LIFE IN OSWEGO, OREGON LIVING ON SPRINGBROOK ROAD 1948–1957

By Adrianne Brockman

NOTES TO THE READER

This history document was begun during lunch on August 13, 2005 in preparation for a Springbrook Court street party. Originally, it was limited to the recollections of Muiriel Brockman, Flossie Trip and Adrianne Brockman about living on Springbrook Road. It was a two page document.

Muiriel Brockman and husband Harold (Brock) Brockman lived on Springbrook Road from 1948 to 1988. Daughter Adrianne bought the house in 1988 and continues to live in the house in 2013 although my days are clearly numbered. Flossie and Charles Tripp lived on Springbrook Road from 1945 to 1957. Hence, this document covers the period from 1948 when the Brockman's moved onto Springbrook Road and 1957 when the Tripp's moved from the Road. In 2005, all of the adult Springbrook Road residents living on the street between 1948 and 1957 were deceased except for Muiriel, Flossie and Clair Alford. Clair died in 2007, Muiriel in 2008 and Flossie in 2010.

In 2006, at the time of my 50th Lake Oswego High School Reunion, I reconnected with childhood friends J'Anny Thacker Nelson, Judy Meyer Reininger and Sonnie Hayes Kirtley who since that time have visited me on Springbrook Ct. many times. We have enjoyed recalling our youth as we feel truly blessed. As a child, Judy lived at Twin Points (Summit Dr. in the Oak Knoll area) where she had a horse. J'Anny lived at 4349 Lakeview Blvd. where she too had a horse. J'Anny's mother was a teacher at Lake Grove Grade School. Sonnie lived in the Pilkington Road area and rode at the Hunt Club with me. They have added stories. At the time of my Lake Oswego High School 55th Class Reunion, my classmates added recollections. Hence this document has grown in scope to "Living in Oswego On Springbrook Road" during the 1948 to 1957 period.

During the 1948 to 1957 period, the City was known as Oswego. It was renamed Lake Oswego in 1960. Springbrook Road was not within the incorporated area of Oswego. It was in Lake Grove, an unincorporated area. Springbrook Road was annexed into the City in 1960. The name was changed from Springbrook Road to Springbrook Court sometime after 1957. Another street name change was Lower Drive to Lakeview Blvd.

This has been both a fun and thought provoking process. The changes in our society and our values are to me shocking. It was only through this process while making comparisons that I realized how dramatic the changes are.

September 2013

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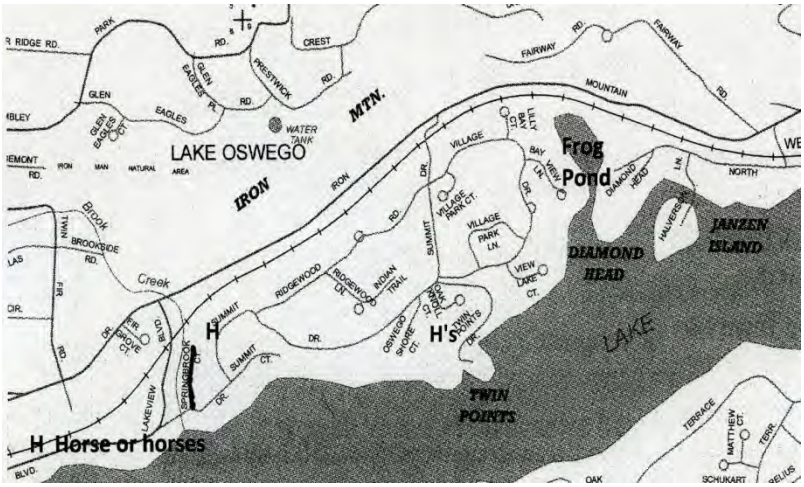
Living In Oswego On Springbrook Road 1948-1957

The Location

The map below shows the location of Springbrook Road (bottom left corner of the map) which was later renamed Springbrook Court. In 1960, it became part of the City of Lake Oswego formerly named Oswego. It also shows information applicable to the history.



The Backdrop

Overview

In 1948, the west side of the street was fully developed although the house at 15815 Springbrook Ct. was later substantially enlarged. On the east side, there was a house on the corner of Summit and Springbrook Ct. (2625 Summit Dr.), a large expanse of woods, then the Brockman's house at 15780 SW Springbrook Ct., the Tripp's house at 15750 Springbrook Ct. and then, more woods to the railroad tracks. A former resident said that the house at 15848 Springbrook Ct. was built in the mid 1950's. Either the house at 15740 Springbrook Ct. or the house at 15810 Springbrook Ct. was constructed next and last was the house at 15818 Springbrook Ct.

Springbrook Road (later changed to Court) was paved for a short distance (to 15821 Springbrook Ct.), and at that point it became a gravel (mostly dirt) road with many big potholes. Summit Dr. was paved and developed along the Lake and up the hill to 2301 Summit Dr. At that point, Summit became a gravel road. There were three or four houses on Summit. It was wide open country. People had horses, and some neighborhood children learned to horseback ride on Summit Dr. There was a horse pasture and barn at 2301 Summit Drive and

a large pasture (acres), three stall barn and horses where Oak Knoll is located at Twin Points.

The Springbrook Road/Summit Drive area was in the unincorporated area of Clackamas County. It was not part of Oswego. It was part of the area known as Lake Grove. It was annexed into Oswego in 1960. There were two grade schools each with kindergarten through the eighth grade: Lakewood in Oswego and Lake Grove. We went to Lake Grove Grade School located on Boones Ferry Road. High school students had a choice between Lincoln in Portland and West Linn High School until Lake Oswego High School opened in 1951.

Transportation

There was a bus stop (Oregon Motor Stages) at Summit and Lower Drive (now Lakeview Blvd.) that took us to Oswego and Portland for shopping and appointments. There was a bus stop at Lower Drive and Iron Mountain Blvd that took us to Lake Grove. We had excellent bus service to Lake Grove, Oswego and Portland. This may have been because most households were a one car family, and young people did not have cars. I did not have a classmate who drove a car to school. In fact, there were maybe six student cars in the parking lot at any one time. It was not a factor of wealth; it was the way people lived. The family car presented a challenge while learning to drive. This was a time that preceded the automatic transmission. Learning to drive a stick shift car on the hills in Lake Oswego was difficult and lead to some interesting results.

One of the Oregon Motor Stages bus drivers was Mr. Alfred Foy who lived at _____Twin Fir Road. He was handsome and a very very kind man. When we would see Mr. and Mrs. Foy in Oswego, he was always wearing a suit, wool top coat and hat. He dressed like he came from Wall Street and maybe he did. Mrs. Foy was always dressed so nicely too.

Public Services

All of the homes were on a septic tank and a public water system. Sewers were installed much later. There were no fire hydrants, and there was a volunteer fire department. The Lake Grove Post Office delivered mail to each mail box six days a week by an ordinary car. The postal worker sat on the right side of the car to deliver the mail. It was tricky. The garbage collection staff came to our side door and got the garbage. There was no recycling or yard debris pick-up. In those days, we could burn yard debris in the backyard.

The Telephone and Long Distance Calling

We had four party telephone lines, and most homes had only one rotary phone. Each of the four parties had a different ring. One of my friends was on our line. Three of us could talk at one time. It was wonderful except when you wanted a line, and it was busy, or you were on the phone, and you heard click – click – click as someone wanted the phone. You could hear each other talking. Our prefix was Blackstone and then, our number was Neptune 6-3985. It should also be noted that long distance calls were very expensive and rare. There was no direct dialing to other cities. One had to dial 0 and tell the operator the City and number you were calling. One of the jobs for women was being a telephone operator or providing information. If you dialed O, you heard, “operator, what city and number are you calling”. If you dialed 113, you heard, “information, what is the name of the party or business, address and city for the phone

number you are requesting". Most offices had a number of women on the switch board.

Vector Control and DDT

We had no mosquitoes or insects because each year the Vector Control District sprayed the community from an airplane with what was probably DDT. We were often outside watching.

Fast Food Restaurants/Fitness Centers

This is a time that predated fast food restaurants in the Lake Oswego area perhaps because the youth did not have cars and many families had only one car. It is a time that predates exercise and fitness businesses. Perhaps it was because we walked and rode bicycles. Our bicycles did not have gears or thin tires. We were slim and fit. There were A&W Drive-in's in the intercity. And everyone in my generation remembers Yaw's in the Hollywood Neighborhood, The Carnival at the base of Sam Jackson Park Road where it intersects with Terwilliger Blvd. and the Speck on Skyline Blvd. These drive-in's were noted for their hamburgers. Another attraction was the Juke Box that played 78 rpm records. The records were the "hit songs".

The Houses and Households

The Houses on Springbrook Court

Initially, the houses on Springbrook Road were one or one and a half stories. The appendix includes photographs of some of the original houses and some of the homes that were modified but look essentially the same.

Houses did not have air conditioners. Some were heated by natural gas and others by oil delivered to an oil tank of the property.

Opulence or Calling Attention to One's Wealth in Poor Taste

Opulence was considered "in poor taste". In fact, it was poor taste for a woman to wear diamonds and jewelry unless they were attending a gala event, concert or dinner event. Also, it was considered tasteless if a newspaper article characterized a person as having wealth. It was for good reason as money can be a separator. Lake Oswego at that time was a community in which money was not a status symbol. Character was more important than money. Everyone socialized regardless of wealth. It was delightful.

Milk Delivery, Drycleaners, Newspapers and Groceries

Alpenrose Dairy delivered milk to the houses a couple of times a week. The milk was in glass bottles, and the cream was on the top of the bottle above the milk.

The drycleaners picked up the dry cleaning at our homes and even replaced missing buttons and mended holes in clothing and delivered the cleaned items.

Young boys earned money by delivering the Oregonian early in the morning and the Oregon Journal newspaper (later purchased by the Oregonian) in the late afternoon while

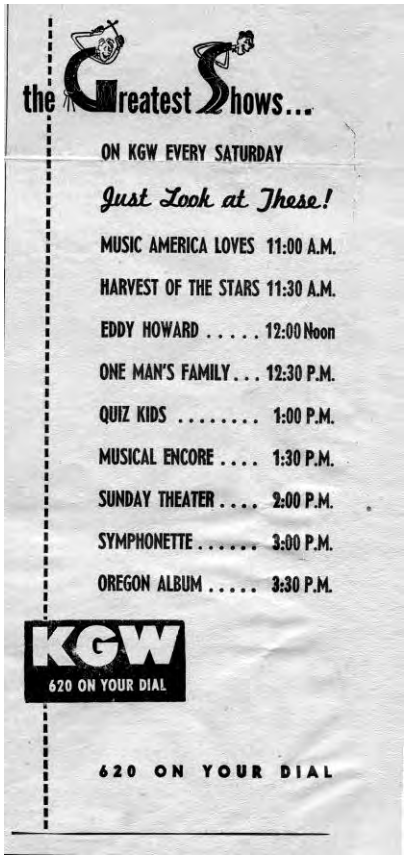
riding their bicycle. The Oswego Review was owned by the Blizzard family, and the paper played an important part in the community. The paper did investigative reporting and held the City's feet to the fire. It helped residents to see the pros and cons of an issue.

Groceries were delivered by Stanley's Market in Lake Grove. Groceries included meat, fresh and frozen vegetables, canned goods and dish and laundry products. No paper towels or napkins as I recall. Groceries did not include such items as frozen dinners until sometime in the 1950's when TV dinners were introduced. TV dinners came in aluminum trays and were cooked in the oven because we did not have microwave ovens until the 1970's. The turkey TV dinners were excellent and included turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables and apple crisp. The portions were by today's standards, small, but the "right size" to be healthy. We could buy Campbell's soups and the usual cereals. Coke came in a glass bottle.

Grocery stores were not open on Sundays, and one could not buy alcohol on Sundays. The drinking age was 21 years old.

Household Appliances

Most homes did not have a dishwasher or clothes dryer. The laundry was hung to dry on a "clothes line" either in the yard, basement or garage. Washing and drying dishes was one of the chores for which we (the children) received a weekly "allowance". In other words, we did chores and in return we were given a weekly sum of about 25 cents called an "allowance". Other chores were taking out the garbage, ironing, cleaning our room or washing the family car. We did not have drip dry clothes or steam irons until the mid- 1950's. We sprinkled the clothes, rolled them in a towel and waited until the clothes were damp to iron. Our parents often reminded us of the Great Depression, and we were told to "save for a rainy day". We were encouraged to save money in a "piggy bank". When the bank was full, we put the money in a savings account in the bank. This was a lesson that prepared us for the recent down turn in the economy. We did not find our homes in foreclosure or possessions being repossessed.



Electronic Entertainment

The radio was our primary form of electronic entertainment until Television in the 1950's. There were many situation comedies such as "Blondie and Dagwood". Each episode of a situation comedy generally dealt with a moral issue such as honesty, helping others, and trust. There were westerns such as "The Lone Ranger" and entertainers such as Jack Benny as well as classical music programs. Edgar Bergen, a ventriloquist, and his puppet, Charlie McCarthy were very unique and popular. (Note the 1948 KGW radio schedule printed in the Lincoln High School paper)

Many of the children's radio shows were sponsored by cereal companies. The main character in the show would use a decoder ring or special watch to solve crimes. You could have one by sending a

specific cereal box top and 25 cents to a specified address. I can recall watching the mail daily for my "Sky King" ring. Sky King was an Arizona rancher who flew a plane and solved mysteries. There were also Dick Tracey rings.

Some women listened to soap operas such as “As The World Turns”, “One Man’s Family” or “The Romance of Helen Trent”. These programs were often sponsored by soap companies hence the name "soap operas".

A very popular radio program was the Cinnamon Bear. It was played between Thanksgiving and Christmas each year. Wikipedia states: An original Lipman-Wolfe & Company newspaper ad from the Portland Oregon Journal, November 25, 1937 read:

> Introducing Paddy O'Cinnamon, Santa Claus's right-hand man! Meet him with Santa in Toyland at Lipman's... and don't miss his exciting adventures with Judy and Jimmy (two of the nicest playmates you could want!) over the air every night but Saturday! Early-to-bedders can listen at 6 and stay-up-laters at 7... and some nights you'll be so anxious to hear how they got the Silver Star back from the wicked Crazyquilt Dragon that you'll listen twice! And here's a secret... the Cinnamon Bear is just as excited about meeting you as he can be.

Lipman-Wolfe was a Portland Department Store located between 5th and 6th Streets and between Alder and Washington.

Portable radios became the fad and were to my generation as popular as the cell phone is in 2013.

We listened to music on the "phonograph" from monaural plastic discs called records: first, 78 rpm records, then 45’s and last 33 1/3 rpm records. In 1957, stereo records were put on the market. We did not have computers or for that matter, electric typewriters. What we did have were Health Kits. One could build their own stereo system. The kit came with all of the parts color coded and with drawings. One simple had to patiently solder all of the parts together. I built a 100 watt amplifier, and the sound was sweet and extraordinary. I had it for years, and then gave it to my brother.

TV reception, at best, could be described as terrible. There was no cable television, and there were many many "ghosts" on the screen. We wrapped big sheets of tin foil around the antennas called "Rabbit Ears" in the hope of capturing a stronger signal. It was at its worst when the Lake went down in the winter. It was said that the signal bounced off the Lake. It was difficult to view. There were few channels—just three or four. All programs were in black and white. Miller’s (15761 Springbrook Ct.) had the first TV set, and initially the children enjoyed it such as it was. Later, everyone had TV with very poor reception. One of the favorite family programs was “I Love Lucy”.

Listening to sports on the radio was popular. Some of the adults gathered at the Tripp’s (15750 Springbrook Ct.) in the evening on their screened back porch to listen to baseball

games. On occasion there was a gathering at Miller's house to watch football or golf on TV. It is said the ghosts made it hard to follow the ball.

This is a time that predated the ability to record music, radio programs or TV shows. Nobody had a tape recorder. We could not buy movies and play them on a VCR or computer. One had to buy records and go to the movie theater to see movies.

Household Help

Cleaning women were rare and only the very wealthy had yard help.

Credit and Club Memberships

No Credit Cards for the Youth or Women

No young person had a credit card, and in fact, my father would not allow anyone in our household to have a credit card. He said, "If you cannot pay cash, you should not buy it." This included the family car. Bankruptcy was considered shameful. I got my first checking account when I went to college in 1956 and first credit card years after college. A woman could not get a credit card or credit until years and years later. In fact, a woman who served on Corporate Boards and was known for her philanthropy told me that she was refused a credit card at a time when she had an enormous amount of money in her checking account. Young people and women traveled using "Traveler's Checks" issued by banks. "American Express" checks were popular.

Club Memberships Not Available to Women

A woman could not join Rotary, a country club or the University Club until the 1990's and still may not be able to join some clubs in 2013. An example is the Augusta National Country Club where each year the CEO of a corporation that sponsors the Masters Tournament is given a membership. In 2012, the CEO of IBM was a woman. This is not just an issue of discrimination. It is among the factors that create a glass ceiling for women. Clubs are where business connections are made. How do women get into the business circle so to speak? And if a husband joined a country club and there was a divorce, the wife lost all privileges and of course, friendships were affected as well as perhaps business connections. Women were referred to as e.g., Mrs. Robert Smith as if they were the property of their husband.

Medicine

This was a time that predated the polio vaccine and, in fact three of my classmates got polio. One was left paralyzed in the legs and another with mobility problems. Diseases were treated with Sulfa. Penicillin came later. We had lots of ear infections, and it was standard procedure to remove a child's tonsils after kindergarten or the first grade. Doctors made house calls. Nobody had heard of contact lenses or cholesterol. It also predated the birth control pill.

Dentists used mercury/silver fillings. Gold inlays were not expensive as gold was $35 per ounce. I have gold inlays that are 63 years old.

Nobody thought about the potentially harmful effects of x-ray. When a child was fitted with new shoes, we put our feet in a machine, and x-ray was used to show the foot in the shoe

to be sure it fit. I can remember playing with the machine. Dental x-rays were frequent. Of course, it was a time that predates the mammogram technology.

There is a dramatic contrast between medicine today and medicine 50 years ago. One wonders what the future will bring.

The People On Springbrook Road

About the People

In 1948, there were nine two parent households and 14 children on Springbrook Road. The number of children grew shortly to nine households and 21 children. There were a number of dogs (Tucker, Butchie, Gus, Sparkie, Soapy, Coco and a Docsie) and no cats.

The residents on Springbrook Road were successful business owners and company officials. Ralph Coan (2711 Summit Dr.) was raised on North Shore Road on the Lake and was in the commercial real estate business. Connie Schneider was a doctor (2625 Summit Dr.). John Heideman (15821 Springbrook Ct.) owned Acme Adding Machine and Typewriter Co. located on SW Broadway in Portland. It was in the block north of the Benson Hotel. Charles Tripp and his father owned a bond brokerage company. Some families were a member of a Country Club; Portland or Columbia Edgewater.

Shirley Coan was a very accomplished watercolor artist. Her work hangs in Christ Episcopal Church as well as many homes. Flossie Tripp was an outstanding golfer. Muiriel Brockman was an intellectual and a very active member of Christ Episcopal Church. She and Brock were among the founders of the Church and Brock, an accountant, was on the vestry.

Initially, only one of the wives worked, and she worked part time. This was the only two car family on the Road. John Heideman bought a car for the women on the street to use if they would teach his wife to drive. It was kept at the Tripp's (15750 Springbrook Ct.) on their driveway as people did not park on the street.

The Social Life

This Street rocked. The residents were all very close friends. Everyone loved a good party. Christmas Eve (unplanned) was at the Brockman's (15780 Springbrook Ct.). On Christmas Eve, these otherwise refined and cultured people imbibed except for Muiriel Brockman who did not drink. I remember seeing them dueling with National Geographic magazines and dancing to the "Sabre Dance". It was a lively and spirited group and the evening generally ended at 2am with them serenading the neighborhood with "Silent Night".

There were many spontaneous gatherings. Remember, travel was not easy. We did not have freeways. In fact, in order to go to Salem we took two lane rural roads and had to take a ferry to cross the Willamette River. The other option was 99E, a two lane road. Going to the beach was a big adventure. People did not travel as we do now. We did not have jet airplanes. As a result, there was a great deal of socialization among the residents on the street. There was a lot of interaction and respect and caring for one another. Maintaining close friendships required each neighbor to think about how their action's as well as their children's and dog's

actions affected the others. One wonders if the ease of traveling and the two and three car family has brought about distance among neighbors because they are no longer dependent on one another for their daily social life.

Manners

The children referred to all adults as Miss, Mr. or Mrs. X. The Brockman children were taught to stand when an adult entered the room. We hand wrote thank you notes. Manners were important and emphasized in those days. Men wore hats and top coats. It was considered very poor taste for a male of any age to wear a hat or cap inside a house or building. Men opened doors for women and children opened doors for adults. Our vocabulary included words such as: “please”, “thank you”, “excuse me”, and “you are welcome”. We would be introduced to a stranger with the words, “May I present Mary Smith” or “I would like you to meet my friend, Mary Smith” and in response one would say, “Pleased to meet you” or “How do you do”. Saying “hi” was considered in poor taste. When greeting a person, one said, “hello”. "Hi" was considered improper. Men paid for dinner and the movie when dating. On the bus, men gave their seats to women and children gave their seats to adults. When a woman left the dining table in a restaurant, the men at the table stood. They did the same upon her return to the table. Manners were nothing more than being thoughtful—something grossly lacking in 2013.

My mother washed my mouth out with soap when I said the word bird “shit”. It was not pleasant, and I did not do it again. Families did not take children to a restaurant until they could behave and if we were loud or misbehaved, our parents left or if we were old enough, we were sent to the car. Generally, we were left at home with a babysitter at 25 to 35 cents per hour. Again, it was thoughtfulness of others.

The Politics

The adult residents were moderate Republican’s as most Oregonians were except for the Democrat Brockman’s. Muiriel had to bite her tongue at election time, but politics was not often a topic of conversation. In those days, Democrats and Republicans had the same goals, but disagreed on the methods of achieving the goals so the feelings were not as intense as in 2013 when there is little agreement on the goals and values.

The Yards

Since the women did not work, the yards were manicured. There was sharing of landscaping ideas. The Tripp’s yard (15750 Springbrook Ct.) was a show place with the beautiful rock walls and gardens. The Brockman’s (15780 Springbrook Ct.) terraced and landscaped their backyard. There was a badminton court on the upper level. The Heideman’s house (15821 Springbrook Ct.) had a lovely front yard of grass and plantings and a hedge along the road. The other yard areas were essential the same size and locations as they are in 2013 in the attached photos.

The Children

Overview

There were 21 young children and many dogs. The residents referred to the street as “Fertile Valley”. They blamed it on the trains. The Tillamook burn area in the Oregon Coast

Range was being logged and big steam locomotives roared through many times a day at all hours, pulling seemingly endless numbers of cars with big logs – logs 3-5 feet in diameter. Everyone loved the sound of the whistle and often took time to watch the steam engines and in those days, a freight train had a caboose. The person in the caboose would wave to us. And you could clearly see the trains as there were no trees along the tracks. They sprayed the vegetation because sparks from the steam engine could cause a fire.

Play

We had wonderful tree houses high in the trees which we spent days building and rebuilding. There were trails and lots of tall foliage in the woods where we played "Hide and Seek"(15818 and 15810 Springbrook Ct.). During the summer, there was the Brockman's badminton court. During the winter, there was the Brockman's ping pong table in the basement. Some of the children built structures and objects with Tinker Toys, Lincoln Logs and Erector Sets. Some had an electric train and built small villages for the train. Nobody was ever bored. We built crystal set radios and listened with ear phones to the "Lone Ranger", "Cisco Kid", "I Love a Mystery", "Suspense" and other radio programs. Some took music lessons and art classes at the Portland Art Museum as I did, and we ice skated at the Armory in Northwest Portland and roller skated at Oaks Park. Driving the bumper cars at Oaks Park was the most fun.

Games included Marbles, and there were tournaments at Lake Grove Grade School. Indoor games included Jacks and Tidily Winks. Jacks were very popular. We also wrestled with a Yo Yo. Baseball was very popular, and it was fashionable to wear your baseball mitt or glove on your belt. It was a status symbol. Roller skating was very popular. The skates were connected to your shoes by clamps tightened with a key, and we wore the key on a string around our neck. It was not possible to skate on Springbrook Count as it was mostly potholes with some gravel.

We started swimming in the Lake in late May and spent hours there each day until school started in the fall. In fact, in 2011, Adrianne's Lake Oswego High School class had a 55th Class Reunion. We met at the Lake Oswego Library to record our recollections of our childhood in Lake Oswego. To a person, everyone said that during the summer, the Lake was the center of their activities. Some spoke about being at the Lake Grove Swim Park from 9 to 5. They walked or rode their bicycle to the Park. Our mother's did not have a car.

The boys were active in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts while the girls were in Blue Birds and Camp Fire or Brownies and Girl Scouts. I went to Camp Fire Girls camp one summer for two weeks and returned home refusing to go again because it was more fun at home. Swimming and horseback riding were supervised at camp and unsupervised at home. One of my friends spoke recently of joining a group of classmate Mariner Scouts during her high school days and canoeing down the Willamette River from Salem to Lake Oswego. They camped overnight in the vicinity of Champoeg State Park. This was ca. 1955. There were no concerns on the part of the parents. They were skilled around water, and crime was not a consideration in those days.

School

There was a school bus that stopped at the intersection of Summit Drive and Lower Drive (Lakeview Blvd). Those living on Summit or at Twin Points walked to the bus stop. Many

of us frequently walked to Lake Grove Grade School. I ran home from the High School which opened in 1951 with grades 8 – 12 via the horse trails through Springbrook Park. There were no middle schools. There were no concerns with traffic safety or crime. We did not wear helmets while riding our bikes and nobody got hurt!

Horseback Riding

Beginning in 1949, I rode at the Lake Oswego Hunt 364 days a year riding and in addition, showed horses and played polo in practice sessions. There were horses stabled throughout the community even behind a home on Lakeview Blvd., then called Lower Drive. Eleven of my sixth grade classmates rode horses. Six kept their horse in a pasture at home. Classmates at Lake Grove Elementary School owning horses lived on Fosberg Road, Goodall Road, Summit Drive, Lakeview Blvd. and the Pilkington area, but others throughout the community had horses too. There were horses stabled on Upper Drive and in the South Shore, Pilkington Road and Lake Grove areas. There were 100's of miles of horse trails. In addition, there were also a number of students at Lakewood School who had horses stabled at their home. Rodney Grimm delivered the newspaper from his horse.

Birthday Parties

Birthday parties were very popular but not extravagant. We made our own entertainment and in our youth, played "Pin the Tail on the Donkey" and bobbed for apples. I loved winning a box of Cracker Jacks because the box had a good prize. Today's prizes are not

nearly as desirable.

Pen Pals

With no internet, we did not have social media, but some students had “pen pals” with whom they corresponded.

The Lake

During the winters of 1948-1950, the Lake froze, and we ice skated from the dock at Twin Points. The ice was very thick—perhaps 8 to 10 inches thick. We also walked through the woods from a point on Summit Drive located near the bridge over the railroad tracks to the "Beaver Pond" also called the "Frog Pond" and now (2013) called the “Lilly Pond” and ice skated. The trail was roughly in the alignment of Village Drive. There were many beavers and beaver dams. We knew how to skate as there was an ice rink at the Armory in NW Portland. I had actively ice skated when I lived in Cleveland, Ohio.

Classmates spoke of sledding down Remsen’s Hill (Bryant between Upper Drive and Lower Drive now called Lakeview Blvd.). They said with delight that when they got too much speed to make the curve at the railroad tracks, the tracks sent them into the air and then into the bushes. Judy Meyer and Adrianne Brockman

Others preferred Cook's Hill (Boones Ferry hill over the railroad tracks) because it did not have a turn, and hence not bushes.

During the summer, the women and children on Springbrook Road congregated at the Springbrook Easement each afternoon. It was the social center. We could dive into the Lake off the dock, but it was great sport to jump onto the edges of a car or truck tire inner tube. One would bounce into the air and finally land in the Lake. I have such fond memories of those days. It was one big happy family at the Springbrook Easement. Where the boats are located in 2013,(on the west side of the Easement) was the swimming area. A rock seawall was built by the men, and there were steps into the water. The rock wall was replaced with a concrete wall in 2011. There were benches and the adults and children swam and socialized.

There was a very small rock island (approx. 5 feet by 10 feet) near the water's surface about one third of the way across the Lake about due south of 2646 Summit Dr. There was a red and white stripped pole on it for a marker and later a light was added. It was fun to swim to the island. As boats became faster and more abundant, the island was removed because of the danger.

The Lake was lowered in late January for seawall repairs. Historically, in the area of the Springbrook Easement, the original Lake was where the middle of the Lake is now (2013). In the Springbrook area, from the shore to the center of the Lake was person made. Lots of tree stumps were exposed when the Lake was lowered, and the men who practiced casting fishing lures from the dock, would look for their lures on the tree stumps when the Lake was lowered.

Photo taken in 2011. You are looking at the empty Lake with stumps and the sewer interceptors. The photo was taken at the Goodin Easement on Lakeview Boulevard. Note the stumps are still visible.

It should be noted that it was not unusual to catch a 5 pound bass or carp. Nobody ate them. The City had a Carp festival every year. People turned in the Carp they caught hoping to win a prize. There were garbage cans of fish. I think the purpose was to reduce the carp population. Speaking of fish, all during my childhood, it was said that there were sturgeon in the Lake. It proved to be true when the Lake was lowered for the sewer project in 2011.

When the Lake was lowered each year, another social occasion was the annual Easement work party. The men repaired the dock and seawall. The Children played on the hard dirt/sand bottom and hunted for treasure. There were only one or two boats and one was kept under the bridge.

Recollections By Former Springbrook Road Residents

Flossie Tripp's Stories

Flossie told the following stories. After the War, we were looking to buy a house. I saw this ad which read, "House and rowboat for sale". It intrigued me. We bought the house (15750 Springbrook Rd.) in 1945 for $10,250. The rowboat came with a ½ horsepower Evenrude motor. I used to "putt putt" across the Lake to visit friends. Among the first ski boats on the Lake were Ralph Coan's (2711 Summit Dr.) and Dean Vincent's (2738 Summit) which was a landscaped but vacant lot until the Kelly's bought the property and built their house in the early 1950's. Boat sizes and activities on the Lake changed in the 1950's. There were many larger and faster boats.

There were many many moles in our front yard. Charlie heard of the way to kill them. He poured gallons of gasoline down the holes. When he ignited the gasoline, flames shot very high out of every hole. Needless to say, the yard caught on fire. It was spectacular.

One winter morning, Charlie started the car to warm the inside before he started for work. He came into the house, and we heard this big bang. The car went down the hill into Miller's house (15761 Springbrook Rd.). Maxine thought it was an earthquake. Maxine was not big on interior decorating or maintenance. The insurance money got her creative energy going.

There were lots of dogs, but we never had dog poop problems because the dogs and children were in the woods all day. There were no cats.

The Miller's basement had slot and pinball machines. There were even punchboards. We all wondered about the origin of the machines, but we could never get the Miller's to talk. I think they enjoyed keeping us wondering.

Muiriel Brockman's Stories

Muiriel told the following stories. We moved from Cleveland, Ohio in 1948 and bought the house (15780 Springbrook Ct.) for $12,500. It was a little two bedroom house, but we bought it for the location. Later, we enlarged the kitchen and raised the roof in the back to add two bedrooms and a full bathroom. We wanted to keep the house in character with the street.

The Springbrook Bridge was the same length as it is now (2005), but it was built of wood, and the roadway was made of wooden planks laid side to side as opposed to lengthwise. As the cars crossed the bridge, everyone in the neighborhood could hear the loud "clank- clank" as the planks rumbled under the tires. Fortunately, there were few cars.

There were only 5000 people living in the Oswego – Lake Grove area. If a friend lost your address, they could put your name on the envelope along with the City and State, and you would receive it. Our address was Rt. 1, Box 284A, Lake Grove, Oregon. In fact, a friend of Adrianne's addressed a postcard to A. Brockman, c/o Lake Oswego Hunt, Lake Grove, OR, and it was delivered to our Springbrook Rd. address.

The children were far from angelic. The children's battles sometimes resulted in challenges to the friendships among the adults.

Each Spring for several years, in the evening, Donald and Daisy Duck would bring their baby ducklings to the same window on the front of our house. They would fly up and down in front of the window, we would feed them, and they would return to Springbrook Creek canyon. This lasted for a couple of weeks. It was touching, and we were blessed with them for several years. They were darling. They had very expressive eyes. What was sad was to see the Carp and Bass (fish) eat the baby ducks by pulling them under water while the babies were swimming in the Lake.

Recollections of the Author: Adrianne Brockman's Stories About Springbrook Road and the Broader Community

Our Social Life:

Lake Grove Swim Park was our social center during the Summer. There was swimming, badminton and ping pong. There was also a candy store. A package of Double Mint chewing Gum (5 sticks) was five cents as was a package of LifeSavers. Bubble gum was very popular.

Each piece of bubble gum came individually wrapped with a cartoon in the package. Blowing bubbles was fun, and we each tried to outdo the other by blowing a bigger bubble. Frequently, there was bubble gum all over our face including in the eyebrows.

We rode our bicycles or walked to the park. Sometimes I rowed my boat or used the 3 horsepower motor. I was not allowed to be at the Springbrook Easement without my parents until I learned to swim, but I could be at the Swim Park. There was, however, a lot of incentive to learn to swim, and I learned quickly. The rule was that we had to have a buddy with us when at the Easement. (Note: In the photo that the women in the center are wearing dresses.) I do

not recall my mother wearing slacks until the 1960's and then infrequently.

Water skiing and swimming were very popular. There was a water ski jump in Lakewood Bay. We did not have cars and other forms of entertainment such as computer games. We made our entertainment. We were in the Brownie's and Girl Scouts and Bluebirds and Campfire. There was also the YMCA and YWCA in Portland. We did crafts and sports, and I took music lessons and art classes.

The Lake Theatre or the ski slopes were popular places to be on Saturday during the winter. Each week there was a full length movie, cartoon and serial. There were: children's

The Lake Theater

Movies such as "Alice in Wonderland", "Superman", the "Lone Ranger" and westerns featuring Roy Rogers and Gene Autry. There were cartoons such as "Mickey Mouse", "Donald Duck", "Tom and Jerry", "Woody Woodpecker" and "Felix the Cat". There were serials such as" Captain Marvel", "Gang Busters" and "Zorro".

Front Row: Adrianne Brockman, J'Anny Thacker, Marilyn Murphy and Judy Meyer. Second Row: Cathy Owens, Myrna Robins, Diana Boody and Nancy Jo Ebensteiner. Third Row: Sonnie Hayes, Sally Johnson, and Marilyn Mullen.

Social events included slumber parties, skating parties and special occasion parties such as birthday parties and Halloween. Slumber parties were a special event. Some attendees would play the card game, Canasta, a form of Rummy. Popular board games were Monopoly and Parcheesi. We loved to roller skate and ride on the rides at Oaks Park and ice skate at the Armory in NW Portland. Later, we went to drive-in movies. There was also Janzen Beach, an amusement park located on Hayden Island, but I do not recall going there. Halloween was another special occasion. There were costume parties and prizes for the best costume. We wore costumes to "trick or treat" and went without

a fear or concern in the world. We got bags of candy and ate it all. Party games were "Telephone" and "Spin the Bottle". I have no photos of these events as it was not easy to take pictures in the house. The camera of that day was the Kodak Brownie. One had to have a flash attachment and flash bulbs. Half of the time the flash did not fire. A new flash bulb was required for each photograph. It was just too much work to take photos so I do not have a record of our parties.

The more daring explored in the iron mine above the Hunt Club until it was sealed close. Bill Brockman said that he and several of his friends skipped school and spent a day in the mine exploring 1000's of feet into the mine.

Earning An Allowance and Additional Money

We worked for spending money; in our homes for an "allowance" and outside the home for additional money. I was expected to work for an allowance of 25 cents a week by setting the table for dinner and either washing or drying the dishes after dinner as our house did not have a dishwasher. If I wanted more money, I had to work for it. Yes, I baby sat for 35 cents per hour and mowed lawns on the Road with a "push mower" for 50 cents each. Horseback riding lessons at the Hunt Club were $1.50 per hour. In 2013, they are $55.00 per hour. It was common for school age children to pick strawberries as well as other crops, baby sit and mow lawns. Sometimes, we washed cars as Oswego did not have a carwash. Strawberry picking was the most important thing I did in my life. It was very hard work and taught me what it meant to be a laborer and to work in the hot sun in the fields. It made me empathic for the less fortunate, and I knew that it was not what I wanted to do. It made me a better student and motivated me to go to college and to become a lawyer. It is an experience for which I am most grateful.

The Tripp's gave me a rowboat and 3 horse power Bendix motor for mowing their lawn and babysitting their three children. The boat gave me so much joy!!

Grade School, High School, College and Women's Career Choices

There were two Elementary Schools (Lake Grove and Lakewood School in Oswego) and no high school until 1951. High School students had a choice of going to Lincoln High School in Portland or West Linn High School.

Lake Grove Grade School ca. 2012

Lakewood Elementary School in Oswego ca. 2012

The Lake Grove School structure looks much the same in 2013 as it did in 1948 except the entrance was from Quarry Road. I was surprised by the fence around the play area until I realized the amount of traffic that must enter from Boones Ferry Road. Women now have cars and pick-up their children from school. That was not the case in my day. We walked to school in the good weather and took the bus in the rain, but often regardless of the weather, we walked home because the bus took too long. We had swings and a few other pieces of playground equipment. It was not fancy. We did not have a covered outdoor play area. In the classrooms, we had "blackboards", and the teachers wrote on the boards with chalk.

My family moved to Oswego in 1948 when I started at Lake Grove Grade School in the fifth grade. Beatrice West was my teacher, and she was my favorite teacher. In Cleveland, we had big classes and very old and seemingly mean teachers. I was afraid most of the time. The class sizes were much smaller in Lake Grove. Mrs. West was young and very warm and generous with her time and skills. She took us ice skating at the Armory. Such fond memories of a very special and extraordinary teacher! I came to like school. Mrs. Myrtle Bragg was our sixth grade teacher, and she was extraordinary too. There were 30 students in my sixth grade class. Seventh grade we had Mrs. Whetherby. She was kind and a good teacher, but more formal. We all remember Mrs. Rau. She taught music and some of us were called “Growly Bears” because we could not carry a tune. Those who could carry a tune were called “Bluebirds.”

During this period in our history, there was a hysteria on the part of some regarding Communism. They were sure the Russians were going to bomb us. We actually had bomb drills in school. We went into the hall, faced the wall and placed our hands to protect our head. Some people built bomb shelters in the event the “atomic bomb” was dropped. I did not know anyone possessed with this hysteria or who built a shelter, but there were people. Classmates who attended Lakewood School said that the School had a bomb shelter of sorts. We never worried about a person entering the school with a gun and shooting children. We never thought about kidnapping. Neither ever happened. We never gave it a thought as we walked home.

High School

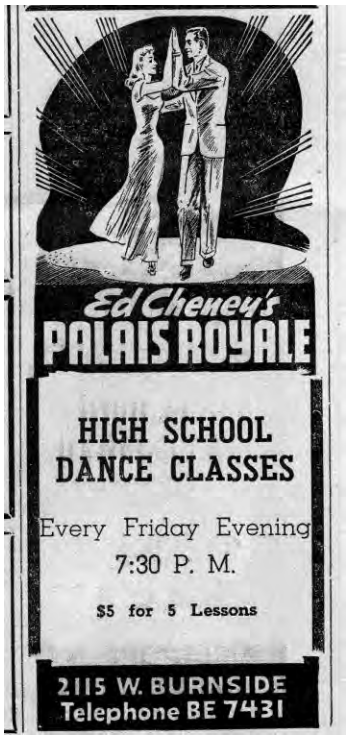
Lake Oswego High School (LOHS) opened in 1951. Prior to that date, student had a choice of attending Lincoln High School in Portland or West Linn High School.

Our eight grade year we started at the newly opened high school. One of the best teachers was our English teacher, Mrs. Peetz. Whenever my classmates socialize, they recall Ms. Peetz with gratitude. She prepared us for college. We diagramed sentences week after week and learned about nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs as well as linking verbs etc. Many of us are also grateful to Mrs. Dorothy West, Chuck Bowles and Mr. Hadley who were extraordinary teachers. I took only one term of typing because I knew that if I learned to type, I would be stuck in a typing job. Job opportunities for women were limited.

During our days at LOHS, students did not use foul language. A high school classmate said “shit”, and he was sent to the Principal’s office. The classroom was quiet, orderly and respectful. We were afraid to misbehave. I don’t think that we ever thought about what we feared would happen if we misbehave, but there was shame in misbehaving. A few high school classmates smoked on occasion. There was little drinking. There were no drugs. We were too busy, and at that time of my life I could not even have named a drug. I am not sure that drugs were available until much later. There was slang. Popular slang included “hubba hubba”. One would say, “Hurry—hubba hubba” meaning get going quickly or two men might point to a women and say ” hubba hubba” meaning she is cool. Another word was “dibs” meaning to lay claim to something such as a seat.

Dancing School and Charm School

Many of our classmates went to dancing school, but ballroom dancing was also taught in gym classes. Many of the girls went to "Charm School" or "Modeling School".



The Moral Code

There was a moral code regarding sex. To have a child out of wedlock was “looked down upon”, and those who had a child were shunned by some. In discussing the 1950's vs. the 2013's with classmates, one classmate said that our lives in the 1950's were governed by "Biblical Principles, good judgment and common sense."

Dress

Classmates reminded me that our mothers canned jelly and made our skirts all through school. They also darned holes in socks. Some used a light bulb in the sock to darn the holes. The girls wore

a skirt and a blouse and/or a sweater often with a scarf, and a status symbol was a cashmere sweater with a Liberty scarf. As I think about it, it was probably because one could have a number of outfits by wearing a different sweater with a skirt. We did not have closets full of clothing. Wearing a tight sweater or showing cleavage was considered in poor taste. One was considered to be a “floozy”. The hem length was below the knee. Girls wore crinoline petticoats with dresses. We wore “white bucks” or “saddle shoes” and white “bobby socks”. The white bucks were cleaned with a “bunny bag” which was a little cloth bag filled with what appeared to be a white chalk like powder which we patted on the shoes. Nobody wore slacks to grade school or high school except when it snowed.

In high school we wore “natural colored lipstick" that was a like a chap stick with a little pink color. Some wore clear nail polish. I do not recall anyone wearing heavy make-up. Bleaching or coloring one’s hair was considered “cheap”. Our mother's went to the beauty shop or in some cases the beautician came to the house. Hair was curved via a "permanent". Early processes involved wrapping the hair with a foil covered curler and heating the hair. It looked like a process designed by a person from Mars. The process was modernized by the "Toni Home Permanent". The smell was pungent, but the process simpler. We all recall our mother's giving us a "Toni". Our mother's often cut our hair, and father's cut their sons hair. What a scene!

Male classmates dressed very conservatively. Elvis Presley introduced longer hair and “side burns”. Males who had very long hair combed back and held with gels were called “greasers”. I do not recall any male classmate wearing long hair, a beard or mustache. That came with the “hippie era”.

Lake Oswego High School Graduation 1956

My class of 120 students, graduated from Lake Oswego High School in 1956, and we were the first class to go through the school from the eighth to twelfth grade. Friends reminded me that it was a very hot day, and it was a time that predated air conditioning. The school put large blocks of ice in containers and used fans to blow the cooled air on us. The ceremony was in the gym which since that time, has been demolished. Our class gave the School an anchor and our names are in the pedestal. It is on display on the school campus.

The requirements for graduation are unclear. As we discussed it in 2013, it seems that there were two tracks----those who were college bound and those we were not. As we recall, those of us who were college bound took 4 years of English, social studies and health/PE. We took two years of math and one year of science and a language. There were a number of options for electives such as home economics, shop, typing, shorthand, art, band, orchestra, choir, theater, yearbook and school newspaper. Shorthand is not a lost art. I took only one term of typing because I knew that if I learned to type, I would be stuck in a typing job. Job opportunities for women were limited.

All of the activities that you have read about this far, we did with a wind-up watch and alarm clock. We had to member many things each day such as winding our watches. I think it was excellent training for the "work world".

University of Oregon: Freshman Year 1956

Everyone with a “C” average or better was admitted to the U of O. As I recall, the tuition was $64.00 a term. Sorority life was very popular. I believe there were 17 sorority houses. I pledged Chi Omega Sorority and have enjoyed more than 55 years of friendships with my sorority sisters. In addition to close friendships, we have had seven reunions to date at the Chi O house in Eugene. When I went to college in 1956, a woman had five career choices: school teacher; airline stewardess; nurse; secretary; and, social worker. I was an anomaly, an architecture major, but after two years, was convinced that at that time it was an almost impossible profession for a woman. Can you name a famous woman architect in 2013? I switched to City Planning and after receiving a Master of Urban Planning degree, went to law school and became a lawyer.

Many of us smoked by the time we went to college. The ads convinced some of us that it was sophisticated. Cigarettes were about 25 cents a package. The health issues had not been disclosed. It was considered improper for any woman to smoke outside or to chew gum in public. One had to be in a house or building to smoke. To walk down a street smoking was considered “cheap”. We were told that only a "floozy" would do it.

Table manners were emphasized at meals in the sorority house. It was like being at home. We all ate together in the dining room and the house mother presided over our behavior. Nevertheless, we managed to have fun. There were two girls to a room, but everyone slept on the sleeping porch which was row after row of bunk beds. The porch had lots of open windows and was connected to a fire escape which was sometimes used by the fraternity boys to try to enter the house on a "panty raid". It was cold on the sleeping porch and before electric blankets. Sprinkler systems and smoke alarms that call the fire department make it possible for today's Chi Omega members to sleep in rooms.

Drinking was not allowed (but infrequently we had a beer or two at the River), and there were strict curfews for women. Week nights we had to be in the house by 10 p.m, and as I recall, it was midnight or 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. There were men’s dorms and women’s dorms. Men and women were separated, and men were not allowed beyond the front room of the dorms or sorority houses.

Most of our term papers were handwritten. A few students could type. We did not have copy machines. Copies were made using carbon paper. In other words, sheets of typing paper were placed in the typewriter with a sheet of carbon paper between each sheet of typing paper. Errors were corrected with an eraser or white-out. I deliberately did not learn to type because that would have been my career. I learned to type after I retired from the practice of law at age 62.

I wore skirts and sweaters to class at the University of Oregon—NO SLACKS were worn. Lanz dresses were popular in the Spring and Summer. We dressed much as we did in high school.

Riding the Bus to Oswego and Portland to Shop: 1948 to 1957

Shopping reminds me of how far our values have strayed. Tamper proof bottles and boxes, theft proof packaging, clothes with alarms attached, scanners at the doors, surveillance cameras and inspectors at the doors to check the contents of the bags against your receipt are shocking and speak volumes about our society. Where have our values gone? Then, there are bounced checks and bankruptcies. There is debris and bottles thrown in the street. One hears disrespectful language and sees disrespect for the law. Texting is but one example. The motto of today seems to be to get away with what you can. The bullying in schools is disgraceful and destructive of lives.

I rode the bus to Portland to take art lessons at the Portland Art Museum when I was twelve years old. Today, we recall the dingy and seedy bus depot that was located at Fifth and Taylor, and we wonder how we escaped danger. Nothing ever happened. Would a parent allow a twelve year old to do it today? Times have changed.

There was formality in those days. When we went to Portland shopping or to church, young girls wore dresses and "Mary Jane shoes" and young women (13 years old and older) wore a dress or suit, nylon stockings, dress shoes, gloves and a hat. This was before pantyhose. The nylon stockings had a seam down the back and were affixed to a girdle. I recall that some women wore hats with veils and some hats had long pheasant feathers. Meier and Frank and Lipmann Wolfe each had a Tea Room with delicious food and gracious dining.

This was a time when each elevator had an operator. A woman would stand in front of the elevator door as it approached the main floor. She would click something akin to castanets and loudly speak, "elevator going up". As one stepped into the elevator, the operator would say, "call your floor--please". We would often go to Portland to the Meier and Frank "Friday Surprise" sales.

Going to Oswego (now called Lake Oswego) was fun. Wizer's grocery store was located on the north side of "A" Avenue on the northwest corner of "A " and First Street. A friend reminded me of the produce section operated by Rosie and Joe. She recalled that earlier they had a truck and sold vegetables in the Lake Oswego neighborhoods. The store had a wonderful lunch counter, and it was the place to see your friends. Later is moved across the street. There was no lunch counter. Wizer's closed in 2013.

Wizer's original store

Lakeside Drugstore was located on State Street by the railroad tracks, and it also had a

soda fountain. There was the Shake Shop on State Street between A Avenue and B Avenue. Residents ate at Ireland's located next to the Lake Theatre at 40 South State Street, the Pinafore located at approximated 200 South State Street and the Log Cabin located at approximately 714 North State Street. The Library was across the street and kitty corner from where Wizer's was located. The Library was in the old City Hall located on the south side of "A" Avenue between State and First. The Librarian, Mrs. Strong lived at 2575 Summit Drive in a charming English County Garden home that has been torn down and replaced by a large home, was wonderful and helpful to the children. Our parents would put us there while they were shopping.

Another outstanding store was the Oswego Country Store (See photo below) located in the historic building located on the southeast corner of Second and B Avenue. It was a wonderful store that had everything from men's and women's clothing to household goods such as table clothes, placemats and china and unusual gifts. They even had a Tea Room on the second floor which was gracious dining—really lovely and gracious. The china and table settings were elegant. The food was absolutely delicious. They had everything, and it was tasteful and moderately priced. In 2013, I still use dinner table items that I purchased there.

Christ Episcopal Church

My parents joined Christ Episcopal Church in 1948. Services were held in the Masonic Temple on Second Street. A short time later, the Church was built at 10th and Chandler. Both of my parents are buried in the Columbarium at Christ Church as will the remainder of our family.

Random Memories

One Sunday evening my brother was acting in a strange manner, and it caught my father's attention. They had some words, and then my brother shot out of the house with my father in pursuit. It seems the boys had been smoking in Miller's garage (15761 Springbrook Ct.) on a mattress in the rafters above where the cars were normally parked. The mattress had caught fire. They thought they had extinguished the fire, but it reignited. What excitement as a locked car was in the garage! The Miller's were gone. There were no fire hydrants, and LO had

a volunteer fire department. All ended well, but there were charred rafter. I remember experimenting with smoking in the tunnel under the railroad tracks. And I remember the slot machines which we played with slugs and too, the punchboards.

My brother wanted to be a logger. Note the topped trees in the neighborhood. Well, some of the tree tops were the Brockman's Christmas trees. I do not think that my parents knew of the origin of the trees. The fir tree on the Brockman's property was topped before the Brockman's purchased the house.

In later life, friends reminded me that that would arrive at my house on horseback, and they would tie their horse to the mail box and visit while waiting for me to finish practicing my violin for my music lesson. They also reminded me of how unaccomplished I was.

My greatest joy was riding horses. On top of Iron Mountain, there were few homes and lots of trails. The area that is now Mountain Park was in one ownership, and the generous owner opened the entire farm to equestrians. We also rode in the area that is now Portland Community College and Westlake. We also rode to the area that is now Tryon Creek State Park. One could ride for days and not ride on the same trail. There were no conflicts with hikers, dogs or bicycles, and the trails were very safe. (See History of Lake Oswego Hunt by this author)

Final Thoughts

Springbrook Rd. was a wonderful place to be raised. It was one big family and living on the street with the adjacent Lake and Hunt Club was truly better than being at camp. In addition, we learned to use our inner- resources and creativity in developing our play. There was lots of socialization and interaction which was an important skill for in later life. It was also healthy living.

Life in Oswego, Oregon was far different 50 years ago than it is in 2013 in Lake Oswego, Oregon. The values were different in so many ways. One of the main differences is that many of our parents believed that it was important for us to learn to struggle—a very important lesson for life. We were not given things; we earned them. We always had something to look forward to doing such as I did not ride in a jet plane until I was 26 years old. I did not go to Europe until I was 26 and in the meantime I was busy earning the money to go. The pros and cons can be debated, but shopping today reminds me of how far we have strayed from the values I knew—honesty, respect and trustworthiness. These are our most important assets –not money or possessions. Yes, there are lots of good people in the area, but to me this is not an attractive period in our history. This has been a thought provoking process. The changes are stark. As I noted, the shopping experience with the anti-theft devices, debris thrown in the streets, disrespect for others and parents and children disrespecting each other and the law. Texting while driving is but one example. There is selfishness. I am so distressed by the bullying in the schools and seemingly little done about it. I spend hours each week shredding papers. My parents never did that. Well, it is all creating lots of new type jobs and keeping the inventors busy.

We were studying the fall of Rome in school. I remember my mother was cooking dinner and I made a statement like, "The U.S. could never fall". My mother stopped cooking and turned to me and looked me in the eye and said, "Adrianne, the U.S.A could fall. It depends on what we value, our values and how we participate in our government."

On a different note, what I do know is that my life has been blessed in so many ways and especially by my sage and extraordinary parents. And too, I am grateful for the lifelong friends I have. Note the photograph on page 19. On April 19, 2012, six of us classmates met for a small reunion as we have done in the past. We are standing in the photograph in the same place we were in 1951.

Front Row: Adrianne Brockman, J'Anny Thacker Nelson and Judy Meyer Reininger. Back Row: Sonnie Hayes Kirtley, Marilyn Mullen and Nancy Jo Ebensteiner McElmurry.

Yes, we all rode horses together.

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Photo Credits

1. Page 8: Radio Ad from Lincoln High School Newspaper, The Cardinal, dated February 28, 1948 and provided by J'Anny Thacker Nelson.

2. Page 14: Photo* of the birthday party taken in the Brockman's driveway by H.F. Brockman. Note the laundry hanging on the clothes line.

3. Page 15: Photo of Judy Meyer and Adrianne Brockman in 1950 ice skating at Twin Points. Photo Courtesy of Judy Meyer.

4. Page 15: Water Skier: Photo* by H.F. Brockman taken in 1950. Note how undeveloped it is on the south side of the Lake.

5. Page 16: Photo of stumps in the Lake taken by Adrianne Brockman in 2011.

6. Page 18: Photo* of Lake Grove Swim Park taken in 1950 by H.F. Brockman. Note that the women are wearing dresses.

7. Page 19: Photo of Lake Theater taken by Adrianne Brockman in 2011

8. Page 18: Photo of Birthday Party taken by the Thacker Family in 1951. Photo courtesy of J'Anny Thacker Nelson

9. Page 20-21: Photos of Lake Grove Grade School (20) and Lakewood Grade School (21) were taken by Adrianne Brockman in 2012.

10. Page 22: Dancing School Ad from Lincoln High School Newspaper, The Cardinal, dated April 19, 1948 and provided by J'Anny Thacker Nelson.

11. Page 22: Charm School Ad from Lincoln High School Newspaper, The Cardinal, dated April 19, 1948 and provided by J'Anny Thacker Nelson.

12. Page 25: Photo of the building in which Wizer's was originally located.

13. Page 26: Photo of former Country Store location taken by Adriane Brockman.

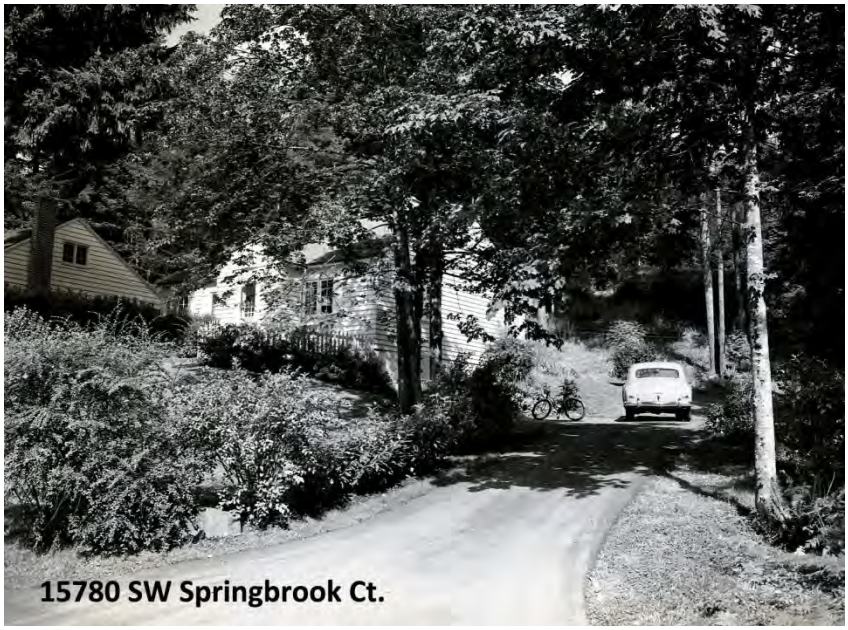
14. Page 28: Photo taken April 19, 2012 by a classmate, Isolee Hagan.

15. Photos* of 15780, 15773 and 15761 Springbrook Ct. were taken by H.F. Brockman ca. 1950.

16. The remainder of the house photos were taken by Adrianne Brockman in 2011.

*Photo taken with a 4 X 5 Speed Graphic

15780 SW Springbrook Ct.


15780 SW Springbrook Ct.

15773 Springbrook Ct.

15773 Springbrook Ct.

15760 Springbrook Ct.

15810 Springbrook Ct.

15818 Springbrook Ct.

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15847 Springbrook Ct.

15740 Springbrook Ct.