

Mary Frances Parsons to Janet Hennipman

June 8, 1937

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

Plainfield, Indiana
Tuesday Morning

My dear Janet,

I suppose you receive my last letter but slow in answering.

You and Mary Ann are having a nice time playing together now. I suppose you have patched up all your troubles and as good friends now as you always ~~was~~ were.

Well, our Children's Day Program is over. Ninnie was in it but I wasn't. Last year I was the queen in our play and had a long part to learn so this year I said I would not be in it and I wasn't. Merion R. had the leading part in one play and a minor part in the other. (I'm glad I wasn't her). She was so dumb she couldn't learn her part so she had to read it (Such is life)

Janet, please come down Friday morning and go to 4-H with me in the afternoon you see many of the kids in our room. Have your dad or Elsie bring you down. I think you could come as the corn is all planted (or at least it ought to be). Well, I suppose I had better close as the irons are on the stove waiting to be used. Boy. I hate to iron, but it is always necessary.

Your true pal
(Jake)

P.S. Come down Friday if at all possible if you don't come at least answer my letter.

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.

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.

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.

Merion Elizabeth Ray (1922 – 1973) was the daughter of Forest Ansil (1898 – 1966) and Jeannette B (Gibbs) Ray (1896 -1991) Merion was the oldest of 4 children. By 1940 the family was living in Eel River Twp., so Merion did not graduate from Avon High School.

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.