

THE MARIA ROGERS Oral History Program

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2009



New Interviews

This issue describes **twenty-four new interviews** that have been added to the Maria Rogers Oral History Program collection, available at the Carnegie Branch Library and online.

OH 1475V. Chris Jenkins, the inventor of the Chris-cutter, a machine for cutting stone, talks about the development of that machine, which revolutionized the stone cutting business. With the Chris-cutter, a stone cutter could go from being able to cut one ton of stone a day to cutting five tons per hour. It also could cut thinner and more fragile pieces than other machines on the market. The interview includes discussion of the development, marketing, funding and technology involved. There also is a brief demonstration of one of the machines in use, shown on the video version of the interview. Interviewed by Liz McCutcheon. Filmed by Bob Dornan. Transcribed by Sandy Grabowski.

OH 1476V. Peter Reynolds talks about Reynolds family history; the Reynolds Ranch, including the ranch house that was built in the mid-1800s; recreation and projects on the ranch when he was a child; tungsten mining; and the land during the 1960s, including building a bomb shelter, making plans in case of nuclear war, and hippies who hung the area around during that time period. By Liz McCutcheon. Filmed by Bob Dornan. Transcribed by Sandy Grabowski.

FEATURED INTERVIEW



OH 1526V A-B records the conversation that took place in the summer of 2008 when Peter Richards brought together nine people to tell the story of the development of the mountaineering industry in Boulder (see page 2 for more information).



OH 1480V. Mildred Walton, born in 1908, tells stories about her childhood and young adult years in Boulder County, including

stories about the differences in activities available to boys and girls early in the twentieth century and about teaching in a one-room school in Sugarloaf. By Liz McCutcheon. Transcribed by Sandy Grabowski.

OH 1500*. Artist **Barbara Donachy** describes her awakening to the threat of the nuclear arms race, piqued by a vivid dream. Barb talks about using clay pieces to demonstrate the big picture of nuclear proliferation: quantity, cost, and social implications. Her installation, "Amber Waves of Grain," replicates the US nuclear arsenal during the height of the Cold War. Barbara also explores the topics of nuclear waste, nuclear inheritance and guardianship,

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⇒ Visit our Web site: www.boulderlibrary.org/oralhistory to listen to our interviews online and read their summaries and transcripts.

⇒ Or search the Boulder Public Library's online catalog to find oral histories by topic: <http://www.boulderlibrary.org> (Click on "Find Books and More," then choose "Boulder Carnegie: Local History" for the scope of your search.)

and the Cold War legacy that will be passed between generations. Her daughter, Sarah Bardwell (16 years old at the time of the interview), is interviewed during the last third of this oral history. Sarah talks about her vision of the future and humankind; what she's learning in school; what peers her age are thinking; and how nuclear proliferation factors into her imagination. By LeRoy Moore and Robert Del Tredici. Recorded in 1999. Transcribed by Eva Mesmer and Cyns Nelson.

OH 1509*. **Tom Rauch** spent 20-plus years working on issues of health, peace, and social justice related to Rocky Flats. In this interview, he follows the progression of Rocky Flats committees and action groups that evolved through his years of service, mainly between 1974 and 1994. Rauch talks about people who played significant roles at different points in time, coalitions and demonstrations, and public rallies. This oral history gives insight into the dynamics of group formations; Rauch describes how individuals coalesced around specific events and objectives. By LeRoy Moore. Recorded in 1997. Transcribed by Cyns Nelson.

OH 1512*. **Kathleen Sullivan** talks about being born into the nuclear age, being concerned about nuclear weapons at a young age, and her earliest experience with Rocky Flats: a day in 1985 when her great aunt, Ann Swift, drove her to the plant's west gate. The interview explores Kathleen's ongoing activism, her education outreach—especially with children and young people—and her past research. Topics include nuclear guardianship, nuclear time, and the concept of radioactive materials as a spiritual teacher. By LeRoy Moore. Recorded in 1998. Transcribed by Eva Mesmer and Cyns Nelson.

OH 1526V A-B. During the summer of 2008, Peter Richards invited many people who had been part of the **mountaineering industry in Boulder** (from its fledgling to flourishing days) to come together for a reunion conversation about their companies and their experiences. Participants included George Lamb, Penny Cunningham, Jim Kack, Jon Hinebauch, Bill Forrest, Dave Robertson, Dale Johnson, Ingvar Sodal, and Gary Neptune. The recording includes stories about the development of the industry, the rise and fall of companies, descriptions of the advent of many innovative products, and stories about individuals involved in the industry. Filmed by Anne Gillis and Pat Cypher. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1527V: Marge McLellan recounts her recollections of her family's experiences in Gold Hill. She focuses mainly on her husband, Russell's, family who lived in and around Gold Hill since the late 19th-century. First, she guides the interviewer on a walking tour of the town, discussing the history of various buildings and events in Gold Hill. Then she describes the people in and history behind several family photographs. She talks about the men working in the mines and what everyday life was like for Gold Hill residents. By Anne Dyni. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon. Transcribed by Kristen Jorden.

OH 1529*. This interview takes place during a walk from Boulder to Rocky Flats on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of 1978 demonstrations in 1998. **Patrick Malone** was well known for his participation in those activities, especially his construction of a teepee that became a symbol of the movement to halt weapons production at Rocky Flats. Patrick talks about his own history and how he got involved with Rocky Flats. He describes relationships with security guards, human-blockade strategies, and the process of getting arrested. He reflects on what was accomplished in 1978, the personal meaning of those events, and his current work in conflict resolution. By LeRoy Moore and Robert Del Tredici. Transcribed by Eva Mesmer and Cyns Nelson.

OH 1533. Raymond Autrey is a descendent of the Hake/Autrey families, who were original settlers of Superior, Colorado, in the 1860s. It was on the Hake farm that coal was discovered in 1894. This interview is a wide-ranging one in which Ray Autrey incorporates stories told by his father and grandparents about the pioneer members of the family and their experiences in Superior and at the Industrial Mine, including the interactions between the settlers and the local Native Americans, memories of working in the Industrial Mine in various capacities, and other events representing the history of that place. Ray

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talks about his own happy childhood, the activities that he and his friends invented to entertain themselves, how his family worked together to make their lives better, and how coal was mined. He also details the relationships of the Hake and Autrey families. By Shirley Steele.

OH1534V. Marjorie Maagoe describes Rock Creek Farm during the late 1980s. Includes discussion of boarding horses, trail riding, the two houses on the property, and wild animals that live there. Interviewed by Liz McCutcheon. Filmed by Bob Dornan. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

OH 1535V A-B. Raphael J. Moses talks about his long, distinguished legal career, including his education at the University of Colorado; his work in water law, including a case argued before the U.S. Supreme Court; his tenure as a law school professor; and his many awards. Also included are discussions of family history, teachers and colleagues, his military service, and other legal and political involvement during his career. Interviewed by Gerald Caplan. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1538V. In this recording, actor, author, and passionate fisherman **Gordon Wickstrom** talks about his introduction to fishing, his love of the sport, and the books and columns he has penned. He also reads two essays and a poem from his books. Interviewed and filmed by Marvin B. Woolf. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1539V. In this oral history interview, **Dick Ross** talks about the history and activities of the Boulder Fish and Game Club, which in 2008 celebrated its 100th anniversary of promoting the sport of fishing. He describes the process of stocking alpine lakes and Boulder's children's fishing ponds, the annual Fishing Derby, raising trout in the club's fish hatchery, and coping with challenges such as whirling disease. By Gordon Wickstrom. Filmed by Marvin Woolf. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1540V. Jane Valentine Barker talks about the history of the Beckwith and Valentine families in Colorado and Boulder, dating back to 1860. Among the topics covered are the family's arrival in Colorado from the East, local newspapers started by the Beckwith family, and the Valentine Hardware store in downtown Boulder. Jane Barker also tells about her own writing career, which has

included many years of writing a local history column for the *Camera* newspaper and publishing historical books for children, young adults, and adults—on her own and in conjunction with author and friend Sybil Downing. By Marvin Woolf. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1541V. Richard Barker, who has lived in Boulder since 1945, worked at Valentine Hardware for eighteen years, for Public Service Company for twenty-two years, and has served on numerous boards of Boulder non-profit organizations. He describes the history and operations of Valentine Hardware in detail, the history of the Barker family in Iowa and Boulder, and touches on his other career and community service work. By Marvin Woolf. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1542V. In the first part of this interview, **Jean Hodges** describes social justice causes in which she has been active over the years and her long-time passion for and involvement with theater, both through the Nomad Theater company, the United Methodist Church, and as a teacher at Boulder High School. She also talks about the decision of one of her sons to come out as being gay, how she shown support for him, and how she worked to support others, individually and through PFLAG. She is joined by her husband **Jack Hodges** as they discuss their involvement with the First United Methodist Church from 1960 through 2008, including their approach to teaching Sunday School, using drama in the church, and the impact on the church congregation of dealing with the issue of homosexuality. By Cyns Nelson. Filmed by Anne Marie Pois. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1543V. Dock Teegarden discusses the history and development of Boulder County roads, from early wagon trails, through stage coach roads, railroads, and automobile roads. Included is discussion of many economic changes that stimulated their development, such as the gold rush, mines, sawmills, agriculture, and tourist lodges. The discussion takes place through examination of a series of maps spanning 1860 to 1925. By Tom McMichen. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon. Transcribed by Sandy Grabowski.

OH 1545V. In this interview, **Kenneth Hammond**, Professor Emeritus of Psychology of the University of Colorado, remembers his Boulder life over the course of 60 years, recalling the physical aspects of Boulder when he first arrived; the history of early businesses, emphasizing

agriculture and mining; and the outdoor activities of his family. Special interests for them were horses and the Boulder Pow Wow, which he describes. As a university professor, he is able to discuss his memories of CU presidents, outstanding faculty and the student body. He tells about the campus during the 1950s to the early '70s, the years of McCarthyism and student activism. He briefly summarizes his professional life in developing theory and doing research in the field of judgment and decision making. By Shirley Steele. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1546V A-B. Dave Ferguson, the son, grandson, great-grandson and son-in-law of miners, vividly describes life in Louisville and in the mines and mining camps nearby from the 1920s to the 1950s. He recalls his great-grandfather's emigration from Scotland to Illinois to work in mines and his move to Louisville, his grandfather's career in mining from the age of ten until his retirement at age 75, as well as his father's lifelong dedication to mining, culminating in his position as president of a mining company. Dave also describes his own early life in the mining camps and growing up in Louisville. The interview ends with his narrative tour of mining equipment at the Louisville Historical Museum. By Gerald Caplan. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon. Transcribed by Dee Baron.

OH 1548V. Sam Kent, who has been by turns a magician, DJ, theater and store manager, model train aficionado, and much more, talks about his life in Boulder from 1957 on. The interview covers topics as diverse as Boulder's drive-in and other movie theaters, his family's restaurant ventures, Vietnam War protests, the Halloween Mall Crawl, and the sense of neighborhood in the Boulder of then and now. By Joyce Gordon. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1550V A-B. Tim Fuller, who served on the Boulder City Council from 1972 through 1974, discusses this tumultuous and formative time in Boulder politics. As student protests against the Vietnam War sometimes spilled over into riots in the streets and eighteen-year-olds were able to vote for the first time, the people of Boulder broke with a history of conservative politics and elected a majority of council members who pursued a socially liberal agenda. This agenda included the creation of a Human Rights Commission and the passage of a controversial ordinance banning discrimination on the

basis of sexual orientation, which was overturned by a vote of the people and led to a recall effort. Fuller discusses these events in detail and with the perspective of thirty-plus intervening years. By Dorothy Ciarlo. Transcribed by Susan Becker.

OH 1551V. Tim Honey was Boulder City Manager from 1991 to 1997. In this interview, he describes the political climate of Boulder in the 1990s, working under Mayor Leslie Durgin, and some of the issues that he and the city council worked on during his tenure. He talks in-depth about the construction of the Boulder-Dushanbe Teahouse. By Cyns Nelson. Filmed by Elaine Chang. Transcribed by Dee Baron.

OH 1558. Janine Gastineau worked as a volunteer in Boulder for the Campaign for Change, which sought to help Barack Obama win the 2008 presidential election. In this interview, she details her own political background, the reasons she became involved in this campaign, the structure of the effort, the atmosphere of the grassroots campaign, and the way the work affected her and other volunteers. Interview conducted and transcribed by Diane Rabson.

**Next volunteer meetings:
July 11, September 12
and October 3**

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