

Mary Frances Parsons to Janet Hennipman

May 28, 1937

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

Plainfield, Ind.
Friday Morning

Dear Janet,

Sorry I didn't write sooner but I have been so busy I didn't have time to write. Every morning (about) I have to write a letter for daddy because he is getting Buddies 4-H pig.

Well, I have some news which will make you very sad that is that Charles Savage ran away from Stalcups. This tickles me pink. You can tell Mary Ann the Imogene's dear boyfriend is gone. I was over at Waltons one day and we went out and got the mail and Imogene got a letter from Mary Ann. "Ninnie" read it but she would tell me what is said. She said she asked about Lawerence.

More News. Bill Marks was cranking their tractor and the tractor kicked & broke Bill's arm. I feel sorry for poor Bill.

Well we are meeting in 4-H every week which is pretty often. Florence hasn't been there for the last two meeting the first time she was visiting at town & last week she was sitting tomatoes. I suppose she will go today but I am not as my cousin died and I am going to his funeral. He was just 4 weeks old.

I suppose you were surprised to hear of Earl's death. I thought you might be at the funeral but didn't see you.

I went up to Uncle Bill's last week and set tomatoes. He gave me a dollar for working about 6 hrs. I guess I had better close as I have work to do.

A true, true, true pal
Mary Frances

P.S. Please write me a long letter & tell me news.

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.

Francis "Frank" Hanson Parsons (1926 – 1995) was the brother of Mary Frances Parsons and was referred to as "Buddy" in letters. Frank graduated from Avon High School in 1943.

Charles Savage is unknown.

Otto Palmer "Jack" (1887 – 1940) and Louisa Blanche (Gipson) Stalcup (1891 – 1986) lived near Mary Frances Parsons. Otto worked in the automotive industry; they had one daughter. It is not clear if Charles Savage lived with them or worked for them.

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.

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.

Lawrence Chester Hurst (1923 – 1980) was son of Granville Irwin (1892 – 1968) and Alza Margaret (Owens) Hurst (1898 – 1971). Lawrence was the younger of two children. He graduated from Avon High School in 1941.

Jerry William "Bill" Marks (1923 – 1999) was the son of Jeremiah "Jerry" (1886 – 1972) and Carrie Irene (Pearcy) Marks (1898 – 1982). Bill was 3rd of 5 children and graduated from Avon High School in 1941.

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.

Infant cousin is unknown.

Earl H Blair (1891 – 17 May 1937) was the son of Edward Sr. (1865 – 1940) and Mary Jane “Jennie” (Barker) Blair (1868 – 1935). Earl H. was great uncle to Earl Davis Blair ’36, Merred “Tub” Blair ’38, Lewis “Randall” Blair ’40.

William Nelson “Bud” Parsons (1878 – 1961) was Mary Frances Parsons’ Uncle Bill. He farmed in Center Twp in Hendricks County.

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.