

FROM TERRY & JUDY SCHRAM

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Hi Jud and Elaine.

We're both feeling older and starting to feel creaky, but that doesn't make for very interesting reading. Some days it feels like we're walking in molasses. But we're up to date on medical checks and in fact in good health.

I've been preparing for publication a book that Froylan did with Judy's help some years ago, a book of Mazatec texts with Spanish translations and a Mazatec-Spanish glossary that includes all the Mazatec words that appear in the texts, plus a computer done reversal so there is also a Spanish-Mazatec side to the glossary. It's like dealing with a million details in two foreign languages, which makes for tiring and tedious work. (That's my version of the molasses.) But I've just finished the current edit and it's ready for a consultant on that kind of work to look at and give me feed-back. I really was getting tired of it.

Judy's been looking for ways to turn over some of her jobs to younger people, and she just succeeded with one of them and finished this year's commitment to another. She's done such a variety of things that she gets asked to work on various projects. She does a good bit of it on the phone, at telephone hook-up meetings. Pretty convenient actually and saves a lot of wear and tear in travel time.

We've been in Tucson for the last three months. I leave for Mexico this Thursday and plan to spend the week-end in the Mazatec area. Benito, another fellow I've written about, who I consult with on his translation into a related Mazatec language, has written a book about his village and

it's been published. The official presentation will be in his village this Friday. I'll fly to Mexico City on Thursday, take a couple night buses and arrive in Jalapa (our village) Friday morning, and attend the presentation in his village (Ixcatlan) on Friday afternoon. That's the sort of thing I was better at ten or fifteen years ago. I have a room at a friend's in Jalapa where I stay when I'm there. Judy's knees have been so bad the last few years (but both knees are replaced now) that she's hasn't been able to be there with me, so I make short visits to maintain contacts with people. I'll do some planning with Felix about his and Lupe's coming to stay at the center in Mitla (next paragraph) after he teaches on staff at a linguistics course during July. (He's that kind of guy.)

Judy flies to Oaxaca City on Wednesday next week, 4th of July. When we're in Mexico we stay at the group translation/study/workshop center in Mitla, near Oaxaca. I'll get there before her so I can pick her up at the airport in Oaxaca (group car). We have a storage bin at the Mitla center where we leave personal stuff for our periods there. Really it's this kind of

transition from here (our house in Tucson) to an apartment on the center in Mitla, or there to here, that we don't much look forward too anymore. We'll be there until September (Judy early September, me later in September).

But good things are happening and we get to be involved in them. We wouldn't trade this life for any alternative that we've seen or read about. We're delighted to belong together and do what we're doing together. And

everybody (who lives long enough) gets old and creaky, so what's new there? And working with people like Felix and Benito is a remarkable blessing.

Thanks for asking about us. The personal prayer request right now is for

energy and clear thinking while preparing the house to be away until September, making the transition to Mexico again, and getting settled there.

How about you two. You're not getting older too are you?

Anyway keep thinking.

Terry