

THE MARIA ROGERS Oral History Program

NEWSLETTER

JULY-AUGUST 2007



New Interviews

Listen to and/or view any of our 1,460 interviews at the Carnegie Library. Visit our web site: www.bplcarnegie.org/oralhistory to listen to any of our interviews online and read their summaries and transcripts. This month there are ten new interviews available, described below.

OH 1342V. Gordon

Bennett, who later lived in Broomfield and was a storyteller through the Spellbinder's program, relates stories of his childhood in the tiny southern Colorado town of San Acacio, his high school years at Campion Academy and The Abbey School, and his military service during World War II and the Korean War. By Will Fulton. Filmed by Susan Simmons and Gigi Yang. Transcribed by Phyllis Mayben.

OH 1419V. Gwendolyn Hallenbeck talks about her involvement in music, including choral singing, and about her children, who grew up in Boulder. She describes an engineering program that took place in the 1960s at CU, which drew an international group of participants. By Marvin Woolf.

OH 1431V. The Nomad Theater was a volunteer community theater that presented professional-quality programs to the community from 1951 to the 1980s. **Barry Bemis and Skip Clopton** held many positions with the Nomad: directing, choosing plays, acting, and managing. They share

FEATURED INTERVIEW



Betty Lou Summers describes the job of a telephone operator in the 1940s in fascinating detail in OH 1433V.

their memories of the theater and the high and low points of their experiences. By Shirley Steele.

OH1433V. Betty Lou Summers

talks about growing up in the 1920s and 1930s in a coal mining family, her first few jobs after finishing school, and her long career as a phone operator for Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company beginning in the 1940s. She describes in detail the job

of a phone operator in the days before there was direct dial telephone equipment. By Anne Dyni. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon.

OH 1435V. Clara Lemons, thought to be the first woman pilot in Colorado, talks about her years as a pilot, being a member of the Colorado Flying Farmers, the family's 20-acre farm on east Baseline Road, and some of the activities in which she participated during her long, active life. By Nancy Hunt.

OH 1436V A-C. Roland Wolcott, whose family first came to the Boulder area in the 1860s, details his family's history of living in Valmont, Boulder, Gold Hill, Ward, and Boulder Canyon. He tells about his grandfather and father's lives, his childhood, his work during WWII, his marriage to Jewel, and the family they raised in what began as a rustic cabin in Boulder Canyon. Roland describes his business, Ridgeway Foods, and his

**Next volunteer meeting:
Sept. 8 (no August meeting)
at 9:00 a.m.**

involvement with figure skating, among many other topics in this wide-ranging interview. By Wendy Hall.

OH1437V. Robert Ellingwood describes his early years in Colorado Springs and Evanston, Illinois, and relates the influences that led to him moving to Colorado and ultimately teaching applied math at the University of Colorado-Boulder for forty-five years. He also describes his love of the mountains, various mountaineering trips, and his involvement in music groups. By Wendy Hall.

OH 1440V. Marilyn Furman talks about her avocation of carving Santa Clauses, including tools, woods, and techniques used. She displays many of the figures that she has carved. She also shows some Santas carved by other artists. In addition, she talks about her work as a teacher and her husband's career as a coach, umpire and referee. By Marvin Woolf.

OH 1445V. Peter Dietze, who escaped from East

Germany in 1950 at the age of 15 and moved to Boulder in 1958, details the issues that he dealt with, first as Boulder's Assistant City Attorney and then as City Attorney, from 1963 to 1968, including water and open space issues, the development of the Pearl Street Mall, the murder of CU student Elaura Jaquette, and several of the lighthearted, amusing topics that landed on the City Attorney's desk. By Marvin Woolf. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon.

OH 1452V A-B. Barbara Connors has been active in issues around managing growth since she arrived in the town of Erie, Colorado. She served as mayor between 2002 and 2004. She talks about how she became interested in civic issues and her experiences as mayor. She discusses a wide range of related topics such as governance, financial ramifications of growth, development and developers, and Erie schools. In addition, summarizes her personal philosophy about managing growth and about the functions of elected officials. By Shirley Steele.

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A Boulder Public Library Program **NEWSLETTER**

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