

June 6, 2002

Carol,

Cindy answered by e-mail, but I called Laura and talked to her a while. They are setting up a second fruit stand in Holland.

And there was a new story about Dad. She said he came out to the barn where she was working, and he had a black eye. The story - from his account and Mom's - was that she came into the living room where he was sitting and saw that he was going into a reaction, so she got some orange juice and tried to persuade him to drink it. He didn't want to, and got pissed and tried to hit her with his cane. She kept ducking, so he got up and started chasing her. She went out into the entryway and tried to hold the door so he couldn't come out. She said he was strong as an ox, but she was afraid that if she let go, he'd fall. Then she decided that was not such a bad thing. But he kept coming, chasing her into the garage, where he fell and bumped his eye. That apparently ended it.

Laura said she told Debbie about it and Debbie suggested that Mom start carrying a pistol. But then she was afraid that if she shot him, she would go to prison. But Laura told her no, she thinks she would get off.