

# Plain Brown Rapper

News for the Tandy and Grace Brown Family

Fall, 2000

First let me apologize for the long delay between newsletters. I finally have a new computer to aid me in my endeavors and what a relief it is. When I bought my first computer in 1996, 16 MB of RAM memory were quite nice. In the years I've added a lot of stuff and the memory was overloaded! The computer wasn't cooperating. It would moan and groan and carry on like I do before I've had a cup of coffee in the morning. So now I have 128 MB of RAM memory and it is humming along nicely. As soon as I get everything installed and all the parts working and moving I should be able to continue on nicely. We'll see.

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In our family, birthdays are an awesome time. When we were children, mother always made sure we had a cake and all the trimmings and usually a party. In August, Vivian celebrated her 87<sup>th</sup> Birthday and her family hosted a big gathering. We wish we all could have been there to enjoy the day however, since we couldn't, the next best thing was to send along all our love and birthday wishes to her.

According to her family, it was a joyous day with all of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in attendance. They took along plenty of food because they knew the other people at the home would be thinking they should enjoy the day also and they were correct. There were many laughs at the antics of the others and Vivian loved the celebration.

Mail is so important when you are stuck in one place and Vivian loves hearing from her family. Send your cards and letter to: Vivian Beardslee, 9007 Chisholm Lane, Austin, TX 78748.

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Election News: The Primary Race for the Republican Candidate for County Commissioner in El Paso County was won by our brother Charles. As I told you last time, Charles had to face a crazy group who decided he'd been there too long. But he won and will go to the General Election on November 7<sup>th</sup>. We all are cheering for the "**CHUCK BROWN FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER**" campaign. I spoke with him recently and he said they are just now beginning their campaign. Can't vote there but we can sure wish him the best. We are all behind you.

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When I started writing this edition (way last July), It was "Frontier Days in Old Cheyenne" and the festivities were in full swing. As I often do, I remember another time when the parades were full of members of the Brown family playing in different bands. The house on Alexander teemed with motion as all the musical Brown children gathered their uniforms and instruments and rushing to join the various bands as they formed up for the parade; Roy in the "Cowboy Band," Leah, Frank and Leonard in the VFW Band, Nancy, Charles and Dick in the Eagles Band.

Everyone rushed through breakfast, put on their uniforms, actually this week it was jeans, cowboy shirts and cowboy hats. Big colorful bandanas around their necks and they were ready to go. As many as could pile in to the car to be deposited at various staging areas.

Later mother returned to pick up all the "little" kids and away we went to find a parking place and walk to the parade. We cheered and yahoed and had a great time while the parade passed by. Endless floats, wagons and old carriages along with the many bands. Out of town bands, local bands, military bands, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, everyone was either in the parade or on the curb. It was a grand affair. For one week every one in town was a cowboy!

When the parade was over, it was rush home, have lunch and off to the rodeo. Great opportunities to make some money or just to see the rodeo. For the boys, selling pop and for the girls ushering people to their seats.

Night time brought about concerts on the street, Indians dancing, square dancing and other free entertainment. Out at the Rodeo grounds there was a huge open air pavilion with a wonderful wooden dance floor. 10 cents a dance and 5 cent beer. The summer Bob and I dated, they brought in lots of big name bands. Lawrence Welk was here for Frontier Days and through the summer other big bands came. Jan Garber, Woody Herman, Tommy Dorsey, Harry James and etc. It was heaven.

All things of the past. Now all the events are at the rodeo grounds except for the parade and pancake breakfast. A night show takes the place of any free doings down town and the big attractions are not my favorite entertainers. I'm too old to enjoy all that noise. So, I'll keep my memories of the "Olden Days" and remember a time when there were 20 bands in the parade and a little beer spilled on the street.

The Browns made a big impact on the parade in those times and for many years after there was never a parade without a member of the family playing in some band or other. Who knows what is best and what brings in the crowds. I only know what I remember as being so much fun and what mother must have thought was an awful lot of work.

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Nicki & Gordy Schumacher's son, Gordon married Stacy Lynn Platt. The ceremony took place on August 12<sup>th</sup>, at the Emerald Valley Resort in Creswell, Oregon. From all the reports and as you can see, the wedding was a lovely occasion and we wish Gordy and Stacy all the best wishes in the world.

In case you don't know, Gordy is the Grandson of Anna and Norman French.



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On September 29<sup>th</sup>, Dick and Marty's daughter Katy married Tyler Jacobs in a beautiful ceremony in Aspen, Colorado. As soon as I receive a picture, I'll send it along. Katie and Jacob we send all our best wishes to you also.

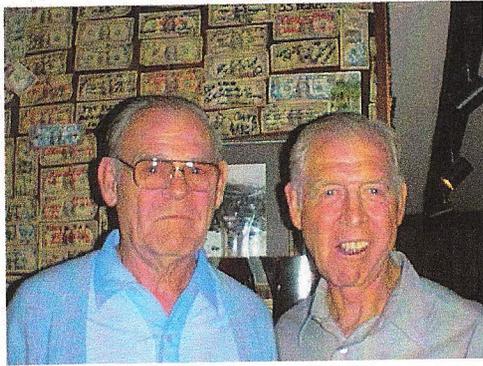
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In August, Bob and Carolyn Beardslee came through Cheyenne and Charles and LaVena were here for Charles and Bob Treadway's 55<sup>th</sup> class reunion, so Nancy and Bob hosted a wonderful brunch in their beautifully remodeled home. So great to have everyone there and visit with family members who are passing through. Cindy Beardslee had come up from Denver and it was fun to see everyone.

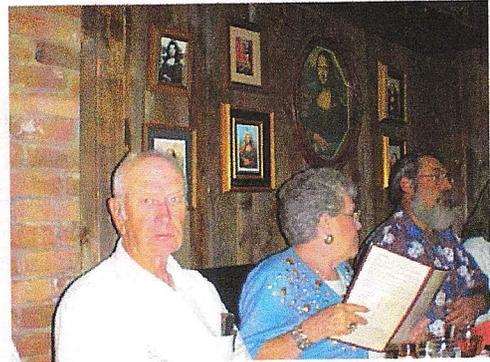
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In the "Truth is Stranger Than Fiction" department. Our sister Leah recently received a notice from Medicare telling her they had paid \$193 for the "epidermal anesthetic for a vaginal delivery!" She had gone in for some laser surgery on her eye. There was a lot of explaining and blaming the error on the computer and etc. We've certainly had a lot of laughs at that one!!!

Pictures from the Estes Park Trip.



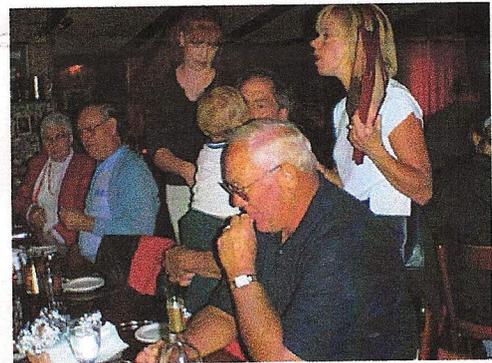
Frank and Charles



Willis, Leah and Ron Metz



LaVena



Bob (in background: Marilyn & Frank  
Jenny Brown with Nathan & Tandy and the  
Server trying very hard to get our orders)

In September, Frank and Marilyn traveled to Estes Park, Colorado to visit their children. How nice it must be to have all your children in one place and such a beautiful place Estes Park is. The Cheyenne Brown's drove up to Estes Park where Frank and Marilyn treated us to a wonderful dinner at my all time favorite restaurant, The Dunraven Inn. Such fun to see Frank and Marilyn's family; Tandy, his Jennifer and little Nathan; Chris and Ron and both of their boys (one was our chef for the night) and Rick. Charles and LaVena came up from Colorado Spring and were joined by their daughter Natalie who lives in Fort Collins. Pat, Leah, Willis, Bob and I were there. We had lots of conversation and fond memories until the restaurant tossed us out. It was Scottish Festival Weekend and they were very busy. They needed our table for a group of 15 "Bagpipe" players who had made reservations for 9 pm. Since we had been there since 6 pm we decided we had better go. Hard to depart when the conversation is such fun.

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**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE -  
NOVEMBER 7TH**