

# Utah State UNIVERSITY

Special Collections & Archives

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**QUESTIONS:** Collecting Memories: Oral Histories of American Folklorists

1. What is your full name? What was the source for your given name? Who are your parents and what were their occupations? Do you have siblings? What are their names, occupations? What is your family background ethnically, religiously and/or geographically? What influence does/did your family have on your life outlook?
2. When and where were you born? Where did you live as a child? What are your prominent memories about your childhood and early years?
3. What world or national events had the most impact during your life? Did any of them personally affect your family?
4. Do you observe a religion, and if so what is it? If not, do you avow a belief or ethical system that you would describe?
5. How did you become involved in folklore studies?
6. Are you a professional performer or practitioner of folk traditions? If yes, please explain.
7. What is your professional training such as degrees or other training? Where did you attend university? Did you participate in any folklore related internships, if so please describe them and their influence on your career? What goals did you set out for yourself at stages of your career?
8. Who do you consider your folkloristic mentor or mentors? How was this person or persons influential on your career and interests?
9. Where have you worked during your career?
10. Please explain your folkloristic work cycle (academic/public programming year, etc.).
11. What fieldwork projects have you directed or participated in during your career? How did you get involved with this project; what were the project goals and outcomes? Where are the project outcomes (interviews, photographs, video, etc.) housed? Where are your papers/fieldwork collection(s)/exhibit catalogs, etc., housed?
12. Have you served as an officer or board member for the American Folklore Society or other folklore organization? If yes, please tell me about your service. Are the papers from your service deposited to the organizations' chosen repository? If yes, where is it located?
13. What do you consider to be your major contribution to the field of folklore studies? What do you consider to be your major publications or projects, and why?
14. What is the one thing you most want people to remember about your professional folklore efforts?
15. Reflecting on your career, how has folklore studies changed since you began? How have your perspectives or goals changed over your career? What is your opinion of the state of folklore today?