



Interview of: Hugh Irey & Dave Wallace

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Interviewed by: Janet Surrett

Taped by: George Daly

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[As tape begins, Janet Surrett's interview has already begun and the first few words may be missing.]

Q. ... 2002, we're here at the Capt. Salem Avery House Museum [Other voice in background mumbles something then says, "Go ahead, Janet."], and I'm here with Dr. Hugh Irey and Capt. Dave Wallace, and they have very kindly agreed to share their memories of Shadyside with us today as a part of our video history project. [Janet moves to a seat facing the inter-viewees.] Dr. Irey, let's start by learning a little bit more about you and your family. Can you tell us when and where you were born?

A. [Hugh] Oh, I can tell you all right. I was born on October 4, 1914, at #12 - 9th Street, SE, Washington, DC. And the house in which I was born was built by my grandfather on the paternal side which just makes it more interesting. Of course, the plaque is gone that was on the front.

Q. Is the house still there?

A. [Laughing.] I'm being facetious...there is no plaque. OK, was there anything else now? I grew up in Washington and grammar school there, and the big thing those days were, of course, the summer times when we all came to Shadyside.

Q. And we're looking forward to hearing more about that in just a few minutes, so..tell me the names of your parents and when and where they were born?

A. My father was Elmer Irey. I could go on quite a while about him, too, but I won't do it. And he was born in Missouri... Kansas City, Missouri; and my mother was Mag ... Marguerite



Wagner, and she was born, I think, right in Washington. And what else can I tell...

Q. Tell us about your brothers and sisters?

A. Well, I had two brothers, and this is the most unfortunate part of Shadyside for us. My brother born behind me drowned in Shadyside, and they were just terribly sad times. And for a couple years, my mother couldn't come down, and so she and I were isolated from all the 'boys?' and all of the children in Shadyside. Then she had another child named Robert, and Robert is my younger brother, seven years younger than I am. He grew up, of course being seven years younger, he grew up doing different things with different younger children, mostly; but when we both grew up, we both went to medical school. And it so happened that circumstances which are

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too difficult and long to describe, but we both ended up practicing with me, and he came in to help me. I was overwhelmed. My partner had died...it was just after the War, and he came in, and we were together about 35 years. Then I retired, and he came to Shadyside and saw the good times we were having there, so he retired about five years earlier than he intended to, and so he's living down here now also with his wife in Shadyside near us. Unfortunately, my brother has Alzheimer's, so that's a devastating situation

I married the most wonderful girl in the world. I wasn't going to get married. I was just going to practice medicine and enjoy life. [Laughs.] And I got my internship after graduating medical school in Cleveland...then I was in Cleveland, and my roommate says, 'Let's go down to one of the Ohio State games.' All those fellows were graduates of Ohio State. So we went down to see one of the games and he got me a date. Well that date was kind of overwhelming, and the bottom line is I've been married to her for 62 years now. She's a wonderful woman, and we have...well we had four wonderful children. Our son died last year. He had a terrible life...?ulcers and...well, we won't get into that. We are now living happily in Shadyside, and we have a home...a little home in Florida which we go to in the winter time and we plan to go to in the fall.

And the other three are girls, and they're wonderful girls, and they are married and they have wonderful husbands, and they have great kids, so we have five, going on six, great-grandchildren. I could go on and on...but I think I should stop.



Q. Tell us your wonderful wife's name.

A. My wife's name is Lora Belle, but we call her Lori; she doesn't like Lora Belle that much.

Q. Now where do all those children and grandchildren live?

A. Where are they? Well, we're very fortunate because of all of the children and grand-children, and there were seven grandchildren and now six great-grandchildren and their husbands and all their wives, all live within a range...well the farthest away are in Richmond...and one in Delaware but the rest all live within an hour of us. That's extremely fortunate. We are a very close-knit family. All get along very well together. And just to give you an example, and we have been on three trips as a whole family together. One to ?Aruba?, one to Kiawah Island and one last one to Outer Banks of North Carolina. There were 27 of us, and we lived in two houses - one with nine bedrooms and one with six for a week. And we had a wonderful time together.

Q. How much brought back memories of Shadyside summers as a child, with the family all together?

A. Oh yes, yes.

Q. Now did you serve in the military?

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A. I beg your pardon?

Q. Did you serve in the military?

A. I was in the military... I didn't do much. I was in the army...U. S. Army Air Corps Medical Corps. In those days, they didn't have a separate air force, so it was...just what I said and I requested overseas duty but, of course the requests you didn't get, which was a good thing because that's when my son was... became so ill. And so I just practiced in the hospitals here in the States, taking care of some of the guys who came back from overseas. I got out...went in in '42...back in '45..??.'46. Dave had a much more interesting experience in the War... more than I did. [Voice in background whispers something?]



Q . Mr. Wallace, I would like to ask you some of those same questions if you don't mind. Can you tell us about yourself...when and where you were born and about your family?

A. [Dave] I was born in Washington, DC, in Sibley Hospital. [Camera now focuses on Mr. Wallace.] January 3, 1918. I went to the ??Kent High School ?? [Background noise prevents me from hearing two or three sentences??] graduate... About that time, the government decided they wanted to send me overseas, so that's as far as I got.

Q. Tell us about your military service?

A. I guess I was talking when I should've been listening, because I was sent to the worst place you could possibly be. I spent a couple years in the Aleutian Islands...everybody had been evacuated...there was nothing there. Try to walk and you sink up to your knees in muck. From there, I got to the South Pacific, I was captain of a small gasoline tanker that was supplying gas to the 5th Air Corps there and tactical? Philippines. And they had us...the Japanese knew that the planes couldn't fly unless we kept bringing them gas. They sent up one day with a picture of my ship to tear up?? the target...??...it sure was... kamikazes... a few weeks after that it turned enough to hit the one spot, the tanker would've blown up. [Sighs.] They sent me back to a ship in New Guinea???About that time, the War ended, so I came back home.

Q. Which years were you in the War?

A. About '42 to '46.

Q. Tell us a little bit more about your family. Were you married...and your children?

A. Yeah, I was married to...my wife's name is Kit, she's from Georgetown. I think she knew this couple over here?? And I was married in '48, I guess. We didn't have any children. She had a wonderful son, and he's my stepson. He's got a good family. We all live together down here on Dreyer ?? Lane.



Q. How did you meet...[Slight skip in tape.]

A. ?? working in police ? department at the same time as I was getting together.

Q. Now do the both of you live pretty much full time here in Shadyside except for going home in the winter?

A. [Hugh] Since retirement.

Q. And how many years is that?

A. I've spent almost 20 years full-time with the exception of those cold winter months in Florida.

A. [Dave]: We moved down here we've lived here fulltime 35 years I guess. What else is it you asked me about?

Q. That's good. Now that we've kind of covered the basics with each of you, I'd like to kind of talk about your memories of your childhood days here in Shadyside. I'd like to go back to the 1910's and 1920's, specifically, your memories of Wagner's Point. I'm going to ask you a lot of different questions, so either one of you feel free to share your memories as you see fit. Let's begin though by tell...tell us about Wagner's Point...where it is...what it's like?

A. [Hugh] I think it would be nice to go back even further, and go to my grandfather, William Wagner, who...to come more to the point. William Wagner was a wonderful man...a very capable man...who owned and operated a sporting goods store at 3rd & Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E.. And among his customers...first he was a remarkable shot...he was the best shot in the area, and that was documented time and time again, the best gunsmith in the area. So he had as customers William Howard Taft, Teddy Roosevelt, John Philip Sousa. They would call him up to the White House to discuss hunting and no one else could take care of their guns but William Wagner.

Well, finally, Grandpa decided to retire and he wanted to go where he could do hunting and fishing and so forth. And he was looking around for a place, and some friend told him there was



a place for sale down on the West River. "Well, where in the devil is the West River?" "Well, it's down...and so on. And so "OK", so Grandpa decides to come down and look at it. And Grandpa gets on the train and he goes to Annapolis, and then he waits and gets on the 'Emma Giles', which was the side-wheeler just like you have seen on the Mississippi River from time to time. Again, it was one boat that did all the bringing of all the staples down to the various developed water areas. And so he got on that, and he came down they stopped here and stopped there on the way finally got on the West River, and they stopped at three stops there. One was in Galesville, one was at Chalk Point, and one was in Shadyside. And so when he finally got to the Shadyside one, then he got out and someone picked him up in a rowboat, and he rowed about the mile plus distance from about here to Wagner's, which it wasn't called then, to the point of land

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that he had been told to look at. Well, that point of land he bought, and then it became, in our book, it became known as 'Wagner's Point'. Its original name was 'Cedar Point', but they had a million 'Cedar Points' in the Chesapeake and this would be an original ?? as far as we were concerned.

Ugh, the point...he not only bought the point, but he bought land that went up the shore in both directions; and, in fact, he bought the home that the Sommervilles - and a lot of people...everybody knows the Sommervilles... He sold that land to his friend, Tom Sommerville. And then he had land up the other shore, and the home in which the Narons lived for so many years, he owned, then he gave it to one of his children. Her husband was a nice guy, but a n'ere do well, and he lost the land. But we have kept the Point. The Point is ours, and he did not get rid of any of it. And, ugh, so that is what we have at the present time. That beautiful point of land that Grandpa bought and which we, of course, couldn't afford today, but because he bought it well, all of us are enjoying it today.

There is an interesting little comment that I put in relative to the purchase of that land, and that was that Miss Ethel, of course, the queen of Shadyside, spoke to me one time when we were at some gathering together, and she said, "My father took your grandfather to the cleaners when he bought that land." I said, "Well, what do you mean, Miss Ethel?" She said, "Well, my father had bought that land for a thousand dollars, and he sold it to your grandfather for \$2,000." And I said, "Well, maybe, Miss Ethel, but I don't think I can agree with you say." [Laughing.] He kept



the house for a while that the Sommervilles bought, then he sold it to the Sommervilles for ten times what he'd ??paid, so he wasn't taken to the cleaners. Well, that's my background on Wagner's Point.

Q. Do you know how many acres your grandfather originally purchased?

A. Beg pardon?

Q. Do you know how many acres it originally was...that he purchased?

A. The retained part that we have now? Four acres, Dave?

A. [Dave responds] Yeah, but she asked 'originally' [Hugh] Well, you're talking about I thought it was 10 to 12 acres at the time he bought it.

A. [Hugh] Some of its marsh...well, you're talking about at the shore?

A. [Dave] Yeah, well she was asking that.

A. [Hugh] Original amount of land he bought? Oh, yes, at least ten or twelve.

Q. For \$2,000.00

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A. [Hugh] Yes, \$2,000, and, as I said, turned around ? in a short while, ?? part of it for much, much more than that. We don't know the figure.

Q. Now how...when he bought it, he came down to Shadyside to take a look at it for the first time, where was the pier in Shadyside?

A. [Hugh] There was no pier...oh, the pier at Shadyside!

Q. Where did 'Emma Giles'...



A. [Hugh] On up the shore, on the east shore across from Galesville, was the Shadyside pier. In fact, John Douglas made a beautiful drawing of it, and that's what it looked like. And we, as kids, used to go up there and dive off the roof into the water...crazy, but that's what we did. It was deep water around the pier there because of big boats that came in. And all the staples were brought there...they didn't have any way in those days of getting staples unless we went... from a personal point of view... go to Galesville...rowed over...sailed over... couldn't walk up Shadyside Road because it had only oyster shells on it ? couldn't walk on those.

Q. So did you purchase, or did your family purchase staples right from the boat, or did you purchase them from somebody here in Shadyside who...

A. [Hugh] Well, eventually, we had the Shadyside Market...we went to that. And then we went...you could go across and walk up about two or three hundred yards to the store, which is still there...the old Galesville Country Store to buy staples and bring 'em back in a row boat, or later on we had a better boat. ??say Dave?

A. [Dave] The same time? We were fortunately, we had fifteen cousins in my mother's family... used to come for the whole summer. It was about half girls...half boys, and that was a real picnic. I mean it was boys against the girls for everything. Watermelon fights and throwing them overboard. They'd sew up our pajamas and wake 'em up and throw 'em off the end of the pier at night time. We had fun...it was all in fun... it was a great group.

A. [Hugh] Yeah, the sand in the bedsheets worked well as did the firecrackers inside the house when the girls were sleeping [laughing] Those were good times. A good time was had by all. We could go on about all that happened there. It was great.

Q. Any other pranks you'd like to tell us about that you pulled on each other?

A. [Dave] I remember one...we were having a water fight... just that one, we had no electricity, no indoor plumbing...no heat but you had this one hand pump you had to get water from it. The girls would run in with all these pots and get it...it was pretty even. My grand-father called all the boys over he says: "Fill up that big tub and take it up on the roof just above the pump. When the girls come out, dump it on 'em." [Laughs]



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A. [Hugh] Grandpa backed us up.

A. [Dave] It was all good fun.

Q. Now I know there's lots of wonderful stories about your grandfather by the way you were laughing. In fact, I think you suggested writing a book about him. You all want to share some stories about him... your memories?

A. [Hugh] Well, we touched on his ability in hunting and guns, and he was a very well-known man in Washington in those days which was a little town. And he would do something, which, I don't know how he did it. At his age, he would take all of us grand-children to Washington to see two movies. We'd see a movie on 9th Street...I guess it was 9th Street.. in the morning, go get something to eat and see a movie in the afternoon. And he took all of us and did that, and that was remarkable. But the thing that impressed me the most was whenever we'd walk down the street, it was 'Hi, Uncle Billy'. "Hi, everybody. How you doin'?" And so right after that, we knew he was great, great guy.

Then, down in Shadyside, he was just doing things for us all the time. [Loud motorboat noise in background] He had a special workshop that he liked to keep secret from the kids, but we kids would break into it, and that was a mistake; but he was generous. He would give us everything. I could go on and on about him. He was just a wonderful man. He lived to be 86 and he was working in the field when he had a stroke. So he was a busy man all of the time.

Q. Was he working here in the field in Shadyside?

A. [Hugh] Yeah. Well, he had a farm on this place before he built the houses on it. And he also had a place on the Point. The Point was much bigger than it is now. Erosion has taken away the island that we kids used to play on, and then the sandy portion down on the end of it, he had a big sweet potato plant...planting, and he had the best sweet potatoes in the world. And he was down working on that at the time that he had his stroke.

A. [Dave] A couple things to embellish what you said about when he used to take us to the movies. He'd take the boys one day...take the girls next day. We went in this one movie on 9th



Street and they played the 'Star Spangled Banner'. So we said, "Get up, Pop, get up." So he gets up and we stand there. In fact, about ten minutes later, the reel up in the projection room caught fire, and it was smoking and everybody was getting up and said, 'get up Pop, get up Oh the heck with it... I'm not that patriotic...getting up twice" [Laughing].

A. [Hugh] The fire...they were getting us out of the place...

A.[Dave] Talking about getting down here for the first time...I think it was before the 'Emma Giles' it was the 'Mary M' or something like that. It stopped at Shadyside first, and Pop got off there and ? raised? somebody to row him over to the Point. When he got to the Point, he started walking up toward the house and didn't even go inside. He said "I'll take it." He got back to the row boat and caught the same boat back to Washington. [Laughing]

Q. He made a quick decision! Now who...

A. [Hugh] He saw a good thing when he saw it.

Q. Were the houses there...were there already a couple of houses...

A. [Hugh] No, no that's interesting...you go ahead and tell them about that...[To Dave]...

A. [Dave] Just one house...the old farm house.

A. [Hugh] Big farm house..

A: [Dave]: Well, yeah, it was just summer time, of course...we didn't have to worry too much about sleeping on couches outdoors or something, but... It was a funny story about that because when I moved down full-time, the house was pretty narrow in those days...you could only get 16' lumber. So my wife and I decided to tear that down and put up a new one. I think we did? got the new house up and I think I went to the first meeting they ever had there at the Heritage Society...we were sitting around there and discussing the old houses, and somebody said, "Dave, what did you do with that old house you had down there?" I said, "I tore it down." [Chuckles]. And I was never very welcome after that. [Laughs].



A: [Hugh]: Just to expand what you had said about what we did there, we... originally, we were all in that one big house that Dave was talking about...the old farm house. But then, as time went on, the Heinz's, being one of the wealthiest of the family moved across to Cumberstone. And then the house on the other side of the creek which I said later became the Naron's - I think it was Mr. Herbert Naron's...is that correct? And that was a nice house and there were at about, oh, four or five acres, at least, of ground around it...more than that.

A: [Dave]: Ten acres

A: [Hugh]: It was a huge area??? built out there...I guess there were ten or twelve acres out there. And she gave that to...he gave that to one of his daughters. And as I said...or didn't say before, they lost it because the husband was a nice guy who??? liked to start out as president and work up??? the company...didn't succeed??? But then Grandpa gave the rest of the Point to the rest of the children that were living in the area, and each one of the family...and there were seven lots that he gave out down there. Well, the first house [Hugh turns to Dave] built on it...I guess was your folks' house. All three of these houses were built entirely differently - it was interesting. Capt. Rob Owings built their house [Points to Dave] And then my aunt from North...or South Carolina, ?Olivia? were living here. They moved to South Carolina. At that time, ???her kids were coming along, and we were living in the big house. And this was a golden opportunity, so we bought that house from my aunt. Now that house was a Sears &

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Roebuck '28 x '28 knock down, which they built in those days...they don't do that any more. Sent the lumber up here and Capt. Rob put it together. Since then, we've added six additions to it, incidentally.

Then a few years later on my mother's property...my mother and Dad decided they needed to build a house, so they built on that property, but that was built primarily...that was back in the Depression days. And my mother and my Dad's in-law ?man? had no work, and he was a carpenter and he was up in Connecticut and he came down, and he was a builder, and I guess I was his assistant. And everybody else got in the act. And we all hammered and pounded, and we all built that house, the original house, which has now had five or six additions. So that supplied us with what we have now on the Point.



Q. Now what year was that first house...

A: [Hugh] 1924, I believe. And then the one was built very close to thereafter which is the one we have now was also 1924. And then the house my mother?? was 1930, the last house.

Q. Now the summers when every body was there, in the original home place, the old farm house, how many people were in the house, in a typical summer?

A: [Hugh] Oh, golly, well, I guess there were at least, when you count the children and count the parents, but the fathers had to go back to work, that was one thing. And so it was the mothers and children...the fathers would get down on the 'Emma Giles' on the weekends when they could. But I guess the crowd added up to at least 15 or even more. There were three...three stories and bedrooms on all the floors. We managed to work it out. And it was an interesting thing, too, about the fathers coming down on the weekends, because when they could come, they would come on the 'Emma Giles'. Now the mothers would stand out and wave [demonstrates by waving his left arm in the air.] And what you waved, and I put this in the book, was the diapers because, of course, the diapers were the best thing. And one time when we were waving, they drove up in an old Model T Ford, which was the most amazing thing of all. They're all just part of the memories I've kept so strongly.

As Dave pointed out, the amenities in those days were absolutely nothing like today. We had no electricity, no toilet...no inside toilet. We had a two-holer down at the end by the marsh, and we had no refrigeration, no electricity, no telephone, no nothing. But Grandpa did the smart thing. He had an old Artesian well 300' deep, ?filled? it all the time, and then he built a gutter of concrete all around, and he kept food cool...cold in the cool water in the gutter there. That was the way that was kept.

Q. And do you know when he built that?

A. [Hugh]: No...I don't know...It was there as long as I can remember. [laughs] Well, he wasn't an original, necessarily...because then all of us kids...not all of us kids...but many of us kids would walk up to Mrs. Hallick's. Ms. Hallick is...well, you might remember, Lucille Hallick...

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was up the road about a quarter of a mile from our house. And we'd get the milk from her... she



had her cows, and she had a dairy house that had the same thing in it. She kept the milk cold in it. But walking on this oyster shell road...that was a... We took our shoes off when we got down here, and we never put 'em back on till we left. And we walked on every thing, and it didn't bother us, and we cut our feet and did all the good things.

Q. Now tell us what did you do for lights?

A. [Both say:] Kerosene lamps, yeah. [Dave also says] Kerosene stove.

Q. And how would your Moms know that your Dads were coming down? Did you all write letters back and forth, or...?

A. [Hugh] Well, they weren't sure they were coming a lot of the time, and communication was so poor...I think we finally got a telephone on the Point but, golly, that was in the '30's or some where. And was only one car around here in the early days. Pack Trott had a car, and any body he knew, they went and got Pack Trott and got a car. We had a bad accident on the Point one time... kids pretending...trying to do a little hunting at one time... I don't know why, but Delmas, Billy and I were back here, and Delmas had the gun and it slipped and shot off a few fingers and, of course, that was an emergency. And the hospital was a little hospital in Annapolis in those days. Called Pack Trott and Pack came over in his little old car and took him up there. We could go on and on and on.

Q. Tell me a little more about your Dad's first car, or the car that...

A. First car?

Q. Any Car...

A. Don't know much about it. It was an old Ford - whatever Ford built...[Dave adds: Model T"] It was even prior to a Model T. and I don't know much about that car, frankly. It was a car that we went around in. Of course, it was an enjoyment to us 'cause we'd never been in an automobile before.

Q. Now when your Dad bought that car, did the family start coming down in that car, or did



they...how did you usually get down?

A. Yeah, well we came on the 'Emma Giles' in the early days, or as Dave said ??? then we got the car, and, yeah, we came in the car but coming in the car was not any thing too easy. We'd stop, of course, a couple of times. You may have two or three flat tires [Laughing], run out of gas...

A. [Dave] I don't remember this, but they tell me that when you got to the hills and bridges where the Patuxent River crosses the road down there, the road didn't go up the hill. You...there

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was an ox cart...a team of oxen would pull you up the top of the hill, then you could start driving again. And speaking of Model T Fords, my father had one. It was during the War, and we couldn't get a new one and so, in those days, we had big, hard winters and they gave the Ford to Pack and Crandall Trott, and they had it tied up at the creek [snickers], and they used to get oysters with it...??but looked like cars tied up at?? the creek up there. The ice was so thick that you could run trucks out over it.

A. [Hugh] Seems like it was much colder in those days... more ice, a lot more ice

Q. Did you all ever come down here in the winter time as children?

A. [Dave]: Oh yes.

A. [Hugh] We came in the winter once we got a little older and we did that. Ugh, Talking about his father [points to Dave] driving that Ford, there was an interesting story... He was working for ?Klafman? Optical Company and he became an optician, and he would deliver in those days with the car. One time he was delivering, and he was stopped for speeding, and the policeman was on a bicycle. So you know how fast he was going. [Laughing]

A. [Dave]. Yeah, he was driving a 1901 Oldsmobile, which was one of the first cars ever put out, they took him to an auto show once, and one of those was there, and he was telling me that he used to drive one of those things...it was just a straw basket with a tiller. That was...he said that in his day he went from first car to walking on the moon, which is kind of remarkable.



Q. Now you say you remember a car going out on the ice, and they actually used the car for oystering?

A. [Dave] Yeah he did that...

Q. How did they do that?

A. [Dave]. Well, I think they just...they had a hole in the ice on their private bed. They'd pull it out, throw it in the car to bring it..?..

A. [Hugh] They had...when we were little, they had that island off the end of our point, and we kids used to play on it all the time. There was a beautiful big sandy island. We had.. and my granddad in his generosity, let Pack Trott put a railway on that island, and they used it to ?pull ? boats and so forth...kind of took away our island for playing. We did play around it, but it's just another item happened in a sequence of things. It seemed we had much worse storms. We had 'noreasters...in 1933, we had the worst storm we've ever had down here. Nothing in the last fifty years even compared to it.

A. [Dave]. We had roads ?? tied up to the houses in that storm.

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Q. Now were you all down here when that storm....

A. [Hugh] Yeah, we were down here. The tide came so high, Pack was worried about his boats on the island, and he walked by...and he was an old country man...boatman all his life, so we took whatever he said seriously, face value, although he did exaggerate [laughing] And said, "Pack, how much higher is this tide coming?" "Can't come any higher, can't come any higher." A couple hours later, six inches higher...same old story...it kept coming up. Oh, golly... [Laughing]

And we had wonderful times down here. I mentioned the year we...what we do for entertainment other than beat on the girls [laughing] and stuff. And in the evenings we would get together as a family, a big family, on the point there, on the big porch that went around the house, Grandpa sitting there with his pipe, and the women and the husbands sitting in the chairs, and we kids on



the floor telling stories, and everybody talking all the time. And then somebody telling an interesting story, and then singing...we always sang and we had lots of good singing.

Q. Tell me some of the songs you sang.

A. [Hugh] Huh?

Q. Tell me some of the songs that you'd sing.

A. [Hugh] Well, sing along all the good ole songs they don't pretend to be able to...I don't know what happened to them. They don't make songs or put together songs today like we had those days, that's biased maybe, but that's the way it is. And I do remember particularly, and I put that in there, my Mother and his father [points to Dave] had the two best voices so they would sing duets. There was, gee, and "I Walked in the Garden." I think I put that in there.

A. [Dave interjects something but I cannot understand it.]

A. [Hugh] Still remember them singing that. All of the songs now are that you go back and sing, when you get together with the gang are old, old, old songs...

Q. Do you remember some of the songs...

A. [Hugh] "Sweet Adeline".

A.[Dave] Yeah..."Dear Old Girl"

A. [Hugh] Then we made up a song called "West River"..."Sailing on the West River"...that was a good song.

Q. Can you all sing it?

A. [Hugh] No. [Laughing] I wouldn't want to put that in there. But when we do sing, we sing that. And then of course came the days when we got into sailing, and that was the...really the



climax of what happened on that Point. We had no boat at all, of course..?shall be put in?.. and Grandpa bought a big old row boat, and we all took that rowboat and rowed up against the wind, and then put up a great big umbrella. And that was our first sailing experience. And then Grandpa bought Delmas a little bateaux, built by Capt. Ed Leatherbury. Now a bateaux is a different type of boat then those you see now-a-days, all wooden, of course. It had rather narrow washboards...only 12 feet long. But all of us kids immediately, Dave and Dick, his brother, and Delmas and I, I think the others were too young or too old, started putting together into a sail boat. And that became our first sail boat on the Point... real sailboat. And I could go on and on forever about that...it was fascinating.

Q. Now what became of the mast from that sail boat?

A. [Hugh] The what?

Q. The mast from that sailboat?

A. [Hugh] The mast...That's interesting?? conversation right there. You need a mast, of course, to be a sailboat, and Delmas had gotten a job. He had to go to work. It was his boat. Everybody..?.to use it.. got together to put it together and Dave and I got a piece of spruce 20' long [phone rings in background], and tapered it into a mast, and that was the mast on the boat. Now I'm talking about, when Dave, 1930?

A. [Dave] Before then..sailing club started in '29 or '30.

A. [Hugh] And that mast that set in ?? is now the mast for our flag which we have on the end of our pier...on the front ?? on the river side. So that mast goes back 75 years at least, I guess, and it's just as good a piece of wood now that it was then.

Q. Now tell me a little bit more about weekends when the fathers would come down. Would they come down most weekends or...

A. [Dave] I would say ?? half were??

A. [Hugh] Seemed to me they were..



A. [Dave] It was an all-day trip, but they were down there, I'd say, 80% of the time we kids...

A. [Hugh] I think the percentage increases ??got there got easier.

Q. What kinds of things would you do those weekends when the fathers were down.

A. [Hugh] When the fathers were down? Oh, we did all...we did a little bit of every thing. The
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different fathers had their own different interests, but we would also always get together in the evening as a group and do the things we talked about...the singing and the talking...did we dance? I don't think so.

A. [Dave] We put on Charade Night.

A. [Hugh] Oh, that was a big thing...that was a big thing.

Q. Tell us more about those.

A. [Dave] You'd better do that. [Laughing]

A. [Hugh] There's one I remember particularly...they called them plays, as I remember. There were two I remember particularly: "A Tale of Two Cities" - they insisted on putting that on. Older kids wanted to do it. We were in between age, then there were the younger ones.

Q. Well now tell us their ages. How old was the oldest one?

A. [Hugh] Billy Heintz was the oldest. Billy was 7-1/2 years older than I am. And then the youngest is Jack Hutchinson, and he's about seven years younger. Jeanette Owings and I were right in the middle, so that was good. And Dave was a little on the low side, but his brother, Dick, was just a year younger than I was...Delmas was a year and a half older. So all of us boys...at least four or five, particulatrly, hung together real closely. And...ugh [laughs]...Dave, go ahead, you tell 'em a little something.



A. [Dave] The skits we'd put on had to do with the name of a book or name of a ?? He mentioned "A Tale of Two Cities" I can remember this because we were all sitting there, and all of a sudden they pulled up this curtain or a sheet or something up. And there was my brother Dick and my cousin Delmas, sitting in the window and they had their pants lowered [Laughing] and we were supposed to guess...

A. [Hugh] Rear ends sticking right out [laughing.]

A. [Dave] The Tale of Two Cities...That's the type of stories they were putting on.

A. [Hugh] They called on us to do it, and we refused. [Laughing]. And then Delmas and Dick finally agreed. And then there was another particular one that was good, and that was "Jack in the Beanstalk". And Billy Heintz, being the biggest and the strongest and all, he was the giant, and Eleanor, our older cousin, was the heroine, I guess you'd say, and Jack climbed up... they had a ladder on the side of the house. And Eleanor was up there screaming out of a window, and he's going up the ladder after her, and they told me, I don't know, we got so excited, we kids, we were pulling grass out by the roots...I don't know, it got that interesting to us. [laughing].

Q. Could these take place outside, like out on the porch?

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A. Yeah, out on the porch, of course, all of us around, out on the lawn. Many, many plays were put on there. Those were the good times, but like I said, we didn't need any of the damned tvs or computers. They had the greatest thing in the world...our own entertainment.

Q. You remember other things you all did for fun in the summers?

A. [Hugh] Swimming was a big thing, of course. We all swam all of the time. Our parents wanted us all to learn to swim.

A. [Dave] They had a good reason. They wouldn't let us go out in the sailboat by ourselves till we could swim. So we all swam early. [Laughs]

A. [Hugh] And the sailboats became the big thing on the point as the years went by, and we had many, many experiences with sailboats, but I wouldn't know where to start or end that.



Q. Well tell us about...well, a couple questions. One is: Did you have a name for the island?

A. [Hugh] For the island itself?

Q. Yeah.

A. [Hugh] No, I don't believe so. If it did, I don't know. Just called it 'the island'..

A. [Dave, laughing] It wasn't big enough...well, it was big enough to put a ??? 150 boat rally?? regatta

A. [Hugh] 150 feet long and maybe 50' wide In the beginning, of course, it was shrink, shrink...

Q. Now I understand, you all used to put on put on regattas...Tell me more about sailing...you put on regattas and, eventually, you started a club?

A. [Hugh] Well, yeah. Well, we decided, after we'd gotten some interest in sailing, that we would have...and Billy Hintz, being always the oldest and the biggest and the strongest, was always the boss. And so Billy decided we ought to have a regatta, and we did... Labor Day Regatta down there. And the first one was most interesting because we didn't have a lot of sailboats involved, so we made it a little bit of everything. We had a dog race, and we had a swimming race, and we had what we called a ??bang go back??race ? And how they ever did that, I don't know. Some of the motor boats, the ones with motors on them, would go until the gun would go off and they'd turn around and come back. And then, of course we had the sailboat race. The sailboats were all kinds of sailboats in those days. Most of them were big bateaux and the ones that Capt. Ed had built and then as time went on we got more sophisticated and eliminated some of this humbug that we had in the beginning since it's still a contest of racing ?? and so forth.

A. [Dave] ??? people in. People came from all around and watched the show...right in front of the house.



Q. Was this in front of your house?

A. [Hugh] Yeah, the lawn right there in the front of the house regatta

A. [Dave] It was a good show...all day long.

Q. How old were you all at that time?

A. [Hugh] Huh?

Q. How old were you two when that ?started??

A. [Hugh] Oh, we were about twelve years old I guess I was.

A. [Dave] The first Regatta, I think we had, was in '29.

A. [Hugh] Official regatta...' 29, yeah

A. [Dave] I'd have been about eleven, I guess.

A. [Hugh] Yeah Then we also got involved enough in sailing to bring in some of the good sailors and good friends. Capt. Dick Hartge...Capt. Oscar Hartge... and people like that came on over the Point and joined us for the regatta proceedings, and they were boat builders and boat sailors and a number of other folks like that. And then it reached the point it got to be so good and so popular, we had to have more room. We have some original pictures of the regatta... of the meetings and it was "Our Own Damn Yacht Club" was the name in the beginning on The Point, and have pictures of some of those original meetings, and so forth, that we did have. And then we decided we needed more room, so we decided to move to Galesville, and we got a little place over there by Pirate's Cove, and then it began to really grow...more popular and well known. And then it became...we said we can't continue with this name, so they changed it to "West River Sailing Club" [Chuckles] And Dave and I were involved a lot in the beginning in those days. Remember the time, Dave, they sent us up to...my cousin...his brother, Dick, was the most artistic one, so he drew what would be the pennant for the sailing club, and put the colors in, and they all agreed that would be fine. And when it was red, white and blue. And so



they sent Dave, and me...maybe Delmas, up to get to the man to make some of them. And on the way up there, the three of us said: "Everything's red, white and blue", so we changed it to red, white and green. [Laughing] And that's what it is today. [Laughing]

A. [Dave laughing.]

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Q. So when the yacht club first got started...or when the Regattas first got their start, did they begin with just like your family, and then just grow from there?

A. [Dave] No, Capt. Ed Leatherbury was in them. He had a bunch of little rental boats, and two or three of those were in it.

A. [Hugh] And then gradually, the people around the river would get interested, and multiplied when it got over on the other side of the shore in Galesville where more people could see what was going on. And then, you know, then they started different classes. We had all kinds of different classes of boats...What was the first we had, Dave?

A. [Dave] The Albatross.

A. [Hugh] The Albatross, yeah, The Albatross was first. Yes, ??Capt. Eagle?? and Albatross. Interesting boat...double ??iner ? with lead on the bottom, and no flotation. That thing sunk, it went straight to the bottom. We used to sail it all the way across the Bay to go to the races on the other side of the Bay, which in this day and age you would never do. [Laughing]

Q. Did 'The Vanity' sail? that sits in your front yard?

A. [Hugh]. No, that's later...down the line...Capt. Ed...Capt. Dick...'Vanity' was... Osborne Owings, who married Eleanore, one of our cousins... His family had money, so he was able to hire a boat architect...to sail an architect up in New York, I believe...

A. [Dave] No, I don't think that's quite right.



A. [Hugh] What's wrong?

A. [Dave] Johnny Gregory is a master craftsman and Ozzie wanted to build a new boat...?this wasn't a class..it was some kind of 'Bay' something or other. It was a 22' boat...Johnny got the plans down there and cut two feet off of it, and he built it from that.

A. [Hugh] Well, that isn't what I heard....but you go ahead.

A. [Dave] Check it out with Doug Gregory.

A. [Hugh] Ozzie got the plans, as far as I'm concerned, from the man up in New York who was a boat planner, and....

A. [Dave] Wasn't Charles Moore was it?

A. [Hugh] Then he brought it down here, and Johnny Gregory built the boat. Any way, it doesn't matter.

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A. [Dave] It was Charles Moore...plans... it was a 22' boat.

A. [Hugh] What we had...

A. [Dave] Had to cut it off...cause living here in the West River...only boats 20' and under could ...

A. [Hugh] That boat, yeah, that had to make 20' because wouldn't allow anything larger than that. That boat just cleaned up.. That boat sitting out there now was the fastest boat on the Chesapeake Bay, practically. It won everything down here. That's when Capt. Dick Hartge, who was a boat builder and designer who built some of the original Albatross class and everything else, decided to build a boat comparable and to speed with it. Now the 20 footers are a very similar boat and they have a whole class of them.

Q. So did you two sail many times?



A. [Dave] Oh, yeah. Raced against it...raced in it.

A. [Hugh] Used to race against it and in it.

Q. I want to ask you a question about your Mom. During those days in the summer...what were their lives like during the week with all the children? What did they do?

A. [Hugh] Take care of children.

A. [Dave] Well, one thing they did was...my grandfather raised vegetables and everybody thought he was crazy because he'd go out in the creek, and we had all kinds of grass then. He'd collect all the seaweed around, and on the shore, he had a big scow..it must've been 20 feet by 12 feet and a partition in the middle. And we'd put our garbage in this scow, and all this seaweed he'd dug he'd put on top of it... just one half, and he let that work for a couple years, when we'd fill the other half, and the fertilizer he made out of it... everything he grew was twice what everybody else was growing. Their strawberries as big as that [demonstrates with fingers]. So they did mostly...they'd can food... can food all week long, and the fathers had to take it back in suitcases on the boat, but that was their big job. Canning all that fruit and stuff, and, of course, taking care of us.

A. [Hugh] And before these houses were built that we talked about, that was all ... he had that all in farmland and he had corn and he had everything else out there. So he would get up a whole bunch of fruit and bring it in. And like Dave said, that kept the women busy...that kept them busy canning food and everything...

A. [Dave] When he went out there to pick corn, he'd come in and ask how many ears you'd want, and he wouldn't pick it unless the water was boiling. He had to look and see if it was boiling before he'd pick you any corn. [Laughs].

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A. [Hugh] And it was delicious...'Country Gentleman' and all the other good corns. Of course they've changed and improved corns now-a-days. One time I got a...only once did I ever see my grandfather shoot a gun. He was out in the field there and the dag-gone black-birds were getting into his crop, and he said "You go back and get my gun...I'm gonna scare these birds away." I'd



never seen him shoot, and he was 85 years old then. And so I went back and got his gun and brought it to him. He said "throw a rock out there and scare those black birds out of there. And I throw a rock out there, and one black bird...and you know how blackbirds fly...one went this way [demonstrates with his hands] and one went that way...and he went bump, bump, bump, bump... How could he shoot when he was young? [shrugs shoulders in disbelief - both men chuckle].

Q. Do people do a lot of duck hunting?

A. [Hugh] Huh?

Q. Do people do a lot of duck hunting around over in the area where you were brought up?

A. [Hugh] Yeah...well duck hunting...and, incidentally, too, another thing, as Dave mentioned, the grass in the creek in those days was thick, you know. They're trying to grow grass in the Bay now... was so thick, at times, you could hardly get a boat through it. And in fact, to try to row a boat was almost impossible. Another method of getting a boat to move which we haven't seen in recent years, and maybe a lot of people don't even know about it. And that was sculling. You had a nice big loop? in the transom of the boat, and you'd put the oar down in there and scull [demonstrates], and all the country men used it all the time when they wanted to go out to their boats which were tied at pilings out in the creek. I don't think half the people down here even know how to scull. Just an interesting thing.

Another thing about that grass was that we as kids used to go out and crab all the time around dinner - soft-shell crabs...our mothers loved 'em...it wasn't... take you 15 minutes to catch half-a dozen soft-shell crabs. Oh, how things have changed.

Q. Now, how did you catch them?

A. [Hugh]. With nets...we knew the soft shells were easy to catch cause they were playing under the grass.

Q. All right. Now we'd like you to tell us about your memories of the local Shadyside residents. And so, Dave, it would be great if you could tell us a little bit about Esther Trott and her family - what stories you remember of them.



A. [Dave]. Yeah. I remember she was telling us that..way back there in the early days...I think it was her father, Stanley's grandfather, I believe, had this crab-picking business, and he hired several of the local women to work. And so they heard...had gotten word the first airplane was going to fly over Shadyside. So they decided when that happened, they were gonna go and see it. So they heard the plane coming. And all the women ran down the end of this little pier they

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had, and just before the plane appeared, the pier collapsed and every body went over board. By the time they got their heads back out of the water, the plane was gone. They never saw it. [Chuckles] And another instance...I remember...people of Shadyside was growing and everything, but my idea was we're going backwards, because when I was a kid, we had an automobile dealership and a movie house right in downtown Shadyside. They're both gone.

Q. Did you all use to go to the movie theater?

A. [Dave] Oh, yeah...we used to go to the movies.

Q. Tell us some of the ones you saw.

A. [Dave] I can't remember what they were.. probably the...

A. [Hugh] Harold Lloyd

A. [Dave] Harold Lloyd...I can never remember the names of the ones we saw...

Q. You know how much they cost?

A. [Dave]. Cost to get in? Probably a nickle or something. I remember one time we were sitting back in the movie, up front, facing the audience instead of the screen, was Josh Halleck, sitting up there laughing and talking and carrying on. He was as big a show as the movie itself. [Chuckles].

A. [Hugh] ??Not discernable??



Q. Dr. Ivey, do you want to tell us a little bit more about your memories about Babe Ruth coming to

A. [Hugh] Yeah. There's one thing I want to mention about our own family... what we did and didn't do...that I think is important enough to bring in. We weren't entirely heathens. We had Aunt Nettie Hutchinson, who was a teacher. And Aunt Nettie, every Sunday, she got us all together, and we had Sunday School, right on that point, every Sunday. Now that's just a little something that has to be added to it...realize, like I said, we weren't, as I said, all heathens. [Chuckles] As far as the people outside of the point were concerned, we had good relationships with all of 'em, but, you know, actually, we had so many people on the Point, doing so much together, that there wasn't the need for a relationship out there like we would've had otherwise, I'm sure. But I do remember that we kids, we were little as boys, we played baseball. The only one left from the group out here that I remember was in the group then was Stanley Trott. We used to go to some of these affairs that they had around here. The Nowell's had a place you could go into and they even had some dancing there...I don't remember ever dancing there, and we came in and out of the Shadyside Hotel occasionally. I remember that being around. And we would play games and do boatings with the rest of the 'fellas our age around the point there. But
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the inability to travel far limited a lot what you did, and so most of what we did was right here on the Point.

Q. Now you said you did go into the Hotel? Can you tell us what you remember about it?

A. [Hugh] No. To me it just looked like another big old house - that's all. I was never a person who lived at the hotel or rented a room or anything, you know. I was just a kid, I remember running through there. And that brings up another interesting subject related to the Point. One of our aunts and uncles bought the Annapolis Hotel. And we went up there, and I remember standing on the side of the door while a parade went by, and it was the Ku Klux Klan, and a poor little black boy was hiding way up there. I don't know more?? than that, but that's just part of my hotel memories.

Q. Do you know what year that was?

A. [Hugh] Oh yeah. That was in the middle '20's...early '20's. How things have changed.



A. [Dave] Think she wanted you to mention Babe Ruth...

A. [Hugh] I mentioned Babe...I already mentioned him. And Kate Smith sang down here once or twice.

A. [Dave] Oh, down in Idlewylde, yeah.

A. [Hugh] Good God...that gal was the best voice I ever heard, I thought...still think so.

Q. How did she come to sing down here?

A. [Hugh] She lived not far from here, and she was brought down. I guess they paid her a little something to do it. She had the voice then, and she carried the voice out. I'm sure you all have heard it. Nobody could sing "God Bless America" or any big songs like Kate Smith. In fact, I know that I read an article once that said she was the best on tone voice that there was.

Q. Now did you two have the chance to hear her sing?

A. [Hugh] No, I didn't hear her down here. I would love to have, in retrospect, but I never got that close to her.

Q. OK. When we were off tape, I think you were telling us a little bit about Babe Ruth and beer, but I don't know that we got that on tape, so if you wouldn't mind

A. [Hugh] I don't know about the beer...I don't know whether the family, in those days, they were a little bit tight-lipped about things like that. They had a hunting lodge and had their own home-made brewery, but you didn't go out and buy a drink. but I must say that Babe Ruth that I

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mentioned was down in the area, and he liked to go hunting and fishing, and he did so with a couple of the people down here. But Babe was kind of a bum ... he disappeared, you know, and went down hill. But there were so many other things that were going on that were interesting that I thought that Pack Trott would come over and he would tell us stories. And Pack was a great story teller, and we loved to hear him, but we knew damn well they couldn't be true



[laughing in background] but we all...imagination ...

A. [Dave] Crandell was on the same trip, but his story was completely different.

A. [Hugh] He was telling...at one time, he said...we got talking about some long?log ? sailing canoes and they'd put these large planks out on 'em. And we'd go up against the wind, you'd have to be out on a plank to hold her up. And he said he was running one time, and the damned boat turned over and it threw him a hundred feet through the air. [Laughing]. Well... And we loved his stories, never the less. Now Crandell was an entirely different person. Crandell was very quiet, but Crandell was a big, powerful man. One time we came down here, I'll never forget this, we all came in an old Model T Ford, and, as usual, we had a flat tire on the Point before we noticed it and we didn't have any, ugh, wrench to ...

A. [Dave] Jack...

A. [Hugh] What? Yeah, jack...missed a word...to get it up, and so we were worried about how we were going to get that flat tire changed. So Crandell comes along. Crandell says "What's the matter boys...you got a problem?" We said, 'yeah, we've got a flat tire, and we don't have a jack.' "Oh, don't have a jack? Well listen when I get this done, you put a big rock...put it right under the axel and ready to change the tire." 'OK, Crandell. What are you going to do?' He backed up to the car, grabbed a hold of it and picked it up. [Laughing]

Q. Thank you both so much for joining us today and for sharing so graciously your memories of Shadyside. This is going to make a wonderful addition to our video oral history collection and a great resource in years to come for all of us to learn more about the history of our community. So thank you so much.

A. Thank you.

[Tape stops as interview ends.]
