

Kay Ranger Lore Interview Log

Project Name	Ranger Lore: The Occupational Folklife of Parks
Interviewee	Jim Gray (retired, former property manager at Harmonie State Park)
Date	February 13, 2014
Location	Evansville, IN
Language(s)	English
Fieldworker Name	Jon Kay
Log Prepared by	Hannah Davis

File Name	Description	File Type	Length
afc2013014_02225_mv01	Interview Part 1	MOV	00:07:42
	00:00:00 leader		
	00:01:07 growing up in Monongahela, PA in steel community; father transferred to Gary in '60s; lived near Lake Michigan in Ogden Dunes		
	00:02:04 sailing as a teenager on the lake		
	00:03:12 working during summers and after college at Bethlehem Steel; laid off; recruited by friend with full-time position to apply for wage rate position at Indiana Dunes State Park in '71; friend drafted. Grav filled position in '72		
	00:05:50 political system		
	00:07:22 applying for assistant manager position open at Spring Mill State Park		
afc2013014_02225_mv02	Interview Part 2	MOV	00:05:39
	00:00:00 "		
	00:02:53 patrolling beach and enforcing park entrance at Dunes		
	00:04:38 superintendent turning down calls from Chicagoans to reserve campsites		
afc2013014_02225_mv03	Interview Part 3	MOV	00:07:40
	00:00:00 girls disappearing off of nearby Johnson Beach		
	00:00:40 person who hanged themselves in a blowout		
	00:00:58 forest fire in wetlands at Dunes		
	00:01:30 learning how to work different types of trails		
	00:02:26 cultivation of career and influences of different jobs on positions in parks		
	00:03:50 hiring new superintendents; living at the Spring Mill State Park Inn and then in the house intended for the manager		
	00:05:30 younger employees hanging out after hours at park; observing behavior early on, enforcing standards afterwards		
afc2013014_02225_mv04	Interview Part 4	MOV	00:03:26
	00:00:00 troubles with managers; Billy Carlisle as mentor during difficult, tense situations as a young assistant		
	00:01:22 moving from park to park; applying for other positions; promoted to position at Harmonie in '82		
afc2013014_02225_mv05	Interview Part 5	MOV	00:07:02
	00:00:00 last superintendents under political system; hiring and firing after Career Act		
	00:02:28 reasoning for keeping five remaining		
	00:05:05 young turks working for old guard; challenging old ways of doing things		
afc2013014_02225_mv06	Interview Part 6	MOV	00:07:02
	00:00:00 superiors as former army/military men		

File Name	Description	File Type	Length
	00:01:20 effects of heightened awareness of environmentalism; grocers reacting against proposed bottle deposit		
	00:03:26 water quality tests at Dunes; closing beach because of discharge from steel mills; chloronating creek to increase quality enough to allow swimming at beach		
	00:05:05 helping to tear down original hotel; failure of hotel because managers under political system would take things before leaving their four-year term		
afc2013014_02225_mv07	Interview Part 7	MOV	00:00:14
	00:00:00 professionalizing the park; politicians "realizing the value of tourism in Indiana"		
afc2013014_02225_mv08	Interview Part 8	MOV	00:03:28
	00:00:00 meeting and dating wife, a fellow Spring Mill State Park employee, at Persimmon Festival in Mitchell		
afc2013014_02225_mv09	Interview Part 9	MOV	00:07:04
	00:00:00 working together at park; confronting potential nepotism problems and asking director, Joe Cloud, for permission to marry		
	00:02:54 DNR spots on Cowboy Bob		
	00:04:15 changes in park service over span of career; elimination of political hiring system; hiring a security officer who couldn't get political		
	00:06:29 changes under Evan Bayh; hiring process		
afc2013014_02225_mv10	Interview Part 10	MOV	00:04:59
	00:00:00 hiring process; maturing in career to work with existing system; state employees better under Democratic leadership		
	00:02:39 changes in park leadership and working with Democratic government; pay grades and raises		
	00:04:00 career park employees vs. "just doing their job" park employees		
afc2013014_02225_mv11	Interview Part 11	MOV	00:07:14
	00:00:00 long-term employees passing skills and knowledge on to younger employees		
	00:01:12 "every park has that person"; "His life has been the park... it's sad to think we can't pay these people more."; "He knows nothing else."		
	00:02:57 multiple generations of employees within same families		
	00:06:22 changing role of park managers on properties		
afc2013014_02225_mv12	Interview Part 12	MOV	00:04:10
	00:00:00 helping to build cabin; hands-on work out of the office		
	00:01:30 "When I left Harmonie, we were a family."		
	00:01:39 changing office structure and management		