

Debra Johnson oral histories and manuscript, 1974

MCC-00076

Finding Aid

**Prepared by Kim Raymond, 2003;
updated by Kathryn Donahue, August 2013, April 2014
Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes
University of Maine at Fort Kent
Fort Kent, Maine**

Title: Debra Johnson oral histories and manuscript

Creator/Collector: Johnson, Debra, 1953-

Collection number: MCC-00076

Accession number: MCC:92-00076

Dates: 1974

Extent: 1 folder (.15 cubic feet)

Shelf List Numbers: A167; M76; P

Provenance: Material was acquired from Roger Paradis, March 1991. Submitted for a course with Roger Paradis at the University of Maine at Fort Kent in Spring 1974. Brought to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes by Prof. Paradis in March 1991.

Language: Swedish, English

Conservation notes: None.

Access restrictions: No restrictions on access.

Physical restrictions: None.

Technical restrictions: An audio cassette player is required to access a portion of this collection.

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Citation: Debra Johnson oral histories and manuscript, MCC-00076, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent

Separated materials: Not applicable.

Related materials: Debra Johnson collection: MCC-00077

Location of originals: Not applicable.

Location of copies: Not applicable.

Published in: Not applicable.

Biographical information:

Peterson family:

Otis (Frederick Otis) Peterson was born August 23, 1891, the son of Oskar Fredrik and Johanna Axelina Carlson Petterson. He married Emma Carolina Storm (born February 5, 1894; died December 20, 1987) on July 23, 1914. A resident of New Sweden, Maine, Peterson died on May 25, 1978.

Anderson family:

Arthur Carl Anderson was born September 8, 1887, the son of Axel F. and Anna Sophia Larson Anderson. He married Lillie Hildura Olson on July 2, 1932. Lillie Hildura Olson Anderson was born on March 27, 1895, the daughter of Olof and Hansina Maria Edvardson Olson. They lived in New Sweden, Maine. Lillie Anderson died on November 4, 1974; Arthur Anderson died on June 17, 1978.

Henry E. Anderson was born on April 13, 1894, the son of Wilhelm and Agnes Clase Anderson. He married Beatrice A. Dahlberg (born April 26, 1883 in Sweden; died February 12, 1988 in Worcester, MA on February 12, 1988) on June 26, 1918. They lived in New Sweden, Maine. Henry died November 22, 1975.

Osell family:

Olof Osell (born November 2, 1857 in Sweden; died January 6, 1914 in New Sweden, Maine) married Margareta Karolina Axeldotter Hogstrom (born February 20, 1865 in Sweden; died December 6, 1943 in New Sweden, Maine) on September 14, 1885. They raised 11 children: John Oscar Osell (1885-1946); Emma Margareta Osell (1887-1950); Axel Leonard Osell (1889-1923); Olaf Martin Osell (b. 1892); Martha Myrtle Osell (1895-1897); Hobart William Osell (1897-1976); Walter Algot Osell (1899-1960); Martha Elfreda Osell (1901-1928); Olga Mildred Carolina Osell (1904-1985); Evelyn Marie Osell (1907-1998); and Elba Victoria Osell (1909-1956).

Hobart Osell was born May 1, 1897, the son of Olof Jonasson and Margareta Karolina Axeldotter Hogstrom Osell. He married Anna E.N. Swanberg (born April 6, 1899; died December 23, 1991) on October 27, 1929. Osell died May 17, 1976.

Olga Mildred Carolina Osell was born November 28, 1904. She married Fred Dooe on November 12, 1938, and they moved to Massachusetts. Dooe died on July 21, 1985.

Evelyn Marie Osell was born February 9, 1907, the daughter of Olof Jonasson and Margareta Karolina Axeldotter Hogstrom Osell. She married Earl Oscar Archibald Peterson on June 21, 1927. Peterson, born November 29, 1907, died from a farming accident between 1927 and 1936. Evelyn remarried to Charles Henry Harmon on August 22, 1936. Charles Harmon was born May 1, 1909, the son of Charles Henry and Amy

Augusta Avery Harmon. The couple moved to Worcester, Massachusetts. Charles died on December 31, 1992. Evelyn died February 17, 1998.

Elba Victoria Osell was born October 20, 1909, the daughter of Olof Jonasson and Margareta Karolina Axeldotter Hogstrom Osell. She married Hampy Leo Johnson (1910-2002) on March 19, 1931. Elba died April 16, 1956, three years after the birth of their daughter, Debra Johnson (born February 6, 1953; Debra is the creator of this collection).

Hampy Leo Johnson was born October 12, 1910. He married Elba Victoria Osell on March 19, 1931. After the death of his first wife, Johnson remarried to Dagmar Valfrida Espling Anderson (1901-1995) on July 19, 1957. Hampy Johnson died on April 15, 2002.

Espling family:

John Jacob Espling (born February 11, 1871 in Sweden; died in 1943 in New Sweden, Maine) married Anna Mathilda Fjulfstrom (born June 22, 1871 in Sweden; died October 10, 1931 in New Sweden, Maine) on January 15, 1899. They raised many children, including David Nils Espling (1910-1980) and Dagmar Valfrida Espling Anderson (1901-1995).

David Nils Espling married Arlene M. Anderson on November 2, 1938. Anderson was born November 11, 1915, the daughter of Albert Burleigh and Mabel M. "Minnie" Anderson. She died May 25, 2002 in Indianapolis.

Dagmar Valfrida Espling was born September 27, 1901, the daughter of John Jacob and Anna Mathilda Fjulfstrom Espling. Her first husband, Clifford Anderson, died 1956. She remarried to Hampy Leo Johnson on July 19, 1957. Dagmar died on February 9, 1995.

Sarah A. Lundberg was born October 6, 1900. She married George W. Lundberg; they lived in Worcester, Massachusetts. Lundberg died on November 18, 1988.

Scope and content:

This collection consists of a folklore project conducted by Debbie Johnson for a course with Professor Roger Paradis at the University of Maine at Fort Kent in Spring 1974. Johnson collected stories, remedies, songs, poems, proverbs, and other materials from various members of the New Sweden community. From Otis and Emma Peterson, she collected remedies, songs, poems, proverbs, weather sayings, and prayers. From Debbie's father and stepmother, Hampy and Dagmar Johnson, she collected poems, table graces, sayings, proverbs, learning numbers, and riddles. From Debbie's aunt Olga Osell Dooe, she collected proverbs and ditties. Debbie personally contributed customs and traditions, Swedish smorgasbord, recipes, a Swedish song, and notes on the Swedish language. From Arthur and Lille Anderson were collected sayings and riddles. From Debbie's aunt and uncle, Hobart and Anna Osell, she collected poems, superstitions, and sayings. From Beatrice and Henry Anderson were collected proverbs, "mid-sommars afton," legends, the Swedish National Anthem, "Fagelns Visa (The Bird's Song)," and "Tagelns Visa."

This report is written in Swedish and English. Also included in the collection are an audio recording of most of what is included in the report, as well as two color photographs of a "sugar cutter."

Inventory:

1 C-60 audio cassette, 88 pages of manuscript, and 2 color photographs.