

# The Henry Howler

DECEMBER 1990

## Just a Thought

Hi. I sure have fun with my new computer. Lately, I've had a lot of time on my hands, and have been able to do a lot of thinking. I am pretty far away, but that is no reason for keeping better in touch. I have an Idea. I would like to write a news letter for the family called, (I couldn't think of anything better but am open to suggestions), The Henry Howler. This way, I would have to keep in touch with everyone and record news and gossip for the monthly issue. Anyone could send me entertaining articles or letters to the editor and I would be glad to pass the info on. I enjoy doing this kind of thing, and its just the motivation I need to Keep me better in touch with every one. Send pictures, and I'll include them as well. Rather than have this be a news letter from Cindy and I, It should include the highlights occurring in everyone's

would be that we would have a sort of family history saved on computer hard disc for future historians to contemplate.

I have grown very fond of Alaska, but I have always felt like I'm missing out on so much family stuff. This would help me in between Ohio visits.

This isn't the official first edition because it doesn't include news from anyone but me, but here it is anyway. Please tell me what you think of the idea. I would really like to do it.

## Brother Buys Ring

I could be that the last of the Gene Henry boys will be soon tying the matrimonial knot, or at least strongly contemplating it. I was told by reliable sources, (Mom) that Pat took a diamond ring back to Juneau with him. Pat was also on bended knee fixing

his burst water pipes that froze during a brief time when there was no one in the apartment.

## Good-bye Uncle Fred

I wish I could have been with you all during this difficult time. I don't know most of the details. And it's hard to know what to say. Here recorded for posterity is the Heavenly dialog Dad wrote for Fred's memorial service.

### Message From the Family

Gene Henry

Fred and Janet are back together after nearly five years. I can picture this conversation between them:

*Fred: You know, there might be some people down there who may be a little sad because I left so soon. They shouldn't be. I was kind of miserable the last few months and I sure didn't want to hang around as an invalid. I'm much happier back with you.*

*Jan: Well, it's good to see you again. (pause) Do you realize that if it weren't for us sixteen people wouldn't be down there - six kids and ten grandchildren.*

*Fred: Eleven grandchildren.*

*Jan: Have I miscounted?*

*Fred: No, But since you left, Heidi and Jim just had a baby.*

*Jan. (Big smile) Great! What else has happened?*

*Fred: Well, let see... Scott and Paula got married.*

*Jan: (Big smile . . . and a bit incredulously) Great! What else?*

*Fred: Well, Mom, aka Grandma, aka GG, aka Great Grandma is going to have a centennial pretty soon. I sort of wish I'd been around for that. Oh, also*

four of our kids moved into Geauga County.

Jan: What's the big attraction there?

Fred: They wanted to vote for their cousin Chip. Geauga is in his district.

Jan: What's he running for?

Fred: He already ran. He's a State Senator now.

Jan: Great! You know, we've have a lot of things to talk about. Great memories... : Camping, canoeing, Canadian trips, Vermont trips, Hiram, the Cabin, the Shed, family get togethers, Annual cousins reunions, births and birthdays. Incidentally, since I left I've noticed every late February orange balloons floating up this way, some almost got here. Do you know what that all about?

Fred: Yes, those come from our grandchildren in memory

of when you left. They'll be glad you saw them.

Fred: Is it true there are no cigarettes up here?

Brothers John, Don, and I had a pretty tough act to follow growing up behind Fred. He was four years older than John, six years older than I [Gene], and 17 years older Don. In some ways he made things easier for us and in other ways more difficult. As the first child he got our mother and father used to the problems of raising four boys. But also he set a pretty high standard and reputation for us to try to live up to.

During the Second World War he flew B-1s for fifty missions over Europe from Italy. About a month ago I stooped by to see him and got to reminiscing about the war. He had always kind of down played his part in it. He got his mission log book out and we went over each mission detailing those with heavy flak or fighter attacks. One mission to the Ploesti oil fields in Romania resulted in his plane catching on fire and all but two of his crew bailing out. It made me realize how fortunate he was to survive the war and how fortunate we are to have had him

with us as long as we have.

This "Message from the Family" was prepared and read by Gene Henry on the occasion of his brother's funeral service held November 26th, 1990. Frederick Hawely Henry passed away November 21st, 1990

## Kenai Land

Cindy and I will be looking at land on the Kenai Peninsula during our Christmas Vacation. Her Native Corporation is making some of it land holdings available to it's share holders. Land that is not purchased by share holders will be available to the public at some time in the middle of January. It's river front land that has road access in some cases. I will be privy to more of the details when I get to Anchorage on the 19th of December. It exciting. That is one of the places in Alaska that we would like to settle in.

## My Apologies

I didn't get everybody's picture in our Christmas card. I would have liked to. Cindy took most of our pictures to Anchorage to show her folks, and I had to really scrounge to find the pictures I did. This apology goes most strongly to Jim and Grace and their kids and Mom. Sorry.

## Well?

What do you think. I figure I'll kind of take notes when I talk to anybody, and keep all letter I receive and see what happens. If you want to be put in just as you have written it, just say so, and I'll type what you have. Otherwise, I'll just take the highlights. Also, send pictures. If it's a picture you would like to have back, just mention that and I'll send it with your news letter.

I hope everyone will like this idea. I think it would be fun. I'm really doing it for myself though. It makes me feel a little closer to you all.