Dear Rich Pell,

I don't have a 2011 calendar yet but would like an early date in January or February if that can be arranged.

Your studies at the Smithsonian sound just great to me and I wish I could join you. I remember reading that a number of mice were tied to a wire fence for an atom bomb test in the Nevada Test Site and, because of delays in the test, all died of thirst before the blast. I was so captivated by the story I did a drawing from my imagination of three dead mice hanging by their tails from a strand of barbed wire fencing.

I would imagine that the Smithsonian has a Radiation Safety Officer who, at your request, will survey your rodents with a meter and give you an estimated dose. That profession goes by the title Health Physicist.

I have one sculpture *going*, a monstrance for the nuclear age. I have all the preliminary drawings done and a full-sized paper pattern of the base/upright support. It will be fabricated of steel and be 26 inches wide by 36 inches high and about5 inches deep. The project is awaiting funds to purchase the steel, as is so often the case.

I look forward to my trip to give a talk at your department and meeting you again.

James