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Dear Ms. Gilpin:

It has been almost two years since I last came by to visit you, during which I have been in graduate school in Denver and moved to South Carolina, first to teach, and then to work at the State Arts Commission. I hope this letter finds you still out photographing, and enjoying things as much as ever.

These days I am the assistant director of the Charleston Communication Center, a community media-arts facility which teaches workshops in photography, film, and video, and puts together a cable-television program on folklife in the South Carolina Low Country (the wooded coastal swamp lands). It is pretty good fun, but lately it has become more and more administrative, and I am thinking about getting out and just doing photography again instead of showing other people how to do it. There is still so much for me to learn! This last summer I was able to take two months leave of absence and lead an expedition to the source of the Styx in Greece for the Expedition Training Institute of Boston. That was good fun! The Styx flows out of a cave high on the side of Mt. Aroania in a forbidding part of the northern Peloponnesus, and is rarely visited except by the occasional shepherd looking for the last vestiges of green grass before winter. I took quite a few photographs and hope these will soon be published in one of several magazines. Meanwhile, the Carolina Brown Lung Association has published a bunch of my photographs in their literature and on albums of cotton-mill blues music, and the Textile Workers Union is using some for a recent campaign against bad working conditions. This kind of "intent-directed" work, like your time at Boeing, is very valuable indeed, as far as learning to control the medium.

Thank you ever so much for the help you gave me when I most needed it.

Yours,

