

April 2, 1999

Dear Harold,

Well, a new month is here and I see that my efficient, no-room-for-error birthday card system ran off the rails and I sent cards to you and Al a month early!!! Instead of sending them in late March, I sent them out in the month of March when it should have been April. Anyway, the messages are sincere and I hope I am forgiven!!!

I guess it shows that one can be too efficient/??? I do hope your special April days are otherwise memorable!!!

The months are winding away and it is not too early to think and plan for Lancer99. I might not go after the banquet fiasco 1st year!! But, then again, I have some business with the Sixth Floor Museum that cannot be accomplished via mail!! I've got to identify the business I must do in Dallas and forget the other stuff. These conferences are getting to be much like reunions where people get together only for that reason. I can't afford, money or time, for that kind of meeting. There is pleasure in seeing acquaintances again but there has to be some contributions to the general knowledge!!! Right now I am on the go/no go cusp and need some more input to put my manuscript to bed. "The Brige of San Luis Rey" concept still holds up and I want to get a raw 'script to Mary Ferrell to support or destroy it!!! I only want to hand it directly to her since I do not trust the mail!! Funny thing about my manuscript - I cannot locate either the original or copy I keep. They are not in their logical places and I can only conclude that I deliberately misfiled them for safer keeping. Still, they have not turned up!! I know someone has been in my apartment during my absences. I've always attributed that to the captain's wife who can hardly wait for people to 'leave' before she is in their places since he husband has all the keys. Also, I know that once the captain let the condo board in to verify that the owner had tiled the apartment's balcony!! I don't think my work is important enough to merit official attention?? I do know, from personal tests, that mail can be changed to 8-day delivery from the normal 2!! Also, when I first came back to Florida, I sent my son a copy of the manuscript and I carried one with me to be sure one would survive!! The mailing to my son arrived long after I did and had been in the mail far too long. it also arrived without stamps or any other markings such as "postage due." I still expect the writings to show up so I can get them to Mary. I know at the no-conference '95, she was impressed with our one-on-one meeting!!! Sometimes I have to pinch myself to realize that some of these things are real and really happening. As my nephew said as a boy, "Something is coçedy-eyed!!"

My very best to you both and I apologize for moving your birthdays up a month!!!

Best regards,

Paul H.

