

**Box 575, Ennis, Mt 59729
March 12, 2008**

**Barbara W. Bielenberg
58 Fraleigh Street
Red Hook, NY 12571**

Dear Mrs. Bielenberg,

I'm reading your letter to me of Feb.26th and wish to give you an answer.

I'm glad you got the W. S. Teator disk and hope that it helps you. Please know that I want you to do what ever you want to with it. Make disk copies of it to any one who may need it or wishes to have a copy for any reason. It's a true bit of pleasant history that I wish to share!

I'm trying to think why you hadn't seen the pictures before. I think I figured out the answer. Some of these may have come from my collection of grandpa's (W. S. Teator's) photos that he took in later years, not from the glass slides that John and Clara Losee controlled.

The story of John and Clara Losee's involvement is thus: W. S. T. died in August 1930. His son, my uncle Roscoe Teator, inherited the farm. I spent most of my time living with my grandmother, Will's wife, from 1930 to 1937. At 1937 I left for my medical education. During the thirties as I "grew up," I was looking over and over again at the collection of W.S.T.'s glass negative prints kept in a cupboard in "The Butler's Pantry" at the farm house now occupied by the Schaff's. Roscoe Teator died around 1934. His wife, Isabelle, ran the farm. In 1942 she went broke and had to sell the farm --- the whole thing, farm house and all, for \$18,000.00, to pay off her debt. I think the buyer, Mr. Al Coles?, hit the apple market the year he bought it and paid for the farm that year! That April in 1942 I was home at the farm with my grandmother on spring break from medical school and helped her to move into Isabelle's house in Upper Red Hook. What to do with the glass negatives??? I asked my second

cousin, John Losee, if he would take them. He did and both he and Clara has made all this possible with the care and use that the two made of them. Actually, this is why you and I are communicating!!! I am so gratified that Marty, John and Clara's daughter gave the glass negatives to the Historical Society!!!

Now, you write about a "W. S. Teator Book." I so hope that it may be possible. It seems to me that it would be of particular interest to the community --- but I am the "Old boy's" grandson!!!!

In any way I am willing to help. But please know, I am not wealthy, and could only offer a few hundred dollars toward such a project. However I would be glad to help in other ways, biographical or by the use of any of my pictures or CD disks that I made --- ad lib! You won't need my biographical information unless it were pertinent to the project --- then you shall have it!

This is exciting!

My best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Losee".

Ron Losee