

Interview with Betty Woods Strong

Conducted by Dean Bones & Students

April 29, 2002

DB: *Ok... if you wouldn't mind, if you would state your name, and then today's date, which is the 29th...*

BWS: My name is Betty Strong, and it's April the 29th, 2002.

DB: *Great. Thank you. That was we'll... in the tape we'll have it recorded... so... if you would please tell the name of the grade school that you attended...*

BWS: Beaver Grade School.

DB: *Were you in the old school that was near the road, or the... the one that's now the...*

BWS: No, I was in the, uh... in the old school.

DB: *OK. And.... let's see... some of these questions we already know the answers to, so I'm gonna' skip those... can you describe for us as... in as much detail as possible what the building looked like on the inside? Not... just as soon as you walked in the doors...*

BWS: Well, as you walked in... in the door, there was a hall, and the water fountain was in... oh, about half way down that hall, and then you come to the door going into the first room, and then there was, uh... kind of a wall with a door, and another hall, and you walked down... oh, probably... five, six feet and then went into the other classroom. And they were both just big rooms... the, uh... one next to the road had the, uh.... the big heater... it was just a great big heater with a deal around it... uh... metal deal around it...

DB: *So, like a wood stove, is that what you mean?*

BWS: Ya, it was a wood stove... and then in the other room it was just a... just a big room and it had... well, they both had windows all... on all the... walls... oh, outside walls... and the first 'uns to the fourth grade room, which was the back room, had a door going out to the back, and it had another little room that would have been where the hall would have continued on, but it was a room where they kept supplies. And then... then in the back of the, uh... back... it wasn't fastened on to ... to the school, but it was a wood shed... and it was about two or three feet between it... enough for the kids... that they could run through there as they were playing.

DB: *Who provided the wood for the school, do you know?*

BWS: I guess my dad did, from what I gathered, but I... I don't remember that... uh... but I presume that other people did, too... I presumed just... just, uh... parents of the children probably did.

DB: *And for the benefit of the tape, what was your dad's name?*

BWS: Ollie Woods.

DB: *Ok.. and your mom's name?*

BWS: Edna Woods.

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DB: *Ok... so, it had a drinking fountain, but the bathrooms were not in the school...*

BWS: No, the bathrooms were outhouses.

DB: *Do you remember a bell in the school?*

BWS: Ya, they was... but, I don't... I don't remember where it was at... I don't remember... I know there was, and across the front of the school, next to the road... and it... and it was right directly ... I mean the road just went... there wasn't hardly room for any... anything except the road, and there was a porch, and there was steps going .. there was a railing to keep the kids from, you know, getting off onto the road... and there was, uh... were steps on each end of the porch.

DB: *Hmm...*

BWS: And there.... And there was a wooden fence along the road from the... from the, uh... school... from the porch to the play shed...

DB: *Oh, ok... so kids couldn't really run straight across...*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *Oh, I didn't know that... I've not had anybody else say that.. that's great. So there was a play shed, then.*

BWS: Yes.

DB: *And can you describe that?*

BWS: It was just one big ... big room... big building with a wood... with a dirt floor... it was, uh... had walls up, oh I s'pose three or four feet high, and then it was open from there on up to the roof, but the, uh... east and west end was closed in.

DB: *Hmm..*

BWS: But.. but the... on the... on the south... north and south sides, it was... it was open.. you know, there was a wall, but then from the wall to the ceiling it was...

DB: *Good... I didn't realize that, either.*

BWS: And they had, uh... uh... basketball hoops in there, and I don't remember... I know they did on one end, but I presume they did on both ends.

DB: *So, since you're mentioning about basketball hoops ... what other games did kids play at recesses?*

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BWS: Oh, they had, uh... they had swings, and bars for them to.. those that were able .. I didn't do much on 'em... but the... there was kids that... that played on the bars...

DB: *So...*

BWS: And then we played... Oh....

DB: *Ok... well, there was the school and the play shed... where were the swings?*

BWS: They were right south, or out that way from... from the play shed.

DB: *Ok... and then other.. you mentioned other games that...*

BWS: Oh, we played Auntie Over... and...

DB: *Is it Auntie Over, or Annie?*

BWS: I don't know... don't

DB: *Auntie? That's what everybody's saying, and I always thought it was Annie, so...*

BWS: No, I always said Addie... I don't know... Addie Over.... and then, uh... oh, I presume they played other... other games, you know.... uh... like, Bend... what is it? Um... Bad Man Bluff, or.. I... I don't know what it is, but you know who.. what I mean.

DB: *We're gonna' look it up once we get to... we're gonna' find out what it is. Blind Man's Bluff?*

BWS: Blind Man's Bluff... that's what I'm trying to say. Ya..

DB: *Oh.. ok...*

BS: And I s'pose there was other ... oh, tag... we played tag... and they was some big trees out there, and the.. and the bank in the back.. that they cut out aft... when they put the rest of the school in... this was down lower... and there was a bank here and... and... just like there is going up into the fire station... fire hall.

DB: *So there was a bank on the east side, or going this way from the school?*

BWS: It was on both sides...

DB: *Oh, really...*

BWS: Uh... as.. on the fire.. uh... hall side, and then it went over in there, and then the big fir trees was out there, and course the kids played in amongst them.

DB: *So out behind the school there were fir trees.*

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BWS: Uh, huh... uh, huh (yes, yes)

DB: *Ooooh... ok... How did you get to school?*

BWS: Walked, or my dad brought me.

DB: *Because you lived at the first bridge there.*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes)... ya, I lived right where my brother's house is now, only it was the old house.

DB: *Oh, a different house.*

BWS: It was the... uh, huh (yes)... it was the old house.. the two room house, with a upstairs in it.

DB: *And other students? How did they get to school? Mostly walking?*

BWS: Well, if they ... if they lived far enough away, they was.. I don't know... I can't remember if... if every year, or when they started the bus... but there was a bus at one time, and Bud Kellow drove the bus.. and sometimes he'd let me ride, because he lived across the road from us... he lived directly... he lived in the house where Hayses lived...

DB: *Really?*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *So he drove the bus up Blaine Road... is that where it went, or did it also go up 101, or...*

BWS: It.. it... any place where there was kids...

DB: *Was that an actual bus... because we have a picture of a panel truck...*

BWS: Ya, well... no... ya... I.... I.... I don't remember what it looked like, but it was... no, it wasn't a bus like you have now.

DB: *Ummm... so, from the time you left home, describe for us what a typical school day would be. You'd get down here to school...*

BWS: Oh, we'd get down to school and we'd... we would play around until it was time to go in, just like the kids do now...

DB: *How did you know it was time?*

BWS: Oh, they'd ring the bell, or... or, uh.... you know.... um... just kids... you know when it's time, I guess... and, uh... you'd go to your class.... the first four grades was in the back room, and then the other four grades was in the front... uh, front room. Uh...

DB: *Did the teacher usually start with some certain thing?*

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BWS: Well... oh, well, ya... we'd always have the salute to the flag, I think, every morning... I... I th... I don't just remember of doing it every day, but I know, you know, we did do it... so... and, another thing, was ... they was always ... I think this was usually the upper grades... would put the flag up... just like they.. I think they do now... uh, then we'd... course, we would go to our desk, and then she would take each class and we were supposed ... we'd have things that we were supposed to be doing while she was with another class...

DB: *And did she call a class up to her desk, or did she teach in front of the class each grade?*

BWS: She taught in fr.... most of the time, as I remember, in front of the class...

DB: *One of the people who came to interview much later than you said that each row was a different grade. Was that also during... when you were in school?*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes) ... uh, huh... uh, huh (yes, yes) You had your first grade and your second grade, your third grade and your fourth grade... and then in the other ones, why there was the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth.

DB: *Interesting. Did you ever sing? Do songs...*

BWS: Oh, ya.. we had.... we sang songs and we put on, uh... little skits and plays and things... uh... for our parents, you know... just...

DB: *Ok... so was.. do you ever remember much homework?*

BWS: No... I don't remember anything about... I presume we might have had, but I don't re.... you know, I just don't... after... high school, then we had homework, but I don't remember in grade school having... I don't say we didn't... I just don't remember.

DB: *And if somebody misbehaved at school, what were some of the punishments? Do you remember anybody misbehaving?*

BWS: Oh, yes, I'm pre... uh, they did, yes, but, uh... I really don't know... I don't, uh... I couldn't tell you exactly what anybody ... I presume they probably had to stay in at.. you know, recess, or something like that... I don't remember of, uh...

DB: *Do you ever remember an emergency happening? And the reason we ask that is because we... there... there wasn't a phone, was there, at your school?*

BWS: No.

DB: *I just wonder what they did in an emergency... if a kid got hurt... a broken leg or something.*

BWS: I really.. I really don't know. That was, uh... I re...

DB: maybe there weren't any.

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BWS: Uh... the only... only emergency that I ever remember... there was a dog once that... we... don't know if he had rabies, or mad or what, but he went wild outside, and the teachers made all of us stay in the... inside... until they got him, uh... but, uh... then they shut the doors all up so that he couldn't get in to the school... but that's the only em... you know, real emergency I... well, there was one girl that, uh... had ... uh... epilepsy or something, and she would have spells once in a while, and the teachers would have to take care of her, but they usually got her off away from the rest of the children, and... and I don't know too much about what they did or anything.

DB: *That's great that you shared those last two stories, because we have not heard those. So any time we're talking, if you think of any story that you remember... any specific incident... that would be great to share that. And when did you start school... as a first grader, what year was that?*

Student: Achoo (sneeze)

BWS: Well, I started, uh... twenty-three.... (calculating)...uh, let's see, I would have been one, twenty-four, twenty-five, twenty-six, twenty-seven, twenty-eight I'd have been five... I was born in twenty-three, so ...

DB: *So, around twenty-eight or twenty-nine?*

BWS: I started... I would have been five oh, in December and I started in September, so I started when I was four, but I would have been five ...

DB: *Wow!*

BWS: ... in December.

DB: *Wow. Young. Ok, so can you tell us your teachers that you had going through school?*

BWS: Uh, Mrs. Harris was...

DB: *First and second grade? First through four...*

BWS: First through four, and Mrs. Alvord was from five to eight.

DB: *Ummm... any stories that you remember about anything happening at school, anything at all, that stand out in your mind? Or on the way to school?*

BWS: Um.. not... not really... offhand I don't think of anything.

DB: *Ok.... If we can learn just a little bit about... a little bit more about you... if it's ok to ask this, when and where were you born?*

BWS: I was born in the house... where Edwin's house is... in the old house...

DB: *Ok... and you said earlier it was 192...*

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BWS: ... three...

DB: *In December?*

BWS: December 21st, 1923.

DB: *And what's your ancestry?*

BWS: And by that do you mean....

DB: *Well, like, uh... I don't know how far back you know... but, you know, Swedish, or Norwegian... do you know...*

BWS: Oh... ok...

DB: *Ancestors that came over from where, or...*

BWS: I have no idea.

DB: *Ok...*

BWS: My mother and my father... 'cause that's always been the asked that's been asked through... all down through the years of the kids in school, and my folks would say you're an American.

DB: *Aaaah...*

BWS: And that's all I ever knew.

DB: *And do you know where they came from when they moved here?*

BWS: Ya... my mother... well, they both come... uh... Oklahoma and Missouri... uh... my dad was born in ... in Missouri, and my mother was born in... in Missouri, but sh... they lived in... my mother and her folks lived in Oklahoma City before they come out here.

DB: *So, the Hayden side of you family... is that your mom's family?*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *And.. was she a Hayden, then?*

BWS: Ya...

DB: *So... I'm trying to think... the first cheese factory actually, in Tillamook County, is said to be on the property right close to where you are now, I believe... and that was... not the Hayden's though...*

BWS: Nicholaus.

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DB: *No, uh... even....*

BWS: Foland...

DB: *Ya.. Folands.. isn't that a relative, too?*

BWS: A distant.. I mean, by marriage....

DB: *Ooooooh...*

BWS: That was, uh... I don't ... I can't ... the um... that was on my dad's side.

DB: *Ok...*

BWS: And I don't know exactly what the connection is... I've been told, but I couldn't tell you now.

DB: *And, if you know, why did they... why did your mom's family move here and why did your dad's family move here... why did they choose this place instead of somewhere else? Any idea?*

BWS: No... uh... my... I know my, uh... my mother's folks come and they ss... they uh... stayed out in the valley, and worked in... around the hop fields for a while before they come over here, and then they homesteaded up past... well... Sorensen's place... up past Cole's... way back up in the hills there.. they had a homestead...

DB: *And that was...*

BWS: That was my grandparents.

DB: *Was that the Haydens, then?*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *On Tony Creek?*

BWS: Ya... clear.... clear way back... uh, huh (yes)...

DB: *Oh... ok, I didn't know that.*

BWS: Um... there... there was a place back in there... that they lived back in there... when my mother and my dad were married, why that's where she lived...

DB: *Ooh...*

BS: ... was back up in there.. and that's where there was a... a... the Nicholauses lived back up in there, and that's ... they made cheese, and the only ... the only cheese that was made that I know of.

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DB: *At that point.*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes).

DB: *Ok... What chores or responsibilities did you have when you were growing up?*

BWS: Oh, I had to feed the chickens and gather the eggs, and... and I helped milk cows...

DB: *By hand?*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes). That was a... after I was older... I... I milked cows... but when started... my brother and I started milking cows, one of us was on one cow... on one side of the cow, and the other one was on the other side of the cow... milking the same...

DB: *And there are just you two in the family..*

BWS: Yes... uh, huh...

DB: *So that must have been a big job... how many cows did you have?*

BWS: Oh, dear... I don't know....um... probably ... oh, ten, twenty... I don't know exactly.

DB: *About how long would it take to milk all of them? It's been a while...*

BWS: I don't know... but then, of course, I had to help with... getting the cows in... in and getting the cows back out of the barn... and... and feeding hay and... and, just... and then, of course, and... and... course I had to help in the house, too, with uh... washing dishes and setting table and what have ya'....

DB: *(discussion with students....) Sorry to interrupt you ... there was another question I thought of when you were talking about ... and I thought I locked that door, but obviously I didn't... so, when you were a child, did you ever have a dream of wanting to be something or do something? You know... what was... maybe have your own farm, or be the postmistress, or something like.... (students leaving for assembly)... we have an assembly, but last week it wasn't really scheduled for the time, and... it doesn't matter to me, so ... this is a Monday... Monday's aren't always like this, but today, for some reason, the kids have had a lot of difficulty focusing attention... maybe it's the weather... such a nice day...*

BWS: Ya, it is...

DB: *So... what were your favorite... your favorite games or sports or hobbies or books or anything, as you grew up... can you recall any of those that you especially liked?*

BWS: (sigh)... well... um.. favorite game, and this is another one that they played that I never thought of awhile ago, and that was hopscotch... I liked to play hopscotch... I liked to play basketball... um... and I liked to swing in the swings... I liked to...uh... try to chin myself and do things like that on the bars, but I wasn't that great at it...

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DB: *Did they have a girls' basketball team or anything at all?*

BWS: No... uh... not that I remember... they didn't...

DB: *I know that... during some years there was, and other years there wasn't...*

BWS: I think... I think they did later on... it's ... see, I graduated in '37... May of '37 I graduated from.. and we went to... uh.. .this is something that uh... there was Ray Kenneth Measor and I that were in the eighth grade, and we went to Hebo and had our graduation with the.. with the eighth graders down there...

DB: *So it was just those two schools together then?*

BWS: Uh, huh... uh, huh (yes, yes) and my cousin, Buster Hayden, or Eugene Hayden is just a week older than I am, and he... we graduated together, so that made it nice.

DB: *So you must have been young when you graduated, too, weren't you? Were you seventeen?*

BWS: Well... no, no, no ... when I graduated from ...

DB: *High school...*

BWS: Oh, from high school...

DB: *Ya...*

BWS: Umm...

DB: *Oh, you're talking about when you graduated from eighth grade...*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes)

DB: *Aaaah, I see...*

BWS: Uh, huh... uh, huh (yes, yes). Ya, when I graduated from high school, that was in '41...

DB: *Ok... now... now I'm with you.. I wondered what... I didn't think there was that much difference between you and... and dad...*

BWS: No.. you ... your dad is probably pretty close to the same age I am...

DB: *Ya...*

BWS: Well, fact... he's probably... he probably is a little bit older than I am...

DB: *... just recently... What do you remember most about your mother and your father?*

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BWS: (sigh)... Well, my dad... I remember him being, you know, a farmer and milking cows and... and was always close to us kids... he always took us with him to do things, and we always were... you know, wherever he went, if we could go, I... we were with him, and... in the evenings, why, we had a wood stove in the house, and I can remember sittin' on his lap in... in his rockin' chair and singin' songs... he had a book that... course he was in the World War I, and he had a book of songs that they used to sing... and, uh... he'd sing those songs with us, and... and my mother... she was always... always a housewife.. she was always, uh... just at home... 'bout the only other thing that she ever did... well, she went to Rebeccas, and she went to... uh... always went to church... we always went to church, and Sunday School...

DB: *Was she always as sweet as when I knew her?*

BWS: Oh, shh... she...

DB: *She was a sweet lady... (chuckle)*

BWS: She had her days... she ... she had a temper, just like everybody has...

DB: *And the reason we're asking these questions about your parents, too, is so that we could just kinda' get a glimpse of them, since we can't interview them. Wha... what do you think is the best advice that your mother or father ever gave you, or maybe what was.. what was a good lesson that you learned from them, or some good lessons you learned from them?*

BWS: Well, from my mother I learned to be careful of what I said to other people... that it wouldn't give me a... a bad name, you know... to, uh... and to respect other people... with my dad, I don't know... we just, uh... when he... well, I guess he taught me, or taught us to go to church and Sunday School and... and to be truthful and...

DB: *Did that come from both sides of the family?*

BWS: From both.. uh, huh... uh, huh (yes, yes)... well, I... I think my dad was.. uh... more... uh... well, he... he got my mother to go, and then, of course, the time us kids come along, why it was both of 'em... but it was, us... I think he was the ... the one that, uh... went to church... and...

DB: *Now, how is he related to the other Woodses that are in the area... were there... was it his parents that came...*

BWS: Uh, huh.. uh, huh (yes, yes)... Jim and, uh... oh, dear... I don't... can't tell you what her name was, because she died when I was just a few months old, or uh....

DB: *And did they homestead here?*

BWS: Ya, they.. up where, uh... Hoskins... the Hoskins place, you know... there used to be a big old... two story house up there... you... you know, where I'm talking about... well, that was their house.. that was their home... uh, huh (yes)... and, uh... they was... uh... Willie was my dad, and Ray Woods and Jesse Woods, and then there was another boy.... uh... Roy Woods, and that was LeRoy's dad.

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DB: *We just wondered if there was a Woods that lived up East Beaver Creek around... also, on what became the Porter farm... was that any re... relation that you know of, or... no... ok...*

BWS: I... I... I don't say it wasn't, I just...

DB: *Lloyd Woods, I believe the name was...*

BWS: Oh, Lloyd Woods? Well, he didn't... when I knew him he didn't live up there, he lived where uh...

DB: *Is that Junior's dad? Or, or...*

BWS: Ya... ya... Lloyd Junior...

DB: *Was that his name... Lloyd Junior?*

BWS: Oh, you mean... what Junior?

DB: *Uh.. Rose Phelps Dawson Nufer was saying that there was a... well, maybe she was referring to Junior as Lloyd.. that there was a Woods family that lived up East Beaver Creek Road, and that his... Junior's dad owned the property.... so I didn't know...*

BWS: The... Lloyd Woods... there was Lloyd Woods, and then there was Lloyd Woods, Jr., and then Ellen Lewellen was their daughter, and uh... and there... uh... Betty Jensen... uh...

DB: *Ok...*

BWS: But they lived where um... oh, the band leader... wha... oh... Hammonds... when... when I was a kid, that's where they lived... there was an old.. older house there that they've torn down...

DB: *We are doing... we are going to the courthouse and we're looking through old deeds, so once we know names like this and about where they lived, it's easier for us to check...*

BWS: Uh, huh... uh, huh (yes, yes).

DB: *... and see some of the places they lived.*

BWS: Well, they... there was two houses there... and, in the old house, Lloyd... if I remember right... Lloyd lived in the old house, and then... I don't know whether it was his folks, or his... or her folks lived in the new house, but anyway, there was two houses there at one time... and I don't remember exactly who lived where...

DB: Pretty close to the road, then, weren't they?

BWS: *Ya, they were... right on the road.*

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DB: Tell us about any of your occupations through your life...

BWS: Well, after I graduated from high school, I got married when I was eighteen, and then when... we lived right where I do now... well, no... I take that back... we lived... when we were first married, we lived over by the, uh... in a little house that was over by the, uh... store... grocery store... it was this side of the grocery store... in that parking lot... uh, huh (yes)... there was a little house right there, and that's where Bud and I lived until we built our house where I live now. And then we lived there until he went into the service in '43... in January of '43... on our anniversary...

DB: Hmmm...

BWS: And then I went to Portland and lived out there with my aunt, and I worked at a place that made sleeping bags and, uh... and parachutes for the service... for the government... and I rolled sleeping bags...(chuckle)... by... they was.. they was.. well, some of 'em we rolled by hand, but some of 'em we put on a... we had a crank that we cranked 'em up, and then we took big boxes... we had to make big boxes and put those sleeping bags in those boxes...

DB: How interesting.

BWS: And then from there, after that was over, I worked at J. C. Penney's downtown in the tube room.

DB: *What's a tube room?*

BWS: (chuckle)... Well... when they'd ... when they would.. a customer would buy something, they had pipes...

DB: *Phoomp...*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes).. that had suction, and they'd put the money and their sli... sales slips in those cups and put 'em in those pipes, then they would come down to the basement, and we'd make change, and put 'em back in, and they'd go back up to.. and you're supposed to get 'em in the...

DB: *J.C. Penney...*

BWS: Huh?

DB: *J.C. Penney in Portland or Tillamook?*

BWS: Portland.

DB: *Portland. Oh...*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes). I worked there until Bud come home from the service in '45, uh... then I come home and raised my family until I went to work in... in Tillamook... well, I worked.. I worked one Christmas at J.C. Penny in Portland.. or in Tillamook... just for the Christmas holidays... then I went to

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work at... uh... after my kids was grown... well, Tim was still in school, 'cause he didn't graduate until, uh... '78... but I worked for McGregors for twenty-five years...

DB: *Hmm... didn't you also do the... help Bud sometimes in the post office?*

BWS: And I helped in the post office, yes, but that was just... that was a... that was no paying job.. that was just to help him out.

DB: *(to another person) How are you... are you doing ok still, on your time?*

Other person: Oh, ya...

DB: *And you're welcome to come up here if... ok... thank you, sir...*

BWS: I forgot you were back there.. am I telling things right?

DB: *(laughing)...*

Other person: Yep!

DB: *Umm... we don't have very many more to go... so, if you would tell us about your own family.. you mentioned about Bud, your husband, and... what about your kids?*

BWS: Well, Gary is my oldest boy... he was born in '47... and then Cynthia is my daughter and she was born in '53, and then Tim was born in '58... and they all have families of their own.. Gary has two boys, uh.. that go to college, and... well, I.. well, the oldest one goes to college in, uh... Portland...

DB: *State or University?*

BWS: University of Portland, I think it is... and the other one will be going there before too long.... he's up in Idaho right now, but he's coming back to Portland.. .and Cynthia's daughter lives in Pullman, and she has a good job there... Pullman, Washington... and she's coming back to Forest Grove in August and live with her brother, who works at Pacific University in the computer.. he has charge of all computers in Pacific University... and then Tim's girls goes to school in Tillamook, and the youngest one just had her thirteenth birthday yesterday, and the other one is fifteen, will be sixteen in October. Is that what you wanted?

DB: *That's exactly what I wanted. That was great! Are there any community or religious activities that you'd like to tell us about throughout your life?*

BWS: Uh, no... I.. just, uh.. that we always went to Sunday School and church and had prayer meetings of a evening... sometimes there wasn't many there.. the Ralph Harpole family and my family, uh... was always there, and I presume there were others, but I know those two was always there.. sometimes there wasn't a minister, but... uh....

DB: *Ok... what are some thoughts you have about what it's been like living in this area? Do you think it's been good?*

Interview with Betty Woods Strong

Conducted by Dean Bones & Students

April 29, 2002

BWS: Oh, yes... I.. I think it's been a great place to live, and a great place to... to raise kids... uh...

DB: *Why do you think that is? What makes it that way?*

BWS: Well, up until the last few years, I guess it's not been as safe and all... but it's always been a safe place you could turn your kids loose... when I was.. when I was young, why, I used to go by myself clear over on the hill towards Hodgdon's over in there.. course there was no road much over in there... well, there was kind of a wagon road over in there, but I'd go over in there pickin' flowers and.. when I was just an... and all by myself... well, nowadays you wouldn't let your children do that.. but... and then when my kids was... why, it was the same... they'd go to the river... they'd go to the creek, and Gary used to go to the river and catch fish and come back, and... and didn't... you didn't worry about 'em... it was just a nice place that... in the... and the people were always friendly and... I.. I don't know... it just was a great place to raise your family and live...

DB: *Really good comments. Pretend that your grandchildren are sitting here.... what are some stories that you would like to make sure that they hear, either about ... what are.. about your childhood, or... maybe stories you heard your parents tell you... but, what are... what stories might you tell them? Any that you can think of?*

BWS: Oh, no....

DB: *And while you're thinking, I'm gonna' grab my camera ...*

BWS: I don't really... I don't really know... uh... right off if I to... if I had... uh... you know.... I'd go home and think about it, I probably would... could think of something, but...

DB: *If you do come up with something that you think is an important story...*

BWS: They most... uh.... they've heard most of the stories that...

DB: *We haven't, though... so if there's anything you think of that would be interesting for us to know...*

BWS: Well, I can tell you that my kids always knew that when mother spoke, she meant for 'em to do what they were told, and they know that... and even ... even Gary's wife, Sue... will tell you that... that... 'cause her and Cynthia go into... well.... what they did was they took a pickup, and they was supposed to go for a short drive, and they went clear to Pacific City and they didn't get back when they was supposed to, and they learnt that they don't do that.

DB: ???

BWS: And Cynthia knew that when she was told to be home.... well, all the kids knew that when they was told to be home at a certain time, that they better be there, or else call, so... they, uh... in fact, Gary had car trouble once... 'cause he took a girl home that he didn't tell us he was going to... but... he got stuck...

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DB: *That always happens...*

BWS: had to call ... had to call mom and dad in the middle of the night...

DB: *One of the things I was going to do today, is the kids were going to take you in to look at some photos, and we have many more than we had before... we have now, uh... for Beaver, probably over forty or fifty photos... and we've been having people identify people in the photos... but I think what I might do is another day, is to bring some photos to you... if there's anybody we don't have identified yet... and have you look at them.. and you'd enjoy looking at 'em anyway, I think, probably. Our gathering is on May 29th, and... at noon... so, we'd love to have you come again to that one... I think it's gonna' be much better than it was last year, even. We're expecting a lot more from the kids in what they do, and a lot more information, so... ok?*

BWS: Uh, huh (yes)

DB: *You've been wonderful. I appreciate all your comments today.*

BWS: Well, I hope I did good.

DB: *You did! You told us things we haven't heard... uh, about Beaver and stuff, so... I appreciate your time, also.*

BWS: You're welcome.

DB: *Thank you very much for coming in.*

BWS: (to other person)... so, it's all yours now...

DB: *(laughing)... I just have to get a different tape in...*

Other voice: Well, you brought me back a few memories, too.... (end of tape)

Transcribed by Darleen Creecy Cole