Eileen Rockefeller
Shelburne Farms
Shelburne, VT 05482

THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY
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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Nov. 20, 1979

N. Miller

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

There is no adequate apology to express how badly I feel about my slip-up over last Monday's dinner. All I can say is that when I told my mother I was coming she said "but that is <u>next</u> Monday." What she meant of course was the dinner for the Board.

I did try to call once that day to double check but the line was busy. It also happened to have been one of the busiest days at Shelburne Farms for I was in the midst of arranging for the Northeast Farm Management Co. to do a comprehensive survey of the Farm. This all happened on very short notice as we've been forced for financial

reasons to make some significant changes fast. As public relations director and fund raiser I've been in charge of making all the contacts and drumming up the necessary funds.

It wasn't until this past Sunday in Tarrytown when I met my Uncle Laurence in church that I learned of my gross error. Please accept my deepest apologies. I am not accustomed to such mistakes and I feel particularly badly since you had asked me personally.

I tried calling yesterday but no one was answering. Was it a holiday? I am now en route to Los Angeles where I'm scheduled to do some fund raising and a slide presentation on Shelburne Farms Resources at U.C.L.A.

Earlier this fall I had the great fortune to go to Russia for the Soviet/American Writer's Conference as administrative assistant to Norman Cousins, co-chairman. It was very illuminating to say the least and I've since written an article which is coming out in Nov. or Dec.'s issue of The Author's Guild Bulletin. My first publication!

Just yesterday I finished an article on Shelburne Farms for next summer's issue in Vermont Life. As you can see it's been rather busy but that is no excuse to let my personal committments fall short.

If ever such an opportunity should arise again, please know I would be most interested in attending. And next time I'll make sure to double check.

If you and your family are ever needing a winter break and you feel like heading north, you are most welcome to visit and/or stay at Shelburne Farms. I now live on the property in the oldest house there and have plenty of room.

By the way, did you see the New York Times article on Shelburne Farms? I'm enclosing a copy just in case. Also, have you read Norman Cousin's latest book, Anatomy of An Illness? I found it fascinating as well as uplifting and have been recommending it to many of my friends. I would be interested to know your opinion as a scientist.

Happy Thanksgiving — and once again, my most humble apologies.

Sincerely,

Eileen Rockefeller