

Cy--his early years (March 20, 1946 to 1962)

In the late sixties the Peace Corps might have set out to find a young man knowledgeable and skilled in farming and in the mechanics of motor vehicles. They might hunt for an idealist, who is physically fit, likes people, and enjoys life styles different from what he has known. Practical experience with farms, engines, and bodies of motor vehicles, educational training in those areas, and practical experience in working with low income people--would all be expedient traits. Cy fit the criteria. Cy found (pursued) the Peace Corps. Their merger lacked perfect success; things did not work out ideally. "And so it goes."

How did it happen that Cy in his twenties had so much as a volunteer to offer the rural Gambian farm people? Looking back thirty years we find:

First child of Cy, Jr. (recently returned from German prison camp) and Mary Stephens Eaton--Cyrus S. Eaton, III arrived on March 20, 1946, born in Babies and Children's Hospital in Cleveland, a large, polluted, industrial city where his grandfather, the first Cyrus S. Eaton would perpetually be a controversial figure: hated and admired vehemently. Cy, born with bunches of black hair which soon fell out to be replaced by very blond hair, lived several months at Grampa's Acadia Farm guest house with Mom and Dad. They moved to Arrow Cottage later in 1946, the year that Harvey and Catherine Barrett and soon to be born Newt moved to the Arrow Cottage guest house.

Mom recalls Cy as a contented happy little baby, very curious and observant. One evening while Mom and Dad played bridge with Harvey and Cissy at the other house, the radio-nurse (set up in baby Cy's room) transmitted no sounds that would indicate a baby not peacefully sleeping. Actually Cy had climbed out of the crib, unplugged the radio-nurse, and was found to be contentedly looking at magazines in the living room.

Cy's lively imagination, excessive energy, and dexterous hands combined to involve him in innovative adventures or mischief depending upon the point of view: child or parent. Tool oriented, he used scissors to cut the curtains, a screw driver to unscrew hinges off cupboard doors or swinging doors, and a pen to decorate one ceiling. Mrs. Boley remembers an angry, frustrated Cy pulling open every kitchen cupboard and drawer until his energies were spent.

One afternoon a phone call from Dad, the aggressive young business man, informed Mom of an evening dinner party which immediately diverted her from gardening to house cleaning and dinner preparations for that very evening. Cy, unattended and helpful, planted the remaining petunias upside down in the garden.

Cy's verbal development lagged behind his manual development. He spoke more in words than in phrases or sentences. Grampa suspected a hearing loss. Mom remembered the forcep marks below his temples beside his ears at birth. In 1950, 1951 Cy had two operations in which his adenoids were scraped. Mom recalls Cy being very curious about the machines used to test his hearing. Flying as a passenger in Dad's airplane proved very painful to Cy's ears. Through the years Cy has worn a variety of hearing aids: both helpful and disturbing. Without a hearing aid, voices often lacked distinctiveness; with the hearing aid, voices and words became clearer but low and high sounds irritated Cy. A bathtub curve. Cy now (in 1977) has a hearing aid built into his glasses, but Cy often refrains from wearing the hearing aid. His hearing loss and speech difficulties are no longer apparent to new acquaintances and friends.

Fascinated by how things went together and came apart, Cy built elaborate erector set constructions with the intricate set some German friends gave to him. He motorized sections of his constructions with small motors. Even now Cy still loves to build model cars. He'd like to possess a replica of every car he has ever owned. No small fleet. Once Cy designed and built a pin-hole camera; he used the ex-bar (off the living room) as a dark room. Cy became very involved with photography and various cameras for many years. He made an album of the development of Arrow Cottage. Using cardboard model air planes and fire crackers, Cy simulated and filmed a plane exploding on the roof of our house. Not only did Cy accumulate many miniature cars and trucks and mounds of Popular Mechanics, but he also had extensive collections of stamps, coins, and autographs. Cy built a tree house near the drive way and always maintained an extensive tool shop, set up in the basement.

Dad remembers five year old Cy sitting on and competently steering the big lawn mower. Willie Charron recalls Cy eagerly riding on farm trucks and tractors--always anxious to help. Cy particularly loved Dwight Griffin, manager of Acadia Farms where Cy spent free time

and summers learning and working. He raised calves for 4H: caring for them, showing them, winning prizes, and earning funds for himself. In later years Cy worked some summers at Acadia, and he and Twink McBride (now a ranch owner in Florida) worked at a cattle ranch in Alberta, Canada. Cy never got along with Truman Kingsley, the manager with a stutter and temper, the man who loved to have others drink Ever Clear (nearly 200 proof) and who eventually moved his wife Connie and their three children (Barbara, Cathy, and Trumie whom Mom tutored) back to their North Dakota farm. Seems Grananne didn't get along with Truman either. However Cy remained friends with Jerry Talberg (beer drinking, tobacco spitting, grinning) current farm manager, who began working at Acadia as a teenager and who married Sheryl, daughter of another man who worked at Acadia. Jerry and Sheryl with son Jerry and daughter Brenda live at the farm house across the fields from our house.

Cy's riding career did not contain all the joy his cattle involvement did. He rode Mac, Sparky, Mr. Fox, Sunset, Roland, stubborn Flying Ace, Gay Girl, and finally the handsome fence-stopping Beau's Cottage. Dad admired Cy's strong guiding legs, John's timing, and my hands. (Too bad we couldn't combine our riding skills.) Older than John and I, Cy spend more time with the older junior riders: Michael Lenehan, Gail Cursey, Joan Mishler, Kathy Mattie, Richard Wattrick, Julie North, and the mysterious "D" girl from Michigan. He showed locally, in Ohio, in Pennsylvania, Michigan, and at Madison Square and Washington until he was about fifteen; soured on riding and its connotations of rich kid activity, he quit--much against Dad's will. Cy also hunted as a whipper-in, had his share of prizes, and falls, and helped construct many of the fences at the Troika Track. In the 1970's Cy (nostalgic horse lover?) began instructing Cotati friends' children in riding and horse showmanship.

Cy's childhood and adult life continually emphasize his love of the outdoors: its animals, sports, and activities. Cy has possessed some unusual pets. His garter snakes, named after not so favorite relatives, may have inspired him (and Toni) to acquire a tarantula, a cute hairy spider that they housed in a cage. They were saddened when it died one night in its cage out on a cold porch. It seems some friends felt uncomfortable about sharing their sleeping quarters with a tarantula.

It was Cy who discovered and adopted our first raccoon, Charles. Dogs have played a large part in all our farm life and hearts. Some of Cy's particular pets were Hans, Vister (named during his Vista experience) and Waw-be-ko, the dog that he and Elizabeth shared in San Luis Obispo and that lived for a while with Cy and Toni in San Diego. In 1976 Cy was content to share his East Cotati Street with mice and ants until Elizabeth arrived and disinvited those animals and insects. In San Jose High School Cy raised honey bees, an experiment that inspired me to raise bees at Hathaway Brown.

Cy's favorite sports generally have involved running and/or stamina. At Hawken he played varsity soccer, a sport he played again in Cotati, but there he found the need to keep in training too time consuming. At Hawken he ran hurdle, the 1/2 mile, the 1 mile, and relay races. He also raced the <sup>long distance crawl</sup> butterfly and skied adeptly. In California Cy camps, hikes, works in gardens, inner tubes with young Nathaniel and friends. He and Nathaniel even hitched to visit John in Houston on their way to Mom's 1976 reunion/celebration. During Christmas holidays in Cotati, (1976) Cy became quite "jazzed" about roller skating: considerable exercise in a short time in a confined space and the chance to combine music and movement. Cy continues to be an enthusiastic, lively dancer. He introduced Elizabeth and me to group dancing in Gambia. So three or four or five or more are not a crowd. Margo McCreary, Elizabeth, Cy, and I had great fun dancing together on our trip west while Ben Hatch and Rob Lord tended to think heterosexual couple dancing was more dignified and appropriate.

One of Cy's all time favorite hobbies is girls, women, females. He dated Jo Bushman and Nancy Moonan and Patsy Page (among others) while he attended Hawken. Nancy taught him not to be so shy. Cy, a fast learner lost that shyness. But remember, Cy, females have other qualities than their sexual ones. Lynn Gates and Cy learned alot about love and sex in San Jose and continued their relationship on and off for many years. Cy seems to be a firm advocate of having more than one girlfriend at a time-- a philosophy that can cause trouble. Ask Uncle Tim whose helpful college roommate invited six of Tim's girlfriends (who lived a county apart from each other) to welcome him home from the hospital and his motor cycle accident. Tim got six less girl friends and very little sympathy.



Cy--San Jose, California (February 1963-June 1963)

In early October 1962 sixteen year old Cy ran away from his junior year at Hawken School and from his home. Although he returned home at the end of the week with Dad, he did not return to Hawken and missed five or six weeks of school. After many discussions with people important in Cy's life, he and his 1956 Ford departed from winter-cold Northfield in February 1963, and Cy began his first of many cross country drives. Toward the end of February Cy enrolled in Blackford High School in San Jose, California where he lived with Sue and Jack Morley and their five children: Cathy, Jay, Bobbie, Helen, and baby Mary--all under 10 years old.

February 23, 1963

When I left home Sun. the driving was bad and continued to get worse as the day passed. Near night it was impossible. I stop in Valparaiso, Ind., and had a good sleep. It snowed half an inch. From there I did not see any snow until I got to Vail. The alarm did not go off so I started about 9 in the morning. I did about 320 miles Sun. It was extremely cold Monday but my car started right up. Driving from here to Calif. was excellent and the roads were dry. Sometimes I would drive over a hundred miles before I would see a car. From here to Chicago there were very high hills of sand indicating sand storms. I got lost in Chicago because the roads were very confusing. I solved this problem following a truck. Lucky it took me to the correct route. After Chicago there were Big pits of granited rock. The worst part of driving was following trucks or passing them. The snow was melting and salt and spray would fly on the windshield. Every ten minutes I had to stop and clean it. Last night the roads were not plowed and suicide to pass a truck going 20. Oh by the way I did not see that silly bird you ask me to watch for. One bird that I did see, and thousands in the west was a black bird with white wing and white underneath the wings. Try to look it up and find the name of it. You also find them in the desert. After Bloomington there was nothing but flat land and farm after farm. I did not see anyone even cars. It looked like an H bomb was dropped and pigs were the only survivor. Also a lot of corn is raised in this area. There was no snow but very cold.

Between Springfield and Jacksonville the land looked very dry and sick. Soon it started to get hilly and trees began to appear. I suggest if you go out west to skip this way unless you want a boring ride. The elm disease got here before I did and about every tree suffered. The pony express went through here and for quite a ways. Everything was so dead, no activity. A lot of gas stations are having a serious gas war and is advizable to stay out of these areas. There are some cows, but mainly pigs and corn. I arrived in Hannibal at 3:30. The people are so friendly and know everyone. Just as come to the Mississippi, you see a huge steam boat next to shore. A great impression and you must go through Hannibal this summer, and have the kids read Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn before they come here. Uncle Bill and Aunt Delo live in one of the largest houses in the area. They showed me around town and took me out for dinner.

I left and continued driving and stop at 8:45 at Brookfield Mo. I did about 400 miles that day. I had a terrible night at the motel because it was so hot in the room and could not open the windows.

I have lost my notes from here to Denver, but it was a long, long, boring drive. Farm after farm, dry land, and all boring. Kansas is the sickest state you could ever see. Plan to skip Kansas if you make the trip. Nothing but brown and all field had been plowed, but that was sand. Towards night I saw the sun setting behind the Rockies, and a sight never to forget. The sun set was better than deep cove. It took me about an hour and a half to find Uncle Bob. I did get a good look at the city and loved every moment. It is so clean and neat. Uncle Bob has gained a little weight around the edges but looks good. I did not see much of Sue, but a lot of Mike and Sharron and like them alot. They all asked a lot of questions about the family and myself. Uncle Bob was kind enough to give me maps and draw the entire route to Salt Lake City and San Jose.

I had to wash my car in the morning because there was so much salt on my car. The soap and water froze so I had a rather funny looking car. Aunt Barb packed a lunch for me and I left about 9 o'clock. I will never forget the mountains or the drive through them. Seems to me I have lost all my notes until I get to Salt Lake City. Oh well! I can recall driving through many tunnells.

February 23

(San Jose) This neighborhood is well kept up and could be compared to Shaker Hts. Most of the people are engineers working on missiles. San Jose is the center of missile building. This might explain why the students are the finest to find. Hawken students are nothing compared to these kids even the best.

February 23

Howdy!

I hope you are enjoying the weather back there because it is only 70 degrees out here and everybody has gone to the beach today either swimming or getting a tan. Today is a Holiday and everyone is thinking G. Washington was a petty good guy.

I am attending Blackford High School which has an enrollment of about 2000 kids. School starts at 8:35 and has 6 one hour classes. There are approximately 30 students in each class. I have good teachers and a trig teacher that I think is better than Mr. Steinine (can't spell.) I sort of have trouble concentrating in English. class, I am not the only one, due to the English teacher. She is 23 and wow! Of all teachers she is far the strictest. In all classes except English the teachers allow a considerable amount of talking.

This school is far more stricter than Hawken in a sense of behavior, what you wear, etc. It is a proud school and one of the finest in this state. When I enrolled I was ordered to take off my red jacket with the H because you can't wear any design or letter except the one of the school. You can't wear hats, shorts, or anything that will cause distraction. But I guess this does not apply to the fairer sex. Some wear their skirts so short you can see their panties. There are a lot of Mexicans in this area and some are the nicest guys. Of course I must not forget the Japanese.

First period I take Sophomore Science which is required in this state. This course tells you how to brush your teeth and cut your toenails. I could do without it but I will bear it. Second period is American History and the greatest. The book Dad gave me, Dictionary of American History is a great aid and has cut down my homework considerably. The teacher is young but is ten times better than Mr. Day and Mr. Stephens put together. Also the world events are discussed and why they are important. I truly like this course, even I am missing about half of the course. Third period is Latin and I have a fair teacher. Mr. Robey is definitely one of the finest. Also a lot of time is wasted in this class in the beginning.

Then comes the best part of the day, lunch. I bring my own lunch everyday, but the food there is more than fabulous. It is cheap and about the best I have ever had. Next period is English. A term paper has just been assigned and to my amazement I have been the only one who has written a term paper so far. The topic is an American Author. This is due in six weeks and about 700 to 2000 words. I have already started and choosed John Steinbeck. Right now the class read a story every night and discusses it the next day. My last class is trig and said before I have a marvelous teacher.

This school has terrific school spirit and the students work to keep this up. This school will go as far as putting off a class to have an assembly of students to attempt to create a school spirit. I think this plays an important part in life and I hope Hawken can accomplish it. I am seriously considering buying football equipment to wear walking between classes. It resembles the Grand central station during rush hour. To make things worse no one gets out of the way. If you drop your books, you might as well forget about them. It is very difficult to make friends while you (are) new, but I am taking my time doing that. The only way to get to know them is taking a sport, which I will attempt to do as soon as I can. Please don't forget to sent me a letter from a doctor telling I can't do anything with my wrist. I will tell more about the school in my next letter.

February 27, 1963

One thing you probably want my views on is why I decide to stay with Jack and Sue. It is rather hard to explain but I enjoy them especially Jack. I enjoy talking with them and their friends. I have met alot of nice people that they have introduced to me. Also when I have problems they are more than delighted to help me. I have alot to learn from Jack. I amire his approach to things and would like to copy his style. He never loses his temper and can scold the kkds and still be friends with them. They have moved things so I have a room to myself and I like the set up. I pay a dollar for ironing and it is a real nice job.

February 27, 1963

Dear Mom;

I dropped Solid Geometry against the will of the school and especially the teacher, but I thought about it for a long time before I made the decision. I had no real intentions of taking it in the first place because it is a subject I am not very interested in. The more I go to school, the more I like it. Hawken has set a foundation for me for school, college, and for life and they have done a lot for me. However I think I left the right time or I should

have went to another school in Oct. This is exactly the type of life I wanted. I can walk to school and back with many friends and can see them when I want to. It is extremely hard to make friends due to the size of the school. The only way you can make friends is by setting next to them in class or study hall or live next to them. Since there are so many kids it is hard to recognize unless there is some feature or looks that are noticable. Now I settled this problem by engraving all my books with my name. Since I am the only one who has done it, many know me and say Hi. I say that is petty good for the first week. Another reason it is hard to make friends is the school started a few years ago and everyone formed groups and just talk only to those guys. So a lot of new kids are just lost. This is the only fault I can find. It is a beautiful school and I love every inch of it.

...  
So far I have an A in science, C+ in English and Latin and I don't know what in History. I have caught up and should have four A's. It is hard work and alot of homework but I am determined to get high grades. If you get below a C+, you have to go home and have the parents sign a paper which tells about the grade. If you fail to do homework, you go to the dean of boys, and....I finally discovered one of my problems back at Hawken, I did not have enough work.

I better go  
so with love  
Cy III

March 5, 1963

Out of a total of 35 kids in the Sophomore science class only 3 received an A-. I was one. The course is easy if you spend the time studying. In English I got a B+ on a paper written in class. It is not because the course is easy but I am working full capacity which I have not been able to do at Hawken.

I walked to school every morning. It takes me about 15 minutes, but I am with friends. I am really amazed how many people know me now. Many teachers have said hi to me in my first name and I never saw them before. Even the secretaries who have to face over 500 kids a day know me. So in a sence I fit right in.

...I have not decided where I would go to school next year. It all depends on how I like this school and my grades. If I pull all As and Bs, I have no problem in credits. You have to have so many As and Bs to get into college, so I have to work hard to accomplish that in a year and a half. I doubt if I will even consider going back to Hawken or Ohio as far as that goes. I still have an eye for Tennessee. Of all places I have seen, that is one place I would like to settle down in.

...I better go now so I can keep up my As.

March 15, 1963

Dear Cathy;

...  
Since Blackford is so large and I still have a weak wrist, I do not take a sport. Anyway I wouldn't stand a chance, <sup>(the)</sup> best time in half mile here is 1:56 and my best time is 2:16. So I am just a bench warmer.



April 23

Dear Mom;

Not every one is perfect and I have been rather busy and I will be until schools out. I sort of disagree with you that my decision of returning to Blackford next year is a sign that I am learning to stick with and finish what I start. It is only a matter of being happy and satisfied with what I am doing. I spend about every afternoon studying at the Campbell Public Library either doing my studies or research. I got a C+ on my English Term paper because I goofed in the foot noting. This paper was mainly how to write a correct term paper. I was the only person in English who had written one previously. I am more than satisfied in the way I am studying and all my problems have been solved. I have been here for more than two months and I think it is safe to say it. I am still getting up early to do my homework. I am the top student in Latin now, I should after five years of it, and this pleases me and send my thanks to Mr. Robey. I think he is one of the greatest teachers that Hawken has ever had.

I am not doing any sports and will not until next year. To get on a team around here, you have to be getting top grades and be pretty good at Athletics. Please send information where I broke bone in my wrist so I can get it xrayed, and get an OK before I start taking Physical Education. I still think something is still wrong with it. Next year I plan to try out for football and track. I think I could make the varsity track team. Is it possible for Mr. Richard to look up my best times in running events and send it to me? It sounds silly but I would like to become a cheerleader for Basketball. If I make it, I will make history to be the first cheer leader, male that is to make a public high school team.

Undated letter (probably March)

I have not yet decided if I will stay at Blackford next year or go to some other school. I am required to hand in the courses I would like to take for my senior year before April 5th. Also I am required if I want a High School diploma to take American & Comparative Gov't, Physical Education and Drivers' Education. If possible could you and dad look over the courses given and perhaps give me a few suggestions. I am not interested in taking Agriculture, Languages, Mathematics, Music. The Agriculture courses supplied here, I think, are not worth taking.

Since most colleges require one laboratory science, I do not know which science to take, Biology or Chemistry. I am not too anxious taking either but I do prefer Biology for several reasons, I think I could get a better grade in it than Chemistry, and sounds more interesting, and it is a lot easier. I am interested in all the social studies and would like to take at least one more besides American and Comparative Government. The last two subjects are English and Business. There are six periods and two are taken up, American and Comparative Government and Physical Education. One semester is taken up by Drivers' Education, so I probably take either Modern History or Economics for the other semester. So I have three more courses to choose. Also I would like one study Center which takes up one period.

I hope this explains all, I am in a hurry so please don't (mind) my mistakes. Please send your suggestions as soon as possible.

On notes Mom kept with Cy's letters I surmise that she sent the following recommendations to Cy.

You will certainly want to work out your selection so that you can qualify for college entrance. Check our ideas with Susan and Jack first and because you are not familiar with what college requirements (are), you & Susan should see your counselor.

If you like the school & things go reasonably well, there's no reason why you shouldn't try to finish up there at Blackford. Talk over colleges with Sue & Jack. We feel that you should probably consider going to a small college anywhere from the Denver area on West rather than south or east.

You've missed 5 or 6 weeks of school this year--a change like this takes time to get used to and as far as we're concerned you shouldn't necessarily expect high grades--and should not consider leaving just because your grades aren't as high as you'd hoped for.

1. (required) Physical Education (don't know what military service is Is that an ROTC deal?

2. Study Center

3. World Geography (Soph., Jr., Sr.)/ (required) driving or

Modern History (Soph. Jr.--would seem a tougher course & require more background knowledge.)

4. (required) American & Comparative government

5. Biology would probably be preferable.

no math involved & biology probably more useful to you than chemistry would be.

6. English or Agriculture

--remember you failed one year of English--

while difficult--we think it's the most important course you take. English IV might be a possibility. What English are you taking now?

Dad doesn't recommend any business or economic courses. Dad does recommend World History or World Geography over Modern History.

Suggest taking driving last semester because it's better to get the harder course over the 1st half of the year.

May 6, 1963

My courses next year are; Study Center; Boy's Physical Education; American and Comparative Government; English IV; and first Semester U.S. History and Sophomore Science (Driver's Education) which I missed. Second Semester I will take Economics and World Geography. The year after I will take Biology as my required lab. science.

...  
As you can see in the pictures of Blackford the lockers are outside. We use the benches during lunch and before school. We have a few problems when it rains.

May 6

Well the Junior Prom is coming around the corner and I don't have a girl friend yet. I think I will try a Blind date and the results should be interesting. I guess most of the better girls have been graped before I came. Usually you can tell if a girl is going steady or not by the ring she wearing. If it is a large one with a lot of yarn wrapped around it, well you might as well

forget her. I wouldn't dare ask one out because most of the girls are going Steady with Star football players. They are a little larger than I am and can run a little faster than I can.

May ?

Well tomorrow is the Junior Prom and I got a blind date last night. I still believe in doing things the last moment. Taking a girl out these days is an expensive proposition. After hearing it would cost more than \$20 to take the girl to dinner, rent a tux, buy her corsage, I said heck with it. I am going to wear my sport coat, take her to Joe's joint and give her some poison Ivy unstead of a corsage. I may not be the most popular boy but I save \$20, which I think is too much to spend on one night. Heck I buy 74 gals of gas or 30 quarts of oil. As I saw girls come after broken bones and chicken poxs.

Cy wrote home concerning a proposed student code which may have involved the four private schools: Hawken, U.S., Hathaway Brown, and Laurel or it may have only involved Hawken School.

April 23

Ma! I would like to see if you can adopt a Student code. I am against it and hope it never gets passed. A social code is not the answer but a good education on Sex and parents to bring the four schools together. I just received one week of education on sex and that should solve half of the problems there. The code will not benefit the ones who need. Inforcing a code will make matters worse. A teenager will rebell and results might be worse. I lay a five dollar bet you won't get very far on the matter and the biggest problem is the students accepting the code.

May 5 (letter to John)

The Social Code doesn't sound bad except I don't see what it is going to accomplish. I thought original purpose was to kept a few people out of trouble. Also what I read about the drinking is one of the silliest things I have read in a long time. Mom doesn't know it but I have attending many a drinking party, not partisha-pating (can't spell.) They often use their parrets alcohol and the parents never know it. There will be always drinking no matter how hard you try. Why don't you try a different approach to the subject, like how Mr. Day approach us about girls. I think the best approach is tell the problems of drinking to the student body and its effects. If you have a real good speaker and give interesting facts on why alcohol is not good I think results might show. If you tell kids you can't drink, they will rebel and drink more. On the other hand if you tell the effects of drinking, they (will) leave it up to the student himself to decide what is best for him, results might show. At lest when a guy drinks, he will know what the results be and ask someone to drive him home. Drinking leads to accidents and trouble with girls. Therefore drinking should play an important part on the Social code if done right.

May (In answer to question on what Mrs. Day taught him, Cy wrote:)

The most valuable thing I got out of Mrs. Day was learning how to steal crackers when somebody was looking. Also I learned how to eat a cracker in front of Mrs. Day without her knowing it. I donat know, I can't remember anything she taught me. So I am afriad I won't be much of an assistence to you.

Ask Mr. Pickering if he has corrected my English papers yet. It should be time for him to hand back the January papers, or is he getting behind. It is amazing how these teachers can correct over 200 papers and have them back in two days.

May 5, 1963 (letter to John)

Greetings from Alcatraz !?!

I think Alcatraz would be better for you than Kent. Matter of opinion. I was rather surprize you got accepted with some of those grades you have pulled recently. How long did it take Dad to get you to write this letter? (to Cy) You certainly had your heart set in it. I think what Dad meant was that it would be good for the family if you went away, not you. I will be very curious to see if you will enjoy Kent or not.

To me when you attend boarding school, you are deprived of freedom. On weekends there is not much to do except studying or goofing off. I don't think I would enjoy that type of living. Through I could occupy alot of my time in hobbies which you show no interest in except money and girls. The hardest thing you will have to face is the first few weeks when you will know noone and getting familiar with the routine. I suggest you write to a few friends and ask what you will need, like radio, money, etc. I wish you good luck, Ha! Ha!

In Cy's letters home not only did he advise John, but he sent advice to me and commented on events at home and with the horses.

March 15

Dear Cathy;

It is great to hear about the junior P.H.A., but I predict it will be a failure. To back up my reasons the first meeting is always the largest. Then you will notice each meeting will be smaller and smaller, until you have just a few guys attending. No wonder you guys are \$3.79 in the red. With John treasurer, Holy Cow! I wouldn't trust him if he had just one penny of mine. Anyway I wish you guys luck. Boy! with Julie (North) head of the social committee, you bound to have some petty wild parties.

...  
Please sent Julie my congratulations for going off course. I realize not everyone is talented to do that. I wish I was around then so I could of heard Mr. Francis bawl out Julie. It is nice to know that I am not the only one who made mistakes around there.

...  
Tell Katie (Sawyer) I miss her cooking especially the cookies. (May 5) I haven't heard much from Glen or Kate. (May) Say Happy Birthday to Glen.

May

How come you are making improvements like getting a jeep, installing a thousand gallon gas tank after I leave. I doubt if you be saving any gas with the farmers around even through you have it locked.



Cy's fascination with and knowledge of cars, engines, and mechanics have been an endless source of involvement, not without frustrations. How many people has Cy met and how many experiences has he had due in part or wholly because of his mechanical skills and interests?

February 27, 1963

My car does not find much use around here except for errands. The battery went dead on me on a freeway which is suicide. I managed to pull off and see what I could do. The funny thing is Sue, I call them by their first names, came by in her so called Station wagon which has seen better years. She asked if everything was OK and borrowed a dollar. She waiting for a little while then took off. Later she said she thought I got my car started and had pulled away so she left. Here I was left alone with a sick car. Jack came along later and gave me a push and I got started. Today I bought a new battery at Jack's little drug store for a real discount, 19 dollars. That is alot to save. So far since I started the trip I have burned only two quarts of oil. So that was one goof I made, buying 20 quarts of oil. Well it will last me for a life time.

March 15 (to Cathy)

After a week I finally got my car to run. My big horns for some reason was the cause. You should hear them now. I rewired them and they are twice as loud. Really they are too loud to be used. The flag and horns really attract alot of attention. The people around here act if they have never seen a car like this before. It is fun anyhow because I have made a few girl friends with my car.

March 6 (to Dad)

After ten days you are supposed to get your Calif. driver's license. There is one little minor detail which is delaying me. They gave me a little booklet which is a summary of the California Vehicle code. It is a mere 70 pages in small print and my Latin is easier to understand than this. Also next year I have to take a semester course in how to drive to meet state requirements. I cannot receive a high school diploma until I take the course.

April 23

I got my drivers license on my first try after two months of studying the little ole book of 70 mere pages in small print. I bearily passed the driving test, but I made it....I was ...lucky getting my license on the first try. I still can't see how my car ever pass inspection.

May 6

I brought a bike for \$5. It is a three speed English bike which has seen better years. In California if you don't have a bike, you are left out. Besides this I think I will buy a car for \$120. It is a white '56 ford two door Victory. Almost the same as my car. The body is near perfect and needs a little work.

The reason I can get the car so cheap is the engine is shot. Jack and I will exchange engines and I will have a car that will last a few years. I could probably sell it for \$350, making a little money. It is silly to bring an ole rusty car back in Ohio while I can get an 1938 or 1909 with no rust. I have only seen two rusty cars in California besides mine. They were out of state cars.

Since it takes me a few days to write this letter, I decided not to buy the car. Meanwhile I am cutting the rear sides off my car so I can install new ones. I do believe some Mrs. Eaton Jr. made a bet with me that I wouldn't do it. I will be waiting for a check in the mail Since I won the bet.

May 1963

Boy, gas prices go up and down. One day it may cost 28 for High test, then 35¢ the next day. When one gas war is over, another starts right away. I guess there is a surplus of gas out here. I almost bought a 1930 "A" ford coupe. I have looked at seven cars so far and haven't found the right one yet. I drove 49 miles one night to look at one. 120 miles both ways. What a drive.

Cy's slow to heal broken wrist, his ears, and his nose gave him some problems but did not seem to get in the way of his work.

March 6

I do not want to go through the operation with my nose. It has given me no trouble yet except going through Kansas where things got so bad I had to close my windows and have an handkerchief over my nos

...

Right now I have one of the worst colds I have ever witness, and have a great deal of trouble hearing. I walked in this house where everyone was sick.

May 1963

...Speaking of broken bones I have some bad news which might goof everything up. Well Tuesday I had my wrist x-rayed and it is not healed yet. I will get the final word tomorrow how bad my wrist is. It might mean I have to forget about my summer job. It is going to break my heart, but thinking over the problems of John and Newt, I am getting off easy. The doctor says it may never heal.

March 5

I have started working, doing landscape and cutting lawns in my spare time. I guess the people like my work and have already received two offers of working in lawns and good money. I should have enough money, since I don't use the car much, that I don't have to depend on dad's money for allowance.

March 6 (to Dad)

I did as you suggested about writing a check to the Bank of America for the amount of balance in the Society National Bank. The balance was \$153.59. All together I have \$340.70, more than Sue and Jack have saved. Since I am working on part time jobs and should have enough to cover all my small expenses. Also I still have \$140 in travels checks which I am saving for the trip back.

Everything added up should last me for at least six years at the rate I spending money. So please do not send an allowance for next month and in the future you could cut it down to \$50 or less. Oh by the way we all are baffled by your trademark on your checks. Is it possible you could translate it into English. It goes something like this; "CSWA(11)." Is it Japanese or what?

Undated March letter

I made \$10.50 this week working. (April 23) I am quite excited that Dad might locate a job for me.

May 6

...Please tell dad to stop sending allowances to me. I have \$500.75 in the bank and I use about \$24 a month. The rest I make and spend. I make \$13 to \$15 a month driving, mowing lawns, cleaning garages, spring cleaning etc.

Cy's new home life with the affectionate, energetic Morley family opened his eyes and their eyes. After all when a family has five children what's one extra teenager? Probably a lot. A lot of fun. Some headaches too.

April 23

A funny thing happened a week ago. The ice cream man who always comes ever afternoon can be heard blocks away because he is playing music similar to a music box. Well I found an old music box of Sue's and started playing it around 11:30 at night. I didn't realize it but I guess Jack woke up and heard the music box playing. He woke up Sue saying the icecream man was making his usual rounds, but it was 11:30 at night! Confused, Sue said he won't make much business at this hour. I learned about it the next morning and after explaining what had happened, everyone had a good laugh.

I have played numerous jokes and tricks on the Morleys, but I completely forgot about April fools day. That morning about 5:30 I hear Jack knocking on my door saying the electricity went out last night and it was 8:30. Since you get in alot of trouble if you are late, I hurriedly got out of bed and got dressed. Since they is no day light savings time the sun rises about 5:15. Grapping my books I rushed out and to my surprise there was the entire family wishing me a happy April fools day.

May 6

Howdy!

I just want to spread the latest gossip of San Jose. Last night was "who could spend the most at the Morley's house." Jack, Sue, and the kids went shopping to get a few things for Helen's Birthday which is today. Helen is the second youngest and is two. As you can see we have a few problems. Well getting back to the point they said they would be back around 7 p.m. It was until 11:30 when they pulled into the driveway.

Sue came in the house and said "we got a surprize for you." I was baffled why it took so long for them to get a few party favors. I walked out thinking Jack Smashed his car up. At first I didn't see anything, but suddenly to my amazement a car pulls up with a 15 foot speed boat. Jack has spent 11 years looking for a boat and finally found it. He brought it for \$875 and he can turn right around and sell it for \$1300. The motor alone is \$800. I guess what happened is the owner built the boat himself (3 years) and suddenly ran into financial

problems and had to get some money soon. This guy is the type who polishes his car everyday and never takes it for a drive. I have never seen a more beautiful boat in my life. The guy didn't know what values are and to me is a sucker. Jack has fallen in love with boat, "love at first sight" and has spent every moment of his free time looking at it. Sue wants to call it, "Jack's other wife." Every day since I have been here, Jack looks in the boat ads in the Newspaper before he does anything.

...  
I recall a plea of what the kids are like. I think one word will describe the entire bunch, H-e-L-L. Cathern is the oldest and is a tomboy. She can out throw, out run, beat up any boy on the block. She does everything except what a girl is suppose to do. She hates dolls or anything similar. I think Jack and Sue will have a few problems with her when she gets older. When things get bad for her she worries and gets sudden pains in her stomach, enough to get sent home from school and put in bed. I am worried that Cathy if she has attacks over little problems what is going to happen when she faces life? Jay is the next oldest and a deep thinker. He is very neat and only can see black and white. What I mean by that is he has no sense of humor and either the deed is good or evil. He would be a good preacher. I wouldn't be surprised if he becomes one. Sue and Jack have no problems with him and he is very dependable.

Bobby comes next and what a character. He is only five and very good with his hands. He is always working and never fails to help me. When Jack works on the car, he there to help. I don't like Jay one bit, he crys if he gets kicked and always has to tell if he sees someone do something wrong. If Jack says he can't have cake because he didn't finish his dinner, Bobby will walk over to Sue and look in her eyes and say, "Mom, you made the cake", emphasizing shes the boss. Even Jack has to laugh. Jay is happy with a bat and ball, but Bobby will get something, play with it, and lose interest and do something else. A toy never lasts for more than two days with him. I like him the best and I don't what he be in the future. It will be interesting through. None of the kids are very smart. I see a great future for Helen. She is two and what a problem. The three of us Sue, Jack and I have discuss lenghtly about her and think her big problem is she is jealous of Mary, the baby, and wants all the attention. But you ought to listen to her. She is very curious about knowledge. Her vocabulary is hugh for her age and was born with the desire of knowledge. Mary is a quiet baby and thats all I can say about her.

To sum everything up Cathy is a tomboy and has and will have serious problems. Jay is a goody-goody, Bobby is always on the move and has a great field of interest, Helen is going through stages, but has great intellect. A funny thing about Jay is, if he is tried, he falls asleep in any position or place.

We are all excited except me, that you guys are going to pay us a visit. No seriously we are looking forward to it. Probably the day before you arrive we will paint the walls and put a new carpet for the bed rooms and give you a good impression. The Morleys believe in doing things the last moment like everyone else. Jack is a guy I admire. Not once have I seen him mad. He never loses his temper but instead just forgets it. I have never seen anything like it and I am trying to adopt his method. No mater what goes, he never brings his problems home and it is very difficult to tell if he is upset or happy. Sue is just the opposite. One day I walk



in she be as happy as anyone could be and the next day she be in a bad mood and you stay out of range until Jack comes home, then she is a new person. I think it is a near perfect marriage and both are happy.

...  
...Sue's 1950 chevy. Station wagon. Sue, before I came got herself in a pile up and it was her fault....The fender has been removed so Jack & I can put another one on. I wouldn't drive that car if they paid me. I have never seen such a mess. ...Jack's 57 ford stationwagon...is a nice car except the upholstery.

May

Having lockers outside might be a brain storm except when it rains, it murder. Honestly between classes it like grand central station during rush hour. A few weeks ago I went to visit some people about 70 miles from here. Going back it started to rain and Jack's windshield wipers quit working. So I spent the entire ride moving the windshield wipers by hand. By God I never do that again. Well my good coat was soak through. So Sue and Jack sent it to the cleaners as a gift. Well I got it back last week and the next day it was cold, so I wore it to school. My car was not working so I rode to school on my bike. It started raining and my front fender was off. By the time I got to school, I was soaked to the bone and covered with mud, especially my nice clean coat. It was misible sitting in class with wet cloths.

...  
You don't have to suggest Summerhill to Sue, she's already adopted that policy. Right now we are cleaning rugs, painting, and laying new tile before you come, so you will get a good impression. May I suggest you work on your worst manners because we are doing just the opposite. We are practicing pig, how to throw the napkin in the air like dad does, shot peas across the table while the head of the table isn't looking, and wiping our mouths at the corner like dad use to at your house in Chester. The get together is going to be something.

---- May 6 envelop----

Note spelling of Welch not Welsh.

May

About the spelling of Welch Ave, she lived here for a year before she realized she was spelling it wrong, so she has maintained it.

March 5

Since school end on June 15th, I probably will not come home then, reasons it would take at lest three weeks until I can start working in the summer, so I will come back before school starts again and would like to have time to see people on the way back and at home.

March 6

Is it possible all letters I send could be kept so I can enjoy reading my great expectations in the future.

Your letters are saved Cy and currently transfered from Mom's keeping to my keeping them. I have included most sections of most of your letters but (with the editor's perogative) I have rearranged the orde:

...and a different reason.

For a different perspective on Cy's first months at the Morley's home in San Jose, I am including Aunt Sue's letter to Mom, mailed on March 13, 1963

Wednesday

Dearest Mary,

Your letter just came. I'm in bed with a sore throat and miseries in my bones. I'll have to recover before the group comes in this afternoon, but I thought I'd take some time & write you about Cy.

Cy's staying with us has been an enriching experience for each one of us because he is such an amazing boy. I feel Cy & Tim have the best relationship. Tim is working each day along the lines of the import of getting thru school. He is subtle, but effective. Cy's experiences here, not necessarily with us, but thru the people he meets, I think, are or will make him think in more realistic terms. e.g. He has met the Casselle family. Betty & Jim the parents in their thirties, 2 teenage girls & 7 yr old son. Cy is courting their younger (16) yr old daughter; Taking her to a dance this Friday. Jim is with Douglas Aircraft. Because the Skybolt program was thrown out & Douglas has failed to get other gov. contracts, they are letting out most of their men. Jim has been with Douglas 10 yrs. He is very intelligent, but no degree. What Tim has shown & shown well I think to Cy, is what Jim is now faced with without education. Tim is a rare teacher. I love to watch him work with Cy on the cars. Cy will tell Tim what he thinks is wrong & they go to it from Cy's point of view. Then, Tim makes a suggestion, Cy tries it, & so it goes.

Cy wants to make money part time. He went next door to Eva's (She a widow) He told her he would do her yard work for free if she would give him the use of her gardening tools. She agreed. You should see the really fine job he did on our backyard. Everyone who meets Cy likes him. For instance, he dropped in at Casselle's of a Sat afternoon, (That is the family I described earlier) They were putting in their backyard (just moved in their home) Cy pitched in & worked all afternoon with them. Then, He & Jim talked politics, philosophy, etc etc etc all evening. (He did very little courting that day.)

He has great respect for the school. He can't get over how strict they are & how well their system works. Poor guy--he said yesterday he moved two seats over in study hall. (They have assigned seats,) because he was being distracted by 2 guys goofing off (he says) trying to get closer to something lovely (I says)--Anyway, for moving out of his seat, he is sent to the Dean's office. He tried to get a set of rules so he wouldn't get sent to the Dean's office so often, but they told him he would just have to learn the rules the hard way.

The children love Cy. Catherine for the first time in her life is glad she is a girl. There has been the biggest change in her. Her school work is improved & she is happier. Cy is so good to her & has given something so special in her life. Jay is busy in his own life & pays the least attention to Cy, except for the pig game (We think that is pretty great & each evening at dinner, they can hardly wait to beat Cy.) Cy I think likes Bob the best. Bob works outside with him all the time. We are having quite a bit of trouble with Helen. (I explained this in detail to Mom) She has become quite jealous of the baby who in turn has just begun to crawl &

come into her own. She is showing all sort of anxieties. We explained her problems to Cy & what our "Help Helen" program was or is & he goes right along with us.

For myself--I feel Cy makes me think.--Really think. I find myself reevaluating myself, my life, & the way I approach my problems. In other words, I think he has gotten me out of a mental rut.

Mary, we feel the check you send us is far more than we have in the way of expense, so we thought we'd use the money showing Cy our area of California & taking side trips. Sunday we took him to San Francisco. We showed him the Top of the Mark, rode the cable cars, walked thru Fisherman's Wharf. He saw the Fairmount Hotel too. We took the coast-highway to the city & Cy loved that, He said it reminded him of Nova Scotia. We ate out at a Roast Beef place ~~we~~ like here in San Jose. I myself had a marvelous day & I think Cy enjoyed it. We plan to do as much of this as Cy is interested in doing. Also, we pay Cy for any projects he does, like the big one he did in the backyard. This is only right, Mary as we would do it if we had a neighbor boy in. There are many wonderful little things Cy does. For instance, Bob has an old green car. The front wheels were off. The axel was broken. It took him all one Sunday afternoon, but he made a new axel & found wheels in somebody's garage (with permission of course) and fixed up Bob's car. Bob call it his hot rod. You can't imagine what this meant to Bob.

One of the things Cy mentioned to us when he first came here is "how great" it was that you & Cy understood what he wanted to do ~~why/ he/ wanted/ to/ do~~ & why he wanted to do it. He felt it was a man-to-man relationship & means much to him.

As to Cy's school work. So far, I feel he is doing very well. Tim & Cy are starting on the Johnson O'Connor Voc: Builder. A book I used to get ready for my SAT's. This is to help improve everybody's vocabulary & Cy's pronunciation. Tim & Cy are going to work every evening after the children go to bed.

Mary, I feel all is going very well. You know the most wonderful aspect of Cy's personality is his great awareness of the world around him--his appreciation of all the little particles of living that go to make up our world. Mary, you should always have such a feeling of accomplishment when you think of Cy--for how far he has come & every inch of his progress was inspired by you & your belief in him.

One other wonderful thing about Cy--is his frank approach to himself. He is so normal--well that's not the word I want but he is just honest with himself & in looking outward from himself.

I'll try & write you, Mary, as we go. I'm grateful we have had this chance to know Cy. You know we will both do all we can to help him each day.--not just for love of you (& there is much of that) but because Cy is an outstanding person & so worth every bit of effort we put forth.

All my love,  
Susie