

Sept. 6, 1993

Angela Bates, President The Nicodemus Historical Society R.R. 2, Box 139 Bogue, KS 67625

Dear Angela:

I received my NHS membership card some time ago, and I'm glad to be the 237th person to join in support of your very worthwhile organization. But I have not yet received the Nicodemus book that I had ordered at the same time. You did tell me that there would be a delay in obtaining the book. And though I've gone through it several times at the Schomburg Library here in New York, it would be a great help for me to have a personal copy. So I hope you will check for me to see if the book is on its way.

I've also gotten all but one of the transcripts of the interviews that my associate Bill Shaw did when we were in Nicodemus during this year's homecoming. The exception is his interview with you. Bill tells me that his tape recorder misbehaved and that he was trying to reach you by phone to recover the material. I hope he was successful in this. His talks with your family and others were all quite terrific, and I have every expectation that his interview with you was equally enlightening.

In the course of my research, I also have had a chance to read the Park Service's Special Resource Study, as well as the fine piece you did last year for *National Parks* magazine. I now fully appreciate your pivotal role in keeping the spirit of Nicodemus alive and vital, and I am convinced that my children's book project will contribute to your cause. On that last day of Homecoming we had started to talk about your feelings for Nicodemus, and I'd like to discuss them in more detail with you, preferably in person.

There is a strong possibility that I will be in Kansas again during the week of October 17-25. If that happens I will try to reach you by phone beforehand in hopes of finding you in Nicodemus during that week.

Thanks, and I hope your own writing project is progressing apace.

Sincerely,