

Fort Hays State University

FHSU Scholars Repository

Samuel J. Sackett Folklore Collection

Research Collections

11-23-1963

Interviews with Dorothy Jane Nuckolls, Joseph, Vodraska, Connie Congdon and Kay Finley

M. Jo Rucker

Mona Mae Brubaker

Gary Freeman

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholars.fhsu.edu/sackett>

Recommended Citation

Rucker, M. Jo; Brubaker, Mona Mae; and Freeman, Gary, "Interviews with Dorothy Jane Nuckolls, Joseph, Vodraska, Connie Congdon and Kay Finley" (1963). *Samuel J. Sackett Folklore Collection*. 91.
<https://scholars.fhsu.edu/sackett/91>

This Audio Recording is brought to you for free and open access by the Research Collections at FHSU Scholars Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Samuel J. Sackett Folklore Collection by an authorized administrator of FHSU Scholars Repository. For more information, please contact ScholarsRepository@fhsu.edu.

RT
398
F666m
1964
no. 1
index

FORSYTH LIBRARY
FORT HAYS KANSAS STATE COLLEGE

CONTRIBUTOR: Dorothy Jane Nuckolls
INTERVIEWER: M. Jo Rucker
Tucson, Arizona, 1964

(7½)

- 0-8 Introduction
9-63 "I Never Will Marry" (guitar accomp.)
"They say that love's a gentle thing . . ."
64-124 "Engine 143" (guitar accomp.)
"Along came the F.F.E. . . ."
125-148 "Squirty, squirty" (duet, guitar accomp.)
"O I wish I was a little piece of orange . . ."
149-183 "Old Paint" (guitar accomp.)
"I'm riding old paint . . ."

CONTRIBUTOR: Joseph H. Vodraska
INTERVIEWER: Mona Mae Brubaker
Hays, Kansas, 1963

- 184-192 Introduction
193-204 "The Austrian-Hungary Cavalry Song" (accordion)
205-247 The same song is sung (not in English)
248-313 "May I Sleep in Your Barn Tonight, Mister?" (group, accordion accom
(tune: "Red River Valley")

CONTRIBUTOR: Connie Congdon (and Kay Finley)
INTERVIEWER: Gary Freeman

- 314-320 Introduction
321-338 Information about "Mandy"
339-419 "Mandy" (duet, guitar accomp.)
"Mandy was a little Bahama girl . . ."
420-437 Information about "In the Pines"
438-473 "In the Pines" (guitar accomp.)
(First line identical)
474-487 Information about the following song
488-516 "How Sad Flows the Stream" (guitar accomp.)
(First line identical)
517-571 Information about "Darlin' Corey"
572-553 "Darlin' Corey" (guitar accomp.)
"There's a pine log shack in the mountain . . ."
654-692 Information about "O Freedom"
693-769 "O Freedom" (guitar accomp.)
(First line identical)
770-799 Information about "Handsome, Winsome Johnny"
800-879 "Handsome, Winsome Johnny" (guitar accomp.)
"I know where I'm going . . ."
880-894 Information about "Good Ol' Mountain Dew"
895-946 "Good Ol' Mountain Dew" (guitar accomp.)
"Well my brother Bill's got a still on the gill . . ."
947-994 Further information about "Good Ol' Mountain Dew"
995-012 Information about "Pretty Saro"
013-089 "Pretty Saro" (guitar accomp.)
"Down in some lone valley . . ."

RT

398

F666m

1964
no.
Index

- 1090-1119 Information about "Irene Goodnight"
- 1120-1177 "Irene Goodnight" (duet, goodnight)
(first line identical)
- 1178-1208 Further information about "Irene Goodnight"
- 1209-1248 Information about "Jamaica Farewell"
- 1249-1345 "Jamaica Farewell" (duet, guitar accomp.)
"Down the way when the lights are gay . . ."
- 1346-1371 Concluding remarks
- 1372- (Blank)

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F666m
1964
no. 1
Index

1. Informant's name. <i>Dorothy Jane Ruckolls</i>	2. Date <i>Jan 5 - 1964</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>I Never Will Marry</i>	4. Record or tape Number <i>282</i>
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>I Never Will Marry</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>Heard it sung</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>Late 50's.</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes ___ No <u>X</u> (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes ___ No <u>X</u> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
12. Remarks <i>This last year this song has been recorded by a singer in the popular field. At the time my informant first learned this song it was not too often heard.</i>	
Collector's name: <i>Ms. J. Rucker</i> Address: <i>Hayes, K.</i>	

RT
398
F666m
1964
No. 1
Index

Song or Story Information, Form C

1. Informant's name. <i>Norothy J. Ruckolls</i>	2. Date <i>Jan 5 - 1964</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Engine 143</i>	4. Record or tape Number <i>282</i>
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Engine 143</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>Had heard it sung.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>1960</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>True story of George Alley, who died in 1890 in wreck on Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad.</i>	
12. Remarks <i>"FFV" means fastest flying Vestibule.</i>	
Collector's name: <i>M. J. Ruck</i> Address: <i>Day, As.</i>	

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F666m
1964
No. 1
Index

1. Informant's name.	2. Date
<i>Dorothy Jane Ruckelsh</i>	<i>Jan 5 - 1964</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story:	4. Record or tape Number
<i>"Squirt Squirt"</i>	<i>282</i>
5. Standard name of song or story:	
?	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story?	
<i>Church Camp</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning:	
<i>1948</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
(Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate):	
<i>Guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
<i>favorite with youngsters. an old</i>	

12. Remarks

Collector's name: *M. J. Rucker*
Address: *Hays, Kans.*

RT
398
F666m
1964
no.1
Index

Song or Story Information, Form C

1. Informant's name. <i>Dorothy Jane Nuckolls</i>	2. Date <i>Jan 5 - 1964</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Old Paint</i>	4. Record or tape Number <i>282</i>
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Old Paint</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>at Burdett from older brother.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>Early 50's.</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
12. Remarks <i>Informant has collected several variations of this old song - both in words and melody.</i>	
Collector's name: <i>Mr. J. Rucker</i> Address <i>Hay, Kans.</i>	

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F666m
1964
no.1
Index

1. Informant's name. Joseph. H. Vodraska	2. Date Nov. 2, 1963
3. Informant's name of song or story: The Austrian-Hungary Cavalry Song	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story:	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? Learned as a child from his father,	
7. Approximate date of learning: 50 - 60 years ago	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ___ Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): Played on a piano accordion	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: The father was to go out to battle but suddenly became ill. His sons would not take his place, so his only daughter decided to take his place. She was a very successful soldier, won many battles, and finally married the general.	
12. Remarks The song is first taped by the informant playing the piano accordion, then sung by the informant, Mr. Vodraska. It seems that in this particular location this song was very popular when Mr. Vodraska was a child. This was in the vicinity of Black Wolf, Kansas, which is about midway between Ellsworth and Wilson.	
Collector's name: Address Mona Mae Brubaker Ellsworth, Kansas	

RT
398
F6667
1964
no.1
Index

Song or Story Information, Form C

1. Informant's name. <i>Connie Congdon</i>	2. Date <i>Nov. 23, 1963</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>"MANDY"</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>"MANDY" is the only name Connie has ever heard.</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>At girl scout - round-up training, in Hays, KANSAS.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>May, 1962</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>Two Guitars</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>This is a story about a little Bahama girl, told in a narrative form.</i>	
12. Remarks <i>This song was taught to Connie by her girl scout trainer, and she has only heard it at girl scout camp. This is the only time I've ever heard this song, and I like it very much. Connie is accompanied by her close friend, Kay Finley.</i>	
Collector's name: <i>Gary Freeman</i> Address <i>Whist Hall, Hays, Kansas</i>	

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398F666m
1964
no. 1
Index

1. Informant's name. <i>Connie Congdon</i>	2. Date <i>Nov. 23, 1963</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>"In The Pines"</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Yellow Gal</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>Heard this song from "Uncle Glen Smith", a very close friend of the family.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>1953</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes ___ No <u>X</u> (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes ___ No <u>X</u> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>Guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>This song is very similar to Lead belly's - Yellow Gal.</i>	
12. Remarks	

Connie heard her "Uncle Glen Smith" sing this while in Colorado. She then learned the words from him. She also heard this song while attending another girl scout camp. She also has heard Tenn. Ernie Ford sing this while on T.V.

Collector's name: *Gary Freeman*
Address *WEST HALL - Hays, Ks.*

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F666m
1964
No. 1
Index

1. Informant's name. <i>Connie Congdon</i>	2. Date <i>Nov. 23, 1963</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>"How Sad Flows The STREAM"</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Connie has never heard a standard name for this song.</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>From a close friend, while at Girl Scout Camp.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>1954</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes ___ No <u>X</u> (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes ___ No <u>X</u> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>Guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>Connie doesn't know all words, or the name of this song. She learned some of it from a friend, and added a little herself. She also made up the</i>	
12. Remarks <i>title, which is a part of the first verse. This song is very pretty and is very sad, which may explain its unknown history. I liked this song very much.</i>	
Collector's name: <i>Gary Freeman</i> Address <i>Wiest Hall - Hays, Ks.</i>	

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F666m
1964
No. 1
Index

1. Informant's name. <i>Connie Congdon</i>	2. Date <i>Nov. 23, 1963</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Darlin' Corey or Cora</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Same as #3.</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>From Kingston Trio, and she also saw it in a book.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>1954</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Where and when) <i>Elizabeth Bonis' book - "Fireside Book of Folksong". She saw it when she was a junior in high school in 1961.</i>	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>Guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>This song was liked very much by the informant, because it has so many different verses. She also told me, that this song is a good bango picking tune.</i>	
12. Remarks <i>This song has been popularized very much, by Harry Belafonte and the Kingston Trio. Connie has also heard Pete Seeger sing this particular song. It comes from the Appalachain Mts., and is very similar to a song by the name of "Maggie".</i>	
Collector's name: <i>Gary Freeman</i> Address <i>Wiest Hall, Hays, Kans.</i>	

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F6663
1964
no. 1
Index

1. Informant's name. <i>Connie Congdon</i>	2. Date <i>Nov. 23, 1963</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Oh Freedom</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Oh Freedom</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>Heard it at the "March on Washington", while viewing T.V. - liked it very much and looked up the words.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>1963</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Where and when) <i>Songs of Work & Freedom by Edith Fowke and Joe Glazer. pp. 164-165, 1963.</i>	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>Guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>Very effective when the song is sang by many people. This song has a "blues" effect in it also - 12th bar.</i>	
12. Remarks	

Collector's name: *Gary Freeman*
Address *Wiest Hall, Hags, Kansas*

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F666m
1964
no.1
Index

1. Informant's name. Connie Congdon	2. Date Nov. 23, 1963
3. Informant's name of song or story: HANDSOME Winsome Johnny	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story. HANDSOME Winsome Johnny	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? From close friend at Girl Scout Camp.	
7. Approximate date of learning: 1961	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes ___ No <u>X</u> (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes ___ No <u>X</u> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): Guitar	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: Connie told me that she thought that this song was an Irish Folk Ballad.	
12. Remarks Bela fonte has a very good version of this song published. There are several different verses of this song, and it is known by another name, "I Know Where I'm Going".	
Collector's name: Gary Freeman Address Wicst HALL, HAYS	

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F6667m
1964
no.1
Index

1. Informant's name: <i>Connie Congdon</i>	2. Date <i>Nov. 23, 1963</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Good Ole' Mt. Dew</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Same as no. # 3. - Good Ole' Mt. Dew</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>Connie learned this song solidly from her very close friend, "Uncle Glen Smith", while he was visiting her family.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>1954</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Where and when) <i>(Can't remember where she saw this.)</i>	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>Guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>There are also many verses to this song. Connie told me that George Jones, a folksinger, collected most of the verses to this song.</i>	
12. Remarks	

Collector's name: *Gary Freeman*
Address *Wiest Hall, Hays, Kansas*

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F666m
1964
no.1
Index

1. Informant's name. <i>Connie Congdon</i>	2. Date <i>Nov. 23, 1963</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Pretty Saro</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Pretty Saro</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>Saw this song in a book.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>1963</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Where and when) <i>Elizabeth Bonis' book - "Fireside Book of Folksong". Saw this song in print in 1963.</i>	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>Guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>This song is an Appalachian folk ballad, and has been popularized by Harry Belafonte.</i>	
12. Remarks	

Collector's name: *Gary Freeman*
Address *Wiest Hall, Hays, Kansas*

Song or Story Information, Form C

RT
398
F666m
1964
no. 1
Index

1. Informant's name. <i>Kay Finley and Connie Congdon</i>	2. Date <i>Nov. 23, 1963</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Goodnight Irene</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Goodnight Irene</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>Heard this song from various people when they were younger. This song was heard both on radio & by people singing it.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>1948</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Where and when) <i>"American Favorite Ballads and Folksongs" by Pete Seeger. Saw this in print in 1962, but it was in print much earlier than this.</i>	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>Guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>This song originally sang by Lead belly. By many this song is not considered a folksong but it actually is.</i>	
12. Remarks <i>Lead belly had a girlfriend much younger than he was, and he ask to marry her. Her mother refused, and he made up and sang this song, the last time he saw her. This story makes the song a lot more meaningful, and this also shows that folksongs can sneak into the "hit-parade" and become very popular songs.</i>	

Collector's name: *Gary Freeman*
Address *West Hall, Hays, Kansas*

RT
398
F666m
1964
no. 1
Index

Song or Story Information, Form C

1. Informant's name. <i>Connie Congdon</i>	2. Date <i>Nov. 23, 1963</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Jamaican Farewell</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Jamaican Farewell</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? <i>Learned this from Harry Belafonte's record, the only other version she has heard.</i>	
7. Approximate date of learning: <i>1958</i>	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Where and when) <i>However, this song is in print, both in books, and on sheet music. She heard this song, first in 1958.</i>	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate): <i>Guitar</i>	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant: <i>Harry Belafonte made this song what it is today. It is definitely a calypso song and it may have a dance to go with it - informant has not seen one though.</i>	
12. Remarks <i>This song is a rather sad song, because it is saying farewell to a very beautiful place. This is another example of a song of this type, pole vaulting into popularity.</i>	
Collector's name: <i>Gary Freeman</i> Address <i>Wiest Hall, Hays, Kansas</i>	

F 1964

A - 8 min

no. 1

Independence

no. 2

no. 3

A - 14 min

Dorothy Jane Mackall sings (guitar accompanied)

I gathered up I gathered
from Wilson, Pa) 3 4 2 4

Joseph H. Votraska - Plays accordion and
sings 2 songs (not in English)

RT
398
F666m
1964
no. 1
Index

12 min.

The following tape by Dorothy Jane Auckalle
singing + guitar accompanied - singing 8 songs.

7 min

The following was sing by Joseph H. Vodrascha,
singing the Austrian - Hungary Cavalry Song with
an accordion - repeated not in English - followed
by group singing "May I Sleep in your Barn Tonight,
Master?"

16 min

The next party was Connie Congdon (and Kay Finley)
Singing duet + guitar accompanied - followed by
solo singing + guitar, followed with 5 songs (some
times sounds very muffled)

18 min.

Connie Congdon continues singing with guitar
accompanied - (very muffled at times again) several
songs, and two songs were duets with guitar
accompanied, followed by concluding remarks

(Continued
on Side B)

Tap #

Tina

Break between side A and B

F1964

A-12 min

Interview with Connie Congdon sings

no. 1
Index

with guitar several songs. - muffled sound.
describes songs