

DON HUFF of Woodland, who last year bought the Homewood hotel from Mrs. A. W. Jost. On the right, the hotel during the \$10,000 remodeling job which added a lakeside dining room and cocktail lounge to a thorough modernization. It opens tomorrow.

Resorts Prepare for Holiday Influx of Vacationers; Homewood Hotel to Open

As Fourth of July crowds began to swarm Lake Tahoe this week, resort owners and businessmen prepared to put on a gala week-end. Scheduled on the lake program were two hotel openings, two fireworks exhibits, two major nitespot inaugurals, and a score of special events and celebrations. While the space lasts, the Tattler records the biggest.

Don Huff's new Homewood Hotel, with a \$10,000 face lift and remodeling, including installation of additional rooms, outdoor dining quarters, new lobby, taproom, and kitchen, was scheduled to open its doors officially by Saturday.

Huff, a former Woodland farm operator and banker, bought the Homewood resort, originally built in 1913, from Mrs. A. W. Jost last year after several months of negotiations.

* * *

One of the hunting "stories" of the season came this week from Callender's Lodge. A group of men were gathered over there discussing the hunt and Ben finally came up with the idea that they could pull a "fast one" on a buddy. He took a huge mounted deer head down from the wall, placed it in the back of one of the trucks outside and arranged canvas around it to look as if it had just been brought in. Traffic slowed to a near standstill as passers-by glimpsed the big "kill." One family of Mexicans stopped to investigate decided to look at the whole animal and pulled off the canvas. The head fell, and believing that he had ruined the animal by accident the "investigator" took off full speed without looking back. Ben thinks he may be running yet!

* * *

We recently reminded you to check your ~~calendar~~ for the winter. Another important step, of course, is

e
T
W
h
l
h
D
s
L
g
to
a
iv
A
h
h
s
m
I
ol
Ha
ar
or th

benef
urne

Homewood opens halfpipe

Snowboarders yearning for spots to perfect their halfpipe skills can add a run on the "White Lightning" trail at Homewood Ski Area on the West Shore to their list of places to test themselves.

The section which Homewood will groom for halfpipe enthusiasts will be between 300 and 350 feet long.

All trails at Homewood will remain open for snowboarding, so long as responsible maneuvering is practiced by participants.

Halfpipes are more popular than other snowboard terrain due to the extra maneuvering afforded.

Snowboard lessons and rental snowboards have been added to Homewood's inventory of services too.

A beginner's package, including a lift, lesson and snowboard rental, is available for \$32.

HOMEWOOD AREA BEACH USERS

The State of California is investigating uses made of the beach area and access streets in the Lakeside Subdivision, located just east of the Homewood Ski Area. This investigation is to determine whether any public rights exist in the areas by reason of past public use. The areas we are interested in include the access streets and beach area along Lake Tahoe between Cherry and South Streets. If you have knowledge of public use of these areas, please call (916) 324-6412 or write the California Attorney General's Office, Land Section, 1515 K Street, P.O. Box 944255, Sacramento, CA 94244-2550. Your assistance in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

TWorld Aug 17, 1989 p3B

Far from the least in building importance, and indeed well-deserved assets to our Lake, is the new Obexer building at Homewood. This new edifice houses a 1936 version of milady's favorite hide-out . . . a beauty parlor, no less. And further within the same four walls a spanking new grocery, meat market and drug store.

Mentions of Homewood subjects in *Truckee Republican* Jan-June 1933

TR, Feb 23, 1933

p3, TAHOE REGION NEWS:

"James Horace Gardner, summer resident of Homewood and second child born in Carson, has settled with the Insurance Co. for injuries received in an auto accident which rendered him and invalid last spring. He is living at present with his brother, Dr. George M. Gardner of San Francisco."

TR, Jan 26, 1933

p3, TAHOE REGION NEWS(by Celeste):

Lee Orr, Lee Hill and Leif Nielson of Homewood recently made a long trip on skis, going to Miller Lake and then on to Quail Lake. The trip was an arduous one, as the snow was soft and loose. They stopped at the Quail Lake Mines, and a genial old miner invited them into his dugout, where they rested and were given food and hot drinks, which they gladly accepted before starting on their return trip home."

"On Sunday, Mrs. Lee Hill of Homewood paid a visit to the C.A. Swanson home at Sunnyside, making the trip on skis. She enjoyed a game of pinochle and a hot lunch before returning home."

TR, Jan 12, 1933

p3 TAHOE REGION NEWS:

mention of "Mrs. Hill, telephone operator at Homewood,"

TR, March 2, 1933

p3, TAHOE REGION NEWS

"Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Skinner of Lodi spent Saturday and Sunday at their summer home in Homewood."

TR, April 20, 1933

p3, TAHOE REGION NEWS

"Harry Joseph of Homewood returned last week to open his resort there. Mr. Joseph reported his wife had suffered a severe heart attack recently and will remain in Monterey with his niece."

"Bill Johnston of Homewood is back again after a winter's sojourn in Martinez. Mr. Johnston has a wonderful selection of beaver and muskrat hides which he trapped last winter."

"English Village, operated by the W.F. Mantifel family of Homewood and one of the few resorts open all the year round, reports guests already arriving. ... Mr. Mantifel r`ecently suffered a badly wrenched shoulder while skiing at Homewood."

"Ed Cole of Homewood returned to Tahoe to open up his garage for the coming season on Friday."

Mrs. W.E. (Claire) Jones (AKA newspaper columnist "Dorothy Mac") summers at Homewood. (May 4 issue includes "of Antioch")

TR, May 25, 1933

"Mr. J. Howard Johnston of Tahoe has awarded the contract for two modern up-to-date cottages to be built at Tahoe Cedars to Helms & Mantifel, general contractors of Homewood. Work will be started immediately.

Homewood People

Table of Contents

Anderson, T.E. – 2 items (both 1936)

Brown, Mike obit 3/2001

Callender, Ben World 1967

Callender, Ben World 1967 pt 2

Callender, Ben obit 1974

Callender, Ben farewell 1974

Choate, Evelyn Prentiss obit 1992

Gardner, J.H. obit 1939 (2 pp.)

Huff, C. Donald, Sr. obit 1984

(Huff) Woodland man buys HR 1938

Johnston, Bill – Engaged? 1939

Johnston, Bill writes Tattler

Joseph, Mary C. obit 1936

McConnell bio item 1936 (4pp.)

Obexer bio – Stollery (4 pp.)

Obexer, Edna retires 1989 (2 pp.)

Obexer, Edna obit 2005

~ ~ ~

The Lake season is definitely under way . . . for no less a person than the genial T. E. (Tulare Tom) Anderson, famous for his orange groves, has arrived and settled himself in his summer home at Homewood. Tom hadn't been here more than a matter of minutes when he went down to the Obexer pier to inspect his speedboat, ~~Viking~~. Another few minutes and he had the speedy craft cutting Tahoe waters in a wide swath. (The "Tattler" gratefully acknowledges the box of oranges! Thanks, Tom.)

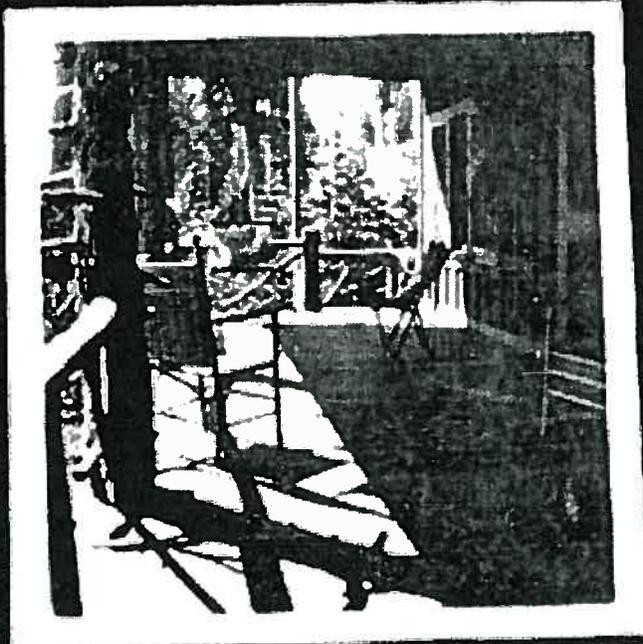
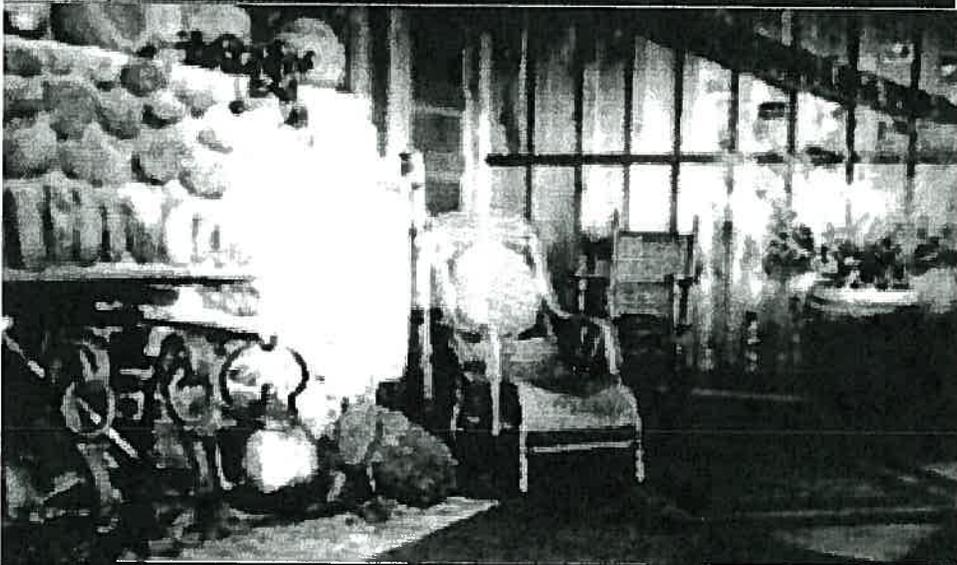
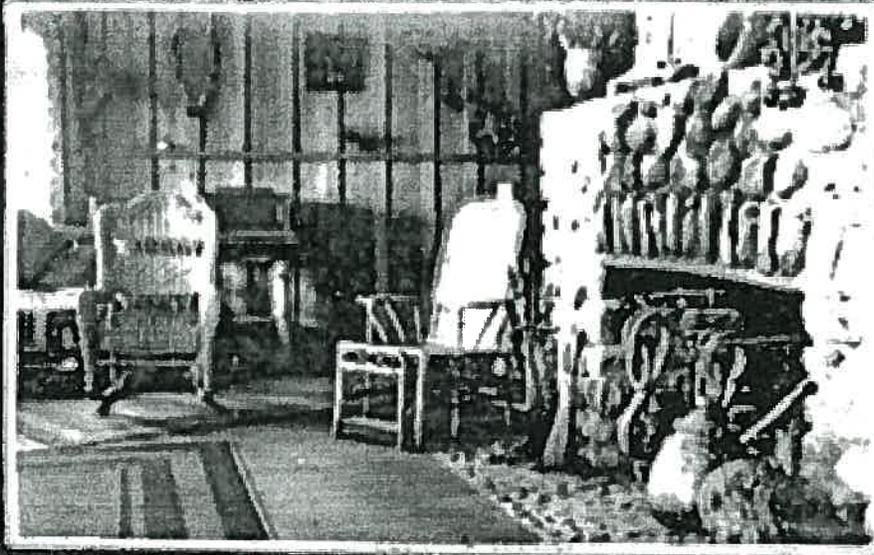
~ ~ ~

"Tulare Tom" Anderson entertained two Lindsay friends with a merry ride in the "Viking." . . . Harold Schutt, General Manager of a large olive canning plant in Lindsay and V. R. Smith and Mrs. Smith . . . likewise an olive merchant were delighted with Tahoe's friendly vistas. J. F. Anderson, brother of Tom, also partook of the hospitality of big brother Tom's Homewood domicile.

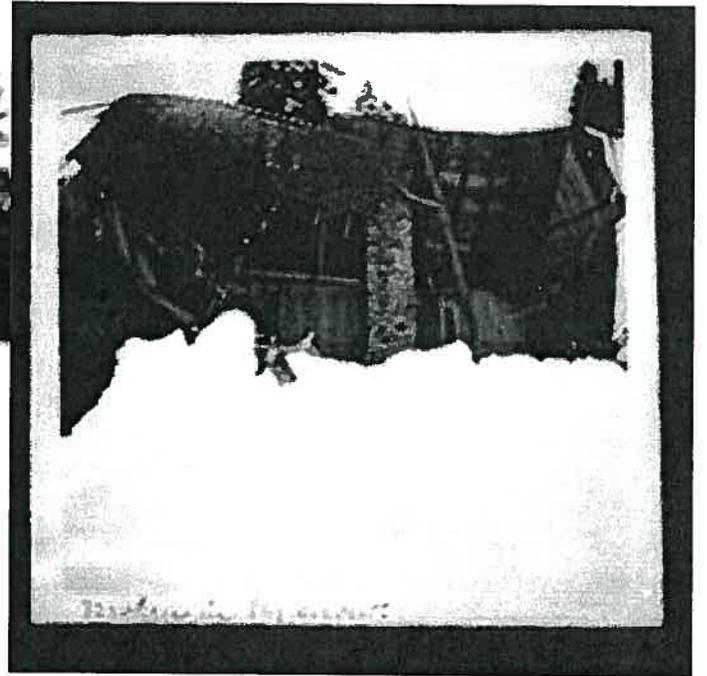
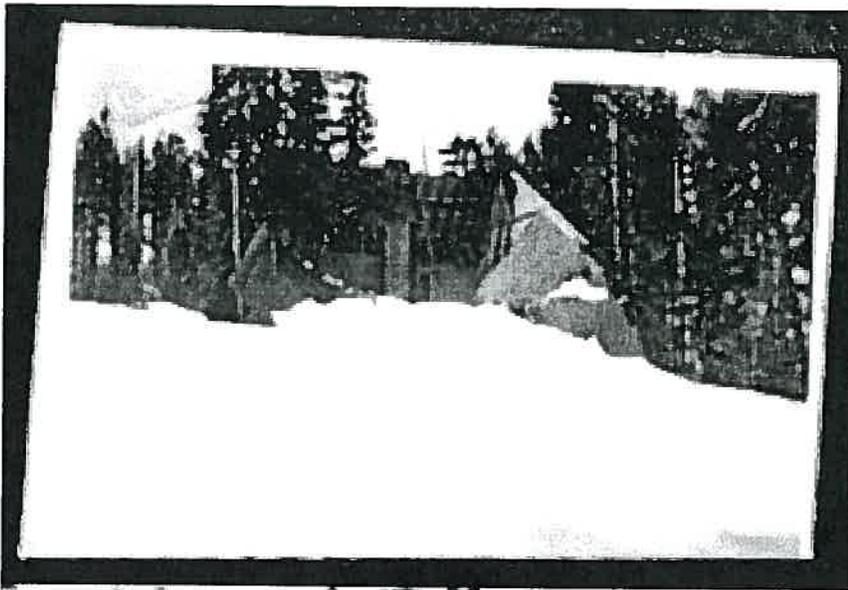
~ ~ ~

Police Chief W. M. Hallanan of Sacramento and family are ensconced in their charming new Homewood cottage . . . and are they proud? Well, they might be, we hasten to add.

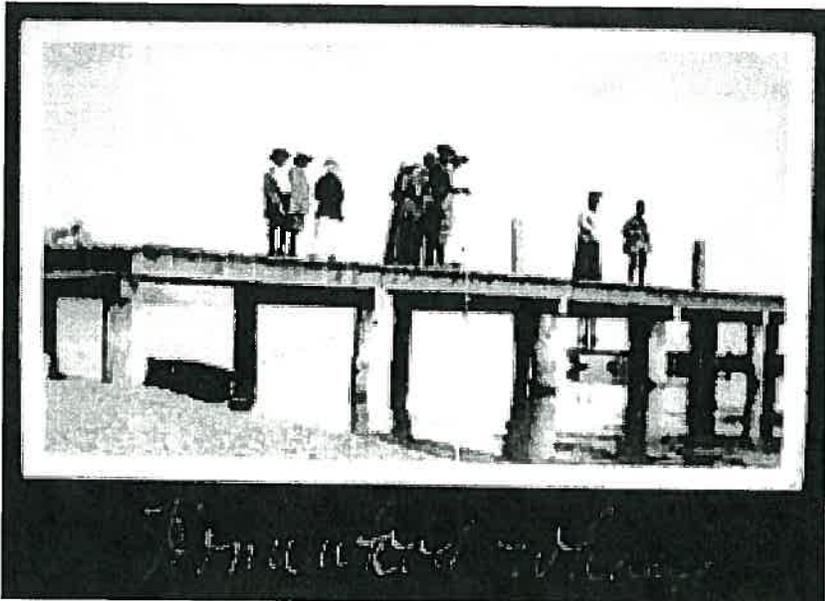
~ ~ ~



Courtesy of Richard V. Baldry



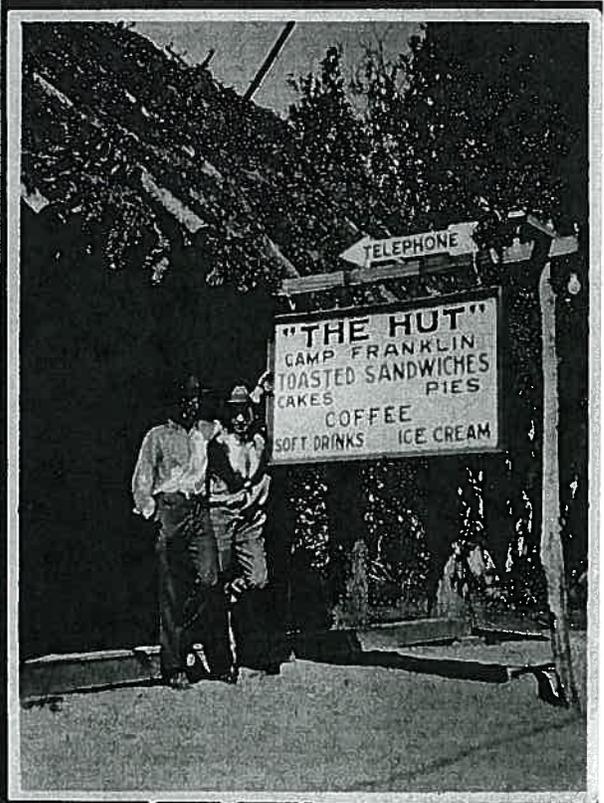
Courtesy of Richard V. Baldry



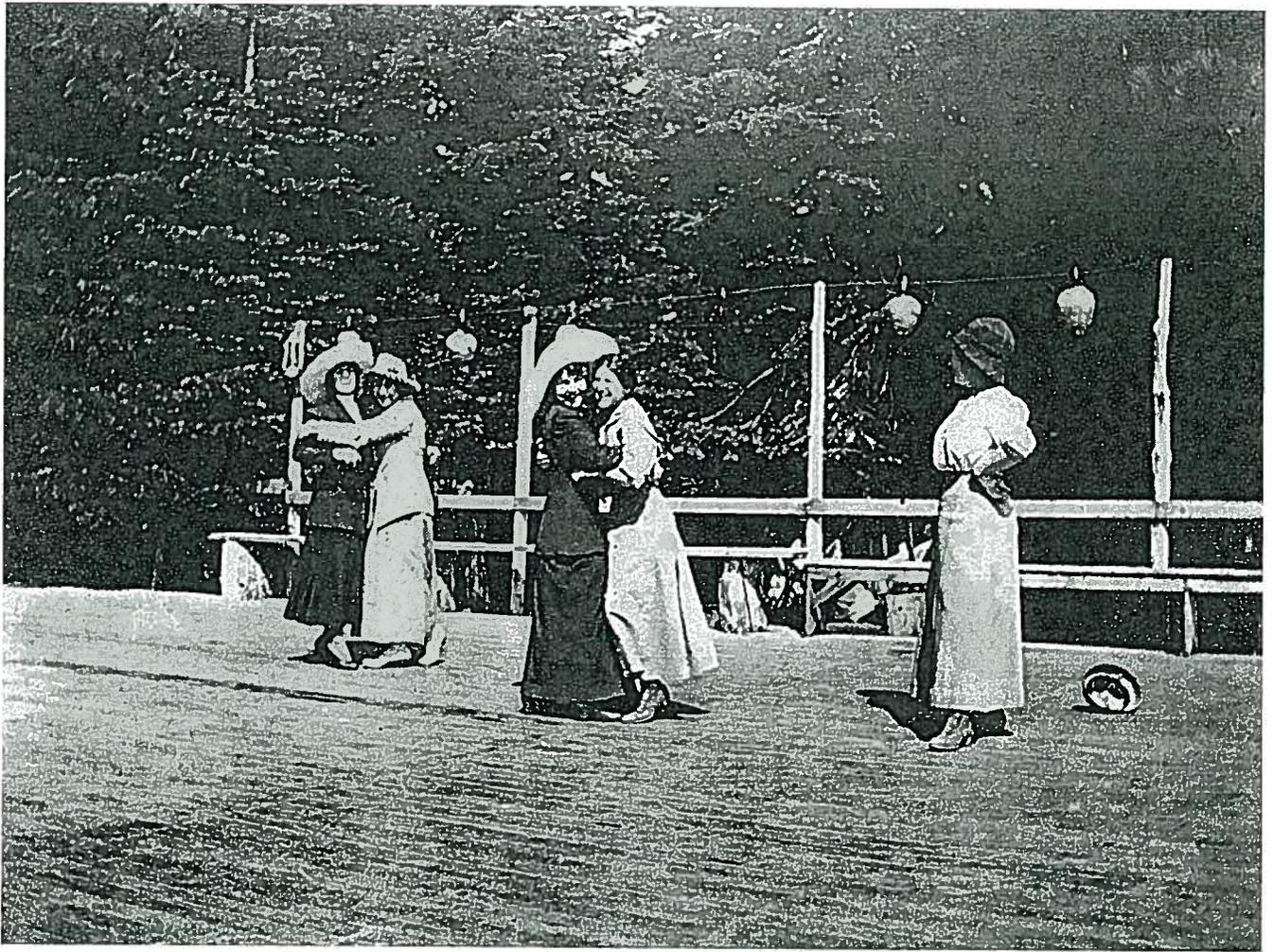
Courtesy of Richard V. Baldry



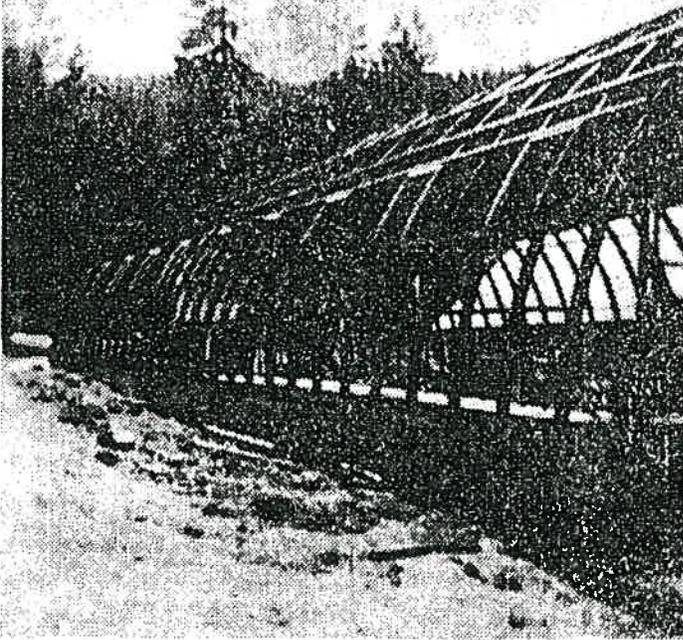
Bill Johnston



Bill Johnston - Grandad Callender

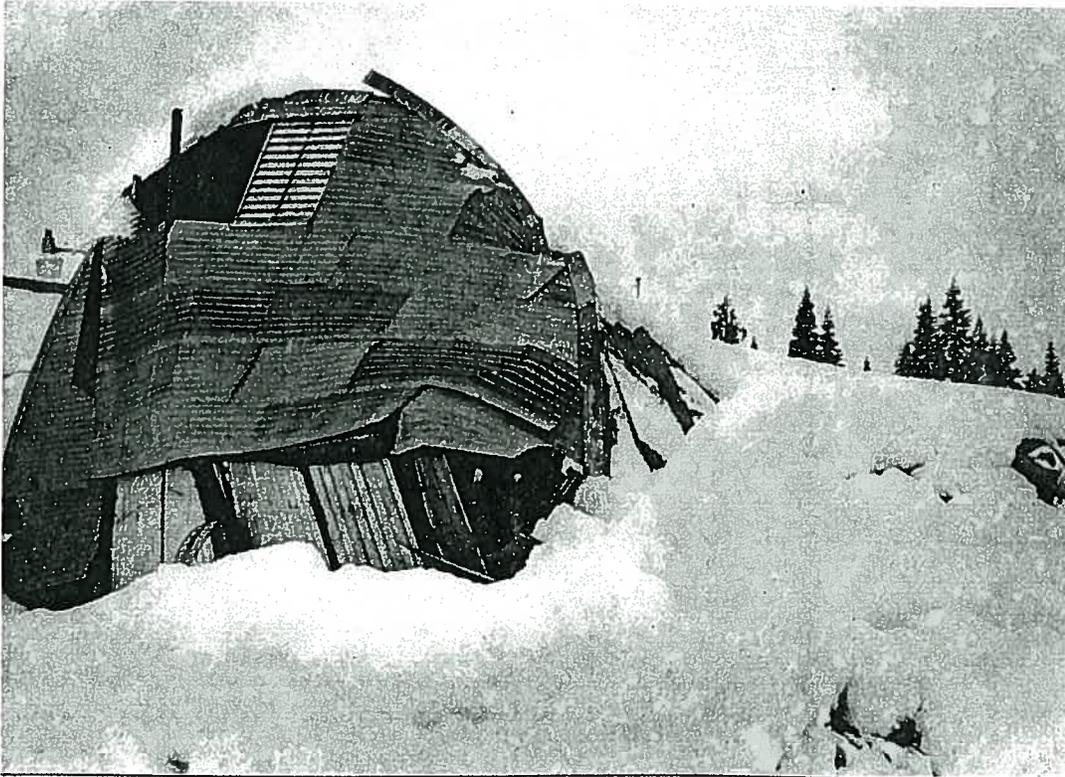


Topics June 14 1946



New quonset type construction under way at Obexer's. This structure will cost nearly ten thousand dollars when complet-

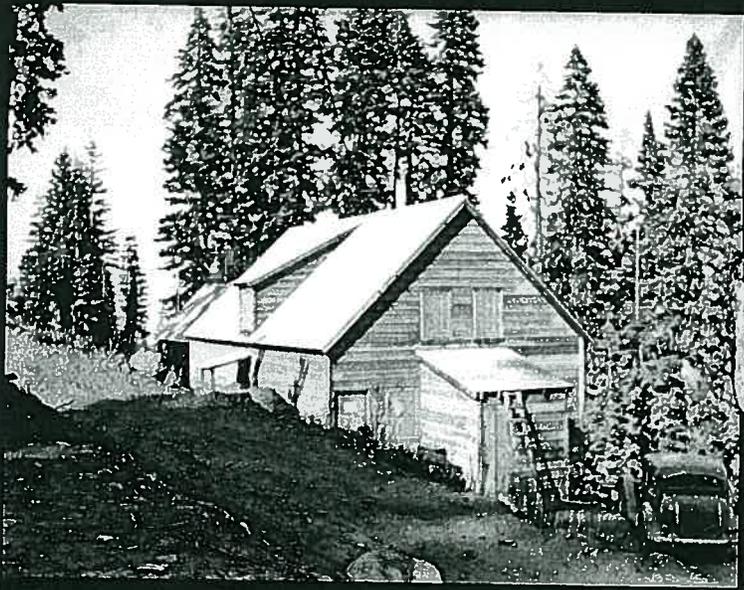
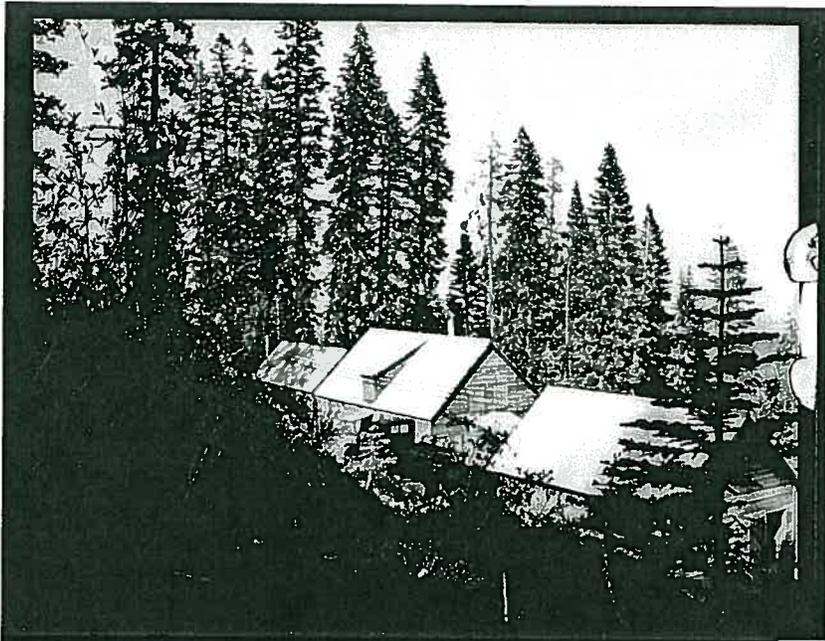
ed. It will be the newest and most completely equipped on the Lake. Dry-docking facilities already available will be materially added to by this structure.



IF A BUILDING COULD GROAN...This one would have. This photo of a boat storage building belonging to Obexer's in Homewood depicts what the heavy snows that have pastered the Sierra the past two weeks can do. The quonset hut, constructed

in 1954, collapsed recently due to snow pressure on the sides of the building. Unfortunately, it did contain several boats in storage.

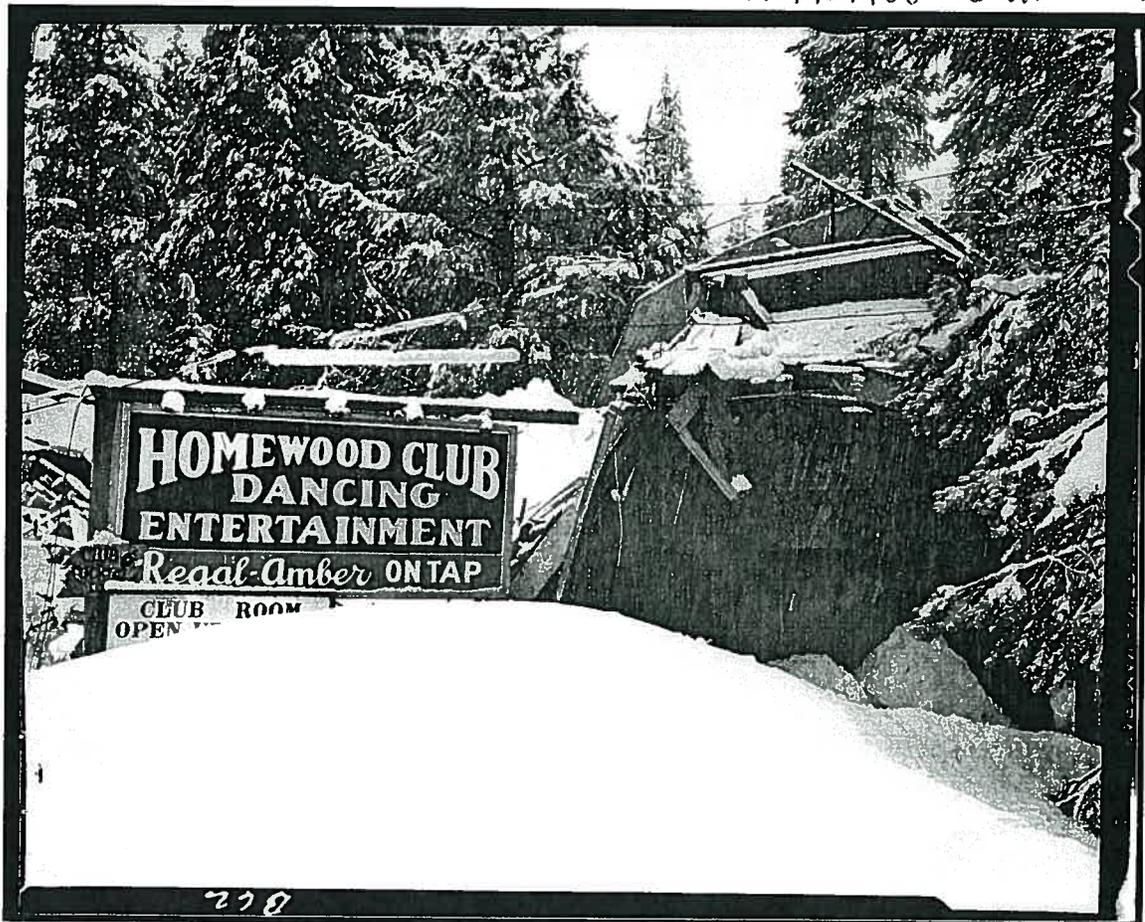
Tahoe World
1983



#s V B35-1 Treasure Mine
V B35-2 " "
V B35-3 " "
C.W. Vernon Photos



V B62-1 Homewood club crushed



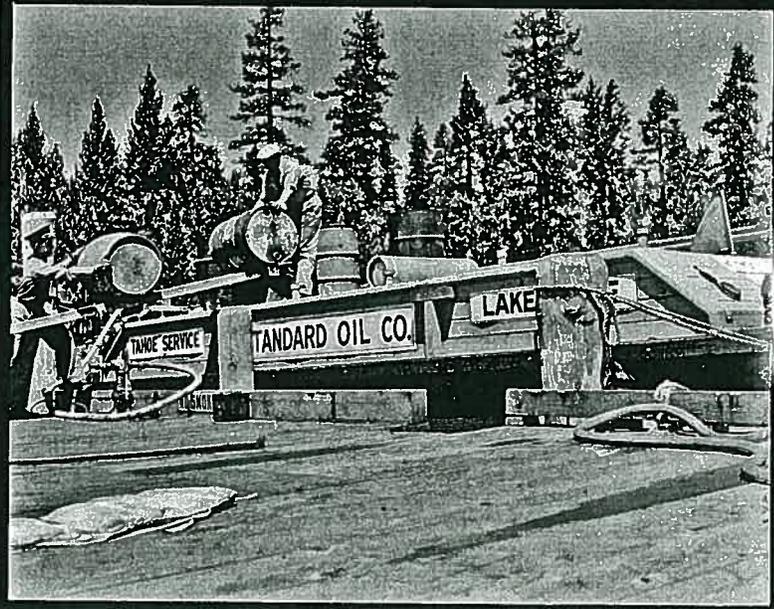
(C.W. Vernon Photos) V B62-2 Homewood Club crushed



V C24-1 Obexer tow boat



V C24-2 Obexer towboat



V C24-3 Obexer towboat

(all C.W. Vernon photos)

Edited Typescript of an Interview with
C. Don Huff, Sr. and Bernice Huff

August 14, 1984

Interviewer, Editor & Transcriber: Carol Van Etten

START OF TAPE 1, SIDE A

Don I was going to say, as long as you want historical facts, my wife knows as much about it as I do.

CVE Oh, I would be very happy to have her be involved in the conversation.

Don I came to the Lake with my parents when I was six years old, in 1904, and we went to Brockway as summer resort guests. And then the next time we came to the Lake, why, we were second night on our honeymoon and we stayed at Homewood.

...

CVE I imagine you saw quite a few changes between first and second visits?

Don Of course I was a kid, six years old. And it was our first trip out of Pasadena coming here. And I was thrilled with travel. And then after we went home it was everyday life in Pasadena again, and always wishing I could come back to Lake Tahoe.

CVE What form of transportation did you use to come on your first trip?

Don We took the steam train from Pasadena through Los Angeles to Santa Monica, and in those days it was a long wharf – that was before San Pedro or the harbor. Passenger ships would tie up at this long wharf at the mouth of Santa Monica Canyon. And then we came up on the SANTA ROSA.

CVE Was that a train as well?

Don No, a ship. And it stopped in Santa Barbara, Monterey and then San Francisco. And that was its annual run. And then we took the overnight train from San Francisco to Truckee, and went to Brockway by stagecoach. Six head of horses.

CVE That would have been over what is now Brockway Summit?

Don Yes, but in those days it was just a dirt road, of course. Stagecoach road in those days. I don't know whether there were any automobiles up here at all in 1904.

CVE I don't believe there were.

Don My family had an automobile around 1904 or '05, and you had to have a state license. They were good for the life of the car, and we had license number 1500-and-something.

Ber Tell her about when – You keep telling the grandchildren about when you rode on the stagecoach, and they loved hearing.

Don Well, this was a kind of a tally-ho stagecoach with the seats about five or six abreast and four or five seats up on top of it. And everybody sat up there in the sun and you could see good. Of course, the old folks

took those seats, and the stagecoach driver said, "Hey kid, you come on up and sit with me." And that tickled me to death and he said, "Here, I've got a gun, too!" 'Cause he said, "We're goin' through Indian country," and he said, "You be on the lookout for Indians!" So I looked for Indians all the way to Brockway.

Ber Grandchildren and great-grandchildren love to hear him tell that – looking for Indians.

Don I didn't see any.

CVE So this seemed the perfect spot for you to come on your honeymoon, having been here before?

Don Yes. But we were married in Woodland, and I had taken a job as - with the...

Ber Tell how you came to Davis and went to school there.

Don Well, I graduated from Davis and we met at a school dance. And I took a job with a fraternity brother that hired – his father hired – five of us from Davis to go up to a little community up from Elko called Lee – Lee, Nevada. Just a post office and a grocery store stop. And we got up there a little early for hay cutting, and one night we fellas all went to a dance in a little community called Jiggs, and...I don't know. I guess I didn't see any girls I liked better than Bernice.

Ber The kids used to ask him if he saw Indian girls.

Don I told the fellas, I said, "I'm going back and see if Bernice will marry me, and if she does, we'll be back here to start cutting hay the day after the Fourth of July. Ahh, they thought I was crazy. They thought I was chickening out and didn't want to work. But I came back and we were married and then started right back for Elko. And in those days, it was six-of-one-half-dozen-of-the-other whether you came up 40 or 50.

Ber That was the Lincoln Highway in those days.

Don Lincoln Highway, yes. Well, we came up through Placerville and stopped here. And we knew the owner-manager of Homewood Resort in those days. She was a former Woodland woman.

Ber A friend of my parents years ago.

Don Well, we thought it would be nice to stop here and say hello to her and tell her we were married...only staying one night. We'd be out of here so we wouldn't interfere with any reservations for the Fourth of July. And that's how we happened to spend the second night of our honeymoon here in Homewood.

And then years later why we came back and stumbled onto it one day. Saw her and she said, "I've decided to sell Homewood." I said "Well, I'll buy it." She wouldn't tell me what the price was or terms or anything like that. She said, "Well, I've signed up with a realtor in Sacramento and you'll have to go see them." So I went down to Sacramento and we made the deal.

Ber After we left Nevada, though, we extended our honeymoon then, by about a month, going through Yellowstone and all that country there, and then we came back and lived in Woodland. My father had been deceased a few years. My mother had a ranch, so we lived there. And then we started raising a family. We only had the two. And we always loved the mountains, so we came back up to Phillips.

CVE On 50?

Ber Yes. And we had come up here first and looked at lots, and this was one of the first lots we looked at. And I think, what was it - \$3,000 or something?

Don No. they wanted \$1600.

Ber \$1600. Well, we didn't like all the great big trees on it. (Laughs) In the meantime, of course, some had been removed since they built. And we went back to Phillips and took a government lot and built a place there.

As our children grew up, we'd take them over to Echo and go down to the beach every day or so. And they were old enough to want to go back to movies that night. And they had friends come up to stay with them, so Don said he thought let's look again at the Lake. Maybe we can find something.

So that's how we came back over here, looking for something on account of the children. And we had friends that we had stopped to see - two or three friends around here lived close, and they said, "Oh, I'm sure you could - why don't you look at the resort?" We had never been in that business.

So that's how, as Mr. Huff said, we got it from Mrs. Jost. And then we remodeled it, and we built the famous Snack Shack. And we had that for the children, to sell ice cream cones, gum and candy, and postcards.

So that's how we really got our start up here. And after selling it then to Mrs. Alrich, ten years later we came by and came back and got this little place, which needed remodeling. It was run down, so we remodeled it, and we're only two doors from there now.

So the children - we're raising our great grandchildren, too. We have two children, five grandchildren, and we'll soon have our seventh great-grandchild. And Sunday they had about a hundred or so out here...all their friends. We had babies upstairs on the bed and babies-in arms, and down on the beach, getting them out of the water and off of the pier, and we had a great day.

CVE Mostly family?

Ber Mostly family and their...well, their very close friends. And they have them all around from up here. They still come up. Sometimes they see them in Sacramento and other places, but of course they all live in Woodland, our family, and one lived down in Pacific Palisades. The other boys are all around Woodland, and one lives in Sacramento, and they have all their friends from down there and up here, where they've stayed together all these years. And so many of them - their parents have homes, and they're raising their children as we are ours. So it's been quite a lovely...how many years now? We had Homewood 25 years.

Don We sold 20 years ago this year.

Ber Yes, 20 years ago this year.

...

CVE I have a collection of *Tahoe Tattlers*, and I've been reading in this one in regard to the sale of Homewood Resort to you. And there was quite - apparently (at least maybe the newspaper made more of it than it really was), but the newspaper talks about the fact that Mrs. Jost was denying the fact there was a sale pending.

Don Now wait a minute. Do you mean Mrs. Jost or Mrs. Alrich?

CVE Mrs. Jost.

Ber Yes, because remember?

Don Oh, when we bought it from Mrs. Jost...back in 1938, I guess?

Ber You went to her. You said you heard it was for sale and she said it wasn't. Then when she found out who we were, knowing my parents - and I knew all her relatives and her nephews and we were neighbors in Woodland for so many years - she said, "Yes, it can be sold. It can be bought." And that's how...because she had a stroke, and she had lost her husband, and she was miserable, and that's why they said it could be bought.

CVE (Handing the newspaper to Mrs. Huff) There, in the first column.

Ber (Reading) "Denies sale." Here's a picture of Mrs. Jost.

Don We never saw those.

Ber No, we didn't.

Don See, we were in the process. We were living...our summer home was in Phillips, and we were negotiating here. We came over here and had lunch with some friends across the road one day, and they said, "We hear that Homewood is for sale." And I said, "That's news to me. I'll go over and see Mrs. Jost." And I came over to see her and she said, yes, she'd decided to sell. "But," she said, "You'll have to go and see my realtor in Sacramento." And so then I did and I said alright.

Ber Morrissey, 'cause his name's right here.

Don Yea, Morrissey. I said, "Alright. I'd like to buy it." So I told the real estate office in Sacramento what I would be willing to pay for it. I don't know that they gave me a price on the property, but...everything was for sale in those days.

Ber Can I read this to Don, if you don't mind?

Don Then it was in the hands of the realtor. He was going to take the offer up to Lake Tahoe to Mrs. Jost, to see if she accepted it. She did. So then I gave them the down payment. And then we went to Catalina. We had some friends down there. We were I think going deep-sea fishing. And somehow I hot word before we left Catalina that my deal fell through. And so I called long distance from _____ I think. We went down that way. And talked to Mrs. Jost, and she said, "No, no. That's not so." She said, "I'm selling to you." Well, what had happened, some fellow from Fresno had bought - what's this (pointing south) Tahoma?

Ber Chambers?

Don No, not Chambers. The next place.

CVE Moana Villa?

Don Moana Villa. No, the next place. Tahoma Lodge. It was down on the Lake, on a hillside. He had owned the El Rancho in Fresno, and sold out. And he came up and bought that, so it was no conflict, or anything like that. But gossip gets mixed up, you know. So that might have been what did it. But in those days, we had no interest in this area, to speak of, so we didn't subscribe to the paper, and this is all news to me. I've never seen this before.

Ber (Reading) “Woodland Man Buys Homewood Hotel—He Says. Don Huff, Woodland farm operator and banker, announced this week that he had bought the Homewood Hotel, famed 25 year old Lake Tahoe resort now operated by Mrs. A. W. Jost. But Mrs. Jost denied any such thing had happened. Matters were still up in the air, she insisted, and she wouldn’t know for a couple of weeks. Meanwhile, R.J. Morrissey, agent in the sale for Mrs. Jost, told the *Tattler* that Huff had completed arrangements to buy, but had not yet paid the bill, collected the deed. Huff had previously announced he would not take over the hotel until late in the summer; had told the *Woodland Democrat* that he planned the erection of a dancehall and casino.”
(Both laugh).

Now we never had that. There was already a dancehall here years ago, you know.

CVE But I understand that it collapsed the winter after you purchased.

Don No, before.

CVE The winter prior to the sale?

Don Yes.

Ber That was across the road, that place.

Don That building there now – I built that building on the old foundation of the dancehall.

Ber ...as well as remodeling the entire Homewood Hotel plant. Mrs. Jost had operated the hotel since it was built in 1911.

Don That is a little bit incorrect, I think, but it doesn’t make any difference now.

CVE It’s interesting that the newspaper was trying to stir up some controversy.

Don Yes. Well, Matt Green had something to do with building the hotel.

Ber He had the Tavern. Let me just finish this, dear. (Reading) “She had been running the hotel prior to his death, and her husband worked with her. The hotel, Mrs. Jost said, had been offered for sale to Huff, because she wished to retire from a business which was proving too strenuous for her. She declined to name the price of purchase. The Homewood Hotel property, which comprises a hotel and assorted cabins and tents, covers about 20 acres of lakefront land. Hotel this week running on a normal schedule.”

Don Yes. No, we didn’t have any conflict at all. Everything was a very easy purchase...sale, for her. We had her come back the next summer as our guest. And we had done considerable remodeling. Mr. Mayfield remodeled the hotel for us. And we did it without plans or specifications or permits or anything. In those days, you just did things as you wanted to, and it all worked out fine. We changed the dining room (from) the middle of the building, with no view of the Lake or mountains or anything, to where the lobby was, in front of the hotel. We put the dining room there so people having their meals could see the Lake, and put the lobby in the middle of the building, where they only sat there at night. And then – Mr. Mayfield chides me about it now. He says, “I wanted to tear that old greasy kitchen down,” but he says, “You wanted to finish it off with knotty pine and make a bar out of it.” He says, “It turned out fine.”

Ber This is in 1938.

Don Yea, '38."

CVE Those (referring to the *Tahoe Tattlers*) are a great source of information for me, in verifying things that people have told me. Then I can go to a specific issue, once I know a date.

Don An odd thing, too, is the Editor of the – that paper – what is it?

CVE *Tahoe Tattler*.

Don *Tahoe Tattler*. No, then I don't know. I'd better take back what I was going to say.

Ber Mr. Barrett of Woodland.

Don Barrett was the Editor of the *Truckee Sun*. He came up here from Woodland, too.

CVE He still writes a history column for the *Sierra Sun*.

Don It must be the same one. Is it he, or the son?

CVE It's his column, I'm quite sure. Doug...

Don Oh, Doug's the son.

Ber Doug's the son. I think Mr. Barrett passed away. The little Catholic priest that was up here for so long assisted in the wedding of our son, Don, Jr., who lives at Carnelian – has the other house - he and his wife, And her family originally came from Pasadena, but they're farm people – Colusa County. And she knew him up there and then he was here, and he was new in Colusa, but he assisted at their big wedding up there.

And then he was here, and then he moved to Sacramento and we all went to it, and a lot of the Tahoe people had gone down to attend. And the Barretts were there. Mrs. Barrett was there with the boy, but Mr. Barrett was unable to attend. He was in the hospital then. He had surgery, and if I'm not mistaken, it was a brain damage – brain something. But I think he has passed away, but although maybe he recovered enough, but I do know Doug is his son, and is following along in his father's footsteps.

CVE He writes fascinating history about Truckee.

Ber That's where they lived, you see. And their daughter and our daughter went to school in Woodland together. And they were – at one time – there were about six people down around there. We used to have to go to Tahoe City (sic), you know, to bank and take laundry and everything else there. One day Don came out of the bank and the drugstore – they were pretty close – the old Lloyd's Drugstore. And Don came back to the car and he said, "You know, there were six Woodlandites that lived up around here that were all visiting together – they all happened to meet at the bank at that time. It's been very interesting. Of course, we're off you subject of what you might have wanted, but I don't know what..."

CVE I was curious about you parents originally coming here. Was it for the fact that so many people from Sacramento had settled in Homewood, or were settling in Homewood, about 1904 or '05?

Don It had a primary interest for us, because there were quite a few of our Sacramento friends and Woodland friends, and they located all along here.

Ber Didn't you mean about his parents coming up – how they happened to come up?

CVE Well, I'm curious about that. But the fact that Homewood is such a Sacramento-based community, moreso than...

Don No, my parents knew nothing of Homewood. In those days, I remember we used to look across from Brockway, across the Lake, and see it raining over here and things like that. But no, my folks left Pasadena on a summer vacation, and were headed for Crater Lake in Oregon, and we stopped at the Palace Hotel for the night in San Francisco, and happened to meet Mr. Alverson, who was the owner-manager of Brockway in those days.

CVE...and whose middle name was Brockway.

Don Oh, is that so?

CVE That's how it got its name.

Don Well, he did some salesmanship on the folks, and they decided they'd go to Lake Tahoe instead of continuing on to Crater Lake. And that's how we happened to go there for two weeks' vacation.

CVE Did you go on any of the steamers that were on the Lake during the time that you visited?

Don No, I don't remember whether there was a steamer on the Lake in those days. There probably was the TAHOE, but I don't remember. And Brockway would have been the last stop discharging passengers. And I guess that's why we took the stagecoach from Truckee to Brockway, because we'd be there hours ahead of taking the steamer and going around the Lake. But they used to – Brockway in those days had a number of little fishing-cruiser boats. And they'd take the guests for picnics around the Lake, different places and fishing parties and things like that. And I remember we made a couple of trips to Carnelian Bay, and we would hunt for carnelian's. And we had quite a jar of the little jewel carnelians that we picked up in 1904. We've given quite a few of them away over the years, but we still have some that I picked up on the beach of Carnelian. But we had a wonderful vacation there.

CVE Did your family take any pictures on that trip?

Don If we didn't, I don't have them today. I don't know. Cameras were not as they are today, were everybody can use one. You had to be sort of a photographer in those days.

CVE With a shroud and...

Don Yea, yea.

CVE Getting back to what you were saying earlier about your decision to move from Phillips to here, based on the fact that your children were interested in seeing movies...I guess the theatres here then would have been Meeks Bay and...

Ber Meeks Bay I don't think had a theatre at that time (1938).

Don I don't think Meeks Bay had movies in those days.

Ber Because they built it – I don't remember what year, but I remember when they did build it, it was fairly new when the snow collapsed it.

Don Yea. George (Kehlet) bought a Quonset hut after the War and made a theater out of it. And then it collapsed with the weight of the snow soon after it was built. And then they rebuilt with different construction.

CVE ...on basically the same site?

Don Yea, same place. But down at Globin's – Globin's Al Tahoe, I think they called it.

Ber Bijou was where the movies were. We'd go to Richardson's. A good place for the children at that time, when they were younger – a good sandy beach was Richardson's. And there's where we would go, but you see the movie place was over at Bijou – Connelly's Bijou, wasn't it? And Globin's was down on the beach.

Don I think he had his movie – didn't he have his moving pictures out in the building on the wharf?

Ber Not that I remember, dear.

Don I don't know. Our kids would know, maybe.

Ber We'd bring them over, and I don't know that we ever went to the movies. We didn't gamble, either. I think we just waited for them.

Don Well, what we did in those days, we'd come over and bring a picnic lunch, and we'd stop at Meyers. There was a butcher shop there that made delicious wienies – oh, they were out of this world! And we'd buy wienies and then we'd go down on the beach about where the Presbyterian camp or...

CVE Oh, at Zephyr Cove?

Don Near...no, no, not that far.

Ber Lakeside, wasn't it, dear?

Don Lakeside, Lakeside. That's right. And just past – a little bit – from where the Connells were having their big fight. There was two Connelly families or something, and they put up fences between their property and everything like that. But just past that there was a little dirt road down to the Lake shore, and we'd go down there and make a fire and have picnic lunch and roast wienies and go behind a bush and change our clothes into a bathing suit and go swimming. We had lots of fun that way. And that's where – we'd go past Globin's. The kids would see the announcement for the movie that night, and they'd keep quiet to themselves until we got home again to Phillips. And then "Hey, can we have the car tonight? There's a good show at Globin's." Ask them what it was, they didn't know, but it was a good show.

Ber The reason – I think she (CVE) meant – about coming over here – settling here – is that we liked this side of the Lake. We preferred it to where we had to go in those days – down the other – along the south beach. And we did have friends here. But trying to find a place – a home for sale, or to even build, we thought of in those days. We liked this location. And of course I think coming up here just even the one night on our honeymoon. By the way, we've been married 64 years June 30, 1920. So that's why.

And people have asked us why this was named Homewood. And Edna Obexer has asked us. And I said we knew these people – knew Mrs. Jost – had known her through her sister who lived in Woodland, and their family were neighbors of ours. She had three boys and my mother had four girls, and they were called the Hansel and Epperson kids. We kids would get together when we were kids.

Anyway, those boys came up and would help her in the summer. And so we had a little tie-in with the friends in here, and the nice location.

So we think why it was named Homewood – we had friends from Woodland and in some of these up here – see these tents around the yard, and those people from Woodland would come up and camp. And they had the long dresses and parasols, and they'd have those coal-oil burners – heaters – in their tents. It was right out on the ground along the Lake. And why it was named Homewood – other than it was homey and in the woods – and someone said, "Well, maybe the Wood part came from Woodland?" and I said, "No, I don't think so. I think it was just because it was homey in the woods, is what my impression has always been.

CVE Mrs. Jost - in her advertising, I noticed her slogan was "Homewood, All the Name Implies".

Don Yea. Uh-huh.

Ber Well, the Bests that have a home down here – their mother, that bought it, and aunt, were in that. And after we were here, and remodeled, and we had so many people from Woodland that would come up. And you don't know how many places – locations – we have sold to them, from being here and showing them the prices for sale, or building on locations. And that's why we still do have so many friends, because...and here I said they all had places and we were still down on the ranch.

Don See the clothes that they wore in those days?

CVE That was a few years ago. I think this was shortly after the hotel was completed.

Don I think so. Uh-huh.

Ber In that article it says 1911, you see, that she has. But it was a little earlier than that, wasn't it?

CVE I think The Saga of Lake Tahoe gives 1910 as when they started to build.

Ber Don can tell you when they finished.

Don That might have been when Matt Green built the cottages, because they probably wanted an administration building and built the hotel, and the office there.

Ber Anyway, tell her about the prize fight – taking them over.

Don Yea, the Jefferey(SP)-Johnson fight. That was the first prize fight where a black man and a white man were going to mix it. And it was staged over in Carson City. And they were doing pretty good on building the hotel, and the contractor told them, he said, "If you fellas hurry up and finish this building so we'll be finished by the Fourth of July," he says, "I'll take you all over to the Jefferey(SP)-Johnson fight." Well, he said, you never say shingles go on a building so fast in all your life.

Ber Had you heard that before?

CVE This story does sound familiar to me.

Don Yea, And 'cause there were no roads around the Lake like today, you know, so they took a barge or something...a boat.

Ber It was a barge.

Don And went across to Glenbrook, and then by tally-ho team or something, they got to Carson City. And he said you never saw a boat loaded with so many drunks – and so drunk – coming home after the Jefferey(SP)-Johnson fight. (Laughs) But he said they finished the hotel.

Ber This was just a little dirt road – a gravel road – around here in 1920, when we came.

Don You know, I'm wondering whether we're correct that Matt Green built the hotel. I don't know. I'm beginning to think he didn't. He built the cottages. Somebody else could have built the hotel and made that deal with the workmen.

CVE What buildings existed here when you took over the property?

Don The hotel and...

Ber Cottages.

Don ...about eight or ten cottages.

Ber And there were tents across the street, too, and the dancehall pavilion had caved in, but been cleaned up.

Don Oh yea, there was an express office across the street, too, and the dancehall pavilion had caved in, but been cleaned up.

CVE And where did that sit in relation to...

Don Right where the Homewood offices are now. I had a beauty shop at that end and then a dress store and then a curio store.

Ber ...and a barber shop.

Don Also, the Union Oil gasoline station, which is no more.

CVE Is that where this building where the gas pumps that are covered out here is?

Don No, that's another story.

Ber That's right across here.

Don That's – what's his name?

Ber Cole.

Don Yea, Ed Cole. He was something. He went all over this country collecting things.

Ber Scavenger.

Don When he died, that building was so full of junk...and other things, too. Brass, copper, and everything. He was kind of a hermit, and he just collected everything.

Ber Beachcomber and a stealer, and after he left, people went in there and found some of the things that he had stolen from them years ago.

Don I don't think he thought...considered it stealing them – he just took 'em. If they were just lying out on the ground, he took 'em. He used to come up and look in the bathroom windows of our cottages and scare our guests to death.

Ber He'd walk along early in the morning and late at night...along the beach. And you'd look and you'd see just a black ghost just walking along. He was an odd fellow, and they could never catch him for going anything. He didn't molest or bother anyone. He just annoyed everyone.

Don He was harmless, but he was filthy dirty.

Ber Gosh!

Don And he would walk down towards Obexer's, and get almost there, and if somebody pulled up to his Shell Oil gasoline pumps there, and honk their horn, he'd run all the way back to sell 'em some gasoline. And there's a little story on that, where the pumps are all boxed in now. They stick out into the highway. Because this was a certain width highway in the early days. And when they wanted to improve, the State said, "Alright. We'll take it over and put a nice highway in there, but we want 21 feet on each side." Well, everyone here, to get the highway, gave 21 feet. But he wouldn't. He wouldn't give 20 feet, so they said, "Well, alright. We'll just put the highway in anyway." And he's been a sore spot in the title of the highway, and I don't think it's ever been released to the State. But he would buy 500 gallons of gasoline, or a certain amount of gasoline, and sell it during the summer time, and then turn in a sales tax report and that showed that he was in business, and so they couldn't do anything about it. Now if he hadn't been in business one summer, then they could have acquired that property because it's not used for business anymore.

CVE Had to make some kind of token sale?

Don Yeaaa. (Laughs) But he was quite a character around here.

Ber He used to go down to Auburn. Is that where his relatives lived? There? San Francisco?

Don I don't know where he lived. I thought San Francisco.

Ber Anyway, he'd hitchhike out and one time one of the men that worked for us – he was a painter and he was her nearly all summer keeping our things up, and he'd go down and back on weekends, and one time Ed Cole asked Carl for a ride. I guess he was hitchhiking. He picked him up one day...he knew who he was, and that's what. I don't think he got too far down and he stopped the car and he says, "Ed, you have to get out. You smell so bad, I can't stand you." (Laughs) I said, "I didn't think I would ever tell that story, but I did." He said, "And I couldn't stand him. I was going to faint."

Don Well, one year I was closing up, along about early October, and I was up here with my flatbed truck. And Ed knew I was closing up, so he came over to see me. He says, "I've cut a couple of Christmas trees for

some friends in Oakland.” He says, “Will you take them to Sacramento and express them to Oakland for me?” And I said, “Sure I’ll do that, but why?” I said, “Why don’t you send them from up here?” “Well,” he says, “costs too much from here to Sacramento. You take ‘em part way to Oakland.” So I did. I took ‘em down and stopped at the express office in Sacramento and shipped ‘em for him.

Ber He wasn’t too old a man, either, was he? He was rather young, but we always called him Old Ed Cole. And he was Old Ed Cole from the time we first knew him until he disappeared. Guess he died. This was left to some relatives. He did have I guess some very nice relatives somewhere. He probably was just the black sheep of the family.

Don Yea. He was just a hermit, you know.

Ber And then they came up and sold it, and there it still is.

CVE It’s been operated as several businesses since it was a gas station. It was Heartwood.

Don Yea. There were two boys ran a cabinet shop there – made furniture or something.

Ber Now I think someone stores something in there.

Don Prior to that, there was a used car lot – or not a used car lot, but a wrecking yard. A man from Placerville had his son up here for a couple of years. And he cleaned the place up so you could get into the building, but it was chunk full of just things that Ed Cole had collected.

Ber Our line came just up to that road on the other side of it and then right where the fence is down here now. That was all ours. We had what? 500? 500 –and-what? 525?

Don 525 feet.

Ber ...along the Lake there. So he was a nuisance neighbor, but he didn’t bother us.

Don Harmless. Yea, he was harmless.

CVE Do you know any of the details concerning the Noonchester Mine, uphill from where Urch’s Plumbing was located?

Don Yes, I know a little bit. Dave Chambers used to talk about the gold mining property up there.

Ber Isn’t that the one that Stan Good got interested in?

Don Yea. Just a minute. But one year, we had some guests from this big gold mining company of the world – forget what name it was now. But these men were sent out here probably from New York because there was a man who had promoted it enough to get them interested to come take a look at it for possible purchase. He used to get a little gold out every once in awhile, and then he’d take it to Truckee and ship it to the mint or someplace.

But we had as houseguests at the resort these people from this big gold mining company, and they spent a couple weeks here, and spent quite a little money. They put a big pipeline of water in up there so they could use it for whatever they had to do to examine the mine – or the property. And one evening I was in the dining room, talking with him, and he said, “Well, we’ll be leaving you in a day or two.”

I said, “Oh, that so?”

“Yea,” he said. “We’re pulling out.” He said, “There may be gold up there, but we didn’t find enough of it to make it worthwhile.” And they pulled out. And the man that was promoting it – it wasn’t owned by Dave Chambers, either. But this other man, he was quite disappointed. But it sort of phased out from then on – never heard anything more about it.

A friend of mine, Stan Good, who built a very, very nice home up here – he bought some of that property up there – he and a couple of associates. And they used it more for hunting. I don’t think they were ever interested in the possibilities of gold. But it just phased out, that’s all. It never did amount to too much.

END OF TAPE 1, SIDE A

START OF TAPE 1, SIDE B

CVE I’m curious about your operation of the resort. What special activities did you offer? Was there an evening program – entertainment? Or was it mostly lodgings and meals?

Don That was the primary activity, but we’d have – like the resorts in those days – we’d have bingo games in the lobby.

Ber Movies, remember? We used to have the movies.

Don Yea, and then we had a moving picture show once or twice a week – I forget right now. And we had it out under the trees. I built a lot of benches for the thing, and it was quite nice, and well-attended. But it was all leased out to a man that lived down at Meeks Bay, and he had other areas, too, where he would show his film.

CVE This was Mr. Ambrose (sic)?

Don Yea, Ambrosh.

CVE We used to go see his show at Meadow Park when I was a kid. They were outside.

Don Yea. Well, he used to operate the movie shows here at Homewood. But we didn’t have to do too much in the entertainment line in those days to amuse our guests. We did have slot machines in the bar, and we’d take them out when we’d get the word out of Tahoe City. Harry Johanson said, “You’d better put your machines away for a day or two. The DA is coming up for a case in Tahoe City.” (Laughs) But I don’t think people needed to be entertained as furiously as they do today. They used to sit around in groups in the lobby of an evening, with the fire going there, and chat, and just everybody have a good time. Oh, we’d have a bingo game, and I can remember that the kids almost interrupted the bingo game with their screaming and things like that when they’d win a bingo. (Laughs) But entertainment wasn’t a problem like maybe it is today. I don’t know.

CVE I have a feeling that it is for a lot of people. Conversation is really a lost art...for many. Were there any dances held in Homewood by you or anyone else during that time?

Don No, not by me. Mrs. Jost had built the dance hall or the recreation hall across the road. And I have been told that that was about the only place on the west shore or this part of the Lake where people could go dancing, and it was very, very popular. And they had some kind of a man that operated the dances and he always had unusual entertainment, and people would come to see the entertainment as much as they would for the dancing, and it was very, very popular.

But I never attended any of the dances. That was before we entered the picture, you might say, and by the time we came here, why, having room and board and running a resort was enough. Because the dance hall business by that time had reached a business of its own. You had to have orchestras and things like that. However, we did have some rather well-thought-of musicians from the Sacramento area that used to play here at Homewood and then later down at Meeks Bay. Dick Jurgens is probably the most popular – or was the most popular – one.

CVE His group was a trio, I guess, at that time?

Don I wouldn't know. Dick would always come in the fall of the year, and spend several weeks with us after leaving the East coast and coming out here to the Claremont Hotel, where he played every fall – he and his Orchestra. And he was a Sacramento boy to begin with so this was kinda home-like for him.

...

He had a Woodland boy in his orchestra, a singer: Edie Howard. And Eddie Howard was a good singer – the kind of music that we liked. And then Eddie Howard had his own orchestra later on, too. Last time we saw him was down at Palm Springs, just about a few months before he passed away. He got to drinking. Most of 'em do.

CVE I imagine the transient life would be hard on the body and soul both.

Don Oh yes. Yep.

CVE I'm wondering if you can tell me something about the organization of the Tahoe-Sierra Association. Were you involved with that?

Don Yes. At one time I was President of it. Unfortunately they had an election meeting at Homewood Resort. Hey had a luncheon, and one thing and another, and the office called me out for something, and by the time I came back, why, they had elected me President. I accepted and said, "That's kind of a dirty trick. I didn't have a chance to vote No." (Laughs)

But it was a booster organization. We had a lot of pleasure out of it, and I guess we did some good. We were primarily and only for advertising the Lake Tahoe area to bring visitors here, and all the resort operators belonged to it, because we all needed all the business we could get. And if we didn't get 'em, my neighbor got 'em, fine and dandy. But the Tahoe-Sierra Association was primarily interested in advertising Lake Tahoe, and those people could come where they wanted to.

And in those days, you didn't just have these four- and five-cottage auto courts and things like that all around the Lake. You had the main resorts. And we always were able to contribute and raise enough money that we had, oh, \$10,000 advertising fund for the season, to put out folders, brochures and some newspaper advertising, and entertain – complimentary – the Auto Club representatives that would come up to look around and write up the different resorts.

It was a friendly – very, very friendly – group of competitors. We all joined. And, so that everybody'd get a little bit of the business, why, we'd have lunches and meetings around the different resorts, so that one fella didn't get it all. Camp Richardson, at the south end of the Lake, did have the Annual Meeting. Every year, the Annual Meeting happened to be there. We all liked to go down there. "Rich" was a hale and hearty fella and he had nice accommodations to put the luncheon on, and there was plenty of parking space. The south end of the Lake wasn't as frantic as it is today.

I think we did some good for the Lake and didn't hurt anybody's toes – step on anybody's toes. In those days, we sort of included Truckee.

CVE It has become kind of an entity of its own.

Don Oh, yea, yea. Well, in my early days here at Homewood, why Lake Tahoe was right up here. There was Cal-Neva, over there, and then there was the Country Club, and then Harvey Gross came up and started his little place. He and Llewellyn had lived in the cabin in the back of it in the wintertime, and then he finally had nerve enough to try a winter operation. Lost money for a year or two, but then they made it. But the Lake was...I don't know how you could run an Association like we had today, with everybody fighting for business and all these big outfits coming in. You know, like Hyatt and the different gambling outfits that have millions behind them? We didn't have that kind of money in those days, and it was a friendly attitude, and we all got along fine.

Mrs. Craven, who ran Fallen Leaf Lodge – she was a lovely woman, and very cooperative. Though she was off of the perimeter of Lake Tahoe, she got some benefit from the advertising. At least she was cooperative to advertise the Lake Tahoe Area.

In those days, Richardson used to have to do business in Placerville, 'cause it was too far to go over into Nevada and out of the state, and like that, you know. Now, we folks all along here, why, Truckee was where we banked.

CVE There was no bank in Tahoe City?

Don No, no. We had to go to Truckee. There was...in Tahoe City in those days, of course, there was the Inn, and the Bechdolts. And then there was the Tahoe-Truckee Lumber Company – that was Charlie...

CVE Cross.

Don Yea, Charlie Cross. And there was nothing down by the "Y" – just the "Y" where you went your different ways. And the golf course. And, well, there was a little Greyhound depot up about where the Cobblestone is now. It was just a little building there for the Greyhound people. And then there was about right next to where Porter's would be, there was a garage. I can't think of their names right now.

CVE Joe Henry?

Don Yea, yea. Joe Henry. That's the trouble with age. I cant remember good anymore.

CVE I think you have amazing recall.

Don Funny thing. I took Bernice up to show her where the clubhouse is for the golf course, and ran into Bill (Bechdolt) there last night. And he was just telling me he had taken – I...We were so close together – her mother was hostess for us for years. Her name came to me this morning.

Ber Audrey Brehler.

Don Yea. Bill had taken Audrey and Jim to Reno yesterday. They're flying to Honolulu – to see their grandson?

Ber Their son lives over there and has a grandchild, so they were going over to see their grandchild. I don't know how old he is.

CVE Jim works for the School District, is that right?

Ber He does.

Don Yes, he does. Yea. But Audrey's mother was social hostess for us for years – Childsworth(SP)- and Audrey was a waitress in our dining room when she was almost not old enough to be a waitress. We've known her that long. I've kind of gettin myself off the subject because I was explaining to her how we can't remember names.

CVE I think his recall is excellent.

Ber Don will be 87 in January, and I'll be 84 in December – day after Christmas - so we just keep growing.

...

CVE I'm curious about where you got your provisions to operate the resort back then. I guess there were routes by at least one local dairy?

Ber Chuck...

Don No, we – years ago, when we were at Phillips, we used to get milk from Smiths down there, but he came up from White Rock with his dairy herd in the summertime for pasture. But here at Homewood, we didn't have any problems at all. By the time we came to Homewood, all the purveyors from Sacramento were running trucks up here. We dealt with Golden State. Do you know the Golden...well, that isn't fair to you. I met him at the Rotary (Old Timers') Party the other day.

CVE Oh, Ric Giannini?

Don Yea, Giannini. He used to deliver dairy products to us. And in fact, he did us a great favor. The time they had the big fire from Donner Summit almost to Reno, and burned the power lines down and everything – the electricity went off. People were trying to get away here, and going over to the gas station and no gas pumps, because they were electrically operated. No refrigeration in the kitchen – things like that. Why Ric, they sent up a lot of dry ice from Sacramento and put chunks of dry ice in our refrigerators, to keep our supplies from...

Ber We had walk-in ice-boxes, and they piled it up.

Don And we tried to distribute our business fairly and give each one enough so that it made it worthwhile to service us. We had Golden State dairy products. And then we also did business with Chism Ice Cream in Reno. That was considered in those days the finest ice cream you could buy, and it was delicious – you couldn't fault it. And Mr. Chism was a great supporter of our Tahoe-Sierra Association. (I looked that way because I've got the map up on the wall there that the Association put out.) And then there was Poretta Sausage, out of Sacramento, that used to deliver pork products up here, and our first few years up here, I knew – what's his name, that died? You know, the gambler?

Ber Harvey Gross.

Don Harvey Gross. That was a story. I knew Harvey Gross down in Sacramento, and he came up here. And he was a meat man, and had access to markets down there.

...

But Nevada Meat had excellent meat, and they would supply us over here, and the Puretta people from Sacramento. And then my chef had a tie-in with a firm in San Francisco that we got the finest meats we ever got in our lives, and they would ship it up and so it would come in my express. So we had no problem. And then there was another man – had a trucking concern out of Sacramento – Joe Saia – you might have heard of him. And he would bring produce. We had no problems at all in getting supplies at the time I came to the Lake. Now prior to that, I don't know what their problem was.

Ber Did you tell her about Wing, our Chef?

Don No, I haven't mentioned about him yet.

Ber Well, he came with the hotel. He was Chef when we bought it, and he stayed with us. Only two years during wartime that he was not up during the summer all those years. And everyone still remarks on Wing's cooking and the marvelous meals we used to have.

CVE You served three meals a day in your dining room?

Both Yes.

Ber And in Wartime, you know, you had to have the red stamps and different things you needed, why, people around would borrow from you. We had Callender's across the road there used to borrow things from us. Never did get them back, of course. Luckily, we didn't need them. I meant that they didn't have enough extra to give back is what it really was. And a couple of years, too, that we had to take all our laundry and everything and go clear up to Truckee with it.

CVE There was no linen service in those days?

Don No. Yea, they had service.

Ber During Wartime...

Don But there was a labor problem and a gasoline shortage. And I think that fella in Truckee's name was Nate, too.

Ber It was.

Don Yea. He says, "If you want me to do your laundry, you gotta bring it down, and you gotta come get it." He said, "I can't get a deliveryman, and I can't keep help," and this, that and the other thing. So we used to haul our own laundry down and get him to clean it and wash it, and then we'd go get it. But that was the conditions. That was a problem that corrected itself when things got back to normal.

Ber But we would take – we had a truck (a small truck) on the ranch, and we'd have to go to Reno and get a lot of our provisions, too. Especially the fruit things – fresh produce – those couple of years. It was a little hard, but we got through it.

Don Our first year, we used up the ice that Mr. Pomin had put away in our ice house the winter before. We used that ice, but I put in Frigidaire for refrigeration, and then kept adding to it all the time from more ice boxes and refrigerators and things like that. But I'll never forget that first year, trying to use that ice that he had sawed out of the pond and stored in our ice house. You were lucky to get a glass of ice water that didn't have a pine needle in it or something liked that.

CVE Well, I guess that was the conditions that prevailed pretty generally here at the time, with refrigeration being a recent development.

Don Yep. Well, one was we got some very, very nice vegetables, too, there was a – what kind of religion was that woman? Do you remember? She and her husband...

Ber Mennonite.

Don Mennonites from down around...

Ber Modesto.

Don Lodi? Was it Modesto? Well anyway, one of those little towns. I guess you're right. Down there. They would come up weekly with truckloads of vegetables – real nice things, too. And you could go out like in the early days when we were kids, they used to have vegetable wagons come around town. I remember in Pasadena the Chinamen used to run 'em, and we kids would go and try to steal carrots off the back end of his wagon. But these Mennonites would come up and we would buy vegetables from them. Very nice products, too.

Ber We used to get marvelous melons from Fallon, Nevada. Those were little Cup-of-Gold. And they'd at different times – maybe once a week – they'd bring all the melons over and people would just come out to the truck and buy them off the truck.

Don We didn't have any problems like you just spoke of. Our problem in those days was to get people that wanted to spend their vacation to come to the Lake. That was our problem in those days.

Ber And a lot of people didn't have enough gas (the stamps to get their gas) to come up, too, and those couple of years were a little bit thinner traffic than usually. That was just about the time that the train between Truckee and Tahoe city was torn out – the rails were torn out.

Ber Yes, that's right. Have you spent a lot of your time up here, then?

CVE I spent all my summers here as a kid. I worked at Meeks Bay Resort for six years, and I know the Kehlet family quite well. And then after I finished college, I moved back, to stay.

Ber We knew them well enough, we'd visit them, when we'd go south. Did you tell her that?

Don No, I didn't tell her that.

Ber And even down in Palm Springs. And then we'd go down there in the winter, and they came over and visited us a couple of times, and then finally they bought a place and we used to go down to stay. And I think they only stayed there one year, and then he was too sick to come back again and then of course she two years followed.

...

CVE I think they were happy to get out of the resort business at the time that they did, which was about the same time that you sold Homewood.

Don Two years later. Yea.

CVE The government agencies were beginning to...the sewer system in Meeks Bay was – or I should say the water system and septic systems were not up to any confrontation with the sewer.

Don George Kehlet and Dave Chambers and Don Huff at Homewood – we always (about a week from now) we'd get wet sots out in the grounds where the septic tanks were filled up and coming to the surface. And as Dave Chambers told me, "Don't worry about it. Don't worry about it." He says, "The inspector will come along and he'll cite you and you tell him, 'I'll take care of it right away,'" and then he says, "Next year, there'll be another inspector.: He says. "Don't do anything about it."

Ber You know, that's why Mrs. Alrich didn't go ahead and build here. She tore the places down. The ones that she took down, of course they all had septic tanks. She thought she could build right back, but the sewer wasn't down here. It was just a little ways on this side of Tahoe City, I guess, wasn't it? I think the sewer system came in just about the time Mrs. Alrich (bought).

Ber Anyway, it was pretty close, but that was one of the reasons she did leave the new cottages up. And then they, o course, were all around the place, anyway, and enough of them.

Don Well, those cottages, mother, then had served their purpose, anyway. They had gotten too old. They had bathtubs with legs on 'em, and you can't sell that stuff anymore, for public housing.

Ber No. If you go in a place and see one of those, you know it's a has-been.

Don No, Mrs. Alrich did what I would have had to do to stay in business, but couldn't afford to do it: get rid of those and build new ones. But unfortunately, she hasn't been able to build them yet. She was going to build condominiums – two-story buildings, I think. And then when all this came in, where you had to have a permit to even turn around, she just couldn't do it. She had a man that expedited things – he spent all his time in Auburn, trying to get permits for this, that and the other thing. Finally, his efforts were fruitless and she let him go. They're just sitting there. I feel sorry for her.

CVE Well, I think that was the decline of resorts at Tahoe...was the fact that the regulations for operating them just got to be too strenuous. The Tahoe Tavern, Meeks Bay...

Don Oh, yea.

CVE ...this resort – they couldn't function under the new system.

Don Yea. Well, she's got thousands of dollars tied up in a ski tow – equipment – that she can't get a permit to put it in on the hill. She bought it and it was delivered, and in the meantime, they wouldn't give her a permit to put it in. So I feel sorry for her. I think she's just discouraged.

CVE Well, it's difficult to accomplish very much anymore without an agency having their say about it..

Don Yea, yea, yea, it is.

CVE During the time that you operated the resort, did you rent out boats – power boats or rowboats?

Don No. We had some boats for guests' pleasure. I had started in with three rowboats and we had beach equipment for the people to play with, and the kids to play with. But we weren't trying to make any money

with that equipment. We did build the Snack Shack, so that people wouldn't have to run up to the hotel to get a drink of water, or anything like that. We had bottled Coca-Cola when Coca-Cola was five cents. And we had candy.

Ber And they made sandwiches – began making sandwiches and just enlarging it.

Don And one fall, the Snack Shack burned down. So we built it a little bigger when we rebuilt. We had it for our kids – we put them running it. Gave 'em something to do instead of playing all day long (Laughs). And then it got to be a little too much for them, and I had a night auditor whose wife wanted to run it – called her “Ma” Miller. And she ran the Snack Shack for us. I think a lot of people, besides getting something good to eat and anything like that, enjoyed the Snack Shack.

Ber And that's our granddaughter, Connie, and she had two little ones now, five and nine, and I'm trying to figure back. She was probably about six or seven years old then.

CVE This (postcard photo) looks like mid-50's maybe?

Ber Yes. Yes, because Connie is – she's 40, and she was about nine – probably about eight there.

CVE This is the building that is now the Homewood Seaplane Service?

Ber Well, it's on this side of it, yes.

CVE It's not the same building?

Don No, no. That's the...

Ber That's the Snack Shack.

Don That's the Snack Shack. Yea. They've remodeled it a little bit. When we were operating that building, we had a hot water system in it that we sent hot water all around our hotel and the hotel and everything like that. It had a boiler there, and pumped from the Lake. But they've taken that all out and gotten ride of it, and turned what was our boiler room you might say – they've turned it into offices and a storeroom. But the snack Shack part of it – the front of it – is still the same.

CVE Is it still being operated as the Snack Shack?

Ber Yes, and it's being operating every year as sandwiches and different things, and this year earlier they had hamburgers made, but you take them over. I haven't been down to see, but they have something going that you can cook your own hamburger. Then it wasn't running for awhile. Then it's open again, and I understand that the man at the Grubstake down here – Smith's old place – has rented it – taken it over, and I guess he has someone working for him. But our children said the other day that they always go down there to get candy or something. They can't stay away from it. I haven't been down for a couple of years. Anyway, they say it's open again and you can cook your own hamburger.

...

So I guess it's the same old place.

Don We didn't dare have any cooked food down at the Snack Shack, 'cause it would blow my Chef up in the kitchen. (Laughs) He wanted all the cooked food – he had it within the organization.

Ber You know, if you have a Chinaman chef, you have a good one, and that's what we had. He was just marvelous. People would come way from around the other side of the Lake to come to dinner. Of course, in those days, you didn't have the places that you do now. You didn't until the gambling places went in. A lot of them, they wouldn't go there every night, but they wanted some good old home-cooked...every Sunday night he'd have chicken and dumplings. And at Clementine's now they have chicken and dumplings. We had it one night, too.

Don It was good. They were good.

CVE What other competition did you have when you first arrived, as far as lodgings and places to eat?

Ber Chambers. Chambers was one.

Don Yes, he was a competitor, but he was a friendly competitor.

CVE Were there any other places to eat in Homewood at that time?

Don Mrs. Smith started the Smith's Coffee Shop. It's changed its name today. I don't know what it is now.

CVE I think it's the Grubstake

Don Grubstake, yes. Well, we've been down there for breakfast a couple of times, and it's nice. We like it.

CVE It's not very different from what it was then.

Don No, not a great deal. No. They've cleaned it up and it looks real nice. But we don't go there as much as I'd like to, because the difference of getting coffee here and the time it takes to go down there and get it. She says, "I can't wait."

Ber I make it the night before and all he has to do is plug it in. Then the Swiss Village and then the Forest Inn, down farther, went in. That was the old Forest Inn. Of course, you remember that. And Callender's. Didn't he have Italian?

Don Yea, they had Italian food.

Ber And they had the Hut. But they didn't serve food at the Hut, did they?

CVE I don't know. I thought you could get a hamburger or something there.

Ber Yea, I think so. It was more of a bar at night. Yea, I guess you could buy sandwiches or a bite of something. But otherwise there were just very few places that didn't bother us at all. The gambling people – when those started in – of course they'd go to Cal-Neva. Then old Crystal Bay and some of those others went in over there. But Cal-Neva was really the only place, wasn't it? The first place other there when we were operating.

CVE What were your rates like in those days? What did you charge for a room?

Don Well, ridiculously low, compared to what rates are today. We rented cottages for two with bath at \$16 and \$1 per night. We had two or three cottages that would accommodate four – like a mother and father and children. With a bath, two bedrooms: \$30 a day.

CVE These prices would have been at the time that you sold the resort? Or are you quoting prices from when you first opened the resort, or first took over the resort?

Don I think we had about two raises of our rates in the 25 years that we were there. I don't think we raised everything at the resort. We would raise certain accommodations as we would improve them. For instance, a two-bedroom cottage that needed updating – we'd put in tile in the bathrooms and maybe add a shower inside the bathtub – things like that. Or put a bigger front porch on, so they could sit out there. We were constantly making improvements. I had a carpenter and a painter all the time I operated Homewood Resort, making improvements or building additional accommodations. And that would necessitate maybe a raise from what our prices had been, but you got more for your money.

Ber The room was \$22.50 for two people, \$25 for three and \$27.50 for four people. That was our rates. So he's got it on our bedroom (door) upstairs.

Don We added rooms on the second floor...

END OF TAPE 1 SIDE B

START OF TAPE 2, SIDE A

Don We had quakes at different years up here. And that three-story hotel building that had, we slept on the third story, and I remember one or two shakes that we really shook around like that. I'd be scared to go up in that building (Pepper Tree Inn) today...in case you get a real heavy jolt. (Laughs) But it stood.

CVE Yes, that was built just prior to the Olympics.

Don Yea.

CVE ...I guess with the idea of housing people that came for the Olympics? Were you open during that winter?

Ber Yes, that was nice.

Don Yes, we did. We had a wonderful time during the Olympics.

Ber That was fine.

Don It was great.

CVE The cross-country events were close-by?

Don Yes. Right down here at Chambers Lodge. I'd get up every morning and go down there and see them start the races, and then come back and get breakfast and go down later along about 11 o'clock, and see the finish – see 'em coming in. It was fun.

Ber And the Russians were here, too. They were racing, and I remember we have a neighbor down here whose boy was in the habit of stealing things. And he too – or should I say take? – but he did steal – take – this Russian flag and he came into our bar and hid it and Lou didn't know it. The bartender knew him. And I forgot what happened about it all. I know he got it out the next day and gave it back some way, but we didn't know it until it was taken out. I don't remember where he hid it. Of course, it was kinda late at night and I don't know where he got it. But anyway, we really were up in the air about it. I don't thin the boy ever came back to our place again, 'cause the bartender got him out.

...

Ber Well, we did have a wonderful winter and time when we would go back and forth every day. The opening and closing were really teary events. And I think that that sun came out at last, just when they let the doves and the balloons go.

Don Pigeons.

Ber Well, yes. The pigeons. Anyway, God was with them, and the same thing when they opened – the same way. It was blizzard. We drove down and we were stuck for awhile and you couldn't go. Then you'd go a few feet, but it was just a line, of course – like a train – on the way in. And then the sun did the same thing, just after they opened – beautiful. So we enjoyed every event.

CVE I guess you didn't have any participants staying with you, but just spectators?

Ber Yes. They housed them up other places.

Don They had Olympic Village, you know. They had their contestants all up there in Olympic Village.

CVE I was thinking in terms of judges and officials and so forth.

Don Oh. No, some of the resorts up here signed up for that. But they had certain restrictions and this, that and the other thing, and then, too, I guess I was dragging my feet. I didn't get involved in it at all. I began having requests for accommodation, and we filled up our hotel and even had to open up two or three of the cottages to accommodate guests. And oh, we had a former Olympic sprinter, a Gold Medal winner in Paris, who came and stayed with us from Salt Lake City. (Laughs) And he brought his Gold Medal and he let the kids touch it. (Laughs)

Ber And he went out in the – it was so cute. His wife said, "He brought it, but he doesn't want anyone to know it." First thing you know, he had it out polishing and shining it all up. And of course the young people just were thrilled.

CVE Well, that's a pretty significant thing to have in your possession – if you're an athlete. It's THE thing you look forward to and work toward.

Ber I wonder if there was anything else that happened. Lots of times – several times – we had people leave up there and then come home and watch on TV – watch the close of events so they wouldn't get caught in the traffic. That happened a number of times.

Don Yea, oh yea. We had the nights in the lobby there, everybody looking at the TV for the pictures that had been taken during the day.

CVE You had TV, then, soon after it was available to the general public here?

Ber Yes.

CVE How about telephone? Did you have telephone?

Don Well, that's a story in itself. We had TV reception from the Olympics on, and we had it before then pretty good – I think one station in Reno. But it wasn't a must that you had to have it, the way it is today in hotels. People didn't require it. But we did have it for the Olympics. We had two machines, I think, up in the lobby there.

Ber For the telephone, we had telephone service and then of course we put a PBX in up here. It was after we remodeled, we put that in. So we had connection with all the cottages. Put phones in the rooms, and we were a little more civilized after a few years.

CVE I don't remember you saying when you did your remodeling.

Ber Right away.

Don Continually.

Ber We bought in '38 and we started the next year, in '39.

Don We had a pay phone and a local phone in the lobby of the hotel. We had two pay phones, come to think of it, and then a private, Homewood Resort telephone. And I wanted to get telephones in the cottages, 'cause I wanted to modernize the place. And it was War days. And the telephone people just couldn't supply them, with the War Effort going on. And I would keep after them to the point that they turned me down so many times and so definitely that finally I just quit.

And lo and behold, one day a fella came in and says, "I'm with the Telephone Company. Where are these telephones to go that you want?" And I says, "Are you kidding me?" "No," he says. "I have orders to put telephones in for you. And I said, "Let's get down to business, then."

So they put a little PBX in our office there, and put telephones in the rooms and put telephones in the cottages, and we were in business.

And then that fall he says, "Well, we'll come and get the telephones in the rooms, 'cause we have to take them to the desert area for the winter." He says, "You won't be using them," and he says "We'll put 'em in again next year – spring of the year – for you."

So for about two years, that's the way our telephone system worked. They would come and get the telephones out of the rooms and take 'em to the desert area, 'cause it was beginning to expand pretty fast then. And then finally it ended up where they left 'em in all the time. We had good telephone service. And then they modernized our PBX. And they really treated us good.

Ber ...compared to today. Service and the mix-ups – terrible.

CVE Well, I think I have kept you reminiscing long enough at this point.

Don It's been a pleasure.

Ber Well, I think we've kind of hit and missed on a lot of different things. It might be confusing for you to fix this up the way you want it.

CVE Well, the way these will be done is that I will type a transcript of the pertinent information, chronologically.

Don Take out what you need.

CVE Because a transcript on an entire conversation is never very good reading because there are always digressions in some direction or another. It's inevitable.

Ber Something of interest to someone but not everyone – or not what you'd want, I know. But as I say, our interruptions with all these little personal things...

CVE Well, what this interview will become is a part of a library of oral interviews, some of which I will be doing and some of which I will be setting up other people to do. Because I think I may have a more positive response with the collection of these oral histories if I allow the people who are giving them to be comfortable about the way they are given. Some people, I feel, some of the old timers in Tahoe City may be willing to talk, but maybe not alone. I was thinking maybe a group of two or three or four people who have known each other for many years can discuss different things.

Ber Reminisce...

CVE Yes, and wouldn't be so hesitant to be the only authority on that given day.

Don Well, I think sometimes you need a little help to remind you of things and days gone by, and I know in our discussion this morning, you brought up two or three things that I'd almost forgotten all about – and something reminds you of...

Ber ...brings to mind until you do talk about something else.

CVE Well, and I find the more history I learn, the better I am able to call things to people's minds by knowing what they can't think of.

Don Have you run into Bud Scott?

CVE No, I haven't met Mr.; Scott. But I am thoroughly familiar with his books. They're my sources of information if I can't find it anywhere else.

Don He wrote a good book. And if you knew Bud the way we did, you can't hardly believe that he could've written a book like that.

Ber He was almost an instigator". People would come over for lunches – or breakfast – at our place, 'cause we had a big veranda out there – a deck. But I think every Sunday he'd bring quite a few up, and then it got so that so many others were coming. On weekdays, too – they couldn't all get in on Sunday. So we had them for breakfast. In good weather, the boats would just be piling in. They'd say, "Here come some boats!", just like the races the other day.

Ber And Wing would get chomping at the bit out there in the kitchen, and we'd get things going. And of course we always managed. People sometimes had to wait, and then it got so at the Snack Shack, they'd come in and bring a little something of their own and get coffee, and come sit along our – we had tables all along the boardwalk there – and which WAS a board walk. And they'd bring the children and then they'd

probably spend the day. And then they'd come maybe just in time for lunch. And then, in nice weather like we had a few weeks ago in the moonlight, people would come in of an evening for dinner – early dinner – but get home just in time (at dusk) so that it wouldn't be too dark out on the Lake. So we had a good trade that way, and a lot of friends came from everywhere around.

CVE You were talking about him (Bud Scott) bringing his private boat, or when he had the tour service?

Ber Well, he had a private boat.

Don Yes, he had a private boat, but he used to work off the Tavern wharf up there, drumming up business to take people out for hire, and he made money on it. In fact, didn't he have relative – an in-law – who was in the power boat business in San Francisco?

CVE Well, Hall-Scott marine engines...

Don Yea, yea, yea.

CVE ...was his family's company, but I think it was his uncle...

Don Yea, uncle. I guess you're right. His father was in real estate in South San Francisco, and he used to come stay with us, too – the father did.

CVE Well, it was very timely that he collected all the interviews that he did. Almost without exception, the people that he interviewed have all passed away.

Don That's right.

CVE ...almost without exception. And when I started studying local history with a vengeance her about two years ago – I've always been interested in it – but in the last two years, it's been very discouraging to me to discover that I'm not able to follow up on a lot of these interviews.

Ber ...make the contacts you'd like to.

Don Well, I want to commend the people who run the Historical Society up there at the Gatekeeper's Cabin. I never knew the Gatekeeper when he was there. I didn't need to, because he ran the up-and-down of the water and I ran my business here and everything like that, and we never had the opportunity to meet each other socially or anything. But I thought it was a terrible thing when those kids set the old building on fire, and it was quite a commendable activity of the Tahoe City people rebuilding – or building – another Gatekeeper's Cottage. We were away from the Lake for a period of a few years there, and consequently K never subscribed to the new building or anything like that – which I'm a little bit sorry about.

Ber I thought you did.

Don No, no. Judge Vernon plunked in \$10,000, I think, and Norm Mayfield put in \$10,000 or something like that, and I thought, I'm not going to put up MY little bit against those fellas. So we were real interested when they had the ceremony to open a year or so ago. In fact, we made a special trip up here to go to the opening. I said, "Well, let's go and support the activity, whether we support it financially or not. And we had a delightful day – just wonderful. We met a number of Old Timers there that we hadn't seen for years. Met Norm Mayfield again. He'd been real helpful to me down here – he remodeled the hotel for me – excellent work. No problems or anything like that.

CVE Was he actually on the job, or was it John Burns who did the actual work?

Don No, in those days, Norm was down here on the job.

Ber ...and his nephew.

Don And he had his nephew as a carpenter.

CVE Doug Smith?

Don No, Martin Spitsen. He was a carpenter on the remodeling of the hotel here. So we're happy about this activity at the Gatekeeper's Cottage, and looked forward to the Old Timer's meeting which was to have been there.

CVE Yea, that was too bad that the weather was so threatening.

Don It worked out. It was fun to be in the firehouse.

CVE And I think the program wouldn't have gone so well had it been outside, because people would have been getting too cold.

Ber It did get chilly. It was clear at the beginning, but it was very chilly.

Don Everybody made the best of the circumstances that night, and we had a delightful time at the firehouse, eating there.

CVE That was a nice thing of Rotary to sponsor.

Ber Yes.

CVE I guess that's something they've been doing for several years?

Don I've been to two other – I've a Rotarian, and I've been to two former Old Timer's meetings. Two years ago, Basil Kehoe telephones me from up here, and he said, "Hey, don't you know it's Old Timer's Night?" And I said, "Well, no. I didn't know it." And I said, "Thanks for telephoning me. We'll be up." So we went up and went over to Carnelian House and had a lot of fun over there.

Ber Don is Past President and our son is a Past President (of Rotary).

CVE Of the Woodland group?

Ber Yes. And three years ago we went to Chicago, and that was for the convention. And that was Donnie's – Don, JR's. – first year. And of course Don, Jr. – they have a place at Carnelian, so he goes over there to make up. And that's how they found out. Mr. Lindsey told him. He said, "Don, get your dad up for this next meeting." So Don said – when he came home, he told us. "Now you keep a mark by..." I said, "You don't have to tell us again. We'll be up there." So we were, and enjoyed it. But Don is the oldest Past President in Woodland, and next-to-the-oldest member, aren't you?

Don No. There are two men older in age, but I'm the oldest Woodland Rotarian in the club, in years.

Ber And he's a Paul Harris man, too, and Donnie's going on one. So they've kept up.

Don We catered the luncheon here for a number of years at Homewood in the summertime. That was when the Tahoe Inn just couldn't do it, because their accommodations were only so much, and with the trade off the highway that they had coming in for meals and things, they couldn't sponsor a lunchtime tie-up of their dining room. And so they came to me, and I said, "Sure, I'll put you out on the porch in the open here, under the tables and parasols and things like that.

Ber And a big awning we had that dropped down.

Don And they thought, Gee, that was fine. And we had lots of visitors in those days.

Ber Sometimes more visitors than members at the time.

Don Yea, there were a number of meetings where there were more visitors than local Rotarians here.

CVE I guess that made it kind of hard to figure out how much to fix.

Don Well, I kept a chart, and after the first year, we could see the attendance building up until the second Tuesday in August. The second and third Tuesday in August was the top of the season. And after the second Tuesday, the attendance for visitors would drop off. We didn't have any problems. It was a lot of fun. We couldn't satisfy the Rotarians 100% The Tahoe City Rotary Club boys were all up at seven o'clock in the morning, anyway, going to work at eight. And by noontime, they were ready for a [pretty good-sized lunch. And the visitors, up on vacation – I had two or three of them at different times call me over and say, "Hey, Huff. I can't eat this stuff. Why can't I have some ham and eggs or hotcakes?"

Ber Not at noon for the Chinaman.

Don I said, "If I tried to get that out of our kitchen right now at the lunch hour, why, I'd lose the whole kitchen crew!" And that's the way it worked. The visitors were on vacation and they weren't too hungry. They weren't ready for a lunch meal, at lunchtime, [cause they'd just gotten up. But the Tahoe city boys were hungry. And there was another instance: I always would stand as they were going out, so I could hear comments whether they liked it or didn't like it – one thing and another like that., And I'll never forget we served mountain trout a number of times for lunch, and the Tahoe City boys would say, "Hey, Huff, if you never serve that damn trout again, that'll be son enough!" And the visitors would say, "Oh, geez, that was a delicious lunch today, that mountain trout!" So you couldn't win.

CVE Wasn't fresh enough for the locals, eh?

Don Yea, yea. Well, they had plenty of fish, the local boys did.

Ber And the ladies' group up here always had that – one year a big luncheon. And that was more of a get-together from other places – they would come and meet – the ladies' group.

Don Oh, yea. The ladies' club. Yea, yea. They were a nice group.

Ber Also, I used to make pickles, jelly and jam, and serve them up here. And Sunday we were down to Grebitus' party. They said, "Do you ever make any more?" I said, "Yes, but for the family. I bring a little up

here for us – a little. And some of them just have never forgotten it. And it was a job. I'd make several hundred...

CVE It would have been, canning for a resort!

Ber Yea. I told them I brought some mangoes up. I'm going to make some mango chutney this week, but I haven't gotten to it yet.

But we always – we enjoyed every bit of it, every part of it. Now we're reminiscing and can't remember a lot of it, but maybe it's best we forget. We remember some of the best parts.

CVE Well, some stories are best forgotten. I know I have been asked – the times that I have taped things – “Please turn off the recorder for a minute.” So a lot of stories I've heard, especially related to Tahoe City in the early days and activities – bootlegging activities and so forth – people are very reluctant to discuss these, even though they're in the dim past.

Don Well, El Campo – which is gone now – and there was an old timer here – Bill Johnston. You've probably heard people speak of Bill Johnston. Well, he was just a real nice old man. He was this kind of fella: I closed up one...he lived here year-round. And he would be the only one in here for six months, 'cause winter was winter in those days. The roads were closed and that was it. There was nobody coming in and out of here.

I closed up one year, and in my excitement of getting closed and everything like that, I left a cottage door wide open, and went home for the winter. And he was walking around the place the next day or so, and he dropped me a postal. He said, “In case you've forgotten, you left Cottage 10 door open. But don't worry about it.” He said, “I locked it up. I'll see you next Spring.” That was the kind of fella he was. But he was a bootlegger in the early days up here, and he used to supply the market in San Francisco with mountain trout, which was against the law, too.

But he ran the old store, El Campo, and there used to be snowshoes hanging on the wall which he would use in the winter time – things like that.

But that was the kind of people we had in those days. He was a good man. Sure, he was breaking the law, but so the people were breaking the law that bought his bootleg. (Laughs)

Ber You know, going back to that article in the *Tattler* that said that Don was going to run a dancehall and casino...that was a dance place, because they used to have a wooden dance floor – well, in one of these pictures, you can see the Chinese lanterns around the wooden dance floor out there. Dick Jurgens – he was a boy from up here. And his family – they had a place down here – a home. And he and his band, where they were down at the south end of the Lake, and they used to play up here for the dances. And they had the Chinese or Japanese lanterns all around the platform, and then they built that cross there, and they did the same thing over there – had the lanterns around. And that's what they used that summer. But we had heard afterwards, that they always used to have to prop that ceiling up over there., Well, this was not propped up, because the gamblers hadn't. So we never did find out for sure whether there was a lot of gambling there or not.

Don Well, Mrs. Jost was against liquor. A rather religious woman, also. But the dancehall was fine, and they used to have marvelous dances there, where everybody would have a lot of fun. And unfortunately, she rented the building to a gambler, one year, who took out the supports of the roof above so that he could get more people n upstairs for gambling. And this was all done unbeknownst to her. Well, the building wasn't propped up properly to take care of it for the next winter, and it cave in. Well, that ended all the dances and everything else. She was heartbroken, and realized she'd made a terrible mistake. But they used to – along with bill Johnston and El Campo – two buildings right next to each other – I guess Homewood was a pretty active place at times.

CVE Well, it was kind of out-of-the-way in those days, as it still is, to some extent.

Ber Yes.

CVE Thank you both very much for your contribution. You don't know what a contribution you're making – or maybe you do.

Don Well, it's been a real pleasure to talk to you. We've loved Lake Tahoe, and it's fun to talk about it.
(Laughs)

Ber We like to come back, and we like to go home to the ranch. We have a nice ranch there – an 11-room house we rattle around in: five bedrooms, four bathrooms. We raised children, and grandchildren love to come out and everyone still loves to come. And it was our little great-grandson that was kidnapped.

CVE Yes, I know.

Ber And that was just two years ago. They don't live on the ranch anymore, but we like to get down there and bring our vegetables and things back. And we get back and do a little watering – we have such a big yard. We have a man take care of it, but he (Don) putters around the roses – we only have 80-something rosebushes. We delayed two days coming up because he had to hoe around 'em – get extra water on 'em. But we do – we love to come back, and we look forward to getting back and seeing everyone. And then when we get enough of it, we go home for a few days – back and forth.

CVE It's nice to be close enough to shuttle back and forth at will.

Ber Yes, and our family always carry on, 'cause this property is for the grandchildren.

END OF TAPE 2 SIDE A

CONCLUSION OF INTERVIEW

Task Subject	Start Da...	Remind...	Due D...	I...	Categories	
Categories: Alpine Meadows (4 items)						
Alpine Meadows strategic concept master plan	Fri 5/1/2009	None	Tue 6/30/...	Ta...	Alpine Mea...	
Set up meeting w/Bob Moore ret. USFS re: Alpine	Fri 4/24/2009	None	Sat 5/9/2...	Ta...	Alpine Mea...	
Agenda & exhibits for Alpine Meadows charette	Fri 9/4/2009	None	Fri 9/4/20...	Ta...	Alpine Mea...	
Pass for Jeff (landlord) to Alpine	Wed 8/26/2...	None	Thu 9/10/...	Ta...	Alpine Mea...	
Categories: Business (3 items)						
USGBC AP update exam	Tue 1/13/2...	None	Thu 4/30/...	Ta...	Business	
Change Alarm Code, fax to 581-2904	Mon 3/9/20...	None	Fri 3/20/2...	Ta...	Business	
Transfer/Close-out of Basecamp onto Sharepoint	Tue 6/9/2009	None	Fri 7/10/2...	Ta...	Business	
Categories: Homewood (24 items)						
Post news update re: Land capability challenge hearing onto website	Tue 8/18/2...	None	Tue 6/1/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Tahoe Inn restoration-file paperwork w/TRPA; contact Melanie Vincent	Tue 8/18/2...	None	Fri 9/4/20...	Ta...	Homewood	
1/4 payment for visual simulation	Mon 5/11/2...	None	Fri 5/29/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Follow-up on landscape architecture proposals (JW); UPDATE; to hold	Thu 2/5/2009	None	Fri 5/29/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Solicit proposals for design development & construction documents fro...	Thu 2/5/2009	None	Fri 10/30/...	Ta...	Homewood	
North Tahoe Fire task items from meeting of 2-26-09; LAFCO applicatio...	Thu 2/26/2...	None	Fri 5/15/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Summary of environmental benefits of HMR Master plan-convert to new...	Tue 8/18/2...	None	Fri 12/4/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Update vesting tentative map-set up meeting to review	Tue 7/14/2...	None	Fri 11/6/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
USFS Quail Lake Follow-up (easements, etc.)	Mon 8/31/2...	None	Fri 3/5/20...	Ta...	Homewood	
Finalize WSA (Water Supply Assessment)	Mon 6/1/20...	None	Fri 9/4/20...	Ta...	Homewood	
Execute McKinney Well Agreement (KH)	Tue 8/18/2...	None	Fri 9/4/20...	Ta...	Homewood	
Power point for Investor Groups (w/CK)-Creative Mint	Sat 8/1/2009	None	Sat 9/5/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Caltrans Follow-up re: stormwater runoff & mtg. w/Placer Co. re: agreem...	Tue 6/9/2009	None	Fri 9/11/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Call & forward draft letter to MCWC re: purchase	Wed 6/10/2...	None	Thu 9/10/...	Ta...	Homewood	
Set up meetings with California & Nevada congressional delegations; Jo...	Wed 6/17/2...	None	Tue 9/1/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Alternatives matrix to Hauge Brueck; UPDATE-forward alt. 3 update & pr...	Sat 8/1/2009	None	Fri 9/4/20...	Ta...	Homewood	
Summarize meeting notes from HMR open house of 7-11-09	None	None	None	Ta...	Homewood	
Clean up HMR & Hotel Avery email blast list	Mon 8/17/2...	None	Fri 9/4/20...	Ta...	Homewood	
Land capability challenge; prep in event of appeal; speak w/Art	Wed 8/26/2...	None	Fri 8/28/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Brown House lease	Wed 8/26/2...	None	Sat 9/5/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Contact main consultants; stop work unless authorized otherwise (Midkif...	Wed 8/26/2...	None	Fri 9/4/20...	Ta...	Homewood	
Check geologic hazards report; fault issue	Fri 8/28/2009	None	Thu 9/10/...	Ta...	Homewood	
Forward updated wildlife survey to Allen Breuch	Fri 8/28/2009	None	Fri 9/4/20...	Ta...	Homewood	
NTFD emergency evacuation description/summary	Tue 9/1/2009	None	Fri 9/18/2...	Ta...	Homewood	
Categories: Hotel Avery (6 items)						
LEED assessment for Hotel Avery (how many points)-Joe W.	Fri 5/9/2008	None	Wed 4/1/...	Ta...	Hotel Avery	
Proforma Refinement (CK, PF)	Mon 3/2/20...	None	Fri 3/20/2...	Ta...	Hotel Avery	
Other utility company time frames for permits & connections (JW)	Mon 3/9/20...	None	Fri 4/3/20...	Ta...	Hotel Avery	
Plan refinements	Mon 5/4/20...	None	Fri 9/4/20...	Ta...	Hotel Avery	
Review latest TTSA contract draft	Mon 8/17/2...	None	Fri 8/28/2...	Ta...	Hotel Avery	
Prevailing wage impact on Hotel Avery; discuss w/Q&D	Wed 8/26/2...	None	Tue 9/15/...	Ta...	Hotel Avery	