

Historic Oral History Interviews



The following oral history recordings were captured in the mid-1970s by library staff members and volunteers. They cover events that occurred in Lake Oswego between 1850 and 1960. These recordings were the basis for the book, *In Their Own Words*. Here you will find the interviews in the order they appear in the book.

1850s DONATION LAND CLAIM ERA

[From the Beginning: The Durham and Bryant Families \(WMA\)](#) -- Walter Albert Durham, Jr.

[From the Beginning: The Durham and Bryant Families \(MP3\)](#) -- Walter Albert Durham, Jr.

[The Carman, Wilmot, and Meyer Families \(WMA\)](#) -- Donald Meyer

[The Carman, Wilmot, and Meyer Families \(MP3\)](#) -- Donald Meyer

[Early Days of the Methodist Church \(WMA\)](#) -- Clarice Holmstrom, Loeta Moore Hunting, Vernie Wells Reed, and Opal Thornton

[Early Days of the Methodist Church \(MP3\)](#) -- Clarice Holmstrom, Loeta Moore Hunting, Vernie Wells Reed, and Opal Thornton

[The Shipley Family, The Grange, and Other Organizations \(WMA\)](#) -- Maude Grimm

[The Shipley Family, The Grange, and Other Organizations \(MP3\)](#) -- Maude Grimm

1860s IRON ERA

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[The Pioneer Davidson Family \(WMA\)](#) -- Frances Meyer

[The Pioneer Davidson Family \(MP3\)](#) -- Frances Meyer

[The Kruse Family of Farmers \(WMA\)](#) -- Herber Kruse, Harold Kruse, and Pearl Kruse

[The Kruse Family of Farmers \(MP3\)](#) -- Herber Kruse, Harold Kruse, and Pearl Kruse

1870s IRON ERA

[Albert Clinefelter, Sarah Worthington and Their Family \(WMA\)](#) -- Herman Blanken and Arnold Farmer

[Albert Clinefelter, Sarah Worthington and Their Family \(MP3\)](#) -- Herman Blanken and Arnold Farmer

[Early Days of the Oswego Grange \(WMA\)](#) -- Delvia (Iva) Montgomery

[Early Days of the Oswego Grange \(MP3\)](#) -- Delvia (Iva) Montgomery

[Grandfather and Grandmother Wagner and Their Farm \(WMA\)](#) -- Donald Larson, Vera Larson, and Gladys Armstrong

[Grandfather and Grandmother Wagner and Their Farm \(MP3\)](#) -- Donald Larson, Vera Larson, and Gladys Armstrong

1880s IRON ERA

[The Farmer and Blanken Families: Working for the Foundry \(WMA\)](#) -- Herman Blanken and Arnold Farmer

[The Farmer and Blanken Families: Working for the Foundry \(MP3\)](#) -- Herman Blanken and Arnold Farmer

[More About the Blankens and the Pipe Foundry \(WMA\)](#) -- Herman and Minnie Blanken

[More About the Blankens and the Pipe Foundry \(MP3\)](#) -- Herman and Minnie Blanken

Catholic Church -- Our Lady of the Lake (no recorded interview)

[Edna Farmer's Bus Tour \(WMA\)](#) -- Edna Farmer

[Edna Farmer's Bus Tour \(MP3\)](#) -- Edna Farmer

[James E. Headrick and Growing Up in the 90's \(WMA\)](#) -- Dora Brandt

[James E. Headrick and Growing Up in the 90's \(MP3\)](#) -- Dora Brandt

[The Nelson Clan: From England to St. Louis to Oswego \(WMA\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Herbert Nelson

[The Nelson Clan: From England to St. Louis to Oswego \(MP3\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Herbert Nelson

[The Nelson Clan and Early Days \(WMA\)](#) -- Nellie Kyle

[The Nelson Clan and Early Days \(MP3\)](#) -- Nellie Kyle

[Odd Fellows began in 1888 \(WMA\)](#) -- Herman Blanken

[Odd Fellows began in 1888 \(MP3\)](#) -- Herman Blanken

[Linus Pauling: A Famous Member of an Early Family \(WMA\)](#) -- Frances Jenkins and Pauline Ney

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[Linus Pauling: A Famous Member of an Early Family \(MP3\)](#) -- Frances Jenkins and Pauline Ney

[Abbo and Mary Peters and the Generations Following \(WMA\)](#) -- Agnes Heyser and Norma Peterson

[Abbo and Mary Peters and the Generations Following \(MP3\)](#) -- Agnes Heyser and Norma Peterson

[The Puylaert Family from Belgium: the Pollard Family in Oswego \(WMA\)](#) -- Lucy Puylaert

[The Puylaert Family from Belgium: the Pollard Family in Oswego \(MP3\)](#) -- Lucy Puylaert

[The Worthington Family in Cook's Switch \(Lake Grove\) \(WMA\)](#) -- Marian Weidman, Ethel Schaubel, Earl Worthington, and Mary Ann Worthington

[The Worthington Family in Cook's Switch \(Lake Grove\) \(MP3\)](#) -- Marian Weidman, Ethel Schaubel, Earl Worthington, and Mary Ann Worthington

1890s HARD TIMES

[Cornelius DeBauw: An Early Hero \(WMA\)](#) -- Arsenius DeBauw

[Cornelius DeBauw: An Early Hero \(MP3\)](#) -- Arsenius DeBauw

The Bethke Family and Lucia Bethke Bliss: The Library and the History -- Beth Ryan, Grace Sebastian, and Dorothy Kruger

[An Eyewitness Account of the Drowning \(WMA\)](#) -- Herman Blanken

[An Eyewitness Account of the Drowning \(MP3\)](#) -- Herman Blanken

[Charlie Didzun and the First Garage \(WMA\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Charlie "Peanuts" Didzun

[Charlie Didzun and the First Garage \(MP3\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Charlie "Peanuts" Didzun

[The Hall Family and School at St. Mary's Academy \(WMA\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Lillian Webster

[The Hall Family and School at St. Mary's Academy \(MP3\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Lillian Webster

The Meyers Family and the Foundry -- Robert Meyers

[P. F. Morey and His Dream: The Glenmorrie Ranch \(WMA\)](#) -- Herbert Edward Yates

[P. F. Morey and His Dream: The Glenmorrie Ranch \(MP3\)](#) -- Herbert Edward Yates

[Early Histories of Oswego. Especially Mrs. Pettinger's \(WMA\)](#) -- Elizabeth (Beth) Ryan

[Early Histories of Oswego. Especially Mrs. Pettinger's \(MP3\)](#) -- Elizabeth (Beth) Ryan

[Mrs. Howard Pettinger Answers Questions Asked by Mrs. Robert Arneson \(WMA\)](#) -- Elizabeth Evans Pettinger
(The first portion of this interview is read in the previous recording.)

[Mrs. Howard Pettinger Answers Questions Asked by Mrs. Robert Arneson \(MP3\)](#) -- Elizabeth Evans Pettinger

[Sallie Shannon Pettinger and More About the Pettinger Family \(WMA\)](#) -- Sallie Pettinger

[Sallie Shannon Pettinger and More About the Pettinger Family \(MP3\)](#) -- Sallie Pettinger

[The Schawper Family: Beginning with the Oregon Trail \(WMA\)](#) -- Amy Wheeler

[The Schawper Family: Beginning with the Oregon Trail \(MP3\)](#) -- Amy Wheeler

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[The Kruse and Stone Families \(WMA\)](#) -- John Stone

[The Kruse and Stone Families \(MP3\)](#) -- John Stone

1900s HARD TIMES

[The Baker Family and Early Logging \(WMA\)](#) -- Lyle Arthur Baker

[The Baker Family and Early Logging \(MP3\)](#) -- Lyle Arthur Baker

[Arrival in 1903 and Working in the Foundry \(WMA\)](#) -- Karl Schurz Faucette

[Arrival in 1903 and Working in the Foundry \(MP3\)](#) -- Karl Schurz Faucette

[An Early City Employee \(WMA\)](#) -- Earl Hughes

[An Early City Employee \(MP3\)](#) -- Earl Hughes

[Arthur Jones: Growing Up to Be a Doctor \(WMA\)](#) -- Dr. Arthur Jones and Dr. Freeda Jones

[Arthur Jones: Growing Up to Be a Doctor \(MP3\)](#) -- Dr. Arthur Jones and Dr. Freeda Jones

The Development of Marylhurst -- Sister Miriam Barbara Rendeau (Interview not published.)

[Oswego Women's Club \(WMA\)](#) -- Angie Trueblood and Elsie Sadilek

[Oswego Women's Club \(MP3\)](#) -- Angie Trueblood and Elsie Sadilek

1910s THE CHANGING LAKE

From the First in Lake Grove -- Herbert Nelson

[Billy Banks: An Early Businessman \(WMA\)](#) -- William and Claire Banks

[Billy Banks: An Early Businessman \(MP3\)](#) -- William and Claire Banks

[Logging on the River \(WMA\)](#) -- Roy and Marjory Headrick

[Logging on the River \(MP3\)](#) -- Roy and Marjory Headrick

[George Rogers, Who Wanted a Park \(WMA\)](#) -- Lottie Ann Smoke Rogers

[George Rogers, Who Wanted a Park \(MP3\)](#) -- Lottie Ann Smoke Rogers

[The Twining Family in Glenmorrie \(WMA\)](#) -- Ed and Clarence Twining

[The Twining Family in Glenmorrie \(MP3\)](#) -- Ed and Clarence Twining

[Frances Twining and Her Book \(WMA\)](#) -- Jane Erickson and Angie Trueblood

[Frances Twining and Her Book \(MP3\)](#) -- Jane Erickson and Angie Trueblood

[Ben Vose: About His Family of Teachers \(WMA\)](#) -- Ben Vose

[Ben Vose: About His Family of Teachers \(MP3\)](#) -- Ben Vose

[The Vose Sisters Remember \(WMA\)](#) -- Hazel DeChaine and Emily Wittauer

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[The Vose Sisters Remember \(MP3\)](#) -- Hazel DeChaine and Emily Wittauer

[The Weidman Family and the Congregational Church in the 20's \(WMA\)](#) -- Marian Weidman and Margaret Bruce

[The Weidman Family and the Congregational Church in the 20's \(MP3\)](#) -- Marian Weidman and Margaret Bruce

[The Wilson Family \(WMA\)](#) -- Mary Strachan and Jean Smith

[The Wilson Family \(MP3\)](#) -- Mary Strachan and Jean Smith

[The Zimmermans and the Cody Kids \(WMA\)](#) -- Edith Zimmerman

[The Zimmermans and the Cody Kids \(MP3\)](#) -- Edith Zimmerman

1920s THE GROWING TOWN

[The Allens and Their Drug Store \(WMA\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Kathleen Allen

[The Allens and Their Drug Store \(MP3\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Kathleen Allen

The Beginning of the American Legion -- Herbert Nelson

[The Bickner Grocery Store \(WMA\)](#) -- Cecelia Bickner

[The Bickner Grocery Store \(MP3\)](#) -- Cecelia Bickner

[The Gear Place on Springbrook Road \(WMA\)](#) -- Glee Alford Gear and Helen Smith

[The Gear Place on Springbrook Road \(MP3\)](#) -- Glee Alford Gear and Helen Smith

[Dedicated Dr. MacDougall \(WMA\)](#) -- Fern Forte Doff

[Dedicated Dr. MacDougall \(MP3\)](#) -- Fern Forte Doff

[A Famous Author: Anne Shannon Monroe \(WMA\)](#) -- Helen Erickson and Edna Jackson

[A Famous Author: Anne Shannon Monroe \(MP3\)](#) -- Helen Erickson and Edna Jackson

[Thelma Thompson Randall and the First Girl Scout Troop of Oswego: Trillium Troop #15 \(WMA\)](#) -- Roma Smith, Marjorie Parker, Vera Batchelder, and Margaret Bruce

[Thelma Thompson Randall and the First Girl Scout Troop of Oswego: Trillium Troop #15 \(MP3\)](#) -- Roma Smith, Marjorie Parker, Vera Batchelder, and Margaret Bruce

[Charlie Sadilek and the Bank \(WMA\)](#) -- Olga Burdick

[Charlie Sadilek and the Bank \(MP3\)](#) -- Olga Burdick

[The Smiths and Life in the 1920's \(WMA\)](#) -- Ward Smith and Gretchen Barber

[The Smiths and Life in the 1920's \(MP3\)](#) -- Ward Smith and Gretchen Barber

[Theresa Truchot: Reminiscing in Her Turn \(MP3\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Theresa Truchot

[The Water Skiing Champion: Willa Worthington \(WMA\)](#) -- Darlene Nixon and Pauline Perkins

[The Water Skiing Champion: Willa Worthington \(MP3\)](#) -- Darlene Nixon and Pauline Perkins

[The Volunteer Fire Department \(WMA\)](#)-- William Banks, Roy Headrick, and Neal Cooper

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[The Volunteer Fire Department \(MP3\)](#)-- William Banks, Roy Headrick, and Neal Cooper

1930s THE GREAT DEPRESSION

[Neal Cooper and Logging Tryon Creek \(WMA\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Neal Cooper

[Neal Cooper and Logging Tryon Creek \(MP3\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Neal Cooper

[Jane Erickson's Plays \(WMA\)](#) -- Jane Erickson

[Jane Erickson's Plays \(MP3\)](#) -- Jane Erickson

[A Geology Study \(WMA\)](#) -- Jane Erickson

[A Geology Study \(MP3\)](#) -- Jane Erickson

[Beginning with the Oregon Trail \(WMA\)](#) -- Rachel Gifford

[Beginning with the Oregon Trail \(MP3\)](#) -- Rachel Gifford

[Lewis and Clark College \(WMA\)](#) -- Dr. Freeda Jones and Dr. Arthur Jones

[Lewis and Clark College \(MP3\)](#) -- Dr. Freeda Jones and Dr. Arthur Jones

[Horty Gore Slocum and Gallantry in World War II \(WMA\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Hortense (Horty) Slocum

[Horty Gore Slocum and Gallantry in World War II \(MP3\) \(Part 1\) \(Part 2\)](#) -- Hortense (Horty) Slocum

1940s-1960s LIVE WHERE YOU PLAY

[Chief Bill Knowles and the Robbers \(WMA\)](#) -- William (Bill) Knowles

[Chief Bill Knowles and the Robbers \(MP3\)](#) -- William (Bill) Knowles

[Genevieve McKenzie and River View Manor \(WMA\)](#) -- Genevieve McKenzie

[Genevieve McKenzie and River View Manor \(MP3\)](#) -- Genevieve McKenzie

[The Junior Historical Society \(WMA\)](#) -- Gertrude Thacker and Phyllis Miska

[The Junior Historical Society \(MP3\)](#) -- Gertrude Thacker and Phyllis Miska

[The Lake Oswego Community Theater \(WMA\)](#) -- Emma Schiffer, Janice Gibbs, Jane Erickson, and Hap Young

[The Lake Oswego Community Theater \(MP3\)](#) -- Emma Schiffer, Janice Gibbs, Jane Erickson, and Hap Young

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