

THE MARIA ROGERS Oral History Program

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2004



New Interviews

Five new interviews are available for patrons to use. Stop by the Carnegie Library to listen to and/or view these interviews—or the more than 1,200 other interviews in the collection. The new interviews listed here are filmed in digital video. Summaries and transcripts for our oral histories are available online at www.bplcarnegie.org/oralhistory.

OH 1206V A-B. Former Rocky Flats employee and whistleblower **Jerry McKamy** talks about his work there as a criticality safety engineer, safety issues at Rocky Flats, and his work on documenting the problem of “plutonium-in-the-ducts.” By Hannah Nordhaus.

OH 1207V A-B. **Tom Grumbly**, former Assistant Secretary for the Environment at the Department of Energy, talks about overseeing the cleanup of nuclear materials at Rocky Flats in the 1990s. By Hannah Nordhaus.

OH 1216V. Four Special Transit drivers (**Tony Umile, Darlene Nehls, Marty Garrison, and Jamie Sherer**) discuss their jobs as drivers for the non-profit company that provides “door-through-door” transportation for older people and people with disabilities in Boulder County. Topics include services provided, the friendships that develop with people they drive, and the Special Transit Rodeo. By Wendy Hall. Filmed by Robyn Crispe.

OH 1220V. **Alberta Marlatt** describes life on her

FEATURED INTERVIEW



Join Steve Watkins for a virtual tour of restored Chautauqua cottages, along with historic park photos and an overview of Chautauqua history in this interview by Joyce Gordon.
(OH 1236V A-B)

family’s farm south of Hygiene, changes in the Hygiene area since the 1940s, and the county’s open space program. By Anne Dyni.

OH 1236V A-B. **Steve Watkins**, who has supervised the restoration of many of the historic cottages at Chautauqua Park, discusses the Chautauqua movement, nationally and in Boulder; describes the restoration of the cottages; and takes viewers on a tour of restored buildings. By Joyce Gordon.

Oral History News

Volunteer’s Report. Shirley Steele recently interviewed Ann Cooper about her work as a realtor, in addition to her activities on behalf of Boulder’s Black community and in community service for Boulder as a whole. This interview may lead to a series about Boulder’s Second Baptist Church.

Dorothy Ciarlo had the opportunity, while visiting Boston, to interview Pam Solo, one of the organizers of the 1978 protest at Rocky Flats.

Nancy Nachman-Hunt will join Dorothy and Hannah Nordhaus in doing interviews to document the history of Rocky Flats.

Doris and Arthur Olsen are continuing to interview people who use the Boulder Reads! program.

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

Oral History Study. The Maria Rogers Oral History Program has been invited to be one of six programs around the country that will be studied to document the curating practices of successful oral history programs.

Conference Report. Susan Becker gave a report at the last meeting about some of the things she learned at the annual Oral History Association meeting in October. The conference showcased many examples of innovative ways to make oral histories accessible to the public. At the meeting, we talked about how our program could use some of the following formats:

- Virtual (web) exhibits
- Internet exhibits using flash technology
- Publishing essay or pamphlet-length pieces on the web that have been written from oral histories
- Dramatic readings done from a series of oral histories.
- Theatrical performance pieces

- Multi-media exhibits using photos, articles, quotes, sound clips, and video clips in a library display or a display that could be sent to schools and senior centers.

- Documentary films
- Oral histories used as an agent for social change
- Oral histories published in newspaper format

Susan gave out a handout with more information about some of these ideas, plus addresses for web sites to explore that illustrated some of these approaches. If you missed the meeting, ask Susan for a copy of the handout.

Microphones. Note to all volunteers: the remote microphone that used to be housed in the OH-1 camera case is no longer working. We will look into replacing it. In the meantime, the OH-1 case now contains the new dual microphone system.

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A Boulder Public Library Program **NEWSLETTER**

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Program Home Page:
www.boulder.lib.co.us/branch/carnegiemariarogers.html