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April 12, 1993

✓ Dr. Robert Wissler
Department of Pathology
University of Chicago
950 E. 59th St, Box 414
Chicago, IL 60637

Dear Bob:

The enclosed letter was written and never sent. I am sorry that we missed connection in Florida. By the time I discovered you were not at the Blue Waters Resort and found out that you were on Longboat, it was a day or two before your departure, a number of family snow birds had migrated to our place and it was clear we wouldn't be able to get together.

I had a very productive time dictating memoirs including a number on the Seven Countries Study and starting on a rough outline of cardiovascular disease epidemiology history. Lecturing for the History of Medicine Society in Lakeland, I encountered a Dr. Rich, a cardiovascular surgeon, who was a protege of George Mann's during George's African period. He kindly sent me George Mann's autobiography entitled "The Way It Seems To Me". George is fairly well contained with little evidence of his vindictiveness until we arrive at his last chapter, where he lets it all pour out. In addition to calling Ancel Keys "the greatest rascal in Medicine, perhaps not even second to Virchow", he refers to Jerry Stamler and myself as Keysian sycophants. You will be pleased to know, if you didn't already, that you are in our company with a real ventilatory paragraph about Robert Wissler who visited George Mann's primate colony some years ago on a "so-called site visit from NIH" and recommended that it not be funded, thus depriving George of sustenance. Not only was Wissler mean spirited, but he was a brigand who stole George Mann's money and ideas and went off to develop the most expensive personal research program in the history of NIH! If you haven't seen this diatribe, I am sure you will be much amused.

I hope we do better next year. We will be at 793 N. Shore Dr. in Anna Maria the months of Dec. and Jan.

Cordially,



Henry Blackburn, MD

Dr. Robert Wissler

Dear Bob:

I found a reminder in my Florida folder, that you will be here in Anna Maria in the month of February. We invite you to walk the north tip of the beach which is our hangout to have a beer at the Rod n' Reel pier and to dinner at Sign of the Mermaid where the chef is a friend.

Fast Eddy's was closed by the IRS in December but will open as the Anchorage Inn in February. So, there may be good grouper to be had on again on the pier.

We have stayed busier than I like to be but life is full. We will be happy to show you a couple of our favorite places such as the lady who keeps 80 cats in Cortez and our wilderness cabin on the Myakka river.

Please give us a buzz.

Cordially,
Henry

Anna Maria phone number
813-778-4526 (with answering machine),