

Elleen Chester Newman
9-11-18 - 5-1-2013

Nederland, Texas

June 7, 1942

Dear J.B.,

I was very glad indeed to hear from you, because the other day, we were discussing where you were. There are 106 boys in service from Nederland, now, and all of us kids down here like to try to keep in touch with everyone if we can. ~~Since there is so many boys in service now~~ is not like it used to be. So whenever someone hears from a boy in service, we are very proud indeed.

Yes it has been a whole year now since I have been out of school. Just after I got out I had to be operated on for appendicitis. Then in August I went to work in Beaumont at at 5 and 10 store behind a lunch counter. Then in January, I started to business school at Chenier's in Beaumont, and I am still going. I quit my work in Beaumont Friday, because I am going to start work in Nederland at Dick Rienstra's Feed Store keeping books. I think I will like it better, because it will be at home. So now that is what I have done in the last year.

I will try to tell you just a brief summary of what has happened here in the last year. Well school started last year and it seemed very funny not to go back. By looking in the annual you can see who got Yell Leaders, Maids, and the games played, etc. Then there were a few parties, and such, and a few dances, but of them seemed the same. Then around Christmas some of the college kids came home, and things were joyed up a little. Dan Rienstra got to come home, and I think he really enjoyed being home again. Then in January, and February, things slowed down a bit. In February, there was an Alumni Dance, and Anne Broussard was elected Sweetheart.

Then came the end of school. The parties and dances began to brighten up things again. But the studying didn't do so very much to them. Then on May 23, the Alumni Dance and Banquet was held in Beaumont, at the Hotel Beaumont. The Banquet was really swell, and so was the dance. At the Banquet, collections were taken up for bonds for the boys in the service. Enough money was taken up to buy two \$25 bonds. Then they had all the boys in service names in a box, and two were drawn out by Anna, the sweetheart. The two lucky boys that received the bonds were Olan Whitmire, and "Fatty" Smith. Now the Alumni are going to get every boy in service a bond. New Alumni officers were elected, and I was elected President, Richard Creswell, vice-president, and Mrs. Eileen Shearer, secretary and treasury. I just hope I can stay up to my job as president, but it sure will be a lot of work.

I am going to give you the list of boys that are in service, then you can just see how many there are.

PFC Pat Morrison
 Corp. Edward Hughes
 Pvt. M. J. Pichoff
 PFC L. T. McBurnett
 Woodrow Burran-Navy
 Lloyd Williams
 Pvt. Jack Singleton
 Warren Singleton-M M1/c
 Thomas Housenfluck Jr. R M 1/c
 Sgt. Henry Franke
 Wilbur Griffin
 Paul Billingsley
 R. B. Gregory M M 2/c
 Pvt. Jack Streetman
 PFC Emmett Woodward
 Pvt. Laris Broussard
 Lewis Leatherwood
 Joe Lee McKinley M M 2/c
 Pvt Mayo Premeaux
 PFC Wiltz Metreyeon
 Garret Terwey
 PFC Bennie Koch
 PFC Wilton Metreyeon
 PFC Earl McMahon
 Roland Lee E M 2/c

Capt. Louis Pietzsch
 Pvt. Joe Almond
 Pvt. Julian Broussard
 Pvt. Norwood Delahoussey
 Pvt. Ralph Massey
 J. W. Roberts M M 2/c
 Charles Bishop
 J. P. Clark
 Robert McKinley S 1/c
 Pvt. L.O. Walp
 Sgt. Lawrence Koelemay
 PFC James Koelemay
 Marion Rienstra
 Thomas Harbour
 Cecil Morgan
 James Smith
 Sgt. Willie Creswell
 Pvt. Gordon Wilson
 Percy Baker F 1/c
 Lt. Davis Winters
 Sgt. O S Johnson
 Lt. John Keper
 Lt. George Trotter
 Sgt. Brooks Oakley
 Pvt. Harry Weigman

Corp. Earl Weigman
Milton Mills
Harry Doornbos
Aviation Cadet Johnny Ware
Pvt. L. D. Fuller

~~Corp. Earl Weigman~~
Albert Lee Kelley S 2/c
Sgt. Eugene Lindsay
Pvt. Verlon McGee
PFC Starling Sandefur
Olan Whitmire
Jim Housenfluck A/s
Ray Green
Lt. George Ingram
Staff Sgt. George Jones
Pvt. Ronald Keeney
Sandford Kelly
Pvt. Russel Vernor
Pvt. T.D. Carroll
Sgt. Allen C. Thompson
Ellis Thompson
Raymond Hawkins
Charlie Biermontt
John Leonard Lee
Ashton Mouton
Orrie Weeks
Ervin Ware
Charles Ross

Vurral Yentzen
Hollis Jones
Sgt. Frank Shannon
Charles Bailey
M A Burran Jr.
~~Dr. Kenneth St...~~
Sgt. Preston Cessac
Pvt. J. W. Davis
Corp Earl Aldridge
Candidate Robert Sheppard
Thomas Lee a/s
Corp Ralph Lutring
George Mathiewson
Sgt. Bill Dubose
Doyle Pribble
E. A. Babb
Dewitt Babb
Lloyd White
L.J. Nunez
Cecil Wendling
James Arnold
Herman Gudiry
Buddy Morris
Pete Morris
Melvin Gallier
Martin Ener
J.B. Triplette
Rife Kimbier

Now you see just how many and who is in the service. I guess there will be that many more leaving pretty soon, because the Draft of June 30. I know there are a lot of planning to leave. O well, I guess we will just be all old maids.

I say your sister in town, yesterday, and You are very lucky to have a very cute nephew. He is really cute. I guess you know that Eillen has a little boy too, and he is 2 now and is really cute too. Just think I am an aunt now.

Well J. B. I have to quit now because I have some school work to get up now. Please excuse all writing, because I am not a very good typist, especially when I am looking at my writing. Please do write again, and any one else from home have them write me. I will answer your letter, always, but it might be a few days late. So keep in touch with us.

Always a friend,

C Evelyn Chester

P.S. Mr. Mathews made it possible for me to get your annual, and he even had the kids in summer school sign it for you, he is very considerate, and I think he is a very swell guy. So you may be thankful to him for giving it to me, so I may send it to you. Of course it isn't much but it gives you almost all the school year's summary.

P.S.

Daddy said that he is really proud of you, and that he hopes you lots of luck and that you will make the grade. So here's to you.