

Capturing Diverse Voices through Oral Histories

Yumi Ohira, Digital Publishing & Repository Librarian

Joe Carpenter, Graduate Research Assistant

Maverick Veterans' Voices

- Project Background
- Background of Reactivated Project
- A Passion for Veterans' Oral Histories
- Insights into Mav Vets Voices
- Interview Process
- Project Challenges
- Close/Questions

MAV VETS
Maverick Veterans' Voices

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AN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
at The University of Texas at Arlington

Honoring and preserving the experiences of the men and women of the UT Arlington community who have served in any branch of the United States Military.

FEATURED VIDEO

Memories

00:00 10:15

AF AIR FORCE A ARMY CG COAST GUARD MC MARINE CORPS MM MERCHANT MARINE N NAT GUARD

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The Background of *Maverick Veterans' Voices*



- 2012:
 - The Maverick Veterans' Voices launched.
- 2014:
 - A new website presented the first Veterans' Voices interviews
- 2016-2019
 - Project Inactive
- 2019:
 - Digital Publishing & Repository Librarian, Yumi Ohira, hired.
- 2020:
 - OHMS (Oral History Metadata Synchronizer) was launched
 - GRA, Joe Carpenter, hired.
- Present....
 - Conducting new interviews
 - Expanding the Maverick Veterans' Voices



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PROJECT
Texas at Arlington

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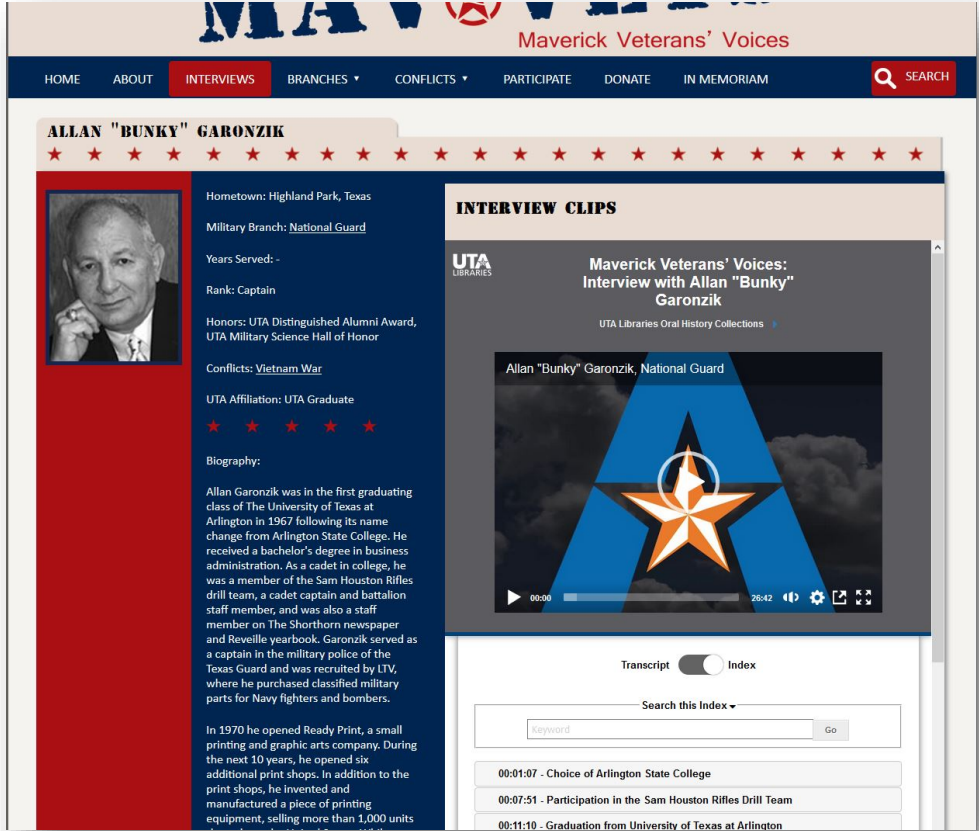
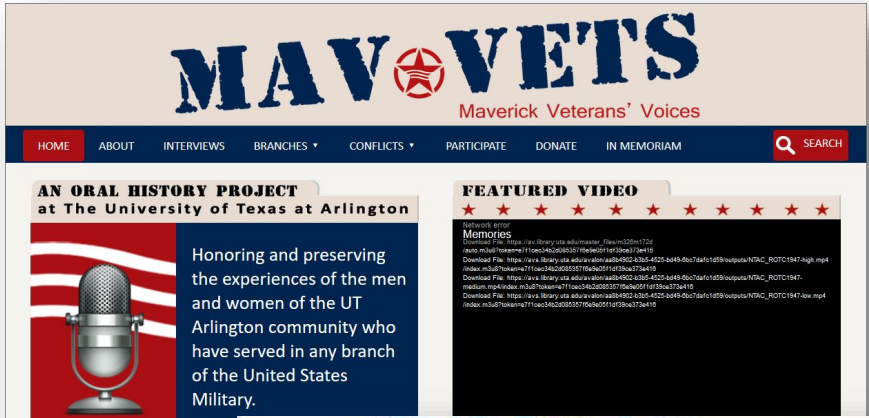
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Memories

00:00 10:15



Challenges to Interview Access and OHMS





Maverick Veterans' Voices:
Interview with Janet Abell

UTA Libraries Oral History Collections
Heather Scalf, Interviewer



Interviewer: Heather Scalf
 Date of Interview: June 29, 2015
 Location of Interview: Arlington, Texas
 Transcriber: Matthew Hail
 Special Collections: UTA Libraries
 SCALF: This is Heather Scalf, today is June 29th, 2015 and I am interviewing Janet Abell, the daughter of William P. Roe, for the first time. This interview is taking place at the University of Texas at Arlington's Central Library in Arlington, Texas. This interview is sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and is part of the Maverick Veterans' Voices Project.
 SCALF: So, you were born the same year your father was commissioned?
 ABELL: I was.
 SCALF: So you had the lifetime experience of being in the military.
 ABELL: I did. I once saw a picture of my mom, very pregnant with me, pinning on my dad's little butter bars, his Lieutenant bars. So, I was truly born into the Army way of life.
 SCALF: So, can you recall what your first impression or your strongest impressions as a child were of growing up in the military?
 ABELL: My strongest impressions were that it was—it seemed very normal to me to move. It's a lot of upheaval, but it seemed like a natural progression almost every year. I grew up in many different school systems and several different countries, and I realized early on that that was going to be my way of life, that I had to accept it.
 SCALF: So, as you look back on that as an adult, what are the things that you look at differently, or realize differently now that you are grown.
 ABELL: I associate time with places where I lived, memories. If I'm thinking about a particular year, then the pictures that come into my mind are where I was living that year. So, what's easy for me to remember my childhood in a sequence of where we lived, and that was in a lot of different places. I went to twelve different schools. I split my first-grade year at

Transcript Index

Search this Transcript

OHMS

Maverick Veterans' Voices:
Interview with Janet Abell

UTA Libraries Oral History Collections
Heather Scalf, Interviewer



1:51 - Life as a Military Dependent

[Play segment](#)



Partial Transcript: SCALF: So, you were born the same year your father was commissioned?

ABELL: I was.

SCALF: So you had the lifetime experience of being in the military.

ABELL: I did. I once saw a picture of my mom, very pregnant with me, pinning on my dad's little butter bars, his Lieutenant bars. So, I was truly born into the Army way of life.

Segment Synopsis: Ms. Abell discusses her life as an "Army Brat"

Keywords: Army Commission; Army Dependent; Army Family; School Attendance

Subjects: Army life; United States. Army

1:36 - Memories of Army Life

1:13 - William Roe's Transition to Civilian Life

1:26 - Fondest Memories

Transcript Index

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WHERE History is MADE





Background of the *Reactivated* Project



**Can you guess
the
connections?**

Background of the *Reactivated* Project



1. Dr. Palmer went to Yumi (Library)
2. Yumi went to Dr. Saxon
3. I went to Dr. Sandy who referred me to Dr. Saxon
4. I went to Dr. Saxon
5. Dr. Saxon referred me to Yumi
6. Yumi hired me
7. ***Kevin Bacon was not involved**

A Passion for Veterans' Oral Histories



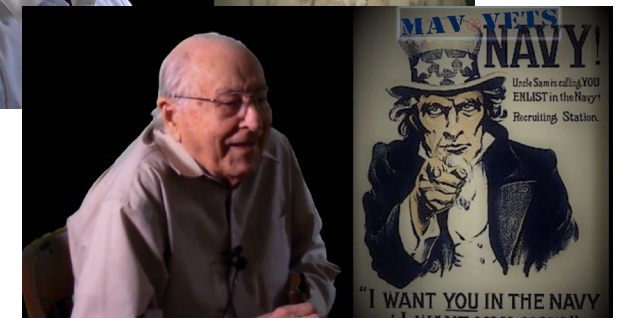
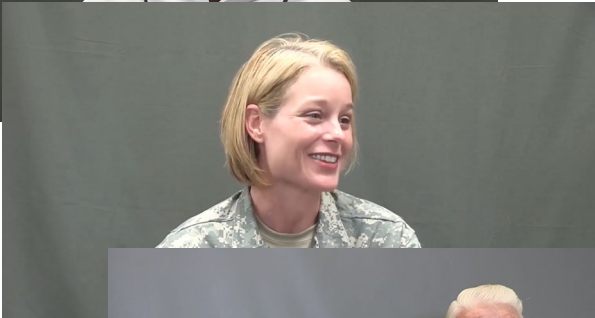
- 8 years in the U.S. Air Force
- Fondness for Biographies and Military History
- History BA with Military History Minor
- Assignment to Interview Father-in-Law (A Vietnam Vet)
- Internship at Dallas Holocaust Museum (Transcribed Oral History)
- Hired for Maverick Veterans' Voices Spring of 2020 (Pandemic)



Insights into the Maverick Veterans' Voices Project

Oral Histories are...

- Histories with a human voice
- Histories that go beyond a story
- Histories with passion and emotion
- Histories reflected in the eyes of the subject



Interviews Process

- Recruiting Interviewees
- Researching
- Developing Trust and Rapport
- Questioning and LISTENING
- Empathy, Compassion, Respect
- Placing the Interviewee in the Best Light
- Follow up



Project Challenges

- Interviews Existed without an Audience
- Inconsistent Look
- Learning OHMS
- Editing, Formatting, Timestamping, and Indexing Transcripts
- Learning Audio and Video Editing
- Training and Working with a Team
- Recruiting Interviewees
- Maintaining and Expanding Diversity and Inclusion
- Accessibility!



MAV-VETS-VOICES “History Master’s Student and Digital Publishing Librarian Breathe New Life Into Maverick Veterans' Voices Archive”

The screenshot shows a news article on the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) website. The article is titled "MAV-VETS-VOICES" and is dated Friday, Sep 17, 2021. The author is identified as Joe Carpenter, a History Master's student. The article describes the "Maverick Veterans' Voices" archive, an oral history project that preserves the testimonies of veterans and their families. The article also mentions that UTA was ranked by Military Times as the top four-year institution in the country for its efforts in serving military veterans and their families.

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MAV-VETS-VOICES
History Master's Student and Digital Publishing Librarian Breathe New Life Into Maverick Veterans' Voices Archive.

FRIDAY, SEP 17, 2021 • MEDIA CONTACT : [CONTACT](#)

History Masters student Joe Carpenter is working on something extraordinary in the Library: Maverick Veterans' Voices, an oral history project devoted to preserving the testimony of veterans and their families affiliated with the University of Texas at Arlington. Maverick Veterans' Voices is a work of love and respect, one that reflects not only the long martial tradition of UTA, but also the dedication and training that History students receive while enrolled here. This carefully curated repository of oral histories is the confluence of rich, historic traditions; advanced scholarship; community outreach; and the fruition of years of hard work by the people of UTA's Department of History, the Central Library, and the College of Liberal Arts.

UTA enjoys a rich military history and tradition and remains one of the top universities in the country for military veterans and their families. Originally founded as Carlisle Military Academy in 1902, the school spent the better part of its first four decades in existence adhering to military standards of discipline. In June 2021, the University of Texas at Arlington was ranked by Military Times for the second year in a row as the top four-year institution in the country for its efforts and resources in serving military

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<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/liberal-arts/departments/history/news-events/news/2021/09/17/mav-vets-voices>

Thank You.

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