

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Mary Bremer

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Family Memories Oral History project

Interview # FM-A-L-2014-005

Mary (Cagle) Horman Bremer, who discusses her personal and family history from the 1930s to 2014, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Family Memories* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: February 17, 2014 Location: Mary's residence in Metropolis, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Randy Wiseman, ALPL volunteer

Edited by: _____

Transcript
being processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 2:47 / 2.78 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on March 18, 2014.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Abstract

Mary Horman, *Family Memories*, FM-A-L-2014-005

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Mary (Cagle) Horman Bremer was born on July 16, 1924 in Metropolis, Illinois to Guy and Mozelle Cagle. She was one of six children in the family, with one sibling dying as a young child. She attended public schools in Metropolis, and discusses her life during the depression, as well as the Ohio River flood of 1937. She graduated from Metropolis High School in 1943, and in August of that year married Louis Horman, a fellow classmate, also from Metropolis.

The interview highlights Mary's stories and memories of her family, and her life and times in Metropolis. Mary was interviewed by her eldest daughter, and the two discuss her childhood, her World War II experiences as a young soldier's wife on the home front, life at the University of Illinois where Louis attended college on the G.I. Bill, and starting a family and setting up house in small town southern Illinois. Mary discusses her love of collecting antiques, her laudable civic activities in Metropolis, the deaths of cherished relatives, and now her life as a widow. Following the death of Louis Horman in 1988, Mary married a former classmate, Henry Castleman, who had just lost his wife to cancer. Hank died suddenly just two months after their marriage. In 1995 Mary married Edgar Bremer of Metropolis. Edgar died in 1997. She offers personal insights into life during World War II, as a homemaker during the 1950s and '60s, as a family caregiver and also as a leader in her community.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Metropolis, Illinois; life as a young wife on the home front during WW II; southern Illinois during the Great Depression; attending schools in small town Illinois; flood of 1937; Metropolis, Illinois civic activities; life of a homemaker during the 1950s and '60s; the University of Illinois in the late 1940s; attending college on the G.I. Bill; losing loved ones; living alone;

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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