

Introduction to Newsletter

I am William Fuller Goforth. I grew up in Pacolet Mills, South Carolina in the late 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. Most people on the mill hill knew me as Billy or Bill. My parents were Willie and Peggie Goforth. Ida Belle Fuller was my Grandmother. I was named for her. My parents, my Grandmother and I lived on Stone Street in the mill village. Belle Fuller played a large role in raising me, until her death in 1967 when I was nineteen.

These letters were written by Belle Fuller in the early 1950s, the Korean War era. She sent them to local Pacolet young men who were in the military during that period. She had known most of the young men all of their lives. She knew them and their families well. She knew pretty much everyone in Pacolet. She seems to have written them under the auspices of the Montgomery Memorial Methodist Church. I know that was Belle's church, but the connection between the church and the letters is not clear to me. I know Belle wrote them on her own, without oversight that I know of.

She wrote them on an L. C. Smith & Brothers manual typewriter from the 1920s or 1930s, that I still have. She would write them literally using multiple pages of carbon paper. Sometimes she would retype the entire letter, if she needed more copies (no Xerox machines in the early 1950s).

She wrote them in a stream of consciousness style. More or less, whatever popped in her head. She would write a while and then stop for a day or two, then return to writing. She wrote a letter every month. Her letters include activities in the town, the people and Belle's home spun philosophy about life.

There are numerous little tales about a little boy, Billy or Billy Fuller. That would be me. I'm not sure why young men in the military during the Korean War would want to hear about me, but she seemed to enjoy telling tales about me. I reckon she loved me. I know I loved her.

I think anyone from the Pacolet area will find interesting facts and information about family and friends in the text of Belle's letters. There are a few missing pages. I am sorry about that, but they have been stored hap-hazardously since the fifties. I'm a little surprised that they survived at all.

I hope all y'all reading these letters enjoy them. I'm sure Belle would be happy that people in the twenty-first century are reading them at all.

Bill Goforth

The Pacolet Service Men's Newsletter

I would like to thank Mr. William Goforth, Miss Fuller's grandson, for making copies of the Newsletters available. As far as possible, the Newsletters on this website are just like the originals from Miss Fuller. However, after 70 years, some of the copies were darkened and difficult to read. Also, some Newsletters are missing and some of the pages of those published here are missing. To prepare the original scanned newsletters to go on this website it was necessary to process them through a computer program to convert them into text that could be edited. This text was used to reproduce the newsletters.

There are 25 newsletters available that span the time from February of 1951 to May of 1953. Click on the issue and date number below to read the newsletters.

[No. 1 - February, 1951](#)

[No. 2 - March, 1951](#)

[No. 3 - April, 1951](#)

[No. 4 - May, 1951](#)

[No. 5 - June, 1951](#)

[No. 6 - July, 1951](#)

[No. 7 - August, 1951](#)

[No. 8 - September, 1951](#)

[No. 9 - October, 1951](#)

[No. 10 - November, 1951](#)

[No. 11 - December, 1951](#)

[No. 12 - January, 1952](#)

[No. 13 - February, 1952](#)

[No. 14 - March, 1952](#)

[No. 15 - April, 1952](#)

[No. 16 - May, 1952](#)

[No. 17 - July, 1952](#)

[No. 18 - August, 1952](#)

[No. 19 - Sept., 1952](#)

[No. 20 - October, 1952](#)

[No. 21 - December, 1952](#)

[No. 22 - January, 1953](#)

[No. 23 - February, 1953](#)

[No. 24 - March, 1953](#)

[No. 25 - April, 1953](#)

[Return to Miss Fuller Page](#)

[Return to The Pacolet Memories Home Page](#)