

THE MARIA ROGERS
Oral History Program
NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2002

What We've Been Up To

For the first time ever in the history of her job, Susan Becker caught up last month! By mid-October, she had finished processing every single new interview that had been submitted. Not to worry; there was plenty else to do, such as working with Silvia Gentile to make corrections and provide missing summaries to the almost 1,000 entries in the computerized digital archives. But you, our intrepid and incredibly prolific volunteers, must have been worried that she might find herself twiddling her thumbs, so you got to work and, by month's end, she was buried in new interviews. **Ten new interviews** poured in during the latter half of October!

At our last meeting, Dorothy Ciarlo showed us a demonstration of the pilot internet exhibit for the **Rocky Flats Virtual Museum**. The exhibit tells the history of the dramatic 1969 fire that took place at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant. In addition to a wealth of written information and fascinat-

ing photographs, "visitors" to the exhibit can click on buttons to hear sound clips from Dorothy's interviews with Rocky Flats workers who were part of the effort to fight the fire. Their descriptions of the severity of the fire and the potential dangers faced by those who fought it and, indeed, the whole Denver metro area, bring the incident chillingly to life.



Bryan Dennison talks about working at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant (OH 1093V A-B)

Liz McCutcheon has completed a class in **digital video editing** using the program Final Cut Pro. (This four-week class costs \$60 and is open to any Boulder resident. Once certified, graduates of the class can use Channel 54 digital-editing equipment in return for contributing two hours per month of volunteer work.) Liz is eager to use her new skills by putting together a practice piece, perhaps leading up to producing a video documentary for public access TV. Contact Liz if you would like to work with her to turn some of your oral history interviews into an edited program.

Interviews recently completed by volunteers include a recording by Shirley Steele and Liz McCutcheon of a recent

NEW INTERVIEWS

OH 1091V. Lucy Arnold describes her family's involvement with Chautauqua, where they have lived during the summer since 1940. Includes a tour of Cottage 808. By Jon Raese.

OH 1093V A-B. Bryan Dennison discusses his work at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant, first as a guard and then in the area of Nuclear Materials Accountability. By Dorothy Ciarlo.

OH 1094V. Recording of the RTD ceremony dedicating the Stampede bus route. Includes speeches by Cal Marcela, Will Toor, Jim Martin, and Richard McLean. Filmed by Marvin Woolf.

NEXT MEETING

Volunteer Meeting:
Saturday, December 7
9:00 a.m.



Superior Historical Commission meeting at which a survey was presented that catalogs houses in the Superior area that are more than 60 years old; and interviews by Beth Simmons of **Joanna Sampson, Al Mosch, and Neill McDaniel**. Upcoming interviews will include Dorothy Ciarlo's interview with **Leroy Moore** about Rocky Flats protest activities; and several interviews discussing the drought, including an interview with **Carol Ellinghouse** by Nicky Lee and an interview with **Craig Skeie** by Jon Raese.

Welcome

Welcome to new volunteer **Kirk Petersen**, an attorney and rock

climber, Kirk lives in Eldorado Springs and looks forward to recording oral histories of Eldorado Springs residents, among others.

Call for Presenters

The Southwestern Oral History Association has put out a call for papers and presenters for its spring conference, which will take place April 11 - 13, 2003, in Las Vegas, Nevada. If you are interested in submitting a proposal to talk about some aspect of the work you have been doing in oral history, ask Susan for more details. The Oral History Program has money put aside for paying expenses for program members to attend conferences at which they are presenters.

IN BRIEF

OH-2 is still out for repairs. It has been sent to Canon to have its video heads and drum unit replaced. The refurbished camera is due back anytime now. We'll let you know as soon as it becomes available again.

OH-1 has shown signs of acting up too. There was some "hiccuping" of video and sound at the end of a recording made recently. It has had its video heads cleaned and may now be okay, but we are going to use it for non-essential recording of meetings and talks, until we are reasonably sure it will record interviews properly.

Susan has **new instructions for formatting summaries**. Ask her for a copy if you haven't already gotten one.

The Boulder Bread Company (formerly The Sanitary Bakery), which opened in 1969, will soon close. Is anyone interested in interviewing long-time owner **Duane Gerk**?

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The public is invited to stop by the Carnegie Library to listen to or view any of our more than 1,000 interviews.

Carnegie Branch Library
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WEB SITE:

www.boulder.lib.co.us/branch/carnegiemariarogers.html