

The following interview is of Linda Appel on June 20, 1975 in St. Maries, Idaho by Irma Wood.

EW: What are some of the advantages and disadvantages of living in St. Maries?

LA: A lot of the advantages that we have are recreation; our fishing, our hunting, it's a small community, not a big city. The disadvantages is of course you don't have the shopping like you do in the big city, which we go to Spokane to do a lot of that, which I think most everybody here does.

EW: It isn't too far from Spokane, is it?

LA: No it's only an hour and a half if you're going slow like me. We spend the day and come home; it's not bad.

EW: How does your family life compare to family life when you were a child? Did you live in St. Maries when you were a child?

LA: No we lived in Redmond, Oregon when I was a child. The area there is different from St. Maries. It was flat, lots of juniper trees which I still like and we lived on a farm. Of course here we lived on a farm and we have cows and our steer and stuff but it's not like then. It's always different when you're a child.

EW: But you do have animals here?

LA: Yeah, they're not here, they're up at his dad's this summer.

EW: Do you have a horse?

LA: No, we did have but we sold her because we didn't have our fences up after the flood. She was a pet, she was born here and we spoiled her rotten and when she got to big and you couldn't handle her and Wendy has rabbits and of course the dogs and the cats.

EW: You have four children?

LA: Five, four girls and one boy.

EW: What are their ages and interests?

LA: Cheryl is fifteen and her interests are sewing, cooking and her band at the school, her band activities. Ginger is 14, she was active in youth club at the Presbyterian Church and the different things they did and in

pep band and she loves the outdoors. Jackie she's 12, she's in band and she loves to be active in sports, they all seem to be active in sports. Wendy she's 8, no 9, she likes the outdoor activities, none of them are really indoor or like to fool around inside; they like to get out and be active. Of course the baby, he's just whatever. He'll be 2, he loves it outside, he'd sleep out there if we let him.

EW: You have a beautiful home here, I wonder if you could tell something about it.

LA: When we went through the flood in January, we moved our house back 700 feet, back in by the river and put it on a foundation so that we wouldn't have to worry about the flood anymore and it overlooks the river from all directions. We have a beautiful view of Baldy. Of course the lake out in the middle of the valley, it's beautiful at night when the moon shines on it, it's like a picture. I don't know it's just a beautiful valley, we think, we love it here.

EW: I understood the flood went right through your house.

LA: We had approximately 5½ feet of water in our home, lost quite a few things and a lot of things destroyed by flood, what it didn't take with it and that was quite a chore cleaning that up.

EW: I noticed in your pictures the water went clear to the windows.

LA: Yes it was quite deep, it really soaked up the walls and everything, went right through it all.

EW: What things do you enjoy?

LA: I enjoy fishing for recreation, just go behind the house. In the wintertime we have two snowcaps and we can just go right out here in the field and have a ball. Anytime a person has enough snow to do it and it is fun. The kids enjoy it, we didn't have any time this year to go on any snowmobile trips, maybe next year. Our family does most everything together, snowcapping, fishing, picnicking or going to a show or something, we usually do

that together, or go to the lake or whatever.

EW: What does your husband do for a living?

LA: My husband, he works for Potlatch as a contractor, logging and he's been with them, I think this will be his third year. Before that he and his dad worked together and he was a sawyer before that.

EW: He's always been in logging?

LA: Yes, since we were married, he's been in logging.

EW: Was he raised here in St. Maries?

LA: Yes, he was born here in St. Maries.

EW: What community projects do you take an interest in?

LA: Well I haven't been in to many activities or projects. Most of them; the home things pretty much take up most of my time, by the time supper and with the kids. I have joined one club which is a good club it was the
but I quit because at night time I was so tired I don't think
I was much good at all.

EW: Who makes the decisions, you or your husband or both?

LA: Father is usually gone so mother gets stuck with it, right or wrong. It's usually based on mutual agreement.

EW: Prior to your courtship, have you ever been divorced or widowed?

LA: No

EW: Do you associate with friends and neighbors around the community?

LA: Yes, we have some that are out of town but we have some real nice neighbors.

EW: I guess that answers most of the questions, is there anything else that you can think of that you can add about St. Maries, you did say what you like about St. Maries, is there anything you don't like about St. Maries?

LA: Well St. Maries is still working on their streets and stuff, I mean our town can be improved. It has a lot of room for improvement as far as our streets, sidewalks, lighting, street lights at night. As far as activities

for the kids, we don't have a showhouse which would help, or a bowling alley, roller skating rink. We don't have any of these type of things and I think there would be less problems if they had some of these things. Now they bus them to Spokane to go roller skating to different churches or whatever, they take the kids and go to Spokane and it would be nice if St. Maries had this so you wouldn't have to go to the expense of going that far.

EW: St. Maries is really big enough to support something like that.

LA: Yes it is, it's surprising how many kids we do have.

EW: Are your children in 4-H?

LA: no they're not; Kathy was going to join but she got into Little League Softball.

EW: Oh that's an interesting thing to do.

LA: Yeah, they're kind of busy now the next few months.

EW: Are the girls and boys a softball team?

LA: No they are separate. There was quite a squabble, the girls tried to get into the boys little league, you probably read in the papers about it. Of course we had one daughter that did try out and that's when they told them that the girls couldn't join the boys which kind of broke their hearts; descrimination.

LA: The Univ. kids did come out, girls and boys and I know ^{the county} ~~they~~ donated their dump trucks and they took two and a half dump trucks loads of deprece off of our place and the boys helped clean off the pantry in the back porch, the garage, things that would've taken us weeks to do they did in a few hours.

EW: Was that VISTA?

LA: I don't know what it was, they bused them up there were two bus loads. They all worked very hard and they were all real nice kids and osome of the girls helped clean out and scrubbing on the other people's houses.

LA: They had a time when it hit 4 o'clock, they had to be at their best.

It was really a big boost, they really don't realize how much they did help.

(end of interview side 2 on tape 12)