

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Carolyn (Cari) Carlson

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Community Stories – Rochester Oral History project

Interview # CR-A-L-2018-040

Carolyn (Cari) Carlson, a grade school teacher and longtime resident of Rochester, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's Oral History project.

Interview dates & location: at the

Date: May 17, 2018 Location: Cari Carlson home in Rochester, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Carole Strick

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Interview being
processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:12 / 1.2 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on December 4, 2018.

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

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Abstract

Carolyn (Cari) Carlson, *Community Stories-Rochester*, CR-A-L-2018-040

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Carolyn (Cari) Larson was born on May 28, 1927 in Oak Park, Illinois. Both of her parents were Swedish. She was a homemaker, and also taught grade school at the Rochester Elementary School in the 1960s. She married Clayton Carlson in 1947; he passed away in 2001. They had three children, Paul, Peter, and Mary Ellen. Their son, Peter, died when he was just forty years old.

Cari shares stories from her childhood in the Chicago area, many of them based on her parents' Swedish customs. She currently lives in Rochester, and this is the second period of residence due to her husband's work requirements. At 91, she shares many memories of Rochester and has been in many groups that celebrate the community's history, including the Rochester Historic Preservation Society, the Chicken Bristle Chapter of the Questers, and the Fort-Nightly Book Club. She continues to be very active in community and church activities. She was raised Lutheran but has been a member of the Methodist Church for many years.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Rochester Illinois Rochester Historic Preservation Society; Lutfisk; Morton Salt Company; life in a Swedish immigrant family in Depression and wartime era Chicago

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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