

B R A D F O R D L . L E W I S

5602 Silverstar Road, #617

Orlando, Florida 32808

HOME: (305) 297-0981

WORK: (305) 849-2180

APRIL 1987 NEWSLETTER

Dear Kith & Kin:

Friday, April 10th, (8:07 am): My car has been out of commission for several days, so I haven't been able to get to work early enough to make entries in my newsletter. Its after 8:00 now, so I'll have to hurry...

Tami Thompson's two son's, Tim and Mike, and their father, Ron, were just here on a spring break vacation. Ron invited me to join them last Tuesday on an excursion to Sea World. I accepted and we had a great time. The last time I was at Sea World was in 1981 when I went with Mom. We watched the water ski show; the "Baby Shamu Celebration"; the Sea Lion & Otter show; and many other performances. I could go on and on about our day at Sea World, but my time is limited this morning.

GOOD NEWS! Skip is employed again. He is now working 4 days per week, 40 hours @ \$4.25/hr. He is employed with Oyler Bros. Landscaping. Unfortunately, with my car being in the shop, he has been having to walk about 2-3 miles to work. Today is his third day on the job.

Thursday, April 16th (6:58 am): The car is running again; I got it back last Friday morning. It cost me \$127 and it still isn't running very well. The price was a bit high, but I have no fault with Firestone, where I had the repairs done. They replace my lower radiator hose, flushed out the coolant system and replaced the thermostat. That's just a beginning -- just enough to get the car back on the road. It still needs a lot more done to it.

Skip appears to be doing well at his job. He has been doing things like edging, mowing, mulching, fertilizing, trimming hedges, etc. He is getting a tan without having to try very hard! I am trying to get a tan. I bleached my hair out for the summer as I am wont to do when the time changes, and it made me look like a grub worm -- too pale!

Last night we watched "Clan of the Cavebear". I had been wanting to watch it for a while now, but Doug didn't think he would like it. It turned out to be a very good movie. I would give it an "8" on my 1-10 scale. One of the most fascinating things about this movie is that there is no dialogue -- at least, not in English. The entire movie (if you haven't seen

it already) is about a clan of neanderthal cavemen who adopt a young cro-magnon girl. The neanderthal language was a very realistic combination of primitive, guttural sounding words and sign language. There was also a narrator and sub-titles to assist the audience, and these were very well integrated with the movie.

Sunday (Easter) we plan on going over to the Cross' (as usual) for a cookout and Easter egg hunt.

The paralysis in my face has almost completely gone away, but I can still detect a slight weakness on the left side. It may never recover completely, but it is only noticeable to me. My tooth extraction is healing nicely with no complications.

I spoke with Calisa the other night and got to speak with my niece Calais for the first time. I didn't know how to react! I didn't realize she could speak so well already. I was so taken aback I didn't know what to say.

Wednesday, April 21st: Today is the birthday of Mable Watts (maternal grandmother).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY NANA!

Cooincidentally, and sadly, this day also saw the death of Mr. Green Jeans, from the old Captain Kangaroo show. I never liked that show, but I have fond memories of growing up with it.

Wednesday, April 22nd (6:54 am): Skip & I spoke with Calisa, Calais and Mitch Sunday (Easter) night. They seem to be doing alright. Calais, speaking to either Skip or I, or both of us, commented somewhat hesitantly, "I think I love you...". Sounds like she is going to be a cautious one!

As planned, we spent Easter at the Cross'. We did the usual face stuffing, Easter egg hunting and such. Mr. Cross and Kenny (Skipper) went horse back riding and I decided to take a turn riding for the first time in about ten years. Back when I was about 16, it was not uncommon for me to go out on horseback to round up cattle. However, after leaving the ranch in Washington (Sept. 1975) I rode horses only once; that being when Gwen Hall (my ex-skating partner) and I went out to one of those horse farms where they rent horses for riding. (Gwen Hall later married and became Gwen Bujarski, for those who know of her.) I had no problem with the horse; I didn't even feel exceptionally awkward on horseback as I had expected I would be. I didn't do anything remarkable -- just strolled her around the yard for a few minutes.

Skip still seems to be doing well with his landscaping job. He seemed to particularly enjoy the day his crew spent the day working at Wet 'n Wild (working, of course).

I received a letter from my best friend (Jack LaPlante) Monday. He has a particularly interesting way of writing (at least, when writes to me). Like myself, he has made it a point to expand his vocabulary to the outer limits; though, unlike me, he uses it! I want to copy part of his letter to me to demonstrate his ability with precision connotation and artistic use of English, with which he can make the most mundane scene a colorful vista.

JACK: I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND...

"Dear Lee -

I'm writing you from the 7th floor of a luxury hotel in Fort Lauderdale. The place where I work owns this hotel too, its called "Pier 66". It is a 17 story tower, and was recently renovated in sumptuous style. Today I basted in the hot tub in the courtyard, which can accommodate 40 people. It is so big that I can swim in its hot swirling waters.

The friend I came here with is the wine-steward, more properly called 'sommolier', of our gourmet restaurant in Key West. We got a \$50/night rate on a \$210/night room. Its called the 'Jr. Executive' suite. It has a huge balcony with a panoramic view of the environs. Before us lie countless yachts neatly moored along canals which are lined with crowded but amply luxurious Florida cottages. There's a particularly beautiful yacht directly in front of our vista. Its called the 'Princess Subaru.' It has 6 state rooms, each w/sitting area & full bath. It also has a helipad with a slick, painted-to-match Bell helicopter and a Subaru sports car on the fantail. It is so sleek it has the appearance of a sharply honed minimalist sculpture. The beautifully modern skyline is impressive, but not imposing with only a few giant monoliths around the center of town.

Today, the sommolier, my friend Doug, went with me to Ft. Laud.'s Galleria Mall. It was gorgeous. Then we came back to the restaurant at the hotel -- Windows on the Green -- and proceeded to indulge in a \$130 dining experience." ....

.... "My artistic side has finally gone through the completion of its latest obscure cycle. I've finally escaped my months long artistic limbo. I've returned to the task with the weapon of water colours at my disposal. After months of scrutinizing the works of the various artists I have access to in Key West, I find I'm brimming with creativity, industry &

initiative. I hope this latest phase will produce new hallmarks of my nascent artistic skills."

Jack is a very good artist.

Tuesday, April 28th (6:49 am):

ALBERT: I AM VERY CURIOUS TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED THE OTHER NIGHT -- REGARDING THE "DRINK POURING INCIDENT." I HEARD THAT GUY (STEVE) TALKING TO SOMEONE LATER AND HE SAID SOMETHING LIKE, "I JUST GOT SHNAPS POURED ON ME ... AND FOR NO REASON!". I DON'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON, BUT I DO KNOW THAT I SAW HIM START THE INCIDENT. HE TURNED OUT TO BE A REAL ... WELL, I CAN'T USE THE PROPER TERMINOLOGY AND KEEP THIS A "G" RATED LETTER!

My television died! Or at least, its real sick. Last Friday after work I discovered it wouldn't work. I've had this TV since June of 1977; nearly 10 years. It has been a good set -- a Sony Trinitron Plus. It's never had a problem, despite being moved through about 11 different residences, and having cable, VCR's and a computer hooked up to it. I may have it repaired, but if it costs too much I think I'll just but a new one. I was looking at TV's over the weekend and found one I want. Unfortunately, it costs about \$1,298.00! Fortunately for our household of TV addicts, we have borrowed an extra set from Doug's parents.

Skip is planning on taking diving lessons. A friend of his from his former job at McDonald's, Shawn, wants Skip to accompany him on a scuba diving trip in the Florida Keys this summer; and Shawn is paying to have Skip certified in diving. I wouldn't mind doing that myself -- I've always thought diving looked fun. Skip is doing fine at his job also. His tan is getting quite deep.

We watched the Video "Max Headroom" last night. Unfortunately, it was the same program which just came on TV recently. This was the uncut version, however. I really enjoy the Max Headroom series. Working with computers everyday, I find myself naturally fascinated with the idea of an artificial intelligence. (I am assuming you know who/what Max Headroom is).

Speaking of computers, which reminds me of science; has anyone been following the progress work being done in the field of warm superconductors? If you know anything about them (and I know very little), you would amazed. I believe this new superconductor technology is going to be a major impact on the world. Its similar to the discovery of electricity. Most of our energy today, about 50% of it, is wasted during production

and transmission. With superconductors that waste will reduced to nearly zero. That will mean lower energy costs (\$\$). It will also mean that many new inventions will be possible which just are not possible with today's technology. For instance, electric cars which work just as well as today's fuel burning gas-a-hogs will be feasible; computers with many times the speed and intelligence of today's computers (and much smaller) will be possible; Solar energy may finally become a strong energy source; bullet trains which float on a magnetic field above the track and travel at speeds of 300 mph exist already, and may become common place; and many, many other possibilities.

Superconductors which work have been developed, but they only worked when submerged in liquid nitrogen at sub-zero temperatures. Now they are finally making breakthroughs in producing a "warm" superconductor which will work at room temperature. Excuse me for rambling, but I am excited about this -- it will change our lives. However, we probably won't see the effects of this new technology until the 1990's. But, then again, that's only 3 years away!

Tuesday, May 5th (7:16): April has ended; time to send out this letter and start a new one! Until next time...

Sincerely,

*Lee*  
LEE

*Lisa -*  
*Understand you will be here in May (?)*  
*Do get in touch!*

*Also - I need to verify your address*

*i Hasta Luego!*

Distribution: Frank Lewis; Calisa Selfridge (and Mitch & Calais) Darlene Norris; Ken & Clara Terrell (& the kids); Marlene Munoz Maria Pacheco (and Janey & the kids); Tami Thompson & the boys Jack LaPlante; Lisa Kendrick; Myrtle Everett; Chuck Welsh; Joyc & John Bojack; Kenny & Cathy Skipper (& the kids); Angel Dixon Lynn Crockett; Nikki Everett; and Timothy McKown