

MAINE SOUND AND STORY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FIRST COAST

AN INTERVIEW WITH ALICE SPENCER FOR THE FIRST COAST DEER ISLE &
STONINGTON COLLECTION

INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY GALEN KOCH

DEER ISLE, MAY 01, 2018

TRANSCRIPT BY ELLE GILCHRIST

Interviewee Name: Alice Spencer

Project/Collection Title: The First Coast Bar Harbor

Interviewer(s) Name(s) and Affiliation: Galen Koch – the First Coast

Interview Location: Deer Isle, ME

Date of Interview: 05/01/2018

Interview Description: In this interview by Galen Koch with Alice Spencer of Stonington, Spencer shares stories about a trip to the White House, close calls with death, mischief her children and herself got into, traveling and selling her paintings to make enough money to get back home, hitchhiking to work at a nursing home, seeing the northern lights by accident after having to pee on the side of the road, paying the doctor to deliver her baby with a basket of lobsters, camping on George's head, and stories of saving animals and pets. Spencer also highlights stories of kindness around her that reflect her familial values, love of God and the way of life on the coast of Maine.

Key Words: Painting, Family, Adventure, Childhood stories, Travel, Motherhood, Camping, Nursing home, God, Faith

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Spencer, Alice, The First Coast 2019 Oral History Interview, May, 01, 2018, by Galen Koch, 28 pages, Maine Sound and Story. Online: Insert URL (Last Accessed: Insert Date). [Transcriber can leave this blank if unsure]

Transcribed By: Elle Gilchrist

Start of: 050118_Alice_Spencer_DIS_AUDIO

[GK]: Galen Koch

[AS]: Alice Spencer

[RS]: Richard Spencer (Alice's Husband)

[FS]: Faye Spencer (Eldest Daughter)

[00:00:00.0]

[on the phone here]

[0:04:47.0]

[Trying on, talking about, and reading a religious poem about slippers, and taking a picture of the slippers (gift from Alice to Galen), Richard Spencer enters with dog, small talk, serving coffee and cookies, says a prayer]

[0:15:18.1]

[AS]: I got some stuff written out. (GK: Oh my goodness) Now, I got two pages I wrote after you left.

[GK]: Amazing. (laugh) Amazing.

[AS]: Well, I don't know. Where did we leave off?

[GK]: We were in the middle of many stories, I think (AS: Oh, I know it) you can just take it wherever you want to go. I will end up putting things together in order (AS: whatever way you want to go.) Yea.

[AS]: I told you I was born in [Lila Haskell's?] which ain't no more?

[GK]: No, where was that?

0:15:49.7

[AS]: Over in Greenhead (GK: Mhm) in Stonington. The place is not there anymore. My father and mother, I was probably about a year old maybe I was one month old. I had

my baby in that house naturally. We went down on the waterfront and my father bought that place down there and that's where I grew up, right on the water. My father, he was a fisherman. My mother cared for the house and took care of us three children. [Elton/ I was?] is the oldest. Melvin Hutchinson is my brother. Two years younger. Seven years younger was David and he's down in Florida. Then, of course, when I graduated from Stonington high school. Then I got married. That was 1957. I graduated and about two weeks after I got married. 1957 and 1958 I had my daughter. I didn't have to get married. I had my daughter, Faye, my oldest. I had Faye, Larry, 2 years younger, and Tammy I think is seven. Almost like what Momma had for us I had for my children. It was so strange but that is how it goes.

0:17:24.6

[AS]: Let's see I am trying to think. I met him. I was going with him. I told you that story.

[GK]: Yea, I love that story.

[AS]: Then we got married and lived up in Greenhead up on the hill, where [Edmund] lived years ago. Then the kids got married and lived in different places. I don't know to-

[GK]: Did they move out of Deer Isle or did they stay here?

0:17:59.4

[AS]: Faye moved out. she went down to South Carolina. She met her husband though in Ogunquit. He was a delivery on the airplane. I can't remember the name of the airline now. They met each other. She worked as a waitress at [Whistling Oyster]. That's what the name of the place was over there. Then Tammy graduated from University of Maine, Machias, with high honors. She went down to Massachusetts as a K-mart manager. She had from one side to the other until she was up to the top one. She overworked herself really too much I think. She then moved from Massachusetts to Spencer, Massachusetts, where I went out there with her. Then I wanted to bring her back but she wanted a place to move to. God worked that all out at [Billy Bumps?] house over there in Moose Island.

0:19:22.2

[AS]: She had her stuff moved down to [Norman Choice's] place. Low and behold did I know that was going to be my daughter's place, I used to take care of his mother, Betty. I would clean house, give her a perm and do different things for her. Little did I realize she was going to be living there. She needed a place and I prayed that Norman and Illene would let her live there. Low and behold it worked out so that she had the place and then she had to get the stuff from mass down here and then have nobody to help. This one was busy so somebody else came in the picture thank the Lord. They

got that stuff all in and got settled, and that is where she is today in Oceanville. I can't remember what year it was. I am trying to think of all these things.

0:20:17.9

[GK]: Well let me see, you have told me a lot.

[AS]: I don't know if I told you that or not.

[GK]: You have told me a lot, but no you didn't.

[AS]: The wedding?

[GK]: No, tell me what you wrote down and we'll see if that jogs any memory.

0:20:30.4

[AS]: I just told you about [Bonnie? Milalas?] and Ed Haskell's place that it is not there anymore. I just told you that. (Gk: mhm). They [got a neighbor?] and they moved down by the waterfront. That's where I grew up. I had a friend named [Sible Sturdy?] who lived across the way when I was a kid. She and I were the same age. We went to school and graduated and everything together. We grew up together. She was my best friend. Her mother passed away. Before she did that, she didn't have much money. Her husband died, Sible's husband, Sible's mother, Flora died. We used to play together. I told you about the tree swinging on it. Singing songs and Momma would holler to try to get us in. We would play jump rope and we played all kinds of games.

0:21:30.3

[AS]: We went up on Edith Bagley's lawn and played horses. Then we went down to the end where my mother lived. The [Burgess's] has all kinds of ware, branches and we would make believe that we were Cheetah and Tarzan and Jane. We went when and jumped on them and cracked them all up, broke them all down. He was feather white. He got after Flora about it. I guess he found out later it was us kids. It was one of those things. I guess that happens. We didn't know we were just playing Cheetah and Tarzan and Jane. We used to get a bunch of kids to go down to the movie hall. [Pinky Willet?] was there at the time. He would sneak kids in at the time while we had to pay the little price of fifty cents. Got them all settled and everything.

0:22:31.7

[AS]: We had quite the crew of kids when we were kids. I remember one time I went up on the mountain by my Aunt Myrna's. It was up there where the Old Forger road was,

Quarry road. Sible and I went up there. We were going to get up on a tree up there. Momma drove us out of the other one so we got a tree up there. I was swinging like this. She was swinging on the other one. We were singing, "You are my sunshine" and all of the old songs we know and all of a sudden my tree started cracking and I went right down in a bunch of bushes and what a mess trying to get me out of that bush pile! Finally, I was all scratched up and we went down to Aunt Myrna's down below for that mountain and while we were down there at Aunt Myrna's, she doctored me all up, she said, "You know you shouldn't be up there." I said, "Why Aunt Myrna?" Uncle Fred spoke up and he said, "There's bears up there. You know you can't go up there." So we got scared about that and we didn't get up there that much after that (laugh). We used to do a lot of things outdoors, playing with kids, going bicycle riding, and over to Greenhead. It was a lot of fun. We used to swim across the cove and that's when I got my scar on my left arm.

0:24:02.2

[GK]: Yea, I remember that story.

[AS]: Yup. That the [Doctor Cobberman?] took four stitches, big stitches and stitched it up. Looked like there were little worms coming out of it. Almost hit my jugular vein, but I thanked the lord, God was with me then. He's with me all the time as far as that goes. We used to play camp. I don't know if I told you that or not. Dad said we could have the shed. Okay, we got all my dolls and stuff we needed. Sible got hers and we got it all cleaned out. Next day it was torn down. I felt so bad. I cried and lost all this. It rained and lost a lot of my stuff. Oh my garry. It was sad but that was what happened. I remember when I was a younger kid, probably about, I'd say 5 or 6 maybe 7 years old. Something like that.

0:25:00.0

[AS]: My mother was out over the roof of the place that went down and she had a clothesline from the big rock up to where she was. That was how she got her clothes across the cove, where the water was coming in. It was way up high. While she was out there, I watched Momma, what she was doing and I went to go put something in and I got my hand all wound up down here and started screeching and she came in. She unwound it and unwound my hand again. It was alright but it was a bad situation. When I got married, my daughter Faye did the same thing to me. She wanted to her blanket for [Bar], she'd rub her nose and suckle two fingers. She went to go get it and when she did she got her fingers in there and I snapped it and brought her's out. Oh my garry, the things that we did. I told Larry, "Don't go touching that stove. It's hot." They don't believe you. He touched it and he got burned on his finger. He watched my husband one day after we were married and the kids were up on the hill. I am getting things all mixed up as they are coming to me.

0:26:12.1

[GK]: That's okay. I can sort it out later. Don't worry.

[AS]: Okay. He saw Richard in there shaving and he thought he'd go in and he'd shave. He cut himself of course. We got that going and taken care of. I had another thing that happened. Richard had a brother that was up there in Alaska. He was up there in the air force and he was going to come down. He surprised us one night with a buddy, and here my dog before that got into a skunk and [Vick Haskell] said, "All you have to do is put some pieces of tomato and tomato juice and cover the dog all up in that and that will take care of the smell." Here I am in the bathtub with my dog, holding him and pouring that stuff over him so he wouldn't smell. I heard a knock on the door and I said, "Come in". When they came in they saw me with the dog and all those bunches of tomatoes on him and they laughed so hard they cried. I could've fell to the floor. (laugh) It surprised me. That was some of the things.

0:27:26.5

[AS]: The kids used to get together. We had friends from up in Guilford come down. They would jump from one place to another. From the shop to the old shed. There was an old embankment. (GK: Oh yea). They'd jump over and jumped over. Somebody came in and said, "Do you know where your kids are?" I said, "Yea, they are outside playing" "Uhuh, come with me." So I went with them and looked and saw them. I was going to shout but I didn't. I said, "What are you guys doing up there? You need to come out. You can't go doing that. " "Oh but Momma it's fun. We are having fun jumping from one to the other." I said, "Oh my garry dear" My land, I was just so scared. That's all. They got out of there and they had this nail then on this board to get up there (laugh).

[GK]: Will you tell me? Remember we were thinking about some of the nursing home stories and airplanes? You said you wanted to talk about airplanes too. (AS: Ok) Do you remember that last time we talked at the very end you had gotten to the point where you wanted to talk about those two things?

0:28:30.8

[AS]: We had a friend that came from Washington D.C. and went to Isle au Haut with us. Richard and I had a little shop, a little place down there to live. Just a one room thing, but we made it into different areas up top. We had a blanket across for one bed to be in there and then we had steps to go upstairs with mattresses so people could sleep. Then we cut that off so we had a little part with a little sink and a pump that went from the pond. There was a long pond down there on Isle au Haut. That little cabin down there. There was a friend of Faye's that came and he built a table and I painted a picture of a deer jumping over a log with the sun coming down and he nailed it right to the wall. Each one to come up to have a visit with us would sign their names underneath it and the date they were there. We had quite a lot. We never got it back but it is still right there I guess today.

0:29:48.0

[GK]: I remember you told me a lot about that Isle au Haut house.

[AS]: Right, what else was I saying about that? I was going to say something. Oh what was it that's why I got going on it. It will come to me. We had good times down there. The lady and the man came down and said, "We'd like to have you go to Washington D.C. with us." I said "How am I ever going to get to Washington D.C." Well the time came and we had a call on the phone that said, "We'd love to have you come out now. Don't worry about a place. We'll live at our home. My daughter has gone to college. We have room." I said, "Well, that sounds really good." So I able to go to Pennsylvania, where [Pearl Mulligan's?] oldest boy was getting married and [Charlotte Dylan's] was with us. That's Richard's sister. We stayed at Pearl's place. I stayed there for a while. She didn't have much so we went out and did what we could. I saw a painting on someone's van. I said I could do that. I got to have some money to get back home or whatever. So what I wanted to do was paint somebody's car. They came up and said, "I would like to have this picture of me on the horse with the barn in the background." With two pictures I had to squeeze into one. I said, "Yea I believe I can do it." So I went out and got the stuff I needed. I had a big poster paper. I had it all fixed up. She said, "I can't buy that" Well I said, "I went and made it for you." she said, "But my horse needs grain, he needs food." I said, "But I am trying to get back to Maine." She said, "Oh, alright, okay I'll buy it." I think 35 dollars but anyways it was something I could get from them.

0:32:00.9

[AS]: I had that call come again from the Jurgensen's. That's what their name was, Richard Jurgensen in Washington D.C. he said, "Can you make it from here out to Washington?" I said "I believe we can." So we wired home "Send more money" so Faye and I were able to go. Charlotte, Richard's sister, had to go home after the wedding was over. Then we got on the bus. Oh, there was somebody who was smoking on that bus. Marijuana. It was so strong. I said "Oh this is terrible. Can somebody open a window?" They opened a window and after a while it went down. I was singing songs and stuff to people. Talking to people everywhere I went. I met a lot of people too. We got there to Washington D.C. where we met down in Isle au Haut told us we could go. We put us in the car and went over to their home. They had a big chicken meal all ready for us. I felt like a Queen going into this castle. Faye did too. Mother and daughter. (laugh). They said, "This is your place. This is your place." We had a good time. They both had jobs in the White House. They would pack a little lunch for us and said you can go walk anywhere you want. It's like a hub. You can go anywhere you want. We went to different places. We took pictures in different areas. I remember one guy came by with a car full of people I didn't understand their language. I thought they were a mafia or something and they wanted to know where the White House was. I said, "I am not sure. Somewhere around here." (laugh) I didn't know at the time. I had a piece of paper. I said, "Maybe this might help you." I wanted to get away as quick as

possible. I didn't want to be anywhere near them.

0:34:04.6

[AS]: Anyway. We met up with Richard Jurgensen and he took us into the White House where all the big people in the White House would go and eat. I felt like 'oh my garry are we dreaming or what!' We'd go and pick up what we wanted and they would take pictures of us. Then he took us over where that big big clock was. I can't remember that place now. Smithsonian Institute. Right. Then we went to the monument and saw all the flags and everything and had our lunch under a tree near. We saw Jefferson's monument. We saw all kinds of places and when it was time he came over and picked us up and took us home. We had such a lovely time and I wanted to give him something, but I had nothing to give. So I said, "Can I paint you something?" He said, "Oh sure, that would be great." He had a jug like this and it looked to me like an old fashioned belly stove so I fixed it all up with a fire burning on it and a chimney and everything. "Oh" she said, "That's beautiful." I could give them something because I wanted to give them something. Thank God for the talent he has given me that I can share.

0:35:30.5

[AS]: That was all well and good. One night, we went out to a meal. A chinese meal. First time I ever had a chinese meal. They said, "We know you don't have much money, but we would like to do something for you. We are going to get a plane, we are going to let you ride in it with this." They gave us the money, the tickets, the whole thing to go from here over to Bangor where my mother would go and pick us up. Sure enough we are on the plane and we got all settled and everything. We did our goodbyes and it was such a lovely experience. One night, yes one night they had an old guitar, so I picked up the guitar. The mother and the father stayed. Richard Jurgensen and his wife had the fireplace going. I was playing the old songs, playing christian songs and we were having a grand old time. Faye went out with a friend I guess and she came back and she says, "I see you guys have been having fun. I didn't have that much fun." I said, "You should've stayed home. We had fun too." We did things like that and just had so much fun and experience and stuff. We get on the plane right and while we were on there I saw these little jiggers. They had little licker jiggers. I said, "I could see a lighthouse in that." I said, "Sir, can I have your little bottle." "Oh sure, wait a minute, I'll get you another one." So he gave me that one, he gave me some more and he asked the other ones (laugh). I had five or six of those bottles. I had them in my bag. They started [sneaking] out. It smelled (laugh).

0:37:26.8

[AS]: Oh yes, I forgot to tell you about my cowboy boots. I got a pair of cowboy boots that Charlotte bought me down in Pearl's friend's store. That was when I was in Pennsylvania and I forgot to tell you that. Oh my garry. When me, my mother saw me

coming through the door of that plane. She said, "That's not Alice." I said, "Hi Momma." (laugh) I had hip boots and the little jiggers and they had kind of seeped out. She said, "Have you been drinking?" I said, "No, I haven't been drinking. It's the bottles." She said, "What bottles?" I said, "These ones" she said, "Oh, you didn't drink?" I said, "No Momma I am going to paint them up and make some nice little salt and pepper shakers and little lighthouses" She said, "Oh that's good." Then we went into the car and went back home. That's what I did when christmas came. My Aunt Eva, my Uncle Archie, I gave them one of those little shakers. They loved it. They used it right up until the end. They really enjoyed it so you never know how you are going to help people by doing something from your heart. God bless on your heart to do. So I thank God for that. Oh my land so many different things.

0:38:58.8

[GK]: Careful with this because it makes noise so we can put it there.

[AS]: Oh okay. I'll lay it down. I just get excited.

[GK]: I just want to hear your voice. I know (laugh).

[AS]: I just get so excited because I am living it all over again. Do you know what I mean?

[GK]: I know. I love it.

[AS]: You do? (laugh)

[GK]: I do. I love it. Now, when did you work at the nursing home? You haven't really told me about that at all.

[AS]: Six years. Eight years.

[RS]: Too long. (in the background)

[AS]: I worked on all the shifts. I worked the morning shift, the noon shift, and the midnight shift. I always had to get a ride to get where I needed to go. Except on the 7:30 to 3:30 shift. My husband had hurt his leg on the boat. I was telling you about that. I didn't have a car. So, how did that go? Wait, I am thinking. Wait a minute.

0:40:00.6

[AS]: I got to back to back up here. Need a breather. Oh dear, the morning shift. Okay. I

worked on all the shifts. Oh yes! He couldn't use the car. He had a compound fracture in his leg. I would go and hike and somebody would come by and give me a ride. I always told my children don't go in anybody's car when you are hiking [hitch hiking]. When somebody is hiking, don't take them in, you never know what they are going to do. Here I was doing the same thing. (laugh) I always prayed, I said, "Oh Lord, Let somebody that I know that is good to me. Protect me." I would get there and I would be a little bit late sometimes, but I would get there. One time, I went and I had three before I got to the nursing home. It was different people that would come and pick me up. One of the factory guys picked me up one time. I knew him too, Red. Then [Pearl Billings?] was another one. Who was the other one? [Micheal Harding?], he'd give me a ride. I'd get a ride with somebody else. I knew these people so God always got me good people to bring me there, but that is what I had to do.

0:41:31.7

[AS]: So, I come in late one day. [Illene Sawyer?] it used to be. Oh, I can't think of her name. Jones. Illene Jones now. I come in late and boy did she lay the law down on me. She said, "Alice you're not here to get your assignment. Where have you been?" I said, "Well, I've been hiking trying to get here." She said, "Where's your car?" I said, "I don't drive." She says "You don't drive?" I said, "No. I don't." She said, " Well you better get on the floor. The girls will kind of fill you in." So I did and boy was she mad at me. The girls went over and they talked to her. Oh, I didn't tell her that I don't drive. I told her that I had to hike up. That's what it was. They said to her, "Did you know that she doesn't have a car and that her husband is home? He's got a compound fracture there and he can't get out. She has to hike her way to get here." When I went in and she said, "Alice, I want to see you after you get your work done." I said, "Okay. I'll come." I said, "Lord, go ahead of me with the holy spirit and don't upset." I didn't want her to get at me. I didn't want to quit or be fired. I went in. She said, "Alice, I heard you don't have a car and you have to hike to work." I said, "That's right I do." She said, "But, why didn't you tell me?" "I thought maybe you knew. I didn't know." She said, "Alice, I am so sorry. I get after you the way I did. She started crying." I said, "You know Illene, it takes quite a woman to say I'm sorry and I forgive you." She said, "I forgive you." and we became good friends.

0:43:31.0

[AS]: So I thank God for that, but then she found out I didn't have a car. I went on another shift. There was another lady [], I can't think of the names off hand. Anyways, she used to come pick me up. That was on another shift. Then on the last shift I would go. Sue Mitchell used to come pick me up. Then I had another lady down in Oceanville come and pick me up. Oh yes that was another one. I came home with her at night and I had to go to the bathroom real bad and I just got done going to the bathroom and I said, "Look up in the sky. Look at the beautiful Northern lights." We were looking at them and saying "Oh Oh" like that. Cops came by and said, "What's going on here anyway?" I said, "Nothing is going on. Look at the beautiful sky is all." It was the

Northern lights.

0:44:40.2

[GK]: Wow.

[AS]: Anyways. She was pregnant at the time too. I was making her a baby blanket for her new baby. We didn't get picked up (by the cops). They went on their way. We just stopped for a minute to see the beautiful sky. Then we went home. I remember on the New Year's we wanted to celebrate because we worked on the New Year's one night. We blew up the gloves to bounce back and forth when the New Year's came. We had soda and I made a cake. Different ones did different things. We celebrated that way. All of a sudden, we had a bell ring. There was a guy coming up the corridor. He had a coffee cup and he had a diaper on. That's all he had. A [ten] they call it. He said, "I want coffee. I want coffee. I want coffee." (laugh) so we got him coffee and walked him back to his room again, and changed him of course because whatever.

0:45:55.7

[AS]: I remember yesternight I had a Sunday school that I was tending to over there on the crossroad in Stonnington. I was talking about David the Giant and I brought my Sunday school things together and I had to make a big giant. I said, "Oh dear, this old [tins?] box nobody wants." So I drew this big giant on this big piece of cardboard from this tins box. Laura, she was the head one there. She came in one night and said, "What are you guys doing?" I said, "I am getting ready for Sunday school in the morning." Of course, we had the [tinker bells] now and then "but I don't have scissors. Do you have any scissors?" "No, but I can get a knife in the kitchen." I said, "Would you Laura? I would appreciate it so much." So she went into the kitchen. She had a key to go get the knife. I cut it out, each thing for that giant for my Sunday school class. It all worked out good. Then she went back home. She saw everything was doing fine. So that was good.

0:47:15.5

We used to have a lady there that would escape. We had to go find her. After a while we had a door that after that when you opened it, it would ring. So we would quit and see what was going on. Got that taken care of. Let's see. Oh my garry, he was there. A quadropelagic to get him up to do what he needed to get done. He'd have me sing him songs while he was in the bathroom. (laughter) He would tell me men stories. Oh dear. When it was [?] I don't want any part in that. I will go get another one. You go in there and do it so that was fine. Maybe I shouldn't say all these things.

0:48:06.9

[GK]: Oh that's okay.

[AS]: Oh dear, maybe I shouldn't. Be careful.

[GK]: Yea you don't need to say (AS: I enjoyed-). Oh sorry. Go ahead.

[AS]:Go ahead

[GK]: I was just going to say you don't need to say people's names if that would make it better with the nursing home stories.

[AS]: Be careful of the nursing home stories. Maybe you might not want to do that (GK: yea). That's what I was thinking. (GK: yep). We have to be very confidential with that is all. (GK: Yea Ok). So maybe you shouldn't do any of that. Oh dear, well you asked me. So I come home. I worked from 7:30 to 3:30. I bought some of that apple cider for one of the girls up there. I didn't get there, didn't get there, didn't get there. They said, "You've got an apple cider down there." It was awful tight. When I started walking home, it got so tight, I threw that thing down and said, "This is liquor." Threw that thing in the woods and it split open and everything. I kept walking and finally there was a person that had a little [Jalape? Type of car?]. He turned around and said, "Alice is that you?" I said, "Yes that's me and I am walking home. Can I have a ride?" He said, "Sure, jump in." I jumped in and he gave me a ride right home. He had a green little buggy wagon there. The old fashioned kind. That was fun.

0:49:39.5

[AS]: One night I came home. It was an 11:30-7:30 (shift). I had my books and stuff. It was a little bit late for me. The one who was going to give me a ride all had to go home. Another woman was there and she said, "Alice I can give you a ride." I said, "Good." So I hurried up and go things together and got into her car. She said, "I've only got gas enough to go over where I got to go over in Sunshine. I'll drop you off at the Twin's garage." I said, "Really?" She said, "Yea". I swallowed hard and went and I stopped there and I started walking. I bid her goodbye and started walking. There was this car and it was whipping it up one thing or another. I was scared. They went up on the roadway in Deer Isle by the Twin's Garage and I kept walking real fast. I wanted to hide so I hid by a car. I said, "They are going to see me here" so I went in the back of the house and I hid there until they went by. I kept praying, "Lord I gotta find some house. I am cold. I am tired. I need to get and call my husband. I got to get home."

0:51:02.9

[AS]: Sure enough there was a house there that had one light. I said this is where I need to be right here. So I knocked. No answer. I knocked again. No answer. The lord said, "Go back again" I went again. Here comes Sue, Sue Burgess, she said, "Alice

what are you doing out here at 1 o' clock in the morning?" I said, "Trying to get home." "Home from where?" I said, "Working at the nursing home" She said, "My dear, come in quick." I said, "Thank you" Then I told her that this guy was following me with all these duppies hollering at me. I was so scared of them. We had a cup of tea. I said, "Can I have a prayer?" She said, "Yea, you can have a prayer" and she said, "I've got a busted pipe upstairs. my bathroom's got problems" She had so many problems. I said, "We are going to pray right now about those problems and get that taken care of and I am going to get a way home." She said, "Yes, you are." So I called and I couldn't get my husband so I called [Pinky Willet]. He was just getting ready to go to bed. He said, "Stay where you are I am coming up there to pick you up and don't you ever do this again." He dropped me home. He said, "Don't you ever do this again or stay up at the nursing home." So I did that.

0:52:16.7

[AS]: That was just my nursing home experiences and the [old Buddha?].

[GK]: What was that?

[AS]: Maybe I shouldn't. (laughter) It was in the nursing home. I had double pay for being there with that woman that [call/pull?] me under the carpet. I said people need more Jesus and [do that Buddha?]. I wasn't supposed to say that but I did. I got called under. But anyway, that lady called me up when she needed help and I had a double shift on that. She paid me double and had the best sleep she had, she said. I was getting my son ready for school. That too. Richard he brought my stuff up, what I needed. Oh my garry.

0:53:03.9

[AS]: There is just so much flying at me at once.

[GK]: I know. I think you have a timeline here it looks like.

[AS]: Oh I guess so. You know I had three children and one of my kids. The first one that I had was Faye and I had to go to Castine. I had to go to Castine because [Doctor Babcock] was my doctor. [Annie/Auntie Medlin?] was a med nurse. She was my Aunt. We started going on the bumps and everything. We ended up having a girl instead of a little boy. The pay for him was a basket of lobsters, I'll never forget it. That's all he wanted. Not the hospital but his pay was a basket of lobsters that Richard went and got for him.

0:54:05.1

[GK]: That's how much you paid him to deliver your baby? Wow.

[RS]: Well. He came into the office where my wife was in the room. He said, "You are a cheap little fellow. aren't you? You never bring me up no lobsters." So the next night I brought him up a basket of lobsters. That's what he asked for for the baby.

[GK]: Oh my gosh.

[RS]: Yup. That's a long time ago.

[AS]: I guess that's why she loves lobsters. I think that's why she loves lobsters so much.

[RS]: It cost you more than that now.

0:54:48.0

[AS]: It sure does. Then I had Larry. I had him in Blue Hill. [Dr. Ling/Lane?]. That night that I went for him I was cleaning everything, going here doing this. Oh my garry. I had everything all packed and to go. That was good. That next day Richard was out to haul and he came up and he says, "I got my boy, I got my boy." He was so happy to have a boy. Then later on we had a girl. That was Tammy. That was in the winter, the eleventh of January. That night, I think I was on the Lady of the Lake, you know on the dance floor in there. That night boy that thing started working. [Chuck Willis?] had gas in his car because Richard didn't have a car. We had to go with Chuck's car, truck I think it was.

0:56:00.7

I got me up there and the next day was the worst snow storm. They came the night before and I was so glad they did. When that doctor came to see me, for Tammy, I had a big pain in my big toe. I didn't have hardly any pain at all just in my big toe. I am serious. (GK:Woah) She came out. All three normal ones. (laugh) All was good. I thank the Lord for them. I don't know.Used to have Sunshine parties down there by Greenhead. I told you about Tammy jumping on the chimney.

[GK]: Yup. you told me about that.

[AS]: I had Sunshine parties over there in Greenhead.

[GK]: What's a Sunshine party?

0:56:47.7

[AS]: I get into the bible. I'd tell them a bible story and we'd make things from the bible story. We had little refreshments and memory verses. I would take them up to the pond and they would pick up rocks or something and have bible studies there. Down on the shore. We had one on the shore. That was a good one. I'll tell you that too. Then we had the Jones down below. I remember the kids. I ain't supposed to say names right now. The kids, I dressed them up like Jesus would be like the disciples would be about when the devil said to Jesus 'turn these stones into bread'. Remember that? Okay. So he was supposed to do that. He had my bathrobe on or a towel over his head or something. We just acted the whole thing out. One night I told him, "We are going to go up to the pond and we are going to dig up some clay." So we went up and dug some clay because we were going to make baskets. So we made little baby molded baskets out of the clay like how they did in the olden days. I told them a bible story about that and about the lost coin, the lost sheep and the lost son. I told them about that and they drew things on paper plates. Then I had the Taylor kids, and they were up there trying to find a cross. I had some grapefruit juice and had some bread. We were going to have communion around this tree. One of the Taylor kids said, "Is this log big enough?" I said, "That's fine." I brought rope with me. So I tied that log right into the middle of that tree onto the rope to hold it up there. We had communion around the tree. It was fun. It was great. We enjoyed it. They enjoyed it.

0:59:01.2

[AS]: Then another time we went to the shore on the back of Greenhead. My daughter said, "I am going swimming." I said, "Tammy, it's cold." "No, Momma its not cold." I didn't want to go very far and somebody else wanted to go wading. I said, "Oh dear, what have I got started." So I got them for a while out and then in. Then I had another little bible study and I made a little fire and we had hot dogs and marshmallows around the fire. We prayed around the fire. We saw the big boats go by. We were up on that big rock watching those big boats. Over there was a yacht basin, we could see the yacht basin from where we were and that was awesome.

[GK]: Did you go to church when you were a child or did you at some point have an awakening?

0:59:55.8

[AS]: No. I'll tell you about the awakening. When I was a kid, I must have been a teenager at the time. Was I a teenager? I guess I was. I was just wondering what year I was? 12. 13. 14. I'm not sure what the age was. We went halloweening one night and [Flora and Macabbies?] used to tell us about the bible but we didn't know much about it anyway. We tried to read those words and then understand a little bit. We went out halloweening, Sible and I did. There were these two ghosts that came in the back of us. We were just sitting on the wall over there in Greenhead resting. They said, "You are

going to go to hell if you don't find Jesus in your heart in your life". They were saying things like that. Scaring us and making weird noises. "You better get ready and go to Church, get your life right." Oh my garry. All of a sudden they made noises and went back and we didn't know what it was for a long time. It scared us half to death. The next day, I said, "Sible, we got to go down to Church." We got ready and we went to church. Then we'd get other kids to go to church with us. There were different people. We had quite a line of kids going. That was the church we knew then. That was the only one we knew about. Later on I went to Pentecostal Church and that's where I was. I thank God. I've been in other ones too but Pentecostal and Galilean Gospel Temple is my church and I thank God.

1:01:48.8

[AS]: So anyways, Sible and I used to have little houses up by Archie and Eva's. There was a house there we cleaned up. There wasn't much for windows. It was all open, but we had a nice little play camp. Until the boys come up and that'd smash that up for us so we didn't have that. Then I'd come home running to my Momma. Then Dad said well you can have the one down here if you clean it up. That's when I cleaned it up and told you they ruined it the next morning. Everytime we went to play camp, the boys that we had in the area, mostly boys not girls, they'd smash our doys up and dishes. Made us cry. We had play camps. You know what we used to do, we had a playing camp right down below where I used to live in a little rock area. We'd go down the shore and pick up old buckets or pans, little dishes. We'd take them home and wash them and we'd play house with them. We went over where they used to embalm people downtown across from Vick's store. We didn't know that at the time and somebody said, "get out of there quick!" so we did. We got out of there.

1:03:08.2

[AS]: We used to go around the shore and get dishes. Oh, we didn't know all the germs we had. (laugh) We had no idea but that was fun. That was another time. We used to play camp a lot and go bike riding. I told you about the sleigh I did and almost drowned in the water down by (GK: Oh yea) Clyde's. It wasn't a sleigh really. It was the top of a car fender. Oh dear. I am just trying to think.

[GK]: Well you have told me a lot of great stories.

1:03:50.8

[AS]: Oh I know. I love to take pictures. I am taking pictures everywhere I go. Where I learned how to crochet, embroidery, and knit. I lived with my grandmother [Haddy McAllis?] who lived down in Martin Gray's place, down by where Richard's father had a garage by [Clyde Connery's?]. I would listen to stories on the radio because that's what they had. We didn't have television or anything. She showed me. I said, "Nanny, I want

to know what you are doing, can you help me?" So she would help me and show me how to do it. That's how I learned through her. Momma says, "You go down there and you stay with your grandmother. She's alone now and she needs help." I said, "Okay" She sent me different areas. (laugh). Garry. When I had those little children. "You go take care of those little children for her." I was probably 12, 13, 14 down in there somewhere.

1:05:04.4

[AS]: Oh my land. I used to take care of them and then this is where I told you about meeting my husband. I was taking care of Aunt Mim's kids when she moved up there and that's when I met my husband. Let's see. Oh dear, just so much flying at me at once. So much. So much.

[GK]: Yes, you told me a lot of stories from Isle au Haut.

[AS]: We had dogs.

[GK]: You had dogs?

1:05:38.4

[AS]: We had a dog and my son had got it somewhere and picked it up on the side of the road or something. His wife took it home. We had a trailer down below where they lived. I loved that little doggie. The little baby was kind of scared, Eric. Sue said, "Would you like to have that dog? My baby don't like to have it around." I said, "Yes I would." So that's when I got the doggie after they moved our different places. My son, rather, Larry and Sue, kind of split up in different areas. I had the dog quite awhile. The dog had babies. One night she had nine babies and oh my garry. That dog was a little tiny dog. Muffin was her name. We'd had a big cellar so we had to keep the dogs down cellar. We used to feed them down there. Different people wanted one. We'd give one to them. Oh my land, we had nine dogs. She got pregnant again after that was taken care of. Some of them came out like gloves. She was getting old. She didn't need anymore of them and I knew that the dog was going to go because she could hardly get around and couldn't jump up. The Lord said to me the doggie is not going to be around long. I knew the baby dog was going to be gone and we buried her out back. We got another one too. (GK:Oh) Oh my land, we buried that one.

1:07:36.5

[AS]: We had cats. Pretty boy. (sound/rustling) That's the dog, Pudgy. He wants in, wants out all the time. Then we had the cat. What was our cat's name, Richard?

[RS]: (inaudible)

[AS]: Black and white one. We got Pretty Boy and it looks just exactly like the one we lost.

1:08:01.5

[GK]: Oh

[AS]: Yea. It will come to me. There is just so much running in my head.

[RS]: (inaudible, talking to the dog)

[AS]: One day when Faye's husband came here. He had to leave early in the morning. The cat was under the wheel. (GK: Oh) He felt like something went like a *thump* but felt he had to keep on going because he had to meet an airplane. He was on the airlines. That was his job. Later on we couldn't find our cat. We called her and called her. Richard says, "Come out here a minute." We went out by the porch. Low and behold there she comes out by the garage. Her body was twisted and he was crawling. It was a he. He was crawling towards the porch. He said, "We got to do something about it. Take a bullet to it or something." I said, "No, honey, you are not going to have no bullet on it. I am going to call up to Blue Hill to see if I can have something done." It took the kitty cat up there. I said, "Can't you possibly save my kitty?" "He's got a twisted pelvis, we got to go in and fix it." I said, "Can I pay you a little bit at a time?" He says, "You can do that." So that's what we did instead of a bullet. Richard wanted to get rid of it. I said no. We doctored it too and it got better. Took it to the vet and he said, "Is this the same cat?" I said, "It sure is." A very happy cat because it purred really loud. It's really doing good. We had it for a long time after that.

1:09:50.4

[RS]: 17 years.

[AS]: 17 years. Yup. Now what was the cat's name again? We had Pretty Boy and Max. I can't think of it as much as we know that cat. Well that was another one. We have always had cats and animals. Dogs, ducks. We've had turtles. We've had fish. The kids would, oh dear, would have turtles and take them out and play with them and lose them. We had gerbils and the cat would eat one. Oh my. We had a guinea pig right in the back of the stove when we were up on the hill when the kids were little. Oh my garry. She invited [Alice Haskill?] who was her teacher. She said, "Oh come over and see out little guinea pig right in back we'd feed him." I felt like two cents. (laugh) I said, "Faye, we got to clean this mess" Anyways.

1:10:57.0

[GK]: Oh my gosh, it sounds like quite a full house.

[AS]: It was a full house. They got ducks and a seagull too. Put him in a trap. We tried to mend a wing of a little seagull. Ducks, oh my garry, and even had pollywogs. They'd go up there and I would smell the stuff that was underneath the sink. They went up there to get the eggs and put them in quart jars under my sink. I smelled the smell. What is going on? I opened it up and there it was way in back. It was sinky. I said, "You take those dear little things back up to the pond, they need to go and live." So they did. (laugh) Oh my garry, the things that we went through.

[GK]: Oh my goodness.

1:11:50.9

[AS]: I remember Merrill. He came in the house one day and he was hungry. He was drinking. He went into the refrigerator and got an egg. He started to fry it on top of the stove. I smelled the smell. I said, "Merrill, "what are you doing?" Richard came down too. He was down there frying an egg on top of the burner on top of the stove. (laugh)

[GK]: Oh my gosh.

[AS]: No frying pan. Just on top of the stove because he didn't know. We never knew who was going to be in our house when we were down on the shore. We never knew who was going to be in our house. More people. We had a chair there and in the morning we might find somebody there we didn't know who it was or one of the young kids needed a place to sleep. We never knew who was going to come through that door. We had so many people stay with us. Oh my garry.

[GK]: Do you think people felt comfortable coming to your house?

[AS]: I guess so. I always made sure I had enough for everybody to go around. I always made extra. You never know who is going to come through that door, or this door either! (laugh) or anybody.

1:13:00.6

[GK]: It's still happening.

[AS]: Oh yes. Yes. It stretches long long ways. I used to do some house cleaning and stuff. I'd go to one job for so long, go to another job for so long to help with the finances and stuff. That is how I got into the nursing. People that I knew, [Nita/Needa?] said,

“You need to be in the nursing home. You like to go around to old people. You like to talk to them. You like to help them.” I said, “Yea” So we all went up there and I graduated from that one and went up to the nursing home. (phone rings) That’s how I got there. Excuse me a minute can you shut that off.

[GK]: Mhm

1:13:37.4 []

[AS]: I went through the exercising. (Richard talking in the background) When I was up to Carmel, Richard and I would take care of the house for Mom and Dad when they got married. Oh that’s another story.

[GK]: Well you told me that story.

[AS]: When we went upside down in the car?

[GK]: Yup.

[AS]: Oh okay.

[GK]: You told me that.

[AS]: Ok

1:14:01.3

[GK]: You told me, I think, -

[AS]: Did I tell you about Ward’s place? I was a teacher there and all they were doing was watching television and putting puzzles together. I was there trying to teach them how to do different things. Did I tell you that? They would dress up and do different things there.

[GK]: No?

[AS]: Oh that’s another one.

[GK]: I don’t think you told me that one.

[AS]: Really, well these people. They were people who didn’t understand. There were

different homes I guess and she had a home there. I was trying to teach them how to do different things. Oh dear. This lady came to me one day and said, "Can you teach these people?" I said, "Well, I'll try." I tried. I had about 14 or 15 I'd say. They weren't kids. I'd call them my kids because they were older but they didn't even know how to do their names. Didn't know this. Didn't know how to do that. I was trying to teach them how to sow. I was trying to teach them how to paint, to draw, how to do different things. Then we talked about Indians, talk about our bodies, the numbers, the ABC's and so many many things. Each day I'd do something different. The clothes pole. Gramps said, "Why don't you just take my clothes pole and make a May time?" I said, "Ok" I went to [] a got ribbons, got some tacks." I went there to the Ward's place. When I did, two people were supposed to hold the clothes pole and I took and put a tack on each one of those ribbons and each one would take one and they'd go in and out. They wrapped the two people in the bottom and they'd couldn't move. (laugh) I was singing, "It's Bubbling, It's Bubbling in my soul." (laugh) on the accordion while they were wrapping each other up.

1:16:14.6

[GK]: Oh my god. Wrapped up in the May pole.

[AS]: That's right and I had to cut it to get them lose (laugh). (GK: Oh my goodness) I had a guitar and a lady wanted to learn how to do it. One of the kids. I let them do the strumming. I would teach them songs and oh my garry. These state people came and saw what I was doing. I made Jonah and the Whale. They said, "What's this?" I said, "Oh these are fish pictures." We weren't supposed to do too much of that. I'd sing them songs. Oh my land. I would make match box houses. We made little canoes for the Indians, when I was talking about them. We did things for what we were doing. We were doing things all the time. They had a church up there. They would all come to church. I had the whole length of them and we'd sing those songs. Bubbling and the different songs that they had. Oh how I love Jesus and things. Oh my land. One lady one time when we was there, I was playing '*It's Bubbling*' and we were walking all around her area. There was a little bridge. She said, "I can't I go by" I said, "Yes you can, Yes, you can." "But I am afraid it will break." I said, "No it's not going to break. We are going to do it." We are going to pray. "Lord in the name of Jesus, give me the help and strength that I need and I can walk over it with your hands holding on to mine. In Jesus's name Amen." I said, "See you can do it" Little at a time she was doing it. She said, "I am doing it. I am doing it." She went over. She said, "I did it" That was a good thing for them. They need little awards. Little getting through what they couldn't do before.

1:18:14.6

[AS]: I got called under the carpet there too because I made these fishes with Noah. The lady came down and said come down have dinner with me. I went and had dinner with her on the other side where the people were all on one side over there. She said, "Alice, I got to tell this. Don't get upset, but you can't do that dear. You can't do that

while these people come in. You aren't supposed to." I said, "But they need it. They need it." She said, "I know they need it, but we can't do that" I said, "Okay" So we didn't do that anymore. She said after six you can do what you want. I had pocket books. I had clothes. I had jewelry. I had shoes. I had hats. I had everything. One of the guys who couldn't talk good he'd go, 'Uhhuhh" I said, "Yes, [name] I know" Right and I believed that was the one that was in California. I know it was because he went to California. Thank you Lord for doing that. He said, "it's time we can do what we want". So I put that big box right down in the middle. I said, "We are going to be in the circle. I want you to help different people ones. You chose somebody to dress them. We are going to play a skit." So they dressed each other and I played a skit about a lady that was sick and I had a chair that had wheels on it. That was the ambulance that was supposed to take them to two chairs together. That was supposed to be the hospital. (laugh).

1:19:52.9

[GK]: Oh my gosh. That is so great. That sounds like it was really good for them. (laugh)

[AS]: I had these bandages. I made my own little things like nurses would be. I would tell the story about how the lady was in there. Somebody would have flowers. Somebody would read the bible. Somebody would read the verse in the bible. Somebody would sing a song. They would all come. "I hope you get better. We are going to pray for you." Then they would walk away. I had never seen anything that was so sweet. So wonderful. I remember the Indians, when they made Indian hats and made a make-believe fire. I had little logs. I made little things to look like a little fireplace. Then we would sing around it. The things that we did. It is bringing it all back to me. Oh my land.

1:20:52.7

[AS]: So, it was their anniversary. This was another one we did. I said, "I haven't got any money to give to the Ward's and it's their anniversary." "I'll tell you what we do". I was praying and asking God to show me everything he wants me to do. That's how it comes out it, easier for me to do. I said, "This is a catalog or some kind of book" She had there. She said we could cut them up so I said, "If you want to buy them a sewing machine, cut it out. If you want to buy them dishes, you cut that out" They had a big piece of paper with what they wanted to give them for their anniversary. Then each one had a letter, Happy Anniversary to the Wards. That night they went across to the Ward's house next to them. They had a little skit about a bear coming out. They knew it before because I was teaching them how to do it. The bear was coming at the little Indians that were around the fireplace. They got scared and ran around the rock but one of them was over on this side and he started to distract him. The bear went over that way. There was another man that came. It was a hunter who came and killed the bear. So everybody was all set and the person had a bear rug, bathrobe and they loved the story

they clapped. They presented, "This is what we can't buy you, but this is what we want you to have." It was from our hearts. Tears were rolling in their eyes. They were so touched. "We got something for you" So they took their anniversary cake and cut it into pieces with ice cream on the top. See when you do something for them, God honors that and blesses you. They were so happy.

1:22:47.7

They all had to move in different areas and they'd come up to me and say, "I need to have you pray for me. I don't know where I am going but." We are going to pray and believe God you are going to get into a nice home and things are going to work out for you. They realized that. They found Lord in their hearts. This was so wonderful Oh my, we even had a lady one night. Her name was []. She was kind of filled with a bad spirit. Her eyes would turn red and bang her head and everything. That was another situation. It got taken care of. Oh, I shouldn't have said that.

[GK]: It's okay. It's okay. Alice, I need to stop today. How did we do?

1:23:33.4 [PAUSE]

[AS]: We went on shore and we had a picnic. We had a wonderful time. That was [Johnny Andersen?] when he and Richard went out seining together. That's a real picture.

[GK]: That is amazing.

[AS]: That there is Tammy, my baby. That's my husband when he was thinner.

[RS]: (Talking to the dog)

[AS]: That's Richard and I when we were younger.

[GK]: Oh my gosh.

[AS]: This is another one.

[GK]: Oh my gosh. Oh that's amazing.

[AS]: Take a picture of it if you want. I don't care.

[GK]: Sweet, well maybe I can. I don't have my camera.

[RS]: (Talking to the dog) Alright Pudgy where are you?

[GK]: He's under there.

[AS]: Richard, could tell you some hum-dingers.

[GK]: I know. Well, Richard, did tell me some things.

[RS]: Not much. I don't say much.

1:24:32.6

[AS]: I probably say too much. I'll never forget the time (RS: Come on Pudgy!) we were at [Mary Ellen's and Gene Gill's?] and we were on the beach down there. Larry was a baby at the time. There was this little boy and they was this car coming down into the water and the boat came out. It was a boat.

[FS]: Hi!

[GK]: Hey.

[AS]: I mean it was a car. (GK: yea) Coming down right beside us. Coming right into the water. I said, "They are going to drown." All of sudden they came up and they went off in the car like a boat.

[GK]:No way.

[AS]: Oh yes. It's auto something. (GK: Yea yea yea yea.) You know those kind? I thought they were all going to drown. Here they were going right into the water. I said, "Mary Ellen, they are going to drown!" She says, "Oh no. No they won't." All of a sudden there was something that sealed up and they took right off.

[GK]: Oh my gosh.

[AS]: The car was in the water like a boat!

1:25:32.1 [PAUSE]

[AS]: That was real bad and none of them are with us. Richard and I went out with some friends out scalloping. They wanted to know about scalloping. While we were there it was getting cold and everything. We watched them how they shelled the scallops and everything. Then we went down into []. She said, "Would you like to draw

a picture?" I said, "I'd love to draw" She said, "Well I am going to start drawing a picture and you start draw a picture." So she drew a picture and I drew a picture. I drew a picture of a man's coat down by a little old stove that they used to cook on and then there were the cupboard and a table. The table would go up and lock or lock it down. But I don't have anything for paints. I started scratching. You know how you get excited and you start scratching your mosquito bites and the blood starts running. Well I took the blood I had from my leg and I put it on the coat to paint the picture. Then I needed yellow. I said, "I'll get some mustard." I went into the cupboard and got the mustard and took that out and started painting some of the things that were on the table that I had in that picture. This is how I wanted to make sure I got the picture painted. I didn't have any paints with me. I did really use the blood. (laugh) We had a good time. We really enjoyed ourselves. Them people are not here now. They are all gone, except Richard and I were there. I remember one time else Richard and I went down there and got pulled down. That old boat was going, DUUN DUUN DUUN. "Richard we are going to tip over." "No we ain't going to tip over" All of sudden that thing jumped back. I thought surely we were going to drown. The water was pouring. I said, "Oh my garry." We are going to be alright. I thank God we were all right. It jumped back. He went back and flipped it around and it gets caught on rocks. The drag gets caught on the rocks and it flips it. (sigh) That was another one. We have had a lot of close calls.

1:28:00.8

[FS]: I remember when we went on with all the kids.

[AS]: I just told her.

[GK]: Which one was that?

[AS]: Which island was this?

[FS]: George's head, I think. You took us all there.

[AS]: I told you about the camping trip.

[GK]: You did?

[AS]: Yea. George's head camping trip.

[GK]: I don't think we talked about that.

[FS]: When we were kids.

[AS]: When Richard-

[GK]: I don't think you did.

[FS]: I don't either.

[AS]: I didn't?

[GK]: I don't think so.

[AS]: The first tenting trip I wanted to go on. I borrowed it from [Gena Laura?]. It was a pop-up tent. Here I had three children and they invited three other ones. We had a hitchhiker and myself.

[GK]: You had a hitchhiker?

[AS]: Yea, somebody came by and wanted to come down.

[FS]: I always woke up in the morning and never knew who was going to be in the house. My brother would bring home everybody.

[GK]: That's what she said. (laugh)

[AS]: Yea.

[FS]: I was like, yea who is this person? (laugh)

[AS]: But anyways, okay. I wanted to go on an island and have a tent. I went down to George's head. So Richard he was sputtering and sputtering and I would go to work and buy stuff that I needed-

1:29:07.6 [PAUSE]

[AS]: This here is when I wanted a garden. I took an old clam hoe. You know how it is to take a clam hoe and a fresh piece of ground. I took that old clam hoe and started yanking, yanking yanking. It hurt but you keep grabbing. I went to let it down for a minute to look up and I went to go reach for it, I almost put my hand on this snake. A big black long snake. It scared the daylight out of me. I screamed bloody murder. Richard came flying out. I said, "Richard there is a snake down there! A big one!" (laugh) I said, "You got to get him out of there!" I didn't dare to go down there for awhile. (laugh)

[GK]: Oh my goodness.

[AS]: I don't like them. I don't like snakes.

[GK]: So tell me the camping story and then I do have to leave.

[AS]: Okay.

[GK]: I do have to leave. I do have to leave (laugh).

1:30:02.6

[FS]: Oh you don't have to.

[GK]: No, I am worried about the roads.

[FS]: Okay.

[AS]: Anyway. So Richard said, "Well, I'll take you down." He took us all down to George's head and I didn't know anything about how to put a tent up. The boys that were there, my son and his friend and I had Faye and Tammy, they had friends with them. Yes, just a minute. They got the thing up but I didn't know how to do it so I said, "You are going to have to take care of it and I will take care of the other stuff." Because Richard said bye. He went seining every night. He'd go right past us every night. It made me mad. The first night that we were there we got the tent all fixed up and I had the clothes all around us to help protect us, watch out for us. I had blankets and pillows.

1:31:08.4

[AS]: I had a big watermelon and it was low tide. I cut it by a big rock and we were all singing *It's Bubbling* around this great big rock at low tide. I cut that big watermelon and everybody had a piece of watermelon and then we went up in the tent and I was telling them stories. [Elaine] picked up her blanket which had some potato chip dip and the potato chips too. They went flying upside down and somebody stuck their toe in the dip and we couldn't eat the dip. (GK:Oh). It made a mess on all of the blankets that was there. We were just like sardines. One, two, three, four, all my people was there. Tammy was a little one. She must've been about. How old was she. Maybe six years old. Seven years old. Seven years old must've been. (laugh)

[GK]: You get all wound up in all the details. (laugh)

[FS]: She does, doesn't she.

1:32:28.7

[AS]: I'm sorry. (laugh) I had two dogs with me. (FS:Oh yea) Pepe was one of them and the other one was Dewit. I had one flashlight and water. I was telling them stories. I had a little bit of candy for them too. The potato chips went upside down and that was the end of that. At night, of course, somebody wanted a drink of water. So I would open up the tent. The water was outside. The two dogs were sitting there. The moon was shining bright. I get the water for them or they needed to or get up and go if they needed to go. Low and behold I saw my husband going right by us going all the way down to Isle au Haut going seining. He wouldn't stop. It was three days and this is what would happen.

1:33:29.1

[AS]: The next day it was a nice day so I said, "We are going to go and have a Sunshine party." So we had a Sunshine party down on the beach. I said, "I got a piece of cloth here and the Indians would go and find holes in shells. I got a piece of yarn." Everybody got a piece of yarn to go get what they could for the shells and whoever got the most got a lollipop or whatever. Then we wanted to go get some clams. We don't have no hoes so we are going to have to dig with our hands or get a stick or a rock. Everybody got what they could and got a few clams. We took them down on the shore and boiled them down so we could have clams. Somebody forgot the water or it was burning dry and we had to throw the clams away. I had sandwiches up there waiting for them so they could have something to eat. Then later on we were going to find some gold. My mother used to tell us about the gold that was on George's head from the Indians. We were going to find gold. Everybody got looking everywhere for gold. Larry came by and said, "Mom, I got some gold. Look." It was on the embankment, It was kind of melting. You could see it in the sun shining so I took it and put it in a bowl. I don't know where it is today but anyway, we had some of it.

1:35:01.2

[AS]: In the meantime I was looking for Larry somebody said, "Do you know Tammy is missing?" I said, "Uhoh, where's Tammy?" We had to go find Tammy. Low and behold I had to go find Tammy and I was crying and praying, "Lord let her be alright, Lord don't let her be in the water drowning. Let her be alright." The islands little anyway but she went all the way around all by herself, over the big rocks. Here I am trying to find her and finally when I found her she said, "Momma I got a piece of wood for you to draw on to fix. Momma got" She had her hands full of wood and rocks and stuff. (laugh) I said, "Tammy, you scared Momma half to death. I didn't know where you was." "Look Momma I'm alright. Look Momma I'm alright" She was older. She must've been seven. She was alright. I said, "Don't you ever ever do that to Momma again." "Momma, I'm sorry" so off we went.

1:36:01.9

[AS]: Another day we went over and the kids were out kind of swimming and said, "Do

you know where Chris is?" I said, "Isn't he here?" I looked and No he's not here. Okay we got to go find him. He's over there. He's in the mussel bed. (FS: inaudible) No, it was low tide and we were getting something in mud. I guess that was what it was. Here I am. I said, "Faye, you take care of things while I run over there and get Chris." So here I am, I guess I was in my bathing suit. My feet was some sore I tell you stepping on those things to try to get him and then lugging him across the mussel bed onto the beach.

[FS]: Everything was a mussel bed back then.

[AS]: I know that's true.

[GK]: Now they are gone.

[FS]: Completely.

1:36:52.7

[AS]: Anyway, I got a hold of him and he was alright. There was a big storm coming up. Momma told Melvin, "You got down and check on your sister. I have not heard from her and I am worried about her. There's a storm coming up. Make sure she's got enough water and food." He came over and when he came it was high tide. I had sandwiches of some kind. I said, "Brother, good to see you." "Momma is worried about you. You alright?" "Yea, we're fine. Doing fine." He said to me, "Here's some water" I was low on water. I was glad he came there. We all had something to eat and Melvin said, "Momma is worried because there is a storm coming up and its going to be tomorrow. You better start packing up." I said, "Alright, you kids got to get together and get your stuff together because we have got to go home." He told me that Richard was coming down to get us sometime but he didn't tell us when. Right. Exactly. That was the only time he came there after he dropped us off. Three days. I was so mad at him. He was out seining and everything. Oh my garry, just so much going in my head.

1:38:24.7

[GK]: How did you get off the island?

[AS]: Richard.

[GK]: He came?

[FS]: Yea.

[AS]: At the end. That morning he came. He said, "You got to go now." We had to get

the kids in. Get all the stuff in. Take down the tent. Get that in and I went in too. We had more than when we started with. We had the trunk so full. We had to deliver all the kids.

[FS]: We had fun.

[1:38:46.5]

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INTERVIEW----- Reviewed by ____ on _____