

THE MARIA ROGERS Oral History Program

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2005



New Interviews

Six new interviews are available for patrons to use. Stop by the Carnegie Library to listen to and/or view these interviews—or the more than 1,200 other interviews in the collection. Summaries and transcripts for our oral histories are available online at www.bpl.carnegie.org/oralhistory.

OH 1286V A-B. Bob DeGrazio describes his 38 years at Rocky Flats as a chemist and as manager of Building 79, the Research and Development building. By Dorothy Ciarlo. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

OH 1276V. Boulder weather historian **Bill Callahan** talks about Boulder weather; weather record keeping for Boulder going back to the 1890s; and his book, *The Boulder Weather Log*, which is a compilation of weather records and informative lessons about weather. By Joyce Gordon.

OH 1278V. Ann Federici Martin talks about the 1935 writers' conference at CU; her husband, Curtis Martin's run for Senate; and their writing careers. By June Howard. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon.

OH 1264V. Greg Schlender talks about work he did as a lawyer with the firm Chrisman, Bynum and Johnson. He also discusses the history of ham radio in Boulder and his mentorship of young people as ham radio operators through BARC, Jr., the Boulder Amateur Radio Club for young people. By Marvin Woolf.

FEATURED INTERVIEW



Hear about Boulder weather historian **Bill Callahan** and the *Boulder Weather Log* in **OH 1276V** by **Joyce Gordon**.

OH 1212V. Alfonso Cardenas, a former Rocky Flats sheet metal worker who worked with beryllium and now suffers from berylliosis, talks about his experiences at Rocky Flats, the impact of the disease on his life, and workers' efforts to receive compensation for the illness. By Dorothy Ciarlo. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

OH 1251V. Barney Richardson talks about Rocky Flats, where he worked from 1966 to 1992 as

a tool designer and in manufacturing engineering for the Processing Department. By Hannah Nordhaus. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

Oral History News

At our last meeting we talked about some techniques for setting up lighting to **effectively film interviewees who have darker skin**. Two of the main points that we discussed were:

1) Shining bright light on your subject doesn't work well. A better approach is to point a light at a white wall or something light-colored, that is **off-camera**. This technique will reflect light onto your interviewee and create more subtle highlights.

2) Don't use white anywhere on-camera (clothing, background) if you can avoid it, because it sets up a difficult exposure/contrast problem for the camera.

Next volunteer meeting

May 7

at 9:00 a.m.

Much of the information we discussed was taken from an article that appears on the internet at www.dv.com/columns. To find the article, click on "Archives," and do a search for "Lighting Dark Skin." Thanks to Rocky Thompson for adding his expert comments to our discussion.

Rocky also explained that we can **cut down on potential static being picked up by our microphones** by wrapping the mic cord once around the alligator clip and then anchoring it between the teeth of the alligator clip when attaching it to our interviewees. (Ask if you need a demonstration of this technique.)

Also at our meeting, Marvin Woolf reported on an interesting historical book, published by the Colorado Historical Society, ***On Colfax Avenue: A Victorian Childhood*** by Elizabeth

The Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard famously commented that life must be lived forward, but can only be understood backwards.

Young. (Marvin didn't have the correct title at our meeting, so he asked us to pass along the accurate title to you in the newsletter.)

For those volunteers who work on Macintosh computers, our favorite transcription software is now available for Macintosh/OSX. The software is called **Express Scribe**, it is free, and it may be downloaded from <http://www.nch.com.au/scribe/>. In addition, Macintosh users who would like a nifty little free program to keep track of how much time they are putting into oral history work on their computers may want to try out **Chimoo**, which can be downloaded from <http://chimoosoft.com/timer.html>.

Thanks to Shirley for the tasty contribution of **Irish Soda Bread** at our April Meeting!

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A Boulder Public Library Program

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Program Home Page:
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