

Dec. 30

Dear Dad & Mom,

We started off your Christmas gift on Christmas day by going to a movie that was enjoyed by all, "The Aristocats."

Bill

[changes to pencil]

Dear Grandpa and Grandma,

Thank you for the money to do something with (cont. from Daddy's letter). We went to Bishops buffet, too.

Yvonne

We saw the Aristocats, Scrooge and ate at Bishop's. It was groovy. for proof, look -> *[sketch of Neal's smiling face]*

[back to ink]

December 30, 1970

Hi,

Yes, we really got our (or your) money's worth out of your gift. Everyone enjoyed both movies to the fullest, and Bishop's is a good place to eat. Today's adventure doubled as a birthday treat. I had the day off, so we went in time to eat at noon and went to the show before the prices went up. Nobody got a cake baked, so after we got home, Bill and I hiked down to "Mr. Donut" and got a dozen to use for a birthday cake. (Think I enjoyed that more, really).

Our Christmas was real nice. We went to church Christmas Eve and didn't have to go to church on Christmas morning, so did the kids sleep late? No! They woke up at 6:15. So we got up and had Christmas. Everybody seemed real happy with what they got. Yvonne and Karen got dolls with hair that "grows" and can be shorted again. We thought that would be short-term fun, but they are still enjoying them. Neal got a camera; an Instamatic gift outfit. They each got a film and flash bulb in their stocking, too, and the girls got to use my camera to take pictures so they were all busy most of the day. Bill gave me a tiger-eye dinner ring but I can't wear it yet because it is too small for my right hand. It's real pretty and will be a nice memento of this year.

We had Rock Cornish Game Hens for Christmas dinner. I made just a little stuffing because I thought Bill and I were the only ones who'd eat it. Then, as I stuffed the birds, I remembered that Yvonne likes dressing and by golly, Neal tried it and he liked it!

The kids' gifts were interesting, as usual. Neal gave me Peg Bracken's newest

book, "I Didn't Come Here to Argue." Gave Bill a Peanuts book. Yvonne gave me some bath oil beads (which everyone, including Neal, uses). She got Bill some plastic spoons and forks and napkins to go with his TV dinners at Stanwood. Karen got me a pink flower pin and her Dad some Hai Karate aftershave. For my birthday, Karen gave me the Better Homes and Gardens Cooking with Cheese cookbook; Yvonne, a bath brush; and Neal a peace symbol to hang on the wall. Bill gave me a note promising a night out sometime in the future.

We have been pretty busy at work. Our census didn't go down very far over Christmas and will be higher over New Year's. I have tomorrow off and will be in charge on Friday. We won't have very much help so I hope all goes well.

Had a bunch of nursing students over last night to help eat up holiday goodies. They got rid of quite a bit, but not nearly enough.

We keep hearing about all the snow back there. We've had some, but have had more cold weather than snow. It was about zero again yesterday when I walked to work. No wind thank goodness. It's a job just getting all dressed up to go out, though.

Beth called the other night and Dad got down there all right. They'd had a nice Christmas. Edith & Chuck and Beth & Earl had gone together and given Dad a cassette tape recorder. We'll see if he does any better with that than he does writing letters.

I'm going to bake caramel rolls tomorrow and take them over to the hospital for my birthday treat. The tradition on our floor is that the guy who has the birthday, brings the treat. Since I was off today and had plans I told them I'd bring something when I came to get my check on Thursday. Hope I have good luck. Haven't made that kind of rolls for awhile.

Thursday

The rolls were okay. Got over to the hospital and one of the aides had brought a cake, so I got a cake after all. The people I work with gave me a slip and two tote bags. Happy New Year.

Love,
Marilyn