

THE MARIA ROGERS Oral History Program

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 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.

This month there are **nine new interviews available**.

OH1229. Amanda Sutyak speaks about being a member on the Boulder Valley Health Center Board of Directors. She discusses services provided by the center, including services for youth, teens, Latinas, and low-income women, in addition to abortion services. She reflects on the differing attitudes toward abortion in the United States as compared to England and Europe. By Molly Lauridsen. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

OH 1239. Priscilla Inkpen talks about her involvement in progressive Christianity and progressive politics, including her work as a minister in the University of Colorado Ministry and her work on peace and justice issues. She describes her involvement in opposing Amendment 2, her work at Naropa on diversity issues, and her experience with living in an "intentional community." By Christina Savage. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

OH 1288V. This interview is a follow-up to an extensive interview recorded in 1998 (OH 945V A-D). In this interview, **Ron Newby**, who worked on the Security Force at Rocky Flats and as manager of that Security Force, adds information about changes in security at Rocky Flats over the years, discusses

FEATURED INTERVIEW



Dan Ruhlman talks about mining the historic Blue Bird Mine in this interview that was filmed at Caribou Ranch Open Space. For more information, see OH 1364V.

the 1978 and 1979 protests at the plant, and describes several of the buildings on the plant site, among other topics. By Dorothy Ciarlo. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

OH 1300V A-B. Stan Skinger worked at Rocky Flats from 1963 to 1971. He was instrumental in fighting the 1969 fire that occurred there, and he speaks about that experience in detail. He also discusses his diagnosis of mesothelioma, which he and his doctor believe may have been caused by the experience of temporarily losing his mask during that fire. By Dorothy Ciarlo. Transcribed by Sandy

Adler.

OH 1354. Helen McCarty Hanna discusses family history and her life growing up in Longmont in the Johnson Farmhouse, which was built in 1898. She talks about her parents, her schooling, her early adult years, and her marriage to Horace McCarty. By Carol Beam. Transcribed by Anne Dyni. Audio only.

OH 1360V. Doug Woodard describes his twenty-three years of work at Rocky Flats, primarily as a radiation control technician (RCT). He discusses safety at Rocky Flats, comments on the cleanup of the plant site, and explains how having Kaiser-Hill finish the cleanup ahead of schedule is keeping seventy long-time Rocky Flats workers from receiving their pensions. By Hannah Nordhaus. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

Next volunteer meeting

April 1

at 9:00 a.m.

OH 1364V. This interview is filmed at Caribou Ranch Open Space, which includes the historic Blue Bird Mine. **Dan Ruehlman**, who mined the Blue Bird Mine in the early 1960s, talks about the mine, equipment and techniques that were used for silver mining, miners that he employed, and the history of the nearby buildings. By Anne Dyni. Filmed by Liz McCutcheon. Transcribed by Anne Dyni.

OH 1368V A-B. Steve Gunderson discusses the cleanup of the Rocky Flats site from the vantage point of his role as the Rocky Flats project coordinator for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. As project coordinator, he was responsible for managing the state's regulatory oversight of the decommissioning of Rocky Flats under the Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement. He also discusses emergency preparedness at Rocky Flats prior to closure and describes the buildings and site in detail. By Hannah Nordhaus. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

OH 1369V A-B. Howard Holme was the attorney representing landowners in a 1970s lawsuit against operators of the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant and the U.S. government alleging that the release of hazardous substances and radioactive material diminished the value of surrounding property. This interview includes details of the lawsuit, discussion of studies on potential health and environmental risks from the plant, and the effects of the 1957 and 1969 fires. By Hannah Nordhaus. Transcribed by Sandy Adler.

Coming Attractions

Look for these interesting interviews to be added to the collection in the next few months: former **Senator Tim Wirth** by Dorothy Ciarlo; a group interview of **Nomad Players** actors by Shirley Steele; artist **Nurit Wolf** by Marvin Woolf; **Joyce Davies** on the history of Historic Boulder by Anne Dyni; and longtime landowner **John Parker** by Jim Helmer.

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A Boulder Public Library Program

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