

Interview with Helen Haines Phelps
Conducted by Dean Bones at Sonny Phelps Allan's Home
April 29, 2002

(What a fun interview this was! Helen had a wonderful sense of humor. And it was a great thing to have her daughter, Sonny, at the interview as she added details to many of the stories. Dean Bones)

DB: *So if you could just talk about grandkids for a minute... and I have to see if this little needle's going up... to where it will record you.*

HP: OK, you're... set?

DB: *Oh, it's just fine. You're... just right.*

HP: OK

DB: *We're just ok. And I have a camera here, if I can just take a couple pictures... unless you don't me to... it's up to you...*

HP: I don't really want you to.

DB: *OK, then I won't. That's the way we play this game.*

HP: OK

DB: *And actually, if it's ok, I'm going to ask you some questions... and... just anywhere.... if you think of any stories you want to share... great! OK?*

HP: Well, the main story is... uh, just about Kenny.

DB: *OK*

HP: When.... long...

DB: *What is the story about him?*

HP: Oh... you ready?

DB: Uh, huh (yes)

HP: OK. Long ago, my dad made me the nicest sled when we were all going to grade school at Hemlock... er...

DB: *Was it Wolf Creek?*

HP: Wolf Creek. Uh... I took it to school one day.... and... this is kinda' rough on poor Kenny... but, uh, he wanted to go down... and I figured he better let me go down with him, because... uh... it ... we went down the hill... down away from the school a little ways there was a little hill that went down to where we got water. And... uh... I'll see if I can get my thoughts controlled here and get... get... but, anyway, Kenny wanted to go down... and it was fast, and my sled was good. It was made out of an

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old ironing board. It was a dandy. And Kenny wanted to go down by himself, so he hollered, and so we finally let him. And down he went! Just zip! (laughing) He went right down that steep little hill, and across that little flat just a zippin', and down into Wolf Creek!

DB: (Chuckle)

HP: He just went kerplunk! Right into Wolf Creek. And I... course, screamed and yelled to save my sled, and my sister, Esther, screamed and yelled save Kenny, 'cause he was bobbin' down the creek.

DB & HP: (Laughing)

HP: And my sled was going a little faster than Ken was... Ken was little heavier, I guess... she.. she dragged.... dragged Kenny out, and oh, I laughed.

DB: Did you get your sled back?

HP: Oh, yes. I chased down the creek, which was right down there close by the road...

DB: Ya...

HP: And... I chased down the creek and got my sled. (Chuckle) And we took Kenny up... he was soakin' wet, of course... he'd been right in the creek and the creek had been a little high, and Esther carried him... hoop de doop up the hill... to the school house... it wasn't too much of a hill, but it was a little ways, and this teacher, who was Mrs. Alvord, said, "Kenny, we have to take your clothes off and put something dry on. We can't let you sit in those cold, wet clothes". Oh, he kicked and bucked and he didn't want his clothes taken off. But he got them taken off.

DB: *About how old was he at that time?*

HP: First grade.

DB: *First grade.*

HP: First grade. We wrapped him up in Mrs. Alvord's nice warm coat... and got... we didn't.... we never got his clothes dry... er, put his clothes... I don't remember quite what we put him in... but, uh, he went home. Mrs. Alvord took him right home. He lived off up on the other side of Nestucca River.

DB: *Oh, he did?*

HP: Ya... we'd... you had to go back up alongside the river on the road up the river...

DB: *Hmmm...*

HP: Do you know where that is? Sure you do!

DB: *I know where the school was.*

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HP: Sure... so you know where we went up the river...

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)*

HP: ... to uh, then cross the river on the bridge that was there then... the old bridge...

DB: *The one that went across in front of where Sorensen's used to live?*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)*

HP: And we crossed that bridge, and then went all up...

DB: *Did he live like on Tony Creek Road?*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Oh, he did?*

HP: Yes.

DB: *So if ... if I can ask you, what did Wolf Creek School look like... on the outside and then on the inside.*

HP: It was rough lumber on the outside.

DB: *OK..*

HP: And it wasn't very big... I don't know what to compare it with... just like one big room.

DB: *OK... so there was, uh, your coats and that kind of thing... there wasn't a separate room for... for them?*

HP: Yes. Just as you went in.

DB: *Oh, there was.*

HP: Yes. I'm trying to find my lipstick.. chapstick... whatever in the heck you want to call it.

DB: *Hmmm... so like, you'd put your lunches in there, too, probably?*

HP: Uh, huh (yes) I think we did. I can't remember. But there was a place to put our coats. Just as you... as you went in the very front of it...

DB: *On the right or the left, as you walked in?*

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HP: Right smack on the front.

DB: *Oh.*

HP: And there was a door there... haven't you a picture of, uh...

DB: *I have a picture from a side view of the school, but not from the front... and I... I didn't know when you walked in what it looked like, just when you got through the door.... if there was a room, or not.*

HP: There's just a big room, and the coat room was back here...

DB: *On the right...*

HP: On the right.

DB: *OK*

HP: Oh, I wish I could find that thing. But.... uh...

DB: *So... were there windows on both sides....*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Ah... so if it was dark, you could still see then...*

HP: Oh, yes...

DB: *Because the light shone in the windows?*

HP: It was... it was a... it was quite a nice... it was nothing fussy about it.. and it was rough, but, it was nice. And we had a great, big, kind of a barrel stove... that ... we had a janitor, that he kept the wood in.

DB: *And who was the janitor? Do you remember by any chance?*

HP: Fred Mullins...

DB: *OK...*

HP: I think, was the way you pronounce that... maybe it was Mulkens... but I think it was Mullins...

DB: *And he kept the wood in.*

HP: He kept the wood in.. He got the wood up at night, and it was all set to go the next morning.

DB: *Was the stove, like in the middle of the room, or....*

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HP: Uh, huh (yes)

DB: *Oh, right in the middle. And... so, how did a teacher teach the kids when you had different grades in the same room? Did she call you up to her desk, or...*

HP: Oh... she would just talk to us right where we sat. And she'd sit in her desk, and talk from there.

DB: *Did you attend all eight grades there?*

HP: No.

DB: *Ah...*

HP: I started this school there.... (clears throat...) pardon me.... I started this school, but I didn't finish there... or didn't.... yes, I did, too. I started there, and then my folks moved down to Hebo, and I went to Hebo... uh, a few years, and then I finished off back...

DB: *At Wolf Creek, again.*

HP: Yes.

DB: *And... we have pictures, with... uh, oh my gosh, I forgot the... oh, Joe... is Joe your.... Joe's your brother....*

HP: Yes.

DB: *We have pictures of him going to Brown School and to Beaver School, so was he younger than you?*

HP: Yes. Six years.

DB: *Where did you live when you went to Wolf Creek?*

HP: Where the old Measor house is now. And it was wonderful.

DB: *So that was your farm?*

HP: Ya... we... we rented the farm.

DB: *I didn't know that.*

HP: Ya.

DB: *You rented it from who... do...*

HP: Mr. Johnson.

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DB: *Johnson.*

HP: Old Charlie Johnson.

DB: *Okay, here's another hard question... I have always wondered as a kid why they named it Wolf Creek, you know...*

HP: I don't know.

DB: *There was... I found out there was a Mr. Wolfe that used to live at the end of the road...*

HP: Right?

DB: *And... and it was spelled Wolfe, but I don't know anything about him, but...*

HP: I'll be darned....

DB: *All this time I thought it was because of the animal...*

HP: I... I don't know... I don't know anything about him, either... but... this is news to me. I think it's wonderful. (Laughing)

DB: *Ummm... so how many kids went while you were there... very many?*

HP: Oh, about a dozen...

DB: *Really? That's a few....*

HP: I think so. Let me see.... ya, it was something like that....

DB: *Can you tell me...*

HP: Not over that.

DB: *Can you tell me some of their names?*

HP: Well, there was little Ray Cass, of course, and Bertha Jones, and.... uh, Marianne Egger....

DB: *She wrote us a letter about going to school there, so....*

HP: How about that?

DB: *Ya...*

HP: I haven't seen Marianne for a long time.

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DB: *You know, she is now on the computer on e-mail, so I will write her a letter when I get back to school and tell her I talked to you.*

HP: Oh, good.

DB: *And see if she will write a letter back, and I'll give it to you.*

HP: Uh, huh (yes)... I think that would be neat.

DB: *OK.*

HP: And, let's see... there was... oh... Auburn Johnson went there a while... just one year, that I know... and that was when I was in the first grade. And he was so funny... he just was funny just sitting still.... he was. He could have been a good comedian. He was wonderful. And that... let me see... this remembering is... (laughing)

DB: *No, but you're doing wonderful.. You are.*

HP: Let me see... I was trying to think...

DB: *I've seen some names of Wesley children that went to Wolf Creek...*

HP: Yes...

DB: *Was that in your time or not?*

HP: Yes. Donna... no, not Donna.... I don't believe there was...

DB: *There was a Claude, or...*

HP: Yes, there was a Claude.... but I... I don't.... I think that's all of the Wesleys... no... no, there was a little Janella Jones...

DB: *Ah... she wrote... sent me photographs, too...*

HP: How 'bout that?

DB: *But, mostly of Beaver... but she talked a little bit about Wolf Creek... Ahhh... I hear...*

HP: (Chuckle) That's Sonny.... uh, let me see... there were some big boys... and there were us Haines girls... there was three Haines girls went to school there, and, uh... there were some... let me see, if I can remember those big boys names... Erwin Egger,

DB: *Oh...*

HP: (Sonny Phelps Allan enters the room) How do you like that? (Laughing) But, anyway, and... there was the Haines girls, and.... Edwin Egger, and Marianne... and there ... there are others, I think.

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DB: *What were your sisters' names?*

HP: Uh, Dorothy and Esther.

DB: *OK.*

HP: And they both went to school there.

DB: *OK.*

HP: And they both went to school there.

DB: *OK.*

HP: Esther was quite a bit... was ahead of me, but, uh... why, she'd be able to remember...

DB: *What if you do, while we're talking... and the other thing is, is... uh... I was gonna' copy some pictures off of Wolf Creek I have... there's some people standing in front of the school, and we don't know who they are, but.. uh, the printers aren't working as well as they should, so when that happens, I may bring a picture back and let you look.*

HP: Yes.

DB: *And see if you can name some... Was there a play shed at all?*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Oh, there was.*

HP: Yes.

DB: *So, as...*

HP: I believe..

DB: *OK.*

HP: Now, just let me think... I ... I'm not sure... but it seems like there was a play shed.

DB: *OK, I can't tell on the picture... were there any playground equipment up at the school.... swings or anything?*

HP: I don't think so.

DB: *OK.*

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HP: I don't remember swings. I just remember us kids tearing around like wild Indians and just having a blast!

DB: *What would you do, when you tore around... would do tag, or...*

HP: We'd play... we loved to play Auntie Over....

DB: *Ah...*

HP: We had a dandy schoolhouse for it.

DB: *Yes?*

HP: Oh, it was... it was a dandy... it was just an oblong schoolhouse, you know,... ya...

DB: *Can you think of any other games that you played? I know it's been a while....*

HP: Oh, we played Blind Man's Bluff, and Black Man, and all the things that kids do outside...

Sonny: What about that stump thing?

HP: Oh, ya... we had... this Auburn Johnson I was telling you about.... he... there wasn't a mean bone in his body, and he just loved to tease all of us... and he'd run us all up on this stump at recess, if he took a notion to, and keep us there, (laughter) until... 'til the bell rang.

DB: *Would he threaten to do something to you?*

HP: Oh, no, just run around and act stupid. (more laughing)

DB: *OK.*

HP: It was fun, and...

DB: *One of the things that we're doing is we're having kids try to find the rules for some of the games and how they were played, so any that you can name, that'll help us.... if you can think of any others.*

HP: Well, don't you know Blind Man's Bluff?

DB: *Kind of... we... we'll look the rules up for that one. What was Black Man?*

HP: That was this... when you had, uh, sides.. you chose up sides, and you went on sides, and then you'd try to run through and not let the other guy catch you...

DB: *Ahhh...*

HP: Or, he'd try to run through. It was pretty much of a mish-mash. And there weren't too many of us, so it wasn't too hard (laughing).

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DB: *Did the teacher ever get involved, playing games with you?*

HP: No, I don't think so. She was quite sedate. She was... (laughing)... she was a wond.... well, she was wonderful. She was wonderful.

Sonny: But I've seen you (Dean) in your bunny suit.

DB: (Laughing) You mentioned getting water. Where did you get the water from?

HP: Down over the hill, where we rode the sled... just down... here is the house... the....

DB: *The school?*

HP: The schoolhouse up... sitting up here, and our water was down here, and then, down a little... that... down that hill... it wasn't too... wasn't too far...

DB: *Was it by the creek? Or would... did you ...*

HP: It was by the creek.

DB: *By the creek.*

HP: It wasn't the creek.

DB: *Was it a spring or something?*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Oooh...*

HP: Right along the creek.

DB: *Really.*

HP: And, uh, it was good water. And it was good all year.

DB: *So, Helen, where did the kids live that went to this school... how far up Blaine...*

HP: Oh, I expect a couple miles at the most, off of... who is that lives up there now, Sonny?

DB: *Quentin Borba?*

HP: No.... no we didn't go that far. On the opposite side the river, though, up Tony Creek, there was a Jones kids and the Wes... I don't remember the Wesleys coming. But the Joneses did... the Jones kids... and their half brothers and sisters. And there was Marianne Egger... she lived down... or, from

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the schoolhouse and across the Wolf Creek, and, uh... right there... oh, I expect the fartherst ones... and we lived off up on Measor's place... I expect...

DB: *So, Measors again, lived ... oh, you said up Tony Creek...*

HP: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *OK.*

Sonny: Before they moved over to their place now?

HP: Yes, yes that's where they lived.

Sonny: So, Marianne Egger lived where, uh, Lynda Fletcher lived...

DB: *Ooooh...*

HP: Yes, yes.

Sonny: That was the...

HP: And I believe, that for just a little while, we had a girl... Rosalie... Rose, I guess we called her... uh, can't remember her last name... her and her mother were horse people, and they rode their pretty horses... lick, split... I'll tell you something that happened one time...

Phone rings in background... Sonny answers it.

HP: ...we rode our poor old mare... she was a beautiful Morgan horse... she was a work horse, but she was built like a riding horse, she was beautiful... and the whatchamacallit... those people from over there where... I'm trying to say this person who lived there... this girl, who.. went...went to our school...

DB: *Rose... Rosalie, or...*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes).*

HP: And I can't think of her last name, but... uh, can you hear that?

DB: *Ya.*

HP: That's good. But, uh... we took our horses... they came over one time... I don't remember what day... it doesn't matter... (sigh) ... I'm trying to listen to her, too...

DB: *Ya... that's ok... it's ok...*

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HP: It doesn't work very good (laughing).

DB: *I do the same thing.*

HP: We got our horse... dad must have been gone, 'cause we wouldn't have rode her... and... we rode ar... rode around a farm road, just a... almost around our farm... around Measor's farm...

DB: *Oh, really...*

HP: And she just... was such a beautiful pacer... but she wasn't the... she wasn't ready to trot for several miles... and we did... and dad... I don't think he ever knew... and when we got off of her, she laid right down... oh.. boy, we thought we had really done it. And we went back and got her up and walked her... made her walk ... made her walk and walk and walk... we were a couple of scared kids...

DB: *I'll bet...*

HP: But she was all right... she didn't... (laugh) fall over dead! (Laughing) That just goes to show you what kids of... that was why we lived... close to the schoolhouse there.

DB: *So, you just walked to school, didn't you?*

HP: Oh, yes.

DB: *Did other kids ever ride their horses, or did they all walk?*

HP: No, they all walked.

DB: *They all walked.*

HP: I don't believe this Rose ever rode her horse...

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)..*

HP: I think her mother brought her... I don't know how that went... and she didn't go there very long... and....

DB: *Go ahead...*

HP: I don't know what I was going to say.

DB: *Oh. Ummm... so from the time... when you left home, and got to school, what would a usual day be like? Would you wait until the teacher called you in, or would you just go in the school?*

HP: She'd ring the bell... She had a little hand bell...

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)*

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HP: And... bring us in... and then after we got in the school, we would have, uh... recitation... I Pledge Allegiance...

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)*

HP: And... maybe we'd sing... I know that we sang some, but I don't remember just when in the... during the day.

DB: *Do you remember some of the songs that you sang?*

HP: Oh... no... Ol' Black Joe sticks in my memory...

DB: *Hmmm... ok...*

HP: And she'd play the organ.

DB: *Oh, there was one in the school?*

HP: Ya.

DB: *A pump organ?*

HP: Ya. Old... organ. And she'd just... she just did fine.

DB: *And that was Mrs. Alvord?*

HP: Yes. I think she was the only one that played, and when we would have Christmas recitations, she would play for that.

DB: *Ok, now you said... was she your teacher the whole time you were there?*

HP: No.

DB: *No.*

HP: There was a young woman, called Miss Quinn, and I think she stayed with Mrs. Alvord... I'm not real sure... and, uh... she, uh... taught for a little while.

DB: *Was there any other teacher that taught while you were there?*

HP: I don't remember.

DB: *Ok.*

HP: I've been... I... I haven't tried to think about that until right now, but I think that Mrs. Alvord and Miss Quinn are the ones.

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DB: *Ok.*

HP: That's all I can remember.

DB: Uh, huh (yes). And then you just did the regular subjects during the day... like...

HP: Yes... geography, and arithmetic, and that kind of stuff, and... I think I got a good... darn good lesson... I got... I got a darn good teaching.

DB: *Did you all ... did you have text books for each of those subjects?*

HP: Pretty much.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes). And what about writing... did you write the Palmer method....*

HP: Yes.

DB: *And did you use pencils, or was it ink pens?*

HP: I think it ... I'm not sure. I don't remember. But it seems like somewhere along the way... excuse me, but my nose itches... uh, it seems like somewhere along the way, I used one of those little squa.. scratchy things... you know.

DB: *Ink pen, that you dip in the ink, or something?*

HP: Yes, yes.

DB: *And what was your desk like? Was it fastened to other desks?*

HP: Just like you see..

DB: *OK.*

HP: ... in, a... ya.

DB: *So the seat was fastened to the desk part?*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Ok.*

HP: Yes, it was just a plain old seat.

DB: *Was the teacher's desk actually a desk, or was it...*

HP: Yes.

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DB: ... just a table, or... a desk.

HP: Yes. No, it was a desk.

DB: OK. And there probably weren't any extracurricular sports or anything, were... was there?

HP: Noooo... we just roared around outside. (laughing)

DB: What about clubs? Were there any 4H clubs or anything?

HP: Yes.

DB: Oh.

HP: Yes. We had a.... what was that principal's name... or not principal, but, uh... the superintendent, long ago?

Sonny: O'Neill?

HP: O'Neill... yep.

DB: Good. That's good. And he would come around, wouldn't he?

HP: Yes. Yes. And we would.. we would have a good time... he'd be there, and he'd show us what we were supposed to do, and talk with us... he was real nice.

DB: Did you ever have spelling bees, and that kind of thing?

HP: I don't remember. I don't remember. I don't remember any, but we may have had one.

DB: What about... if any kids ever misbehaved at school, what would the punishment be?

HP: (laughing) We had one kid that misbehaved, and he was so funny that all we did was just laughed.

DB: Is that the one that you said was funny just sitting there?

HP: Auburn. Uh, huh (yes) Auburn Johnson.

DB: What would he do when he misbehaved?

HP: Not much... nothing much to get excited about, but he would ... he had a knot hole, and it had a knot in it, and he would take that knot out... and he chewed tobacco... he was a big kid... he chewed tobacco... (laughing)... he'd take that knot out, and spit down that hole, put the knot back in.

DB: Was the knot... was it in the wall?

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HP: It was in the wall. Right.. in the wall. (laughing)

DB: (Chuckle) **Wa... if.... would the teacher ever discipline for something?**

HP: Oh, we'd just laugh.

DB: **Uh, huh (yes)... So the teacher would, too.**

HP: Yes.

DB: **Oh.**

HP: Yes... there was nothing to fuss about. (laughing) It was wonderful. Auburn was quite an experience. (laughing)

DB: (laughing, also)

Sonny: Was he... was that Warren's brother?

HP: Yes.

DB: **Oh, it was...**

HP: Yes.

DB: *So was the Johnson place still where it... well...*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Up past that bridge... ok.*

HP: Yes. It's...

Other voice: Wasn't it down where Pearn's are now? I thought that was...

DB: *Oh.*

Other voice: To start with, or no?

HP: That was Warren's place...

Other voice: Warren's place...

HP: But the old Auburn... not the old Johnson...

Other voice: Oh, the old Johnson place was where the Blankenships or where those people....

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HP: Was... where you see the old.... that nice old home over into the hill...

DB: Ya..

HP: That was... uh, the original Johnson...

DB: *Must be where you were saying the Blankenship...*

Sonny: I think...

DB: *Did you ever do programs for the parents?*

HP: Uh, huh (yes)

DB: *Christmas programs?*

HP: Oh, yes.

DB: *What would you do at the programs?*

HP: I don't remember.

DB: *(Laughing) What I mean... would you sing songs, and plays, or...*

HP: We did that... we did that for part of the program, and we recited little poems and stuff...

DB: *Was there any kind of a raised stage in the school in all?*

HP: It seems to me like they had one.

DB: *Maybe where the teacher's desk was....*

HP: Yes... I'm not real sure about that.

DB: *OK. Are there any other stories that you can remember about school days?*

HP: Only how we just had such a time when we played volley... or Auntie Over, or, uh... any of the games that we had... uh...I... I know one time that ... I used to pride myself on being quite a jumper, and one time, you know, the little outside toilets were on this side and this side... boys were that way, and the girls were that way... and, I know one time I had to go... (laughing) and I... I was just a tearin' out towards that... and I had a log that laid like that, and I used to jump that. Well, that one time, I jumped, and that's all I remembered for just an instance (laughing) I stubbed my toe on that log, and took a header right smack into the dirt. (more laughing)

DB: *(Laughing)*

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HP: Oooooo.... just dived over that log... and I know nobody else will ever think it's near as funny as I do, but.... (laughing) but I thought it was funny... and it was worth remembering. (more laughing)

DB: *Ya. How far away was the bathroom?*

HP: Oh, 'bout from here out to the end of Sunny's property.

DB: *Wow. So between....*

HP: Ya....

DB: *.... forty feet, fifty feet or so...*

HP: Oh, it was more than that... it must have been close to a hundred foot.

DB: So when it was cold out...

HP: Ya!

DB: ... you probably moved pretty fast, wouldn't you??

HP: Yes! (laughing) And you sat pretty quiet, too, you didn't wiggle around and cover much area!

DB: Didn't cover much area... (laughing) I know some places had... uh... catalogs on the side of the outhouse...

HP: Uh, huh (yes)

DB: You did, too?

HP: Uh, huh (yes). I think so.

DB: Oh, my.

HP: Yes. (laughing)

Sonny: Yes, oh, my.

HP: And we were just as happy as if we had good sense.

DB: Ya. Now, you also went to Hebo for a while, you said.

HP: Yes.

DB: Who were your teachers when you were there, or who was your teacher?

HP: Uh... Miss Fanny Ayers was one of 'em, and you remember her...

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DB: *I... I've seen pictures of her, and read about her.*

HP: She was good. She was just wonderful. And there was somebody else... I don't remember who... but it was a young woman... I can't quite get her.

DB: *And what grades were you in when... when you were in Hebo, if you remember?*

HP: Oh, I was in the fourth grade... I think I might have been in the lower grades, even than that... for a while, too... I can't remember... but I know that I was in the fourth grade and the fifth grade.

DB: *Where did you live when you went to Hebo?*

HP: Uh... up on the hill ... let's see, now... that would be south... south of town...

DB: *OK.*

HP: I don't know who lives there now.

Other voice: *I thought you lived on Conder Road, but you lived south of Hebo, and up on the hill...*

HP: Ya.

Other voice: *Oooh... not.. not as far as the boat ramp road?*

HP: Oh, no.

Sonny: Just across that little bridge there, or...

HP: Just... just... uh, huh (yes).

Sonny: Well, I'll be darned. Where was it you guys used to push your brother over the bank?

HP: It wasn't my brother.

Sonny: Oh. Oh, it was that ornery kid...

HP: It the ki... It was the kid that had very good control of his legs... (laughing)

Sonny: (Laughing) How?

HP: He knew how to run. (laughing)

DB: *And that was at Hebo.*

HP: Yes.

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DB: *Do you remember his name?*

HP: Nope.

DB: *You've blocked it out of your mind!*

HP: No! I remember that very willingly. (Much laughter) 'Cause he was an ornery little pooper!

DB: *Any other memories you have of going to school in Hebo?*

HP: Oh, they were all good.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes). Was that also a one room school at that time?*

HP: No, that was two rooms.

DB: *Two...*

HP: There was the big.... the uh... the big room and the little room.

DB: *Grades one through four and five through eight, probably then.*

HP: Yes, yes.

DB: *OK.*

HP: I know one time, I got knocked off of the front porch at ... oh, kids... you know, how they rare and tear... and I got knocked off... and the last I remember was just going... I didn't remember hitting, and it must have knocked me cold, because the next thing I knew my sister Esther had picked me up and was carrying me in the schoolhouse... sat me in a chair. There... get well!!

DB: *Ummm .. What is.... oh, first of all, when and where were you born?*

HP: Hood River, Oregon

DB: *Oh.. OK.*

HP: June 14th, 1918.

DB: *1918.*

HP: Or, like I told my first grade teacher that asked me these questions... 1819! I didn't know!

DB: *Close! (both laughing) And what's your ancestry, Helen?*

HP: What kind of... like...

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DB: *Like Swedish, or Norwegian, or anything... do you know, or...*

HP: British.

DB: *British?*

HP: British and, uh... and Irish.

DB: *And your mom's maiden name... what was that?*

HP: Wilcox.

DB: *Wilcox.*

HP: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *And... why did your family move here?*

HP: I don't know.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes). That's something I'm really curious about....*

HP: I would.... I would like to know.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes).*

HP: 'Cause dad had a good job, but I think he just liked to lay in bed a little too long, and that's what... I think they canned him.

DB: *Ooh.*

HP: I'm not sure.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)*

HP: For some reason or another, we wound up at a... at Hebo.

Sonny: You came to Hebo from Portland area?

HP: From uh... Oswego.

Sonny: But, but grandpa had something to do with that iron foundry out there, didn't he?

HP: Yes, his folks did... his... his... his...

Other voice: That first iron foundry west of the Mississippi was there, then in Lake Oswego.

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DB: *What was his name?*

HP: Haines.

DB: *What his first name?*

HP: Wes...

DB: *Wesley...*

HP: But we always called him Pete, and when we got... everybody was all grown and ... grown up and got up into ... go see them up in, uh... we went to see them up in uh....

Sonny: Idaho.

HP: Idaho. And his name was Wes. And I said, What happened here? Mom, said, well his name is Wes. Ya, but, he's been called Pete all these many, many, manys.... well, that's the way it was. They moved back to Idaho.

Sonny: They lived on... where John Blanchard is... now... up Bunn Creek....

DB: *Really? The Haines.... uh...*

Sonny: Grandpa Haines and... and his family lived there for a....

HP: Dad and Mom.

Sonny: Were you still at home when they....

HP: Oh, no.

Sonny: You'd go and gone.

HP: Oh, ya.

Sonny: Did you leave home when they lived... when you lived on the Biddle place?

HP: Yes. Yes.

Sonny: And that's where you guys were went Uncle Joe went to Brown School.

HP: Yes.

DB: *You lived on the Biddles... on the Biddle place...*

HP: Uh, huh (yes). I loved it.

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DB: *Because that's where Rose lived.*

Sonny: Yes, because the Phelps family lived there at.. uh, a few years, too, at a different time.

HP: Before... it... ya, long before...

DB: *And didn't you also live... further up past the end of... um... on up Bays Creek, or is that what you're calling the Biddle place?*

Sonny: The Biddle place.

HP: Yes.

DB: *Oh, I see, you went the other direction... oh, ya, ya, ya... OK, that's when Joe went to school at Brown. And you... uh... I don't know how many brothers and sisters you have....*

HP: One brother...

DB: *OK, so Joe... and the other two sisters?*

HP: Four...

DB: *Four.*

HP: Three...

Sonny: Three sisters.

DB: *So, what's the name of the one sister, then that we haven't named yet? There's one that didn't go to Wolf Creek.... apparently...*

Sonny: Juanita.

HP: There's Dorothy, Esther, Juanita...

DB: *Juanita, as in Gloria Sisco's mom?*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Oooh.... because Gloria was going to come for an interview tomorrow but she's taking Juanita into the doctor or something tomorrow... so... to an appointment, or something, I think...*

Sonny: Gloria'll have lots of neat stories, 'cause she lived on the hill...

DB: *Ya... I don't get to listen to that one... another class does, but... but I would love to ... I don't know Juanita, but I would love to talk to her, as well...*

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HP: Oh, she's got a lot to say! (laughing)

DB: *What... in... but she didn't go to Wolf Creek, is that right?*

HP: No.

DB: *Is she younger, or older?*

HP: Older.

DB: *Is she...*

HP: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *So, would she have gone to ... what school... Hebo, then?*

HP: Yes.

DB: *Ok.*

HP: I think maybe for a.... not very long... she... she's quite a little bit... see, she's about, what? Eighty-six?

Sonny: Oh, more than that, mom... you're the youngest and she's the oldest from Aunt Dorothy and Aunt Esther between you...

HP: She's eighty-four...

Sonny: Eighty-six, eighty-eight, she's ... eighty-nine....

HP: Ok. Ya...

DB: *I might just have to hunt her down.*

HP: Ya...

Sonny: How many people went to Nestucca?

DB: *To Nes.... ok, right... 18, so you would have been... not to Cloverdale... not to Cloverdale, but to Nestucca...*

Sonny: To Nestucca... brand new, then.. it was brand new...

HP: What's brand new?

Sonny: The high school was brand new when you guys went there.

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HP: Yes, yes.

Sonny: She graduated in '35, I graduated in '55, and then Lisa, and now we've got Lee. And you do too, you've been here forever!

DB: *And who... who'll be next?*

Sonny: Well, I don't know.

DB: *Ya, (laughing)... we don't know...*

Sonny: (Laughing) Hard to tell.

DB: *You have wonderful stories that you've been sharing. Are there other, oh, significant events that you can remember during your childhood, maybe, something tragic that happened, or something wonderful that happened, or something in the world that happened? That you remember?*

HP: It was the end of first World War, when I was born, along in that time, and I... I... I don't think my dad had to go to war.

Sonny: Times were hard, weren't they?

HP: But I... I rem... I can remember some funny shoes that were Army shoes...

DB: *Hmmm..*

HP: So what in the heck, and where in the heck did those come from?

DB: *You would have been young during the Depression, but you probably remember that?*

HP: Oh, yes... oh, yes... everybody was poor.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)...*

HP: And that was fine. We didn't care... we didn't miss it... matter.

Sonny: Oh, there's a big buzzard up there sailing around... somebody's moving too slow!

HP: (laughing) They better look out!

DB: *So, ummm.. you had a farm... did you milk cows?*

HP: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *What were your chores and responsibilities at home?*

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HP: Well, I can remember those when I was a senior... or, in high school, at best... and that was you hurried and walked home and changed your clothes, and eat... ate your supper and went to the barn and milked cows.

DB: *By hand...*

HP: Yep.

DB: *And then, where was the milk hauled from your place? Would it go to Beaver...*

HP: Beaver...

DB: *It would, huh?*

HP: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *Not up to ... was there Magarell cheese factory...*

HP: There was a Magarell cheese factory, but not when we lived there.

DB: *OK.*

HP: Ya.

DB: *Did you have to help inside the house, too, and do things?*

HP: Well.... (laughing)... that was a matter of a lot of discussion (laughing a lot). You see, Esther and I always helped in the barn, and Dorothy... uh, went to the house... but she didn't want to work in the house, and she didn't really want to work at the barn.

DB: *(Chuckling) OK.*

HP: But, Esther and I liked working at the barn.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)... you liked the outside...*

HP: And I remember Esther doing most of the chores, she was older... and she.. she milked more cows than I did... packed more wood than I did... we had to do all this stuff, of course, you know...

DB: *So, you and your sister and your dad worked in the barn?*

HP: Yes.

DB: *What about... what about Joe? I...*

HP: He couldn't ...

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DB: *...as people have talked about Brown School, and that he walked about a mile to school, or so, with his crutches...*

HP: Uh, huh (yes)

DB: *Was that polio he had?*

HP: Ya... no, that was... uh, spastic paralysis... and he had it from the time he was born...

DB: *See, I had somebody say that to me, and then someone else thought it was polio...*

HP: No, no...

DB: *... so I didn't know then. And so it wasn't... somebody thought it was just his kneecaps that there was something wrong with.*

HP: Well, it was mostly his legs. And I think it was from his knees down.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes).*

HP: He just couldn't make them operate very good... they were stiff.

DB: *Did he still do chores and things around home?*

HP: No.

DB: *No. Hmm.*

HP: He might have fed the chickens once in a while... I don't know, but whatever he did, it... you could stick in your eye.

DB: *(Laughing)*

Sonny: And he got to go to college.

DB: *Really.*

HP: Not once, but about three times.

Sonny: You mean schools...

HP: Yes. Yes.

DB: *So I just wonder what that would have been like, uh... growing up with... having to be on crutches all...*

HP: He never... I don't believe he ever missed his legs too much.

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DB: *Didn't complain about it?*

HP: Oh, no... no...

DB: *Really.*

HP: He was real good natured about it.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes). Always had a smile in the pictures that I see of him.*

HP: Ya... yep.

DB: *Ya.*

Other voice: He was great friends with Quentin... Borba.

HP: Ya... but...

Other voice: What?

HP: Once in a while, you'd be walking home from the bus line, and you'd come around a corner, and there'd be Quentin and Jeff... or, Joe... fighting... so they weren't always the best of friends. (laughing) And I think that one could just give... and what I mean by fighting... they throw rocks at each other.

DB: *Sort of a kid thing.*

HP: Ya. Well, they weren't mean... neither one of them ever got hurt.

DB: *What do you remember the most about your mother and your father?*

HP: I remember that my mother was the nicest person that ever was.

DB: *Hmmm.*

HP: My dad was the crankiest person that ever was.... (laughing)... and I know that when we all got older and got married and out on our own, and taking care of ourself... then, dad was pretty good.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes) Whether he changed, or somebody else did...*

HP: Uh, huh... it's hard to say... it's probably a little bit of both. Uh... dad went with us hunting a few times... just a few times, but I'm thankful for what he did go.

Sonny: Well, he was awful good to me... I remember that.

HP: *Oh, he loved you girls...*

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Sonny: ...around the field when he'd be mowing with the horses and stuff... and, boy... I learned a lot of really good language that I.... (laughing)

HP: You bet! We all did.(laughing)

DB: *And that was where? Was that up at...*

Sonny: On Bunn Creek there, where John Blanchard's at.

DB: *Oh.*

Sonny: I was just a little kid when they still lived there...

HP: Course I learned mine over on the Biddle place....

Sonny: They lived at... in Tillamook...

HP: ...later on... ya..

Sonny: ... out... out Hathaway... and, uh... had a little sandbox out there... and I was... who did I ... who was I cussing?

HP: I think it was...

Sonny: Mrs. Morgan?

HP: No, no...

Sonny: Oh, I hope not. She was such a dear lady.

HP: She was a nice person.

Sonny: I was just awful, and my mom had to bring me in, I'm sure.

HP: I'm sure. Oh, no that was a wonderful time, too.

Sonny: Ya, it was... ya.

DB: *We... we've (Nestucca Valley Middle School 6th graders) been planting trees now for three years... our kids have been... and it's on that farm where John Blanchard lives ...*

Sonny: Oh, really?

DB: *... to try to build up the shade trees to keep the water cool for the fish, and it's eroding so badly, so... it's nice to know that you lived there, because we visited with Nadine Sappington Prentice, who used to live there as well... in that... at one time...*

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Sonny: Sappington... I remember, Mom, Ward Sappington...

DB: *Uh, huh (yes).*

HP: Uh, huh (yes). Dad went there when he was about fifteen, sixteen, he went to Sapps, he called it.. to Ward Sapps..

Sonny: Well, did... they lived there then, before Grandpa bought the place?

HP: (sigh)... You mean, Blanchard's?

Sonny: Ya, that's what... and you were gone from home then.

HP: Ya.

Sonny: Because I can remember going there on a weekend, 'cause we lived in town, and we'd go out there... (end of first side of tape)

HP: You'd better run...

Sonny: I love your license plate...(Moses1)

DB: *Ya... That's my Outdoor School name... so...*

Sonny: It is, huh? Ahhh...

DB: *What ... what's the best advice, or some of the advice that your mother or father ever gave you, or what were some lessons that you learned from them?*

HP: Mom says be quiet. So we did. I learned how to be quiet.

DB: *(Chuckle) OK. And what about from your dad?*

HP: I learned a lot of cuss words.

DB: *(Laughing) OK. Just like your daughter.*

HP: Yes. (laughing)

DB: *What are, uhh.. tell us about any of your jobs that you've had through your life, whether it was at home or whatever?*

HP: Jobs, you say?

DB: *Ya... occupations.*

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HP: The only job I've had away from home that I can remember is driving that school bus, and it was wonderful. I had...

DB: *I forgot you did that.*

HP: Ya... twenty-five years.

DB: *Twenty-five years. And you had, then... what was your route?*

HP: From my house, out, down... and I'd go down... nea.. not quite to Beaver, and back, and then up back of the church, and back out... and then out around over... I'd go a little ways toward... uh... Tillamook, and come back, and a little ways in toward Sandlake. I don't remember how many miles it made... We'd just picking up kids here and there and everywhere... and it was fun.

DB: *And it was all for Beaver School?*

HP: Yes.

Sonny: Uh, huh (no), uh huh (no).

HP: Hemlock, first.

Sonny: It went down to Hemlock first.

HP: Sure.

Sonny: And then she brought 'em out, and the bus come down into where Al's ... that gravel pit is, down at... Upton's?

HP: Right down here at the end of the road...

Sonny: .. and the bus would come in there and get 'em and take 'em to Beaver.

DB: *Oooh...so you drove for the old Hemlock School when it was go... uh, not the old school, but...*

HP: For Hemlock...

DB: *... for the latest Hemlock School. Hmmm... Any memories about driving bus, any...*

HP: Oh, all kinds of 'em! (laughing)

DB: *Ya? Like?*

HP: And it wasn't near as hard to handle as the big bus... it was just a suburban...

DB: *Ohhh...*

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HP: And, a... I had one big boy, whose family was... it was the Gray's... and I'd put a couple of the... you see, they were tiny little kids, then... put one or two in clear in the back, and put this big boy right where he could reach them. (chuckle)

DB: *The Gray family that lived...*

HP: Yes, yes...

DB: *.. up Blanchard Road? Large family. Oooh...*

HP: Yes. And, uh... I didn't have any... any problems at all.. That big...

Sonny: Mom, what about Albert Hantz... tell him about Albert... he had ...

HP: Oh, he was...

Sonny: ... some one had to sit in front, so he ended up being her handyman.

HP: Ya, he... he was a ornery little pooper. And, uh... he was a great kid, he was just full of it. And I mean full of it... and I finally put his little behind clear up in the front seat with me... now you ride there the rest of your... as long as you ride with me.

DB: *Where did they live?*

HP: Over... in on Sandlake Road, about a mile.

DB: *Hmmm..*

Sonny: Right down there where McConkey's live...

DB: *Ya...*

Sonny: Right there... lived there for a long time...

DB: *OK.*

HP: Well... ya, he wound up being my handyman... he'd fix a tire, or tell me what was wrong with things, or... and he... he'd ... was... he knew it, too! He knew what he was talking about.

DB: *That's great.*

HP: And he'd stop to see me every once in a while... once in a long while, now, the older we get...

DB: *Ya...*

HP: ... the farther away it gets.

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DB: *Any other stories you can remember as you drove?*

HP: Oh, I've got all kinds of 'em! (laughing) I've got... I've got too many! But one I must tell you, and it is so cute... I picked all the Grays up one time when they were all ... they all went to school that day... and I was... I turned around at, uh... sometimes they walked, but sometimes they didn't walk clear out to the... to the main road... but I would drive in to the main road, which is one that comes right off of the farm right there...

DB: *Uh, huh (yes).*

HP: ... but if it was raining, I'd drive... I wouldn't make them walk in the rain... (sigh)... and this one time... I was turning around there... it was a nice day, and I turned around, and... I had to stop to let a car come in off the highway... or not highway, but side road... it was the side road, and the side road... and I had to stop to let that car come off, and this guy came... he rolled his windows down, and he just looked at my load of kids, and he said, "My, what a fine large family!" (laughing) And I just laughed and said, "Yes, isn't it?"

DB: *How many kids could you hold in that?*

HP: Oh, let's see, I could haul about three or four on the back.. depending on the size...

DB: *Uh, huh (yes).*

HP: You stick 'em in there according to ... and about ... oh, gosh... not quite so many in the middle, 'cause it was a... not ... not quite a full seat... I suppose, two or three.. and then, I'd have two in the front with me.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes).*

HP: But... and after we got... those kids all listened... when I said that, you know, Yes, isn't it... and those kids all just looked at me, and... we just laughed... we went down the road just a laughin'... (laughing now)

DB: *Ya, those must have been fun times.*

HP: Oh, we had fun times. I had some... I hauled, uh... whatyacallems little... say it...

Sonny: I don't know where you're headed here...

HP: Little bitty kids that aren't in sch... aren't quite ...

DB: *Preschool or kindergarten?*

HP: Preschool... kindergarten... kindergarten.

Sonny: Oh, that's right... Beaver... when that program was first started...

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DB: *Oh..*

HP: And, uh... the little Kronk girl, she loved meat... and every time she'd see a nice fat beef in the field.. she knew what she was lookin' at. "Boy," she says, "he's got a lot of meat in him!"

Sonny: He was the principal or something at Beaver... Kronk?

HP: Ya.. ya..

DB: *Kronk? I don't remem... recall the name.*

Sonny: Ya... that would have been in what, Mom?

HP: Oh, I don't know...

Sonny: ... the sixties? Before you were born, kid...

HP: Probably! (laughing)

Sonny: Well, you old dog, then...

DB: *Ya, I know... it's been a while... it's been a while...*

HP: But, anyway, he had a lot of meat in him!

DB: *So when you weren't driving bus, you were at home... you probably had chores that you did there..*

HP: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *...ran the farm...*

HP: Uh, huh (yes)... no, I didn't run it... I just helped

Sonny: You helped a lot, though.

HP: Oh, boy...

Sonny: You milked cows, and cleaned barns, and...

HP: Ya, and later on, we... I fed...

DB: *Did Jim work out... work somewhere else?*

HP: Yes, yes, he worked in the sawmill.

DB: *Ahhh... which sawmill?*

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HP: Uh, the Tillamook Box... the Tillamook Box Company... it's right there...

Sonny: After... after you guys bought the farm, though, he didn't work for a few years, did he?

HP: He.. oh, maybe three or four...

Sonny: And then he went back to work... but didn't he go to work for Bill Paraguay?

HP: Yes.

Sonny: But where was that? Was that at the box factory?

HP: Yes. That was at the old box...

DB: *Where was the box factory?*

HP: As you go into town...

DB: *Yes...*

HP: ...you make the corner, there used to be a mill there... You don't remember...

Sonny: On the old highway, over by the Victory House...

DB: *Oh..*

Sonny: That... where the Victory House...

DB: *Ya...*

Sonny: That building is still there... that beautiful house... right across the highway from that....

DB: *Oh... oh, you're talking about the old Victory House, not...*

Sonny: The old Victory House...

DB: *Ok...*

Sonny: Out on the old highway...

DB: *Before you get to the bridge coming in on the old highway..*

Sonny: Ya, uh huh, uh huh (yes, yes)

DB: *Oooh...*

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HP: Ya, he... he worked up to be the...

Sonny: Or, I think it was... or across the bridge.. I can't remember... have to go look at it...

DB: *So they actually made wooden boxes?*

HP: Oh, yes.

DB: *Like, uh...*

HP: They made... they made the slats... you know, the boards that you made 'em out of...

DB: *Oh.*

HP: They made those boards.

Sonny: And then later he worked for Mr. Paraguay over at Boulder Creek, when Bill had that mill over there... there was a mill there... just down from Reuben's...(Schrock's) the ... where the county has all that pushed aside...

DB: *Ya...*

Sonny: ... there was a mill site there...

DB: *I forgot that... I remember now that there were mill houses that were there... little...*

Sonny: There could have been...

DB: *Ya...*

Sonny: But he... he learned to saw on a head rig there that you couldn't see... you had to... to judge it by what you could hear... he was very good. He only had an eighth grade education, but he...

HP: He worked up and...

Sonny: ... he knew his math, and he could saw like a whiz.

HP: Yep, he was good. And Bill thought so, too... the owner of the mills... so he came after him... when he built that mill up there...

DB: *It's interesting that you mention his name, because behind our place when we lived in Beaver, Paraguay owned that whole, huge section of land... and I never did know him... but I just used to hear his name.*

HP: He was a fine person.

DB: *Was he?*

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Sonny: He did own a lot of property... he owned up.. uh... Lee West place up... uh, Bays Creek, on up on the hill, at Battle Lake... all that in there was his at one time.

DB: *Where'd he come across the money to own this, I wonder?*

Sonny: Paraguay?

HP: *He was the sawmill man from the beginning...*

Sonny: They want... him and Otto Effenberger, in town...

DB: *OK..*

Sonny: ... were the co-owners of the box factory...

DB: *Ok..*

Sonny: ... and he just increased his holdings, as he... you know...

DB: *Are there any Paraguays left?*

HP: I don't know.

DB: *Not a name you hear much, anymore..*

HP: I don't know if they...

Sonny: He had a son... I don't know what... I never was personally acquainted with...

HP: Did they have a son?

Sonny: I think so... I thought so...

HP: Oh, you see, I don't know...

DB: *So, Helen, tell us about your family.*

HP: What about 'em? (laughing) Which one?

DB: *Ummm.. children, anything you want to say about your husband, Jim...*

HP: Just that I miss him, so, it's terrible...

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)... how many years were you married?*

HP: Forty-seven.

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DB: *And, actually, you're still married to him, so I guess... we ought to keep counting and not stop at forty-seven.*

HP: Right.

DB: *Ya... So, there's more than this one, right?*

Sonny: Mickey.

DB: *Ya.. and it's you two...*

Sonny: Uh, huh (yes).. that's all..

DB: *So Mickey and Sunny...*

HP: Ya...

DB: *Any wild stories you want to share there?*

Sonny: Please don't!

HP: (Laughing) I don't know any wild stories! I don't know any wild stories about you... except that you tell on yourself...

Sonny: But we just don't go there.

HP: Well, I think you can tell it just like you do about any.. anyone...

DB: *Right...*

HP: When she used to get out... get out of sight of us when she was driving my suburban, which was my school bus, she'd go like hell! To put it plain...

Sonny: I've passed on the Green Bridge more times than I care to tell you... but the cars were more narrow then.

DB: *Uh, huh (yaaa)...*

Sonny: Of course, the bridge was, too!

DB: *Ya, that's true! (laughing) That's true...*

Sonny: Oh, that was awful....

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DB: *And the last time that my... well, no I can't say that... but, I.. I.. not the last time my Grandma Anna drove, it wasn't... but I remember one time that dad was driving to town and my grandmother passed him.*

Sonny: Uh, oh...

HP: OH, BOY!!!

Sonny: That's where Pearl gets that!

DB: *That didn't make any points with dad... noope...*

Sonny: Oh, my...

DB: *What... share some thoughts about living in this area through your life... do you think it's been good living here?*

HP: It's been wonderful.

DB: *And... and why is that, do you think? What are the good things about...*

HP: Well, the first good thing about it was my husband... and, uh... no... he would be the second... and my mother was wonderful...

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)*

HP: ... and my dad was cranky... I think that goes along with dads... I'm not really...

Sonny: Grand... my dad, wasn't, Mom.

HP: Well, that's right... that's right...

Sonny: He was the most gentle, ...

HP: Personable, and...

Sonny: ... wonderful man...

HP: Uh, huh (yes).

Sonny: Ya...

DB: *And as far as neighbors, and stuff, has that worked out for you?*

HP: Had wonderful neighbors... you couldn't had better neighbors than the Porters, I guess... they fought like cats and dogs among theirselves... Marge and George...

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Sonny: They were good neighbors.

HP: They were good people.

DB: So...

HP: And...

DB: Ya?...

HP: Whenever we'd go to fix fence, they'd be right there to help.

DB: Uh, huh (yes).

HP: I don't know if we were always so good... we'd try to be.

Sonny: *Yes, you were... I can remember Dad and George building that whole fence, that I've since repaired many times, probably to the point of extinction.... 'cause now it's a... Bruce has got a New Zealand hot fence in there now.*

HP: And Bruce is a wonderful neighbor, too.

Sonny: Oh, he's wonderful... ya...

DB: *What's his last name?*

HP & Sonny: Roos...

Sonny: Ruse...

DB: *Roos... right... one of the things that we're doing is we're going up to the county courthouse looking at the records department, where we know that the schools are and who owns the land now, we can trace it back to when they ... first started.. so...*

HP: I think what they need to do is just back off a little bit on the schools... don't be, uh... and, that's.... the idea of giving a kid a ticket, or whatever you call 'em...

DB: *You mean like a citation... you mean when they get in trouble?*

HP: Yes... Ya.

DB: *It's just a way to try to keep kids of... it's a different day, I'll tell you that... it's a different day than what you just described, that's for sure. But pretty much in our school, Helen, the kids are very well behaved.*

HP: Uh, huh (yes).

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DB: *I can't ever remember witnessing... oh, my goodness gracious...*

Sonny: Well, I'm not going to go through this... but I wrote some articles for the Headlight Herald on the early schools, and I just thought you might....like to look at them

DB: *You did??*

Sonny: Yes, I did ... and I don't remember for sure where I put 'em, so I ... that's why I brought the whole stack of junk here.

DB: *Helen, I don't know if you have any pictures of any... of the early days... if you do, and even when Sonny comes on Wednesday... if she could bring any that we could make a copy... uh... they would be wonderful... We've been copying people's photographs, and then, we've got... I don't know if you understand how the computer stuff works now... but we put the pictures on the computer, and anybody in the world can now look, and they can go see pictures of Wolf Creek School, and Brown School, and... so... so like, uh... Marianne...*

HP: Egger...

DB: *Egger... she's on the internet in Shelton, Washington, and she can go on, now, and look at all the photos we've got... so that's pretty exciting.*

HP: Uh, huh(yes)

DB: *So if you have any that you'd like to share that we could copy and stuff... then, uh... I would do that...*

HP: Well, they would be at home.

Sonny: I might have better luck, to look through this...

DB: *If it's... you know... it doesn't have to be.... it doesn't have to be immediately, either, but if you come across some... we're just so afraid that the history is gonna' be lost, and we don't want that to happen... we want people to remember some of these stories and the good times.*

HP: Oh, it was wonderful. I don't know if other people... I think that most people from my age think that.

DB: *They do. Our interviews, they've all said that... they all have. So before we shut off the tape player, are there any other stories you could think of.... well, let's do this... let's pretend that your grandkids are sitting here, and there's some stories that you want to make sure that they've heard... are there any of those you could share?*

HP: I suppose there, if I could just think of 'em... (chuckle)

Sonny: Oh, I forgot about that ...

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DB: *You're going down memory lane right now, aren't ya?*

Sonny: Uh, huh ... post.. these are the ones... some of the ones I wrote... it's called Homestead Trails, and...

DB: *Really?*

Sonny: ...took me into a place that... called Muletail Creek, and it was a post office at... Nanam...Nanamam... Nanamoosha Falls...?

DB: *Was that up...*

Sonny: Uh, it's up... ya...

DB: *Past Bible... uh...*

Sonny: ...before you get to the Bible Creek Road.. you go up the Bible Creek Road...

DB: *I've had people talking about a post office, but I haven't ... (hoo, hoo hoo..{breathing}) ... do you see saliva coming down? Could I take those and copy them?*

Sonny: Certainly. That one in particular you'd want... Doug Jones, you know, he's ... he would tell you everything...

HP: And he lives up there now.

Sonny: Is he home for good?

HP: I think so...

Sonny: I didn't know that he was.

DB: *Sonia McCauley...*

Sonny: Ya, well.. I

DB: *You're really confusing me...*

Sonny: (laughing) Don't be... it's me.

DB: *I would... any of these you've written.. these... these stories, I would love to copy any of them.. if you'd allow me to.*

Sonny: Well, it... some of 'em are just dopey deal stuff...

DB: *Well, we like dopey deal stuff!*

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HP: That's the kind we like!

DB: YA!!

Sonny: I'll, uh.... fish 'em out and bring 'em with me Wednesday, ok, and I'm not gonna' be able... oh, oh... the tape's still running.

DB: *Ya... do you want me to shut it off? I just don't want to shut it off, and there's a story that's gonna' start...*

HP: I don't think there's gonna' be any more stories... I know there's lots more... but I can't....

(end of tape)

Transcribed by Darleen Creecy Cole