

Mary Frances Parsons to Janet Hennipman

April 27, 1937

WA-PA-KE-WAY FARM
"THE PARSONS TRIBE"
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

Tuesday, April 27

Dear Janet,

As I have nothing to do but sit and watch it rain I decided to write you a few lines.

Martha Jane Barnes come up and stayed all nite with me Saturday nite. We took her home Sunday morning. We sure did have a time. "Ninnie" had a date and we told Skinny that she couldn't go as a cow had kicked her and we had to have the doctor. But she went.

How are you and Mary Ann getting along???? Well, Imogene hasn't been over hear yet and I hope she don't come. – I haven't saw ~~fl~~ Florence since school was out but I guess she's O.K..

I have got some of ~~da~~ Daddy's stationary. I suppose you would know that from the heading.

This morning we moved about 100 chickens from one house to another. That sure was hard (over) work or at least I thought so.

I want to learn to drive now so I could come up and ~~st~~ see you but I see no sp prospects.

~~M~~ Ninnies writing a letter to June. She sure is having trouble with her boy friends. She ought to be like me and not have any.

Ha! Ha!

Well I suppose as I had better stop as I am tired writing.

So Long.

Mary Frances

P.S. please excuse my writing and my poor grammar.

P.S. Please write soon.

Sp Mairy Frances

Historical Notes:

Janet Pauline Hennipman (1923 – 1938) was daughter of Dutch immigrants John (1887 – 1968) and Elsie (Van Dyke) Hennipman (1891 – 1992). Janet was the 4th of 5 sisters and lived near what is now the corner of 200N and Raceway Rd. She died June 14, 1938 of strep throat.

Martha Jane Barnes (1923 – 2018) was the daughter of Robert O (1886 – 1957) and Iva (Kemp) Barnes (1893 – 1986). Martha was one of 12 children that grew up on Hadley Road, about 1 mile from Mary Frances Parsons. Martha did not graduate from Avon High School in 1941.

Virginia Miller Parsons (1921 – 2018) was the sister of Mary Frances Parsons and was referred to as "Ninnie" in letters. Virginia graduated from Avon High School in 1939.

Skinny is Joe Vincent Hamblen, Jr. (1921 - 1998). Joe was the son of Joseph Vincent "Joe" Sr. (1900 - 1970) and Edna Muriel (Carr) Hamblen (1901 - 1983). Joe was the older of two boys. He graduated from Avon High School in 1939.

Mary Ann Beeler (1924 – 2017) was the daughter of Raymond Taylor (1899 – 1974) and Bertha Leota (Sullivan) Beeler (1899 – 1983). Mary Ann lived within a mile of Janet Hennipman and graduated from Avon High School in 1942.

Martha Imogene "Imogene" Walton (1923 – 2020) was the daughter of Paul (1903 – 1946) and Mary Jane (Wear) Walton (1901 – 1996). Imogene was the oldest of 3 children and lived about a mile from Mary Frances Parsons. She graduated from Avon High School in 1942.

Florence "Flossy" Lillian Broyles (1923 – 2015) was the daughter of Luther Cornelius (1896 – 1978) and Hazel Ruth (Seymour) Broyles (1896 – 1975). Florence had 2 older brothers and lived about 7 miles away from Janet. She graduated from Avon High School in 1941.

Jennie June "June" Knoy (1921 – 2008) was the daughter of Claude E (1898 – 1990) and Florence (Page) Knoy (1900 – 1985). June was the eldest of 5 children, and graduated from Avon High School in 1940.

Mary Frances "Jake" Parsons (1923 – 1996) was the daughter of Chester Adrian (1887 – 1977) and Hazel (Miller) Parsons (1896 – 1983). Mary was the 2nd of three children and lived near what is now the corner of County Road 625 S and 100S, about 7 miles from Janet. She graduated from Avon High School in 1941.

Wa-Pe-Ke-Way Farm was named by Mary Frances Parsons' grandfather after he purchased the farm in 1885. It is a Native American name for White Lick Creek that flows through the farm.