

# THE MARIA ROGERS Oral History Program

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2006



## New Interviews

Listen to and/or view any of our 1,400 interviews at the Carnegie Library. Audio and summaries or transcripts of interviews are available online. Visit our web site: [www.bplcarnegie.org/oralhistory](http://www.bplcarnegie.org/oralhistory). This month there are **fifteen new interviews are available**.

**OH 1149.** We have added a full transcript for this interview in which **De Laris Carpenter** talks about her upbringing in Mississippi; her life in Boulder; her career as a teacher, counselor, and administrator; and the role of family in her life, addressing both her own childhood and her role as a parent. Throughout the interview, she discusses the African American community as well as interactions of the White and African American communities, including discussion of racism in Boulder, at CU, and in the Boulder Valley Schools. By Tifanee Lenox. Transcribed by Sandy Adler. Audio only.

**OH 1223. Merylee Appel** talks about her work as a nurse practitioner at the Boulder Valley Women's Health Center, including discussion of the center's mission, services, structure, and ways it has changed over the years. By Lauren Gorence. Transcribed by Sandy Adler. Audio only.

**OH 1243. Jerilyn DeCoteau** discusses her American Indian heritage, her career as an attorney, her position as a member of the Board of Directors of the YWCA in Boulder, goals of the YWCA Board, YWCA programs, gender roles, feminist issues, and race relations. By Andrea Powell. Transcribed by Sandy Adler. Audio only.

## FEATURED INTERVIEW



**Doris Hass, who has won five awards for her contributions to the Boulder community, talks about her many involvements and accomplishments with characteristic energy and enthusiasm in OH 1376V A-B.**

**OH 1244. Leslie Durgin** discusses her early years; what led her to her life-long interest in working with nonprofit agencies and providing human services; various agencies for which she has worked; and her political career, including her positions as a Boulder City Councilperson and as Boulder Mayor. She also speaks at length about the YWCA. By Sarah Insel. Transcribed by Sandy Adler. Audio only.

**OH 1287V. Tom Rauch** discusses protest actions that were taken at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant, including the 1978 demonstration and the 1983 encirclement of the plant, which he helped organize. He also talks about the issue of incineration of low-level radioactive waste, various investigatory and monitoring groups, relations between protesters and union leaders, the closure of Rocky Flats, and the nuclear freeze movement. By Dorothy Ciarlo. Transcribed by Joan Podgorski.

**OH 1309. Alfreda Hall** describes her childhood in Texas, her move to Boulder in 1961, being a student at CU as a single mother, and her work with the Social Services Department. She also discusses race relations in Boulder, the Boulder economy, and the influence of her church and her extended family on her life. By Andrea Johnson. Transcribed by Sandy Adler. Audio only.

**OH 1319V A-B. Edd Kray** worked at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant as an onsite representative

**Next volunteer meeting**  
**March 4**  
**at 9:00 a.m.**

of the Colorado Department of Health during the decommissioning of the plant. In this interview, he discusses working in collaboration with Kaiser-Hill, monitoring worker safety during decommissioning of the buildings, evaluation of the cleanup levels and possible future uses of the land, and the role of Rocky Flats during the Cold War. By Hannah Nordhaus. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

**OH 1329. Bob Grass**, owner of Herb's Meats, talks about his childhood in Boulder during the 1940s and 1950s; his father's job with the Boulder Fire Department; and working with his father and grandfather at Columbia Cemetery. His grandfather, Ben Grass, was sexton for Columbia Cemetery for many years. By Mary Reilly-McNellan. Transcribed by Pat Holman. Audio only.

**OH 1333V A-B. Russell Goddard** was interviewed on his 95th birthday. He relates family history, beginning with his great-grandparents who came to Lyons in the mid-1800s, and describes life in Lyons during the 1800s. Also covered in the interview are his life in Alaska and in Grand Junction, Colorado. The interview contains video of numerous photos of the Goddard, Smead, and Bird families, which also are available online as a Virtual Photo Collection, the Goddard Collection, and may be accessed through the Boulder Public Library's web site, [www.boulder.lib.co.us](http://www.boulder.lib.co.us), Local Call # 999-14.

**OH 1350V. Zoe Menkick McCollum** describes the founding, in 1971, of Public Office for Women (POW) in Boulder, the purpose of which was to encourage women to run for elective office and to help women get appointed to city and county boards and commissions. She discusses the success of POW in terms of city, county, and party politics; analyzes why the organization was successful; and places it in perspective, in terms of feminism and other political and social events and movements of the decade. By Wendy Hall. Transcribed by Joan Podgorski.

**OH 1353. Oscar Carlson** has lived and worked in places as varied as Longmont, Chicago, Minnesota, Jordan, and Pakistan. In this interview, he talks about his work all over the world, ranging from irrigation engineering to potato and grass-seed farming. He

relates his love of farming and also talks about the land that he sold to the Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department. By Carol Beam. Transcribed by Anne Dyni. Audio only.

**OH 1356V.** In this interview, **Robert Ellingwood** gives the history of some of the early exploration of Colorado's mountains and tells the stories behind the naming of many of the fifty-four peaks that are 14,000 feet in elevation and higher. By Wendy Hall. Transcribed by Tim Crook.

**OH 1358V. Max Dixon** talks about his work at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant from 1967 through the cleanup. He started out as a janitor; worked as a shop clerk; in the labs, analyzing material, air and water samples; and ended his career as a foreman, supervising lab technicians. He comments on the union at Rocky Flats, safety procedures at the plant, and the role of Rocky Flats in the Cold War. He also describes Building 881, in which he worked. By Hannah Nordhaus. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

**OH 1359V A-B. Fred Fraikor**, who worked in the Physical Metallurgy Research and Development section of Rocky Flats, beginning in 1965, and eventually was the Acting Director of Material Science, talks about many aspects of work at the plant in this wide-ranging interview. Included is discussion of Rocky Flats as a research environment, safety at Rocky Flats, descriptions of buildings, the model shop, and various innovative programs, among other topics. By Hannah Nordhaus. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

**OH 1376V A-B. Doris Hass** has lived in Boulder since 1961 and has spent those years as an active volunteer, fund raiser, and member of various boards of non-profit agencies. She has won five awards for her contributions to the community. A special commitment has been her 21 years as president of the Library Foundation, followed by membership in the foundation, since the 1970s. For the first hour of this interview she talks about her experiences with various civic groups, devoting most of the next hour to her history with the Library Foundation. By Shirley Steele. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon.