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#### *About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

P.O.Box 3421, M.G.

Pensacola, Fla.

April 26, 1965

Dear Dr. Popenoe,

I am making a carbon copy of this letter and will send one to Gainesville and one to Antigua.

The Fillette Green Travel Service is arranging for Sam's trip and the present plan calls for him to arrive in Antigua on June 14th. I hope this is not too early for you. Since the flight from Pensacola arrives 15 minutes after the Aviateca flight leaves Sam will go through Atlanta, Ga. He can leave here at 7 AM and be in Guatemala around 6 PM. I will send definite flight times later as they are in the process of making slight changes.

The difference in cost by going the long way around will be no more than a motel and additional meals for the full days stay in Miami. The airlines will aid Sam in flight changes and obtaining a tourist card. I am getting return tickets for the same route but told Sam if he would like he may return from Miami by bus. (We can turn the tickets in for a refund.) I left the return date open but they suggested we make the date as soon as possible.

I have been holding ~~writing~~ you because I hoped to have some definite information on my summer job so that I could give you the address and phone where I could be reached but our school board like others in Fla., is having difficulty obtaining money and are slow to make summer appointments. I will send them later.

Our phone number is 456-3895, at home. If there is anything you wish to discuss with me while you are in Gainesville call me collect any night except Thursday. (A telegram is called out here and if we do not answer, they mail it so it may be several days getting here.)

I have some questions about clothing. Sam has hiking boots. We climbed Sunset Crater in Arizona and the scoria cut up shoes badly. If Agua is like that he probably should take his boots but I don't wish to send anything heavy so as to keep the weight down—since I expect him to bring back a few rocks for our collection. At Sam's age there doesn't seem to be any such thing as a strong shoe. At 13 he is wearing a size  $10\frac{1}{2}$  or 11 which is a little bigger than most grown men and these shoes are not made for baseball, football and the like. Unless I hear otherwise from you I will probably send his boots for climbing, a pair of sneakers for walking generally, and the school shoes he will wear on the plane.

Because of the altitude I planned to send along a sweat shirt but no other sweaters. He will have a seersucker jacket to wear down. Generally, Sam will wear "dress" clothes on the flight down but they are all washable as are his khakis, knit shirts, and the like.

I can't tell you how much I appreciate you giving Sam the opportunity to make this trip. We have looked up articles in various books and magazines and were thrilled to see your house and Maria in a National Geographic. We are having difficulty getting a copy of the House In Antigua and have a book tracer company trying for us. The local library has two copies but will not sell one. He will read their copy again before he leaves if we can not get one of our own.

While in Gainesville I got a single lens reflex camera and by June Sam should be pretty good at taking slides— He will object to that statement as he figures he is an expert already. If the pictures <sup>in the magazines</sup> are any sample he should come back with quite a collection of slides.

Sam is having difficulty with his Spanish. I have a feeling if you make him request food in Spanish he will learn rather quickly. (Sam has asked me to type the following message to you.) "I had better change my name to Sam Smith at the rate I am going."

As I said earlier I can't thank you enough for giving him this chance. Most people want as little to do with a teen-ager as possible. I will warn you he can be an angel but but one never knows. I certainly expect him to be a gentleman but if he isn't take whatever measures are necessary. I don't want his presence to be a burden on Maria or interfere with your work.

If the date I have listed does not fit in with your schedule, let me know and I will change it.

Oh, and to play safe Sam has had his tetnus booster brought up to date in addition to the smallpox vaccination. He has had all the usual childhood diseases and should not present any problems in this line.

If you can think of anything I have forgotten let me know. And by all means let me know if the present plans are not to your liking.

Sincerely,

*Gertrude Garcia*



Box 3421 M<sup>o</sup>scicola, June 27th [1965]

Dear Dr. Wilson,

I was about to write you when I received your letter. Sam was camping out for the weekend at Fort Pickens on Santa Rosa Island in the Gulf. I knew his reply would be a big YES! It was. He is delighted.

New Orleans would be much better for us. I did enquire with the travel agency but they only gave me fares for one of the big U.S. companies.

I start the pre-school period the 16th of August so I could drive Sam to New Orleans anytime up to then and probably on a weekend after that. In any case he can get a direct bus from here if there is some reason for my not driving over. So, if you can find out when AVIATECA flights occur and which one you want Sam on I will make immediate arrangements.

The reason I was going to write was to tell you we now have a copy of "The House In Antigua". The local library had two copies but absolutely refused to sell either. The store they sent me to said they would look for a copy and started talking in the \$15 range. Our school librarian saved the day. She gave me the address of the Florida Book Tracers and in no time at all we got a fine copy for

five dollars.

From your letter I gather you are very busy with guests. I guess you really enjoy it though. I foolishly thought you might be crowded for space until I read a portion of the book "Central America" by the Life World Library. Pages 52 and 53 show some pictures of your home. The dimensions of your reception room are listed as 90 by 92 feet. Our whole house would fit nicely there. After rooms of that size I don't know how you manage to stay with your son in Gainesville without feeling closed in. I did and our house is just a little bigger than the apartment. We have a little land around it that I also missed while in Gainesville.

Well, I want to complete this letter so that I can mail it first thing tomorrow. We will await word from you on when you want Sam. I feel if he misses school it will be worth it for the education he gains in seeing Antigua. He plans to do some writing and will be taking slides so this in itself will be a good education.

Thank you for your letter.

Sincerely,

*Gertrude Garcia*

Antigua, 1 July 1965

Dear Gertrude:

Your letter of 27 June came today and I am happy that Sam will be able to come down, and obviously New Orleans is the route for him. I am enclosing a schedule of AVIATECA, the latest. You will note that the fare is the same as it is from or to Miami, and I am sure they must have the same \$102 excursion rate for thirty days. I will check up on this.

Four of my family leave tomorrow; five others arrive on Monday. I expect to be in the clear toward the end of July or very early in August. I will keep you advised. I do not think you will need more than a few days to get a reservation for Sam - Aviateca does not run as full as Pan American, especially to New Orleans I imagine. I will do my best to get Sam down here in time so that he will get back to school before the first week or two in September. You might tell me when he should be back.

I am glad you got a copy of the House in Antigua, and for five bucks. I have been trying to get some for the past year; have obtained several, at \$7 to \$10 each. If you can get any more at \$5, but then for me and send them down with Sam.

I have so many jobs on hand that I won't be able to give all my time to Sam but I think this will be all the better; I can take him around the country a bit, and if he is as interested in things as I believe he is he will wander around Antigua and this valley and make friends with the Indians and learn a great deal. That is what we want him to do, don't we?

Sincerely yours,



Box 3421, M.G. Pensacola

Antigua, Guatemala, 15 July 1965

Dear Gertrude:

[Garcia]

At last I believe I can make definite plans for the visit of Sam, if he is still interested in coming down. Tomorrow I have to go over to Honduras and El Salvador for two or three weeks. I will come back here about 5 August. Since you say you can send Sam more easily via New Orleans, I note there is a flight of Aviateca from there on Sunday, so I suggest August 8 for his coming. I have inquired here and they tell me the \$102 (plus tax, about \$5 I believe) excursion rate is good from either New Orleans or Miami. He would go back by September 8 which I assume would get him back there in time for school.

If this is satisfactory, please drop me a line at the following address: Escuela Agricola Panamericana, Apartado 93, Tegucigalpa, Honduras., C.A., with copy to me here in Antigua, just in case. If you need any further information, I will supply it from Honduras. I think we have already gone into most of the necessary details. If he lacks anything, I can most probably get it for him here. Remember that all he needs is his tourist card and vaccination certificate (smallpox). He does not need to bring much money with him; maybe \$25 in US \$5 bills for things he will probably want to buy, to take home with him.

Hastily yours,

Wilson Popenoe



PO Box 3421 MG

Pensacola July 17th [1965]

Dear Dr. Wilson,

I have written to the Book Tracers, they have confirmed my request and will notify me when they find any copies of the "House", what condition they are in and the price. If Sam is already in Antigua these can be sent to you or if you prefer, directly to the person you are giving them to, or to your son.

I feel your idea of turning Sam loose to make friends on his own is great. The big problem in the U.S. when it comes to learning a language, is that it is always possible to speak English and since this is easier the foreign language is never really learned properly. If Sam is on his own, I am sure his Spanish will improve rapidly. Also, I don't want his visit to interfere with your work.

I am finished summerschool on July 23rd, so I can drive Sam to New Orleans anytime between then and Aug. 16th when I start to pre-school planning. (He could take the bus but the trip will be a little vacation for me.)

Sam starts school Aug. 30th and although he is very anxious to start at the beginning he does not wish to miss his visit with you. Therefore if it is possible he would like to come the earliest you're able to have him. It may be you will not be able to have him more than two weeks since you have been so busy and he will understand any changes you may have to make even after his arrival.

I will set no time as to when he must be back. I have spoken to his teachers and they feel this is an experience not to be missed and a valuable education in itself.

We will await word as to when he should leave and I will confirm the date when we actually have the tickets. If there is not time to do this by mail is there a phone that I can reach you at or a telegram office in Antigua?

In an earlier letter you seemed to prefer that

Sam arrive on a Saturday but planes out of N.O. will get him to Guatamala late afternoon on Tues., Thurs., or Sunday. Is this going to be difficult for you?

Well, if this letter is to get off today I must leave for the post office now. We will try to be prepared so that Sam can leave on short notice if this is necessary. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

*Certrude Garcia*

0963  
July 20th Pensacola

Dear Dr. Wilson,

We received your letter of the 15th and so I am writing this letter in duplicate and mailing it as you directed.

The date you gave is fine so we already have Sam's ticket for Aug 8. He will leave New Orleans at 12:30 and arrive in Guatemala at 5:30<sup>PM</sup>

I have scheduled his return flight for Aug 28th, a Sat. School starts here on the 30th. However, I was told that if you wish to change the date it will be easy. Sam is anxious to start school the first day so that he will not miss out on directions and yearly schedule. I have left it up to him, and after he is there awhile if you both feel the desire for an extra week (he will have to come back on a Sat.) it is alright with me. I hate to see him miss a minute on such a trip but also hate to discourage his interest in school. The school faculty have told me they would not object to his late entrance. So, I will leave it up to you both after Sam has been there awhile.

The ticket was \$102.40, no tax but they were awfully anxious to forget the tourist rate. If I hadn't had your letter with the price listed I am sure I would have had to pay \$128.

We already have the birth certificate to get his tourist card and his international health card listing all his shots including the new small pox booster.

Is there a phone at you home or a telegraph office where I can reach you in case of any change or last minute emergency?

I will send the money with him as you suggested and will probably will send some traveler's checks in case of any problem about my meeting him in New Orleans and he has to take a bus.

In rereading this letter I realize it is confused but I hope you will forgive me. The heat is the worst this year so in addition to the rush of getting this to you, my brain is overheated.

*Sincerely,  
Gertrude Garcia*



Sept. 15, 1965

Dear Dr. Wilson,

We just got your letter and you were so right. Each day Sam thinks of something else that happened or he saw and each story is more wonderful than the one before.

His slides are back and they are beautiful. I expected the country and house to be lovely but the pictures make me realize that words just don't do a decent job of describing Guatemala and your home.

You seem interested in the new cameras and lighting so I will explain. First of all, Kodak has in just the last year or so improved the speed of color film. It used to be all Kodachrome was ASA #25, then they came out with II at ASA#64. The new Ektachrome is ASA 160. This means with even an inexpensive lens you can get great pictures in rain. With a 1.9 lens opening as is on my camera, you can get indoor shots with window light or regular room lighting at slow speeds. Unfortunately, to be sure I sent along the flash attachment just in case and it was defective. Sam took pictures of the room with the flash and even with good bulbs and cleaning the metal contact they would not flash. He then took pictures with light from your doors or windows and these were

beautiful. There are details of furnishings, wall hangings, and even Maria's tomatoes on the shelf of the kitchen. Sam also did well in the composition and on suggestion of a professional photographer we had four scenes enlarged and will enter them in the state fair. One is of Agua with its cloud crown, one a scene of Santa Clara from above showing the architecture, a shot from Agua, framed in trees, of the distant lakes and mountains, and finally, one of the outdoor corridor in the hotel with the tiles and colorful pots. (Sam took this because he had cocked the camera to take a shot of a hummingbird who flew away too soon and although subject matter wise as far as memories of scenes go it was not spectacular, the color, lighting, and composition are very interesting.)

As to cameras, there has been a big break through in price with the new Japanese market. They make fine lenses and now even good bodies. There used to be so much hand made parts that replacements were not possible but this is no longer the case. My camera was less than \$115 with the case from New York. I could have gotten the same lens for a cheaper price but I was interested in the special controls because nature photography often requires speed that

can not be attained if you must take the camera from your eye each minute to read dials and the like. However, a disadvantage of this model is that telephoto lenses must be purchased from the Fuji Co. and there are no cheaper models as for some of the more standar brands.

My camera has a split image and ground glass range finder which works quickly and accurately whether the subject is a fuzzy dog or smooth buildings. For lighting, you set a dial on the ASA number and a little needle tells you if the light is correct for your setting—all of this while you are looking through the lens at the subject. Many of the present models set this reading automatically but since I also like to try different lighting effects I preferred the semi-automatic model.

You can see that if a person has a little practise there is no excuse for not getting a good picture as far as focus or light. Sam missed a few shots because of movement when trying an unusual shot but all in all I don't believe I could have done better and he got pictures from places I probably wouldn't have thought of going. I couldn't be more pleased about the results except I wish I had sent more film. After we get his story and slides coordinated he is supposed to give a talk



at school as well as to many friends.

Do you by any chance know what the knife handles are made of? Also the eyes of the figures? Is the material in the knapkins, jacket, etc, a heavy cotton or some other material?

Sam told me about climbing with Gonzolo and then eating some fruit shaped like a banana, orange in color and with huge black seeds and they got it from a tree that looked like a dying palm. From this description can you tell what it is?

Sam certainly enjoyed going with Gonzolo (am I spelling it correctly?) and I was surprised to learn Gonzolo speaks no English and yet they had no difficulty in understanding each other.

Sam says you enjoy practical jokes and so he included the bit about "Send me Money" but when he got your letter he very seriously said he would get you some gold pieces and at my laughter finally caught on that he was getting his leg pulled.

I can just imagine Sam on those shopping trips. He loves to window shop (my older sister used to drag me through the stores of New York City window shopping and I grew to hate it). If I have money to spend I don't mind looking in several places but not just spending hours looking just to look. I'd much rather tour a museum -especially fossils or minerals.

On the whole he did real well in his choice of items and I feel guilty about the amount of fine craftsmanship he got for the money. Not that I don't appreciate the bargains but it seems like such fine work compared to most shoddy work available in the U.S. at much higher prices. I wish I had been in a position to send him with enough money to get some blankets or some of the other things he said you suggested. Also, I really had no idea of what would be available.

Sam told me of all the extra things Maria, Concha, and Gonzolo did for him. I would like to send them something as a token of our thanks. ~~XXX~~ Can you suggest something that maybe is not available to them that they might enjoy receiving at Christmas?

It has suddenly dawned upon me that this is becoming a book. I will close now and save the rest for next time.

As ever,

*Gertrude*

Dear Dr. Wilson,

[Dec. 1966]

Sam and I hope you both have a very Merry Christmas. He will be showing his slides again this Christmas so will once more relive his trip to see you in Guatamala.

You made an error when you sent the first check as the book was less than it was marked and you over paid on the postage. I paid for both you have received since then and just had them mailed directly to you saving any postage. They were both \$5 copies but with what I did not return it would be about \$9. I have given them your Gainesville address and asked them to keep you informed of future good copies for \$5. I have already received my copy and it too was in good condition.

We start our vacation. Sam is celebrating by sleeping late. I am about to leave for a rock shop in Alabama to cut and polish some rocks for gifts. The owner taught me how to cut and grind shapes and then set the rock in silver. My results turn out pretty fine but my hands look like they have been through a meat grinder.

All our cards have gotten a late start this year as usual. I am going to mail yours this morning so that you at least get it before next year. Give Sam's best wishes to Maria, Gonzalo, and Concha.



If your family is with you give them our regards.  
As ever,

Sam & Etta

You made and error when you sent the first  
check as the book was less than it was marked and  
you over paid on the postage. I paid for both you  
have received since then and just had them mailed  
directly to you saving any postage. They were both  
25 copies but with what I did not return it would  
be about 25. I have given them your Gainesville  
address and asked them to keep you informed of future  
good copies for 25. I have already received my  
copy and it too was in good condition.  
We start our vacation. Sam is celebrating by  
my sleeping late. I am about to leave for a rock shop  
in Alabama to cut and polish some rocks for gifts. The  
owner taught me how to cut and grind shapes and then  
set the rock in silver. My results turn out pretty  
fine but my hands look like they have been through  
a meat grinder.  
All our cards have gotten a late start this year  
as usual. I am going to mail yours this morning so  
that you at least get it before next year. Give  
Sam's best wishes to Marta, Gonzalo, and Concha.



3164

*A Sunshine Card*  
Made in U.S.A.

10

[Dec 1966]

To wish you  
a joyous Christmas  
and many blessings  
in the New Year

Gertrude Garcia  
& Sam



5900 Flaxman #24

Pensacola, Fla. 32506

June 16, 1974

Dear Dr. Popenoe,

I don't know if you remember me but you had my son Sam stay with you in Antigua just about ten years ago. Well, after years of seeing his slides and hearing him relive his visit I have decided I am going to visit Guatemala. This will be my first real vacation- that is not a side trip from summer school or visiting relatives.

I called Hugh in Gainesville and he gave me some advise for general travel.

I am leaving here July 7th and taking the GUATEMALA LAKE COUNTRY TOUR run by the Mexico Travel Advisors. According to the schedule Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning will be spent in Antigua. Hugh said the tour will go right through your house. Wednesday will be Santiago de Atitlan and Chichicastenango on Thurs. (Until just now I thought this trip got there Wednesday in time for market day-Oh well.) Then we return to Guatemala. Instead of leaving Friday I would like to visit some of the pyramids (Tikel,etc,) and possibly return by bus to some of the cities I like best. Needless to say money will control my plans. Do you have any idea how much it will cost to get from Guatemala to the pyramids,? Also can you tell me the name of a hotel in Guatemala and Antigua you could recommend and approximate cost if possible. (I am flying TACA airlines and planes return Sun., Wed. and Friday and I need to plan a little ahead for that reason.) I also want to see the museums and zoo in Guatemala and anything else you can recommend. Also, do you have the same electric voltage as in the U.S.? I will need to recharge my flash

I hope you will have time to answer some of these questions. I realize I haven't given you much time. This idea to just pack up and go all on my own was kind of sudden. I guess my biggest worry is having the name of Garcia and speaking no Spanish. (I am practising frantically with my Berlitz book. For some reason this head that loves science can't seem to get head and tongue together and my Spanish is inclined to have people in hysterics.)

Oh, one other question, I am planning to take travelers checks. I presume I will need to exchange some or all of them for local currency?

Well, I am going to get this on its way as soon as possible and I hope to see you soon (if you don't still hide from the tourists).

Sam is in Atlanta doing photo processing. He still tells me about the homemade tomato soup and bread Maria made. Needless to say he would like to come. He sends his regards.

Sincerely,

*Gertude Garcia*

Rt. 2, Box 134, Lot 80  
Pensacola, Fla. 32506  
July 28, 1974

Dear Alice and Wilson,  
First, please note the new address.

Ordinarily when I return from a trip I am really glad to get back but for the first time in my life, except for my cats and friends, I really would rather be in Antigua.

I can't tell you how much I enjoyed seeing you and how much I appreciate the wonderful meals and trip to the finca. It is all so beautiful. I know people here are already tired of my raving about Guatemala and I know that even if my slides turn out to be the best in the world they can't show the real beauty, including the clean air and the friendly people.

When I got off the plane in New Orleans the polluted air greeted me. I was real lucky and got a standby on a Southern Airways to Mobile, Ala. Unfortunately, I had to wait in their bus station until after midnight to get a bus to Pensacola. I got in about 2 AM Monday and my cats would not come near me. They sniffed my luggage and walked around me and finally seemed to see me after a half hour. (Just like spoiled children)

Later on in the day however, they were real friendly-even Zach decided to climb up in my lap and visit.

I put a package in the mail yesterday. It contains two pillow cases I made. Wilson, you may decide they are too sissy for you but I understand business men that get used to them, pack them in their luggage when ever they travel. They are supposed to be longer than the average pillow case, since they are on the slippery side.

Alice, I hope you like the pendant I made. The stone is Labradorite. It is an iridescent blue plagioclase feldspar. I am sorry it had to be so heavy but feldspar has two good planes of cleavage and if it gets too thin you may suddenly be polishing several pieces instead of one. I got the package all mailed, insured, and return receipt requested to be sure you got it and then hours later they called from the postoffice and told me I hadn't filled out a customs report. They took the info over the phone. I sure hope you get it without any trouble on your part.

I have been busy moving my sewing and study type materials to what was Sam's room. Since the mobile home is only sixty feet long, I know it can't be far to move things but it seems like miles. Even with the airconditioner running the humidity is horrible. I always felt clean and fairly fresh in Antigua, even after climbing, and now after sitting a half hour I feel sweaty and "ichy".

Since I knew I would not finish this letter in time to have them weigh it I got a stamp and will have to keep the letter short in order not to go over weight on the stamp I got. I wanted the letter and package to go separately. Tell Sally I lost 10 pounds in Antigua so I made a mistake woving home. I ate better than ever there and was never hungry. I bet I gain it back in a week here. But I am going to work on my weight and my Spanish. I will let you know how my slides turn out. Please keep Antigua "untouched". It helps to know there is such a place.

Love to you all,

*Gertrude*