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Memorandum

To: Trialists

Fr: Curtis Meinert

Re: Simple things

Dave Demets, a member of my trialist mailing list, has been amused by my Sleepy Eye stories. They remind him of stories written by a colleague of his at the University of Wisconsin, Jerry Apps.

On Dave's recommendation I purchased two of Apps books; *Quiet Times* and *Simple Things*.

His writings in *Simple Things* reminded me of one of my prized possessions – a solid rubber ball about the size of a baseball and an old baseball glove.

My nearest playmate lived about two miles yonder and it was long before Xbox, so my entertainment was teasing my younger sister and playing catch with my brother.

A funny thing about sisters. As a boy we lived in different worlds, but as adults they were cherished. Both my sisters, Bonito (Bonnie) and Carolla (Carol). When I lost them they created holes that remain.

The ball and glove I found one day rummaging in the junk box in the shanty. I have no idea where they came from.

When bored I used the ball to play catch with the barn. I stood back about 30 feet and threw the ball against the barn and caught it when the barn threw it back. When bored with that, I tossed the ball overhead and ran under to catch it. Playing catch with myself? Better than being bored!

Eventually the ball disappeared.

Too bad. It belongs in my trophy case.