Colorado. There is no better place to spend a Christmas but in the Rockies! The Ehmkes wish everyone all the blessings of the Yuletide season. All our family is in good health and waiting the coming of Christ. Again, peace to all!

John, Cindy, Johnna and Jason



From Mrs. Edwin Kresha

Hello to Everyone!

May the peace and happiness of Christmas be yours today and every day throughout the coming new year.

We are happy to announce that our new arrival came before Christmas. A girl, Kimberlee Ann, weighing 7 lbs. 1½ oz. was born Nov. 30, 1975. Kenneth and Lisa are very happy over their new sister.

Kenneth is enjoying school and he says he really likes it. Lisa is enjoying her baby sister. Sits by her all the time, can't wait till she gets up.

I was very busy sewing. Now for a few weeks I'll be taking it easy. I baked a few Christmas cookies and froze them. After next week I'll be doing some baking of cookies and Kenny asked me to make some fudge so I'll have to make some for him.

Kenny and Lisa are begging me to set up the Christmas tree so they're all excited to help as I usually set it up Dec. 8.

I enjoy reading the Kresha Kronicle. Keep up the good work, Pat. Sitting here, notice our weather is changing. It just melted the streets and it sure looks like snow. Don't mind the snow but I sure hate icy streets as I'm a chicken to drive on it.

Kimberlee just woke up so I'll take care of her and then get this in the mail.

May God's blessing be with all of you.

Florence, Kenneth, Lisa and Kimberlee Ann



From George and Margaret

December 1976

Hello from Bakersfield:

Congratulations to Gene and Pat on the Kresha Kronicle, we think it is GREAT. Now I hope the family participate so it will last for many years. This will be our Christmas message to everyone and there will be no Christmas cards and send the donation to Pat.

We all keep well and busy at this writing. Mike spent his month of vacation trimming trees around town and painting outside of Richard's bar. He keeps healthy and husky. His son Micheal is still with the Highway Patrol. He and Dixie have two handsome boys, Troy and Steven.

Richard still has his bar and wife Gail works as accountant for the Medical Center. They recently purchased a new home and plan to be moved in by Christmas. Gail has two daughters and Richard's girls come quite frequently to visit for week at a time, so they need a larger place.

Ann Hensel will write her own message. We get down to visit with her occasionally. She needs to come visit us. She said she may move to Bakersfield soon to be closer to her relatives. I wish she would.

As for the George Kreshas, George and I will become grandparents in May 1976. Donald and Diane gave the surprise announcement at a family dinner with both sets of parents present. Diane plans to quit work in February and stay home about five years to care for her child or children, which makes us very happy.

Donald is quality control manager of research at Alza Corp. Jerome is happy at Fresno State College about 100 miles north of here. His major is agricultural science. Two city farmers have a farm boy. Four big boys plus Jerome's guitar came for Thanksgiving in a little Volkswagen. The driver said it took less gas with all that HOT air inside. He will have a 5-week semester break—hope he finds a job or it will be very long.

George is checking off every month as it goes by, counting the months until his retirement in August 76. Meanwhile I'm busy filling out forms for his retirement.

I'm busy keeping house, working some and my church work and I must add it seems like I spend weeks at this typewriter writing to ALL our relations. Don't forget I came from a large family also and the two families are like one big corporation.

Again, we thank everyone for their hospitality shown George and myself during our vacation. We still have happy memories. Speaking of memories we just celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary. Like old people that we are. George joins me in wishing YOU ALL A JOYOUS CHRISTMAS AND HAPPINESS THROUGH THE NEW YEAR. Again, our thanks to Pat and Gene.

Our love, George and Margaret

(Elaine we loved the pictures. The addresses in November issue was a great idea. Thank you Pat.)

Addresses:

Donald and Diane Chaisson
1072 Blaney Avenue
San Jose, California 95129

Micheal and Dixie Kresha
2513 Driller Ave.
Bakersfield, Calif. 93306

Richard and Gail Kresha
4525 Skye Drive
Bakersfield, Calif. 93308

(New Address)



From Harold, Lillian and Larry

My dear family:

This Christmas Eve, when you peek into the dark cave to see the little Christ child, ask him for peace in our family, as well as throughout the whole world. With peace, will come joy and happiness. May all the days of all the years that God still has in store be filled with every grace and joy to bless you more and more. May hope of heart and peace of mind, beside you ever stay. And, that's the golden wish we have—for you this Christmas day.

Sing praises to the Lord, Harold, Lillian and Larry



NOTICE

You have all contributed instead of sending Christmas cards, so the fund is in good shape. So no one will have to contribute for a couple months, or until we let you know. Thanks.

The Printers
Pat and Gene

Happy Holiday



From Mother Kresha

Holdrege, Dec. 6, '75

Dear Family,

Here, the Kronicle can be of great help. Pat Thomas suggests that I send my Christmas letter for the December number. Of course we will be mailing cards to our friends not so lucky to get the Kronicle.

To each and all of you I send Christmas greetings—may you have Christmas joys and all happiness in the New Year. As for me, I've been quite well, and busy as usual. In mid-November I fell when I missed a step in the garage, and struck my shoulder on a door frame. Am still putting up with a right lame arm. Is lots better, will take awhile.

Let's all pray for Mary Lukassen that her recovery is complete from her neck surgery.

Was snowed in during Nov. 20 blizzard. All doors were blocked except south church door, and it had a deep snowdrift a few feet away. Was home alone. Father Howe and a priest friend from Wisconsin visiting here, were snowbound at a motel at Wood River, Nebr., till Friday A.M.

Soon will be time to get Christmas decorations from their boxes, the extra wash done, etc. Don't know yet if we'll get invited out for Christmas dinner. Usually Father is too tired to drive very far.

In closing I wish you all the very best, and may Santa be generous to you.

Love ya ver' much, Mother Kresha



From Bud and Rose Hilger

12/8/75

Dear Pat, Gene and family,

We wish you every blessing at Christmas and happiness in the New Year.

Many thanks for your efforts in bringing us closer to our family thru the K.K. It's so nice to learn what those living away are doing. What interesting lives they live.

Our trip to Kansas City was so enjoyable. The Jim Nabors Show was great, and we saw a very good horse show—even a chariot race—what speeders!

Went to Dorothy and Lou Kush's farm sale Saturday. Hank auctioned a big share of it. They sold 275 head of feeder pigs. It was nice weather and a good crowd. We had a nice visit with John, Caroline and Dolores, too.

Yesterday, Marty Kobza and Michael Hilger made their First Communion. We were pleased that we could attend the Mass and get-together afterwards.

All of our families and Dick and Dolores will be with us on Christmas Day. Hopefully, Sister Dolores, too.

We welcome the Christmas message idea. Here is ours:

Christmas is that time that's happiest

For thinking of those we love the best.

And sending wishes warmly sincere

A joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lovingly, Bud and Rose

From Tim, Cathy and Mandy Lukassen

Dear Kreshas!

Season's greetings to all! It is so nice having the Kresha Kronicle to openly wish everyone the best, not only at this special

Holiday season but throughout the year! Keep up the good work Gene and Pat!

Our Christmas gift came early this year! Mandy has brought us so much joy—more fun than a new toy. She never runs down or wears out! (Although at times we would like to unplug her!)

We're finally getting that old Christmas Spirit, what with most of our shopping done and brightly wrapped packages sitting around the house and Christmas cookies and candy being made, and a few more decorations being added to the scene every day!

We have had beautiful weather in central Nebraska the past week, which makes for sloppy roads. But who cares with all this lovely moisture!

To everyone Joy and Peace at this Holiday Season and a prosperous 1976!

Tim, Cathy and Mandy Lukassen

(Address change: Route 3) 69025



From Charlie, Lucy and Family

Dec. 9, 1975

Hi Everybody,

We're all dug out from the big snowstorm with most of the snow in big drifts in the yard. Andrea was coming home about 6:30 Wednesday evening and slid in the ditch. It was snowing and blowing so hard that it was impossible to look for her. At 9 o'clock the next morning she called home to say she was safe. This farmer went out with his tractor to see if his cattle were out and found her and took her to his home. It blowed so hard all day Thursday that we weren't able to go the three miles to get her until late Friday afternoon with the tractor. I never want to spend another sleepless night like that.

Basketball season is upon us now and Nancy is head cheerleader for the varsity. Julie is cheerleader for the Junior High games. Kriste is just enjoying the step up from grade school to junior high. Eddie is enjoying coyote, fox, and coon hunting when he's not in school. Andrea works for New York Life Insurance Co. in the afternoon. The college rearranged all her classes for the morning so she could work. She gets college credits for it, gets her experience, and also gets paid.

Bob and Kathy bought a new home in Millard, It is a lot closer to their place of business, "The Good Times Lounge." Tammy is eleven months old now and walking. I spoil her every chance I get. Here is their address:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mausbach

13958 Drexel Circle

Omaha, Nebr. 68114

Charlie has been to the doctor for a check on his arm. The doctor says it is very rare to have phlebitis in the arm and they are skeptical about operating. I hope he doesn't have another blood clot as it is still bothering him a little.

We wish everybody a blessed and merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Love, Charlie, Lucy and family



From Millie and Dale, Curt and Evan

Dec. 8

Hello Everyone:

We wish you all a Holy and Blessed Christmas and a very Happy New Year. This is our Christmas card.

The work of the Thomases is great in starting the Kresha Kronicle. I am sure it will bring the "togetherness" we need.

Since the Round Robin was here we had a busy summer with moderate moisture. Our fall has been rather dry but have had some balmy weather the past few days.

We have our livestock moved to temporary feed at the present so it is a job moving them around.

It's such a pleasure keeping track of where everyone is, espe-

cially the nieces and nephews. I'm sure our family will contribute too.

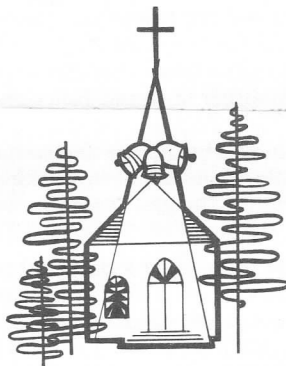
Curt, 16, a sophomore at the Abbey School, played football this fall and of course we followed every game. He isn't out for basketball as he needed a break. But he's getting ready for track come spring. Evan is a busy sixth grader and enjoys St. Michael's. They have a Campbell's Soup label drive and just finished the steel pop can drive before Thanksgiving. We are always busy on these projects to help keep the school open.

Dale and I are feeling better now. In September I had an EKG and was in the hospital a couple of days. I'm on medication and am okay now. Dale was under the care of our urologist here and is better now.

We are anticipating a new grandchild in January—maybe the Palmers will have it in December for a tax break.

Our love and the best for 1976, our bicentennial year.
Millie and Dale, Curt and Evan

Christmas Joy



From Tom and Mary O'Brien

Greetings from Beaver Lake!

The Christmas Season finds us busy and excited about the upcoming holiday. Having little Bethanie here to enjoy is making this Christmas really special. We plan to go to Beatrice for X-Mass at Mom and Harold's.

We children have ordered a small organ for them and we will all enjoy Mom's music. She is really excited.

Katie had her first Christmas program and her class were Angels. She was so excited and we were proud as peaches of our blond little angel. Growing up sure can be fun.

Our VW is down with a transmission problem so I am without wheels. It complicates by life but doesn't make it impossible. We also have a Christmas mouse or two to contend with. We're getting them personalized traps for Christmas.

A belated birthday wish to you Grandma Eva. Hope your year is filled with peace, health and happiness.

We also want to wish the same to the rest of you all. May we all have safe and happy New Years.

Tom and Mary
Matt (3½), Katie (5½) and Bethanie (2 mo.)
585 Dawn Dr., Rt. 1
Plattsmouth, Nebr. 68048



From Allan and Loretta Kresha and Mary

We enjoy the Kronicle very much! Pat, I do admire you for all the time & effort you have put into this worthy project. I pray the good Lord will reward you with good health and much happiness and peace.

I am giving you our Mary's address below. She has been promoted to Assistant Head Nurse at Richard Young Hospital in Omaha.

Miss Mary F. Kresha
1875 S. 75 St. Apt. 310
Omaha, Neb. 68124

Happy Holidays to all!

From Sophia

Dear Pat, Gene and children,

12/17/75

Have been writing this letter for a month or more. Thank God for two such wonderful sister and brother-in-law for taking time to get out your wonderful Kresha Kronicle.

Am well and enjoy good health and keep busy at St. Theresa's Thrift Shop every day, Monday through Friday, 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It takes all my time keeping things marked, clean and mended and of last evening our total since we started May 28, 1973—\$10,650.57, out of which we have to pay rent and utilities.

We had a nice snow on the level about four inches and was five below zero this morning. Didn't have Mass this morning as it will be in Morrill at 6 p.m. and then Legion of Mary afterwards. Tomorrow, clean church in morning and put up tree, take care of altars, flowers and you name it.

We had a mission last week, so there goes my evenings. Play for all services.

Eva Kresha your mother donated money, with which we purchased a lovely procession cross and stand beside the altar in memory of the Kresha-Karges-Kropatsch deceased members.

Well, I didn't think it would take this much writing.

Love and prayers, Sophia C. Kresha



From Lee and Mary Lou Dunekacke

Season's Greetings from Rising City,

We are well into our sixth year of teaching at Rising City High School this year. We like the closeness of a small school. Students seem to relate more freely with a smaller teacher to student ratio.

Lee teaches industrial arts, Junior High social studies, drivers' education and mini-courses in hunter safety. In addition he coaches football; and we're proud to say that the team was second on our conference this fall. Also he coaches track and sponsors the R C Club. Mary Lou teaches home economics and Junior High English. Her extra-curricular activities include Pep Club sponsor, Junior class sponsor, and Junior class play director. Her play, "Man Overboard," was presented in November with 21 students in the cast.

We live on a small acreage ½ mile north of Rising City. Last summer we pastured 10 head of cattle and planted and nurtured a large vegetable barden. Mary Lou also planted a large flower garden.

Mary Lou is presently president of the Butler-Colfax County Home Economics Club, and President of Town and Country Funland, the Rising City swimming pool. Lee is a Fireman with the local Fire Department. He also keeps busy hunting, fishing and restoring old guns.

We are planning on spending Christmas Eve with Lee's family at Johnson, and Christmas day with Mom and Dad Kresha at Osceola. Here's wishing all happiness for the Christmas season and the coming year.

Lee and Mary Lou Dunekacke

(Thanks, Pat, for doing such a fine job with the Kresha Kronicle.)



Christmas Greetings

New Joy at



Christmas

From Andy Kresha

Dear Family

This past summer was spent on My Dad's Nebraska farm, doing everything from cultivating to irrigating to breaking his Farmhand, which is a machine to stack hay. It was good to be home and to be with my brothers and sisters, all of whom I might add are doing very well. Dad and Mom were very glad that I was home for a time.

With the end of summer came my exodus out of Nebraska into the promised land of Texas, where I began my first year of theology at Holy Trinity Seminary. It was a completely new experience after Pontifical College Josephinum. I found the adjustment hard and the mentality different, though I have since been able to see and understand why Msgr. Hughes runs this seminary the way he does. Despite various difficulties and a few tense moments, I found the men studying here to be just great and the opportunity for prayer and spiritual formation a blessing.

As I look back, I can see why it was the Lord's will that I be sent here, especially since I was not at all elated last summer with the prospect of coming here to theology because of all that I had heard. Surprisingly most of what I heard was right. Anyway, I believe that the Lord called me away to here so that I could find whether it is His will that I continue for the priesthood. After much prayer and the help of a very holy spiritual director, I believe that I should not continue studying for the priesthood. I went to the seminary over four years ago to find if I could best serve Jesus Christ as a celibate minister of His Word and Sacraments. At this point, I do not believe that His will for me is to go further in this direction. So I go now with God's grace and your prayers back to find another way to serve and love my neighbor, though I am uncertain now as to just what that will be. So I ask for your continued prayers. It is and has been a joyful mission seeking to love God and neighbor: I have few regrets about the past and few fears about the future for I know that the Spirit of Jesus remains with me as he does with you.

My immediate plans are to celebrate the holidays with my family in Nebraska. From now until further notice my address will be theirs: Rt. 2, Box 84, Osceola, Nebr. 68651.

From the Thomases

Dear Family,

1975 has been an eventful year for us in a number of ways, but has been most eventful for Pat. She had major surgery the first week in February, then underwent a series of cobalt treatments in April. She has lived with considerable pain and debilitation, but recovery has been steady and we are now hopeful that everything will be okay.

Despite her difficulties, however, Pat did not miss too much work and that has been a good thing as the year has been busy. Business has held up well, and has been very good in the past few months especially.

We all went to a reunion of Pat's family at Columbus, Neb., at the end of June, which was well attended although her mother and some of the brothers and sisters could not make it. We stopped at Lincoln, Neb., and visited Gene's cousin, Raymond Sincebaugh, and his wife, Dorothy, on the way home.

Pat and our helpers got the paper out the third week in August, and Gene and all the kids made a nine-day trip to Colorado. They visited Gene's brother and sister at Denver and his folks and grandmother at Grand Junction. Then Gene and his dad and Uncle Dave visited relatives in the Holly, Colo., area and visited his dad and uncle's birthplace and scenes of their childhood around Towner, Colo. Gene has been working on a family picture and genealogy project for the past few years and hopes to continue as time permits. He found the Holly and Towner visit very helpful.

The three older kids all got in some work during the summer. Joe worked for a time at the municipal power plant here, helping take down and clean one of the big generating engines which was to be overhauled. Terri worked for us at the office, working on painting the interior trim and helping with typing for the paper. Terri and Karen detasseled seed corn, a project which keeps a certain number of high school students busy for several weeks each summer.

The kids are coming along pretty well with school. Joe posed for his senior picture awhile back and has ordered his announcements, etc., but so far hasn't decided just what he will do when he graduates next spring. Terri is working pretty hard at school and doing okay. Karen has been sliding along a little too easily, and needs to buckle down—we hope we've got her convinced. Gloria is doing fine. Joe lettered in football, is now in wrestling and plans to go out for track again in spring. Terri is in Spanish club, Karen in Future Homemakers, and Gloria still plays the drum.

We still have not quite completed our office remodeling. Still have a little painting to do, then want to put in a number of sliding doors on cabinets, and get new chairs to replace the present miscellaneous assortment.

Merry Christmas to all from the Thomases, and a happy and prosperous 1976. We wish you a Merry Christmas, we *wish* you a Merry Christmas, we WISH you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! Hey, that would make a great song, wouldn't it? Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night.

Love, the Thomases: Gene, Pat, Joe, Terri, Karen, and Gloria

Mailing list omitted this time for lack of space. Will print as often as space permits.



Trip to Portugal and Spain -- 1975

By Rita Kresha

This is the story of Rita and Karen exploring through Portugal and Spain from September 27th through October 22nd. We were part of a group of 23 other members of the Sacramento Audubon Society who had planned the tour together.

Our group, or "El Gruppo," as our group came to be called, flew to New York by United, and then by TAP (Travel Air Portugal) to Lisbon. The flight took 15 hours, crossing 12 time zones. Upon arrival in Lisbon we were expedited through customs by a TAP representative, and placed aboard a bus which was to be our private conveyance for the next three weeks. Our driver was a young man named Amerigo, from Portugal.

Sintra, a residential suburb of Lisbon, was our home for the first three days in Portugal. From there we toured Lisbon and nearby coastal resort areas on the Atlantic Ocean. Lisbon, which is usually a shining jewel, was a disappointment, due entirely to the seething political unrest. Most of the walls, buildings, were plastered with crudely painted signs urging the populace to choose this or that political party.

We were never in actual physical danger due to the political unrest, however police and soldiers were uncooperative and at times rude. Refugees by the thousands (350,000) from Angola filled the airports, the hotels, and all the inns, from the big fancy RITZ to the small residential accommodations. Except for political signs which defaced the buildings in almost every village, the countryside was a pleasing contrast to Lisbon.

The west coast of every major continent has the same climate, so we found Portugal and Spain very similar to California in climate and the types of crops grown, plus the same flowers, trees, vegetable crops, etc., most of which had been introduced from the "new world" to the "old world." The favorite subject of our picture-taking buffs were pastoral scenes such as oxen, or mule-drawn carts delivering milk, grapes, and produce to the local dairies, wineries, and markets.

Our first night out of Sintra was spent in the small walled village of Obidos. Here we are first introduced to the first of many charming inns called pousadas (or estalagem) in Portugal, and Paradoes in Spain. That night, our estalagem was a former convent of 14 private rooms, each with bath, a nice inner courtyard and garden, a small bar and dining room. Our meal there, as well as all the meals served to us throughout the trip, was tasty and nicely served. The breakfast was of the continental type and always the same—hard and soft rolls, butter, jam, and two cups each of half coffee and half hot milk. This was pretty much standard at all the pousadas and paradoes. They are operated by the State, so have a standardization of services throughout. All of these state-operated places that we stayed at were old convents, monasteries, castles, and palaces that had been taken over by the state to be run as public hostels.

Traveling north from Obidos we made a stop at the University of Coimbra, in the city of that name. It is one of the oldest institutions of learning in the world. Its rare book library consists of books written before 1500 B.C. This library consists of three

rooms, high-tiered, and is a thing of great beauty. Each of the three rooms contains hand-carved tables and chairs, and carved bookcases of a species of wood different from all the others. The stacks are all decorated in gold leaf. The rooms, their furnishings, and the bookbindings make this the most beautiful library I have ever been privileged to see.

Since I'm a farmer at heart, I was especially interested in observing farm lands and practices in the two countries. Farm equipment and practices are far less advanced in Portugal than it is in Spain. In Portugal, the farming is on very small acreages with horses and donkeys. They plant straight up and down hills. The land is full of rocks which they have been clearing off for dozens of centuries. As they cultivate, more rocks come up, and they make walls around each field with the rocks. Later on, in Spain, we saw farming similar to the practices in the United States; modern equipment, contour plowing, fields consisting of 60 acres. The social difference is that the Portuguese land is owned and run by small farmers, whereas in Spain the land is owned by huge, rich landowners who have vast holdings. In Portugal almost everyone is in the same middle class. In Spain, there are the very rich and the very poor.

Our second night out of Sintra was spent at a beautiful pousada further north on the Atlantic ocean. We were heavily fogged in, so we didn't see very many of the shore birds that we had expected to see. We did see men with rowboats going out in the ocean to gather seaweed, which they use to fertilize the land.

We visited Aveiro, a large coastal city with salt refining industry and a large, busy port. The public buildings were decorated with blue tiled murals, depicting scenes of the countryside. Then, from Aveiro on the ocean, we climbed high into the mountains to Viseu. We stayed at an estalagem located on the bend of the river with waterfalls and a regular forest. This found our group out into the woods exploring before their bags were unpacked. We had an interesting conversation here with local Portuguese about the political situation in their country. Their summary of that situation was that the agitation engineered by the communists was far out of proportion to their numbers (about 12% of the adult population); that civil strife would run its course by the end of two years; "But," one man said, "Portugal will not go Communist; we are 98% Catholic and basically conservative, and a nation of small farmers and shopkeepers who own their land and businesses and who will not gamble on the better life promised by the communists."

From Viseu we crossed into Spain. The border crossing was painless to us, thanks to our linguist and seasoned interpreter-guide, George Davis of Sacramento, and the fact that we had given a ride to a hitch-hiking border guard. Between the guard and George, we sailed right on through customs. Not so for the people in cars lined up for four miles . . . for them it was a harrowing experience. Portugal's criticism of Spain's handling of political radicals caused Spain to react by making it extremely diffi-

cult for Portuguese to enter Spain. Some of the cars had been in line for as many as four days, with little in the way of food and sanitary facilities nearby.

Our first night's stop in Spain was at Ciudad Rodrigo, an ancient walled city. We stayed at the Paradore National Enrique, a converted castle of 28 attractive rooms, each with bath. Dinners in Spain are served at 8:30 p.m. and last until 10:30. There is nothing you can do about eating earlier or getting done any faster. All of our meals except ten were included in the price of our trip, so on these ten nights, we picnicked, or else ate at famous places recommended by Hemingway or James Michener.

Enroute to Madrid from Ciudad Rodrigo, we visited Salamanca (a city with all the buildings biscuit brown), Avila (went through St. Teresa of Avila Cathedral), and Segovia. The Alcazar and Roman aqueduct were the highlights of Segovia. The Alcazar (meaning fortress), a part-time residence of Ferdinand and Isabella, is one of the most spectacular and beautiful castles of Europe. It was here that Columbus had one of his many conferences with Queen Isabella, in his patient endeavor to have her finance his proposed voyage to the far east via a westward route, which resulted in his discovery of America. The Roman Aqueduct was built in 83 B.C. It stands 5 stories tall in tiers of granite block, towering over the entrance to the city of Segovia. Absolutely awe-inspiring! No cement or mortar, just each block of granite cut and perfectly fitted together, standing there since before Christ was born!

Madrid is an exciting city of great beauty. We were impressed with its many handsome buildings, public and private, with massive wooden doors, wrought iron work grills, ceramic tile walls, quaint courtyards . . . all interwoven in narrow, winding streets. However, the main boulevards are six lanes across, which contributes to Madrid's very serious smog problems. Madrid lies in a valley, and is heavily industrialized just like Los Angeles. And their smogs are identical. Madrid abounds in parks and plazas with many fountains and sculptured figures and statues. The city has a tempo quite out of context with the rest of the country; very fast and mod. The people even dress very chic, in contrast to the somber and conservative dress of the rest of the people in Spain. The "piece de resistance" of Madrid is its *El Prado*. It is said to be the finest art gallery in the world. Collected here are all of the Spanish masters—Goya, Greco and Velasquez—plus a number of paintings by renowned artists of other nations, especially the Dutch and Flemish—Titian, Rubens, Van Dyck, Rembrandt, and Van der Weyden. We spent all day in the Prado . . . two hours with Goya alone!

From Madrid we went to Toledo, one of Europe's oldest cities and headquarters for the rulers of the Iberian Peninsula since 555 A.D. (the Romans, Goths, Moors and Spanish). Toledo is perched on seven hills and surrounded on three sides by the Tagus river. It is a majestic sight as one crosses the bridge spanning the Tagus to enter the city. The most important of Toledo's many attractions is the Cathedral, said to be one of the noblest specimens of Gothic architecture the world affords. The main structure took over 250 years (1227-1497) and its paintings, sculpture, wrought iron, woodwork, stained glass and gold and silver vessels are the work of the greatest artisans and craftsmen of that period. Went through a factory to see the famous Toledo steel knives and swords being made.

From Toledo we traveled south through mile after mile of vineyards, olive groves, wheat and corn fields. We were all reminded of our own Sacramento valley, which has similar crops and similar appearance. No wonder the Spanish settled in California; the security of settling in a new land that is much like the old country.

The Alhambra at Granada was the highlight of that part of

Spain. Space does not permit description of this castle and gardens immortalized by Washington Irving. The Alhambra is a must for the traveler in Spain. That night we stayed in a ski lodge Pousada on the crest of the Sierra Nevadas. The country is crisscrossed with mountain ranges, and a lot of our travels were across some of them.

From Granada we drove south and west along the Mediterranean to Nerja (spoiled by many highrise apartments). Near Nerja, on the Costa Del Sol, was a very unusual treat. The caves of Nerja, discovered in 1959, were found by archeologists to contain the remains of people who inhabited the caves more than 20,000 years ago. Long flights of stairs, boardwalks wound between the stalagmites and stalactites permitting a leisurely walk to music and subtle lighting through this wonder of nature.

The ancient mountain town of Ronda was reached by a narrow winding road. The town is built on the other side of a deep gorge caused by an earthquake millions of years ago. The town is reached by one of three bridges; the Roman one built in 50 B.C., the Moorish one built in 487 A.D., and the "new" one built in the 15th century. We walked the entire city with a local guide who spoke excellent English. Very few Portuguese or Spanish people speak English, however sign language, gesturing and facial expressions go a long way to fill the gap.

Seville was a delight! I think it was the favorite city of most members of El Gruppo. The narrow streets of the old city contain many smart shops. The old city is separated from the new by the Guadaquivir river which winds its way through the Coto Donano before emptying into the Atlantic. We rode in horsedrawn carriages past the tobacco factory where Carmen worked (recall Bizet's opera), and saw sparrow hawks (kestels) living in the towers of the cathedral.

The high point of the trip for us as Audubon members was the tour through the Coto Donano. The Coto Donano is a refuge of several thousand acres purchased by the World Wildlife Foundation as a haven for birds migrating from Africa, northern Europe and the Far East. It is a swampy area and supports a large variety of small animals. In the center of the Coto is a castle which has served as a hunting lodge for the Spanish royalty since the 17th century. Our expectations were more than satisfied for birding; some of the most thrilling sights was enormous flocks of lapwings and flamingos in the wild.

Because Spain had closed all its border crossings into Portugal except the one at Badajoz, many miles north from where we had intended to go, we were compelled to forego our visit to Portugal's famed "algarve," which is the south coast of that country. Instead we had to go north to Badajoz to get back into Portugal so that we could fly out of Lisbon. We spent the last two days in Portugal at Elvas and Evora. Some of these names you may recognize from news items about Portugal. If you look at a map of Portugal/Spain, you will be able to trace our route very easily.

We left the bus and Amerigo at the airport in Lisbon. There was much hugging and handshaking, for we had developed a nice friendship with Amerigo. Again, the airport was clogged with refugees from Angola, and everything was a mad turmoil. Our TAP flight was cancelled, but we got on a TWA flight. I was startled by the flood of emotion that swept over me as we boarded an American plane with American people, American music, and American food and water! I realized how glad I was to be an American citizen! That realization stayed with me very intensely for weeks after we got home. Foreign travel makes one very appreciative of your own country and your culture. We were so fortunate in being able to make this trip with our Sacramento friends. Many lasting friendships were cemented, I'm sure.

A word of advice to would-be travelers: hang loose . . .

Rita