

## Anaheim Community History Project

Anderson, Lucy J. (1894 – 1976)  
“Early Anaheim and Placentia.”  
OH46\*, 1 hr. 15 minutes, May 7, 1968.  
44 pages with extra ephemeral material.  
Interviewed by Kathleen B. Heil.  
Completed 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume One*, and individual volume.

Lucy Ziegler Anderson – Moved from New Jersey to Anaheim, CA in 1905 – Father owned two hotels, Commercial Hotel and Hotel Valencia – Hotel life, including African American staff and guests William Jennings Bryant and former California Governor Bell – Anaheim’s development, bars and effect of prohibition, and German residents, including the German Mudgutter Band – Childhood memories of seeing Madame Modjeska in Los Angeles, picnics at Orange County Park, and school activities – Marriage to Frank Anderson at the Mission Inn, WWI (Air Corps) and influenza outbreak in Sacramento, CA – Ranching and building of apartment complexes, working with the Placentia Round Table – Children, daughter in Newport Beach, CA and son in Escondido, CA.

Keywords -- Amusements -- Anaheim, California -- Local History -- Transportation -- Urban Development

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Biela, Josef P. (1923 - )  
“German Prisoner of War Experiences.”  
OH1129, 1 hr. 30 minutes, May 4, 1972.  
33 pages, index.  
Interviewed by Donna C. Barasch.  
Completed 1976.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume One*, and individual volume.  
Second interview, OH1129B completed in 1991.

Josef P. Biela – Born in Wilhelmshaven, Germany – Joined Hitler youth group, Reichsarbeitsdienst – During World War II fought in Poland, Russia (wounded), Africa (re-routed), Italy, and France (wounded) – Sent to Reading, England – Discusses injuries, surrendering, American GI helpfulness – Prisoner of War experiences, including “sneaking” on to a boat going to the United States – Camps in Oklahoma (Camp Gruber), Texas (Camp Mclean), Arizona (Marana and Camp Florence), California (Camp Pomona and Anaheim), and New York (Camp Shanks?) – Experiences include working as a tailor, picking cotton and oranges – Discusses American air power versus German air power – Writing letter to the War Department after deciding to stay in America, citing freedom of the press and democracy; response explains how to return after repatriation – Sent back to Germany, spends 18 months in

England first – Application to Consul in Bremen, Germany and trouble remembering his POW serial number – Work in astronomy and employment at the University of California, Irvine.

Keywords -- Agriculture -- Anaheim, California -- Local History -- Oranges -- World War II

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Bonney, Wilbert H. (1910 – 1981)

“Experiences in Anaheim, CA.”

OH1386, 2 hrs, March 21, 1974.

35 pages, index.

Interviewed by Karen I. Speers.

Completed 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume One*, and individual volume.

Wilbert Bonney – Born in Fairmont, Minnesota, 1901 – Parents were teachers – Move to Anaheim in 1909, ranching, orange co-ops (Sunkist, Mutual Orange Distributors[MOD]) – Attend Loara elementary school, Central School, Fremont School, Anaheim High School – Graduated in June 1920, post graduate course at Anaheim High School, then Fullerton Junior College – Work with a drafting company, designed plans for Lincoln School building – Encouraged by Charles C. Smith, superintendent of Anaheim schools to take LA County teacher exam – Work at Central School, then Fremont School – Meet and marry Celia Carr, a teacher – Attended University of California Berkeley education classes during intercession – Hired by Melbourne Gauer as principle of Central School, then Fremont School (22 years) – 1933 earthquake impact on school, new school building with help of WPA or PWA – 1951 change in school system, moved to Benjamin Franklin School – 1962 retire – Discuss membership in local groups, Rotary Club, YMCA (Camp Osceola), Methodist Church, California Retired Teachers Association, Meals on Wheels – Halloween, the Rotary Club pancake breakfast and the kiddie parade – Anaheim history, including road conditions, alcohol and saloons, ranching and then industry (Kwikset Locks and Disneyland) – Disneyland – Amusements, including bicycle, Chautauquas (vaudeville-type shows), the Red Car – Anaheim floods – Discussion of World War I and military ROTC classes – Adoption of son, doctor at University of Iowa – Ku-Klux Klan in Anaheim during the 1920s, reason Gauer was hired – Depression impact on school wages, dropping school enrollment, and New Deal programs – School growth, impact of Disneyland and new construction – Impact of World War II – State of education – School athletics.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Local History -- Schools/Education -- Urban Development

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Fischle, Richard W. (1912 – 1981)

“Anaheim and the *Anaheim Bulletin*, 1929-1968.”

OH56, 30 minutes, May 21, 1968.

11 pages, index.

Interviewed by Karol Keith Richard.

Completed 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume One.*

Richard Fischle – Born in Anaheim, 1912 – Attended Anaheim public schools – Began working at *Anaheim Bulletin* in 1929 while still high school – Worked permanently beginning in 1931 – Depression, Anaheim insulated for a time from effects – 1934 work as business manager for paper, impact of Depression and hard times – During Depression the paper issued scrip (fake money) for SQR Store and other businesses, paid bills at the end of the month after they had collected for advertising – Discussed government programs such as the WPA and NRA, reduction of hours – Depression forcing paper to run “nip and tuck”, no trouble finding people to hire but difficulty in keeping things going – New building for *Anaheim Bulletin* in 1946 – Anaheim’s boom following Disneyland – Discusses “Governor” Loudon, publisher of the *Anaheim Bulletin* – Paper as part of Freedom Press Chain – Growth of newspaper, Anaheim (West Anaheim), Anaheim Stadium, Anaheim Convention Center – Possibilities of rapid transit between Orange County and Los Angeles.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Depression -- Local History -- Newspapers -- Urban Development

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Gauer, Melbourne A. (1894 - )  
“Anaheim Area since 1925.”  
OH1425\*, 5 hrs., March 16, 17, 19, 1974.  
68 pages, index, photos.  
Interviewed by Kathy Landis.  
Completed 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume One*, and individual volume.

Melbourne Gauer – Born in 1894, farm outside Kinsley, Kansas – Memories of growing up, including going to the St. Louis Worlds Fair in 1904 – Teach following graduation in Kansas – Move to California in 1913 to follow parents – Attending Los Angeles Normal (University of California Southern Branch, University of California, Los Angeles [UCLA]), graduating in 1916 – Teaching in Ontario, CA in 1917, working in shipyards during World War I, then returning to teaching – Received Master’s Degree from Claremont College – Become Superintendent of schools in Anaheim – Work with local clubs, Boy Scouts, YMCA, Red Cross, Rotary Club, church work, religious education, Orange County Teachers Association – Old Anaheim stories/history – Disasters, including 1933 earthquake, 1938 flood – World War II activities – Desegregation of Anaheim schools – Anaheim schools during the Depression, changes in school system – Sex education – Member of Anaheim Planning Commission since 1934, representing schools – Development of Anaheim’s Master Plan following growth, including subdivisions and dealing with increased traffic - School development – Work with the Southern California Planning Congress – Building of Disneyland, then the Anaheim Stadium – Teaching a Graduate course at Chapman College – Changes in Gauer’s lifetime.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Local Government - Local History --Schools/Education -- Urban Development

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Haskett, Elva L. (1899 – 1980)

“Experiences as a Children’s Librarian of Anaheim Library.”

OH55\*, 1 hr., May 13, 1968.

33 pages, photos, index.

Interviewed by Annette Moon.

Completed in 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume One*, and individual volume.

Elva L. Haskett – Born in London, Ontario, Canada, in 1899 – Attended college and library training in Toronto – Family moved to Los Angeles – Worked in a bookstore in Los Angeles – Offered a position at the Anaheim Public Library in 1925, new children’s department – Worked as acting librarian for a time – Pinocchio puppet was acquired by the library in 1929, along with the book – Discusses 1933 earthquake and 1938 flood, impact on library – Program to bring authors to library – Evolution of storytelling in library – Creation of the teen-age room in the library – Children’s reading, choosing books – Storytelling, themes and choices – Selection of books by American Library Association recommendations (ALA) – Newberry award winning books needing explanations because of more adult subjects – Parents complaining about books, banning themes such as war and German books – Summer reading – growth of library in correlation of children using library – Children’s participation – Anaheim history, 1920s, the Ku-Klux Klan, bootlegging and clubs – Depression’s impact on the library, more people using facilities and poor book quality – The homeless and the library – Mexican American segregation and diversity in Anaheim.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Books -- Children -- Library -- Local History

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Kohlenberger, George F. (1904 - )

“Life in Anaheim, California 1904 – 1920.”

OH1422, 2hrs., March 19 and May 1, 1974.

Interviewed by Vivian Allen.

Completed 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume One*, and individual volume.

George Kohlenberger – Anaheim’s population 5200 in 1914 and 1915 – Went to Broadway School – Early roads dirt – 1913, two car dealership’s Taggart Chevrolet and Ingram Ford – Mowed lawns as a child to earn money for shoes – Clapboard houses, gardens, and livestock – Anaheim Opera House: Governor Hiram Johnson and Madame Modjeska – Children activities: “hunting”, roller-skates, bikes, kites, hot-air balloon, scooters, tops, marbles, dominoes, crokinole – Fourth of July fireworks – hay rides, Orange Country (Irvine), and YMCA swimming pool – Small-town, family interaction – Walnuts, vineyards, and orange trees – World War I German tension, impact of war on Germany, buying Liberty Bonds, and Armistice Day – 1916 and 1938 floods – Flu epidemic, La Grippe – Chautauqua Programs, Harry Houdini –

Balloon rides, circuses, and Buffalo Bill show – Saloons, Anaheim Beer, and Fisher Winery – Public transportation – Anaheim’s Chinatown – Curfew and Halloween pranks – Fourth of July road racing: Teddy Tetzleff, Pat Seale, and Barney Oldfield – Indian Mission schools – Valjean home – Local stores – Radio and phonographs – Anaheim before Disneyland – Anaheim newspapers – Local population – Original redwood water pipes – Ku-Klux Klan in Anaheim – Glenn Martin, flyer and plane builder – Disneyland and Knotts Berry Farm – Agriculture and packing houses – Kohlenberger Engineering.

Keywords -- Amusements -- Anaheim, California -- Local History -- World War I

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Loudon, Howard (1915 - )

“*The Anaheim Bulletin: Its Struggle with the Ku-Klux Klan.*”

OH22, 1 hr. 30 minutes, May 13, 1968.

41 pages, index, photos

Interviewed by Karol Keith Richard.

Completed 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume One*, and individual volume.

Howard Loudon – Born in Santa Fe Springs, 1915 – Raised in Anaheim – Attended Fullerton Junior College, then Stanford University in 1937, studying journalism – After graduation entered Navy as career, 8 years – Before the Navy worked for West Holiday Company in San Francisco – Father starts the *Anaheim Bulletin* – Discussion of Los Angeles papers versus local papers – Paper merged with the *Los Angeles Express* – News received through Associated Press – Early Anaheim – Explanation of getting baseball scores before the AP does – The Ernst family, *The Anaheim Plain Dealer* – The Ku-Klux Klan in Anaheim, father prints list of members in paper and the influence of Reverend Myers – World War I and World War II, impact on German and Japanese populations – Anaheim’s unique power structure, keeping older members involved in community – Anaheim’s city government, the city manager position – Role in industrializing Anaheim – Citrus and juice industries – Depression, paper paying in scrip – Growth of the paper – Part of Newspaper Publishers Association – Photography, cartoons, and local elections – Paper now owned by Freedom Newspapers, less local community involvement – Anaheim’s early tie to alcohol – Prohibition and bootlegging – State college (now CSUF) and community.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Local Government -- Local History -- Newspapers

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Martenet, Morris W. Jr. (1895 – 1981)

“Discussions of Anaheim Urban Renewal.”

OH30, 2 hrs. 45 minutes, April 11 and 19, 1968.

48 pages, index, photos.

Interviewed by Richard D. Curtiss.

Completed 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume Two, and individual volume.*

Morris Martenet – Born in Fresno, 1885 – Moved to Anaheim in 1910, father acquired Miller (at the time, the current Mayor of Anaheim) hardware store – Discusses local stores and saloons – 1916 Flood and flooding problems – 1933 Earthquake – 1938 Flood and community spirit – Anaheim many stores, serving the not just Anaheim but also the other parts of the county – The Ku-Klux Klan and Reverend Myers – Martenet’s role on the Anaheim City Council – Depression and WPA projects – Early Anaheim – Industrialization of Anaheim 1920s to 1950s, role of the City Council – Anaheim’s Industrial Development Corporation – Anaheim’s wineries – Agriculture: grapes, walnuts, citrus – Local stores in Downtown area – Shopping centers and Disneyland – World War II, Japanese Americans feelings and relocation – First City Council member to lose an election, in 1942 – Martenet Hardware, old fashioned business – Member of Anaheim’s Urban Renewal Committee – Downtown Anaheim, stores and redevelopment – Growth, including Disneyland and the Angels.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Business -- Local Government -- Local History --Urban Development

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Nyboe, Rudy (1884 – 1978)

“Experiences of the First Full-Time Fire Chief, Anaheim, California.”

OH1426, 4 hrs., March 18, 1974.

60 pages, index, photos.

Interviewed by Cyndi Denton.

Completed 1976.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume Two, and individual volume.*

Rudy Nyboe – Born in Omaha, Nebraska, 1894 – Left home at 13, moved to North Nebraska and then to Leadville, Colorado – Moved to Anaheim in 1914 because of wife’s health – After leaving home, worked as an apprentice with a plasterer, then for the railroad for 6 years – Returned home, work at father’s drugstore – Married Mary Catherine (Molly) – Wife’s illness, moving to Anaheim – Buys interest in saloon – Goes into oil, loses money – 1915, job with the Anaheim Fire Department as Chief – Volunteer Department, weeding out Klan – World War I and meeting government men – Discussion of Fire Department: water pipes, trucks, stations, “two for two” work schedule, fire history – Pacific Board of Underwriters and the Atlantic Board of Underwriters – Discussion of Ku-Klux Klan, green sheets and the City Council – Molly’s illnesses, first a goiter on the heart and then cancer – Depression – Anaheim City Fire Department’s resuscitation unit.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Fire Department -- Local History

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Pearson, Charles A. (1898 – 1972)

“Politics, Growth, and the Development of Anaheim, California.”

OH29\*, 5hrs., April 10, 18, 26, and May 7, 1968.  
100 pages, index, photos.  
Interviewed by Richard D. Curtiss.  
Completed 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume Two*, and individual volume.

Charles Pearson – Born in Ashland, Nebraska, 1898 – Moved to Anaheim in 1906, family buys ranch – Attended Broadway School, Central School, Anaheim High School – Discusses the Southern Pacific and Pacific Electric – Anaheim’s wineries and breweries – Local agriculture – 1916 Flood impact – Early automobiles in Anaheim – the Anaheim Police Department – 1938 Flood and impact – Building of La Palma Park with the pond reservoir – Anaheim Union Water Company and Edison Company – 1933 Earthquake – Married Sarah Fay – First Secretary of the Planning Commission – Discusses Chamber of Commerce securing land for future industrialization, separately under the Community Industrial Land Company – Industrial development – Prohibition – Ku-Klux Klan – Baseball as counter to Klan, bring people together – Anaheim Truck and Transfer, transporting circuses and oranges, part of Allied Van Lines – Water, Metropolitan Water District and William Mullholand – Orange County Water District – Water pipes – Anaheim Union Water Company being sold – Sewage plant, recycling – Political life, City Council in 1935 – President of California Valencia Orange Show – Luring industry to Anaheim, along with Chamber of Commerce – Disneyland’s development – Elected Mayor of Anaheim in 1940 – World War II – Industrialization, Earne Moeller and Keith Murdoch – City administrator, new position – Anaheim part of California League of Cities – Downtown Anaheim blight and revitalization – Land annexation, Peralta Hills.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Business -- Local Government -- Local History -- Politics -- Urban Development

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Rea, E. Kate. (1876 – 1972)  
“Early Anaheim.”  
OH13, 2hrs., June 13, 17, and 22, 1966.  
32 pages, index, photos.  
Interviewed by Richard D. Curtiss.  
Completed 1974.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume Two*, and individual volume.

E. Kate Rea – Born in San Diego, 1876 – Family originally from Ontario, Canada, and they owned a bee ranch in San Diego – Father opened a country store and was an assessor for San Diego County – Family bought land in Anaheim, moved to go to high school – Ranch named Katella after two daughters, Kate and Ella – Anaheim history – Graduated from University of California Berkley in 1901 with a degree in education – Teach at Anaheim Union High School, then at junior college (Fullerton?) – 1916 and 1938 Floods – 1933 Earthquake – Help found Parent-Teachers Association in Orange County, 1909 – Also part of Crippled Children’s Relief

Association and the Girl Scout Council (1926) – Ku-Klux-Klan and the impact on schools – Help found Anaheim Public Library, 1902-1903 – Other club work (Ebell).

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Community Groups -- Education -- Local History

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Starr, Audrey (1896 - )

“Family History and Early Anaheim.”

OH1433, 1 hr. 30 minutes, April 9 and May 22, 1975.

42 pages, index, photos.

Interviewed by Sandra Semones.

Completed ?

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume Two*, and individual volume.

Audrey Waidler Starr – Born in Iowa, 1896 – Family farm – Moved to Anaheim in 1907 – Mother dies in 1907 – Family buys 40 acre ranch/farm: oranges, walnuts, etc. – Starr is burned in 1910 by an electrical wire – family life, school life – visiting Los Angeles by train and car – Working with L. Frank Baum’s son, as Mary Pickford’s assistant/secretary, the Edison Company, and then American Sugar Beet – Visit Hawaii, meet husband (Carleton Starr) – after marriage, move back to Anaheim and find tough economic situation – Never graduated from high school, went to work in Los Angeles – Pacific Electric Red Car and Southern Pacific – Anaheim Landing – Depression, impact on raising a family – World War II, rationing at the Starr’s health food store – Member of the American Legion – 1916 and 1938 Floods – 1933 Earthquake impact – Children, Jim, Hartley, and Nadine – Travels with Carleton – Religious affiliations, personal and Anaheim – Senior activities – Recalling marriage.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Local History -- Los Angeles, California

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Stringer, Edward J. Jr. (1907 - )

“The Growth of the Anaheim Fire Department.”

OH28\*, 1hr. 30 minutes, April 9 and 16, 1968.

56 pages, index, photos.

Interviewed by Richard D. Curtiss.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume Two*, and individual volume.

Edward Stringer – Moved to Anaheim from Colorado with wife Margaret in 1935 – Anaheim was a small community – Job with Anaheim Fire Department as relief fireman in 1938 – Description of working in Molybdenum mine in Colorado – Working as a fireman in Anaheim: early trucks, servicing surrounding communities, communications, training – Fire Department reaction to floods and earthquake – Department’s rescue efforts, including resuscitators and fire prevention – Invalid Aid program, stickers signifying homes with elderly or bed-ridden residents - Innovations in department: personnel, equipment, inspections, junior fire program - 1950, new

Fire Chief, take fire administration courses at USC (University of Southern California) – Pacific Fire Underwriters Board, insurance ratings – Training and community familiarization program – Impact of industrialization and Disneyland – Prevention efforts, including Anaheim Stadium, motels, and Anaheim Convention Center – Building of more stations, foothill fires – Downtown blight, fire hazard.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Fire Department -- Local Government -- Local History -- Urban Development

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Sutherland, Carrie Lou. (1899 – 1971)  
“People and Newspapers of Anaheim.”  
OH57, 1hr. 30 minutes, May 21, 1968.  
25 pages, index, photos.  
Interviewed by Karol Keith Richard.  
Completed 1976.

*Anaheim Community History Project, Volume Two.*

Carrie Lou Sutherland – Born in 1899 in Anaheim area – Family had a ranch – Worked for Anaheim *Plain-Dealer*, feeding the press – Worked for Anaheim *Herald*, then go to USC (University of Southern California) – Illness at school, return to Anaheim and finish school in night school, return to *Herald* – Married James F. Sutherland, moved to Anaheim Landing, ranched – James died, go back to work at newspapers, *Valley Times* and *Los Angeles Times* – Ku-Klux Klan in Anaheim – Ernst Family (*Plain Dealer*) and Howard Loudon – Anaheim newspapers – Early baseball scores – Impact of Prohibition – Depression impact on paper, payroll problems – WPA programs – Anaheim Methodist Church and Reverend Geissinger – Reverend Myers and the KKK – Discusses Mayor Metcalf – *Herald* sold to chain, changed: less local – Work on City Council meetings and trials, including the I.M.Darrow trial.

Keywords -- Anaheim, California -- Local Government -- Local History -- Newspapers

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Anaheim Community History Project Abstracts by Mercedes Anderson/MA, 2001