

JOSEPH S. MERRITT

The Maryland Flower Garden

HYDRANGEA SPECIALIST

Box F, Dundalk, Baltimore, Md.,
August 5, 1942

Mr. Paul Ecke
Encinitas, California

Dear Paul:

We have your letter and the status as far as gasoline is concerned and as far as I know is just about the same as the last time I wrote you; i. e., that to date you should be able to buy as much gas as you want in unrationed territory as -- Oakland, Maryland; Frostburg, Maryland and a line up through Johnstown, Penna. or perhaps a little bit east of that. As I say, Paul, at the present time it is unlimited in that area and you could fill your machine at that point and perhaps have an extra safety can or two and this would carry you into the territory where you might do some calling; then, use a train or bus in making Philadelphia, New York and the east. Or, as I told you, you might load up at Johnstown or somewhere along that line and then go to New York and work your way back to Oakland and perhaps come down here and have sufficient to get out. However, you know the capacity of your tank and the miles you get so you better be very careful in this rationed territory.

We, at the present time, are only getting four gallons per week although we are asking for more to carry out our Rotary, Draft Board and regular work. Salesmen are not allowed gasoline in this territory and at the present time it is quite a mess. That is the story as it is now but as I told you, the unrationed territory is going on just the same.

We were out to Columbus and Walter is not concerned one bit or is anyone else in that territory. So, you will be safe if no changes are made in all territories west of lines mentioned, bearing in mind that this goes down to Florida. I would get a map showing the rationed and unrationed territories, perhaps from Standard Oil in Washington.

We note that you are starting in about ten days, and I believe that is smart that you get your traveling done early. I have 84 Rotary Clubs to visit from the New York line to the southern tip of Maryland, and I am starting now because things are liable to be checked in some manner if conditions do not improve.

I will see the chairman of our rationing board tomorrow evening at which time I will talk to him, but I don't believe there is very much hope in your getting extra gas.



Our 1939 Introduction

"helen merritt"

(Plant Patent No. 276)

Photographed March 10th, 1938

Merritt's Hydrangeas Bloom