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## Letter

Wenona L. Dunn

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old to new

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# Letter

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By Wenona L. Dunn

Dear Dr. Thomas:

Thank you for the two copies of WESTVIEW I recently received and for the nice treatment of my story which you entitled FROM THERE TO HERE. I think it is very fitting. There is one small error in the story, due I am quite sure to my own carelessness when I proof-read my manuscript. My eyesight isn't what it used to be, as I suffer from glaucoma. In the article as printed, on page forty two and about 2/3rds down in colum three, it states that "On October 16, 1867, Anna Bateman was married to George C. Fittell," etc. In reality, it should have read, "On October 16, 1867, Anna Bateman was married to James Abner Dunn, of Hamlet, Illinois, and on January 3, 1869 Edna Bateman was married to George C. Fittell, who had served during the war in the same unit with Robert Bateman and with James M. Dunn, father of Abner Dunn."

Enclosed you will find material for your consideration for the fall issue, OKLAHOMA MEMORIES. I wrote the one poem several years ago, in 1975 in fact, as my husband and I were tearing down an old house belonging to my brother-in-law. We had just recently returned to western Oklahoma from several years of living and working in Texas, and Walter was between jobs (he did carpenter and painting work). So we took on the job of tearing down the old house, which was located on the banks of the Washita River near Stafford in Custer County.

As was my custom, I enclosed a copy of the poem in a letter to Walter's Uncle Dick. (He liked to read my feeble attempts at poetry.) In just a very few days, we received a letter back from him, in which he had enclosed a copy of **his** poem. You see, back in his younger days, he had visited in that home and knew the family quite well! We have quite a few of Uncle Dick's poems, in his own hand-writing, which he sent along with his letters to us from time to time. I doubt if any of them have ever been published. They are poems which we will always treasure.

It was interesting that Uncle Dick Chapman had an article about my husband's Chapman grandparents in the same issue of WESTVIEW as was the article about his Dunn grandparents. We had not heard that story. Incidentally, Walter's parents later lived in a dugout on that same Bennett place west of Clinton.

In 1982, Uncle Dick had a poem in the Poetry Society of Oklahoma's DIAMOND JUBILEE ANTHOLOGY, and one of mine was in it, too.

Although our address has changed, we haven't moved. We live in the old home of my Latimer grandparents, four miles south of Foss, which we bought in 1973. We came back from Texas in 1975 in order to help my mother care for my father. Just two weeks after we arrived, Mama died of an apparent heart attack. My father died in 1976. We now are retired and enjoy traveling with our pickup and travel trailer. We have three sons and nine grandchildren, all of whom are presently living in Texas and California.

Very Sincerely,

Wenona L. Dunn,  
(Mrs. Walter Dunn),  
Box 210  
Burns Flat, OK 73624