

14 December 1954

Dear Aunt Eva and Uncle Henry,

Every year is the busiest year -- but, this last one seems to have been the busiest busiest year yet! School started before I got curtains made for the house. Between classes I am teaching and classes I am taking, and trying to spend more time with the children, and trying to get a little painting done, ... well, .. no curtains! Furthermore, I am five -- no, six -- months behind on correspondence. That means you were never told how much we appreciated the check to the kids last summer, or told about the door to the playroom under the house with all the little extras that went with it that the old budget would not stretch for after that down payment on the home and repainting it completely, inside. So, thank you so much, now, for all it made possible. We think of you both every time we go under the house, as it means we do not have to open the garage door, letting out all the expensive heat.

Jimmy just opened the envelope containing the brochure and publicity on Henry's new magnum opus. He must feel a great satisfaction in building something that can be enjoyed by so many people, both now and into the far future. Kim and Bruce were impressed that they even knew such a distinguished person, let alone being related to him.

The kids are doing fine. The move was a good one for them. Bruce's straight As, he hopes, will get him a scholarship at Harvard, with graduate work at MIT. He wants to be a research physicist. To get started even in that field means a doctor's degree is a necessity. Kim's talents are in her skill with her hands and her taste and intuitive feeling for line and color. We are going to try to drive up to New York on our vacation, next summer, (we got a house instead of a vacation, last summer), to see if we can find a school where she can get design training (interior, fashion, art, etc.) and get an A.B. too. We understand that there are such schools there. As far as we have been able to find out, there are none in the South. I hope by the time she is ready to go (she has another year in high school after this one) that my paintings and teaching will help to get her the training I never had the opportunity to acquire. Isn't that the secret longing of every parent: to provide the child with the opportunities she missed?

Jim has taken on more and more responsibility at Lockheed. We hope it will pay off in more income, some day. Meanwhile, he finds the work gives him new opportunities to apply some of the skills in mathematical analysis he always seems to be plugging away at. Planning for present and programming for future operations on the scale it takes for fifteen thousand people he thinks is a real challenge. He is stimulated by and interested in the variety of assignments and responsibilities he has had recently.

We got a little package off to the Georges on time this year. There is a small present for Henry that Kim and I worked on. There is one for Eva that Jimmy and I worked on. There is one for you both that Bruce made in his Junior Achievement company. We hope one of them is something you can use, this year.

We do so hope the whole George clan has a very happy Christmas and continuing success into many new years.

Lots of love,