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### Interviews with John Hartman, Walter C. Harsh and Lee Samuels

Ken Zrubek

Donna Gene Harsh

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#### Recommended Citation

Zrubek, Ken and Harsh, Donna Gene, "Interviews with John Hartman, Walter C. Harsh and Lee Samuels" (1965). *Samuel J. Sackett Folklore Collection*. 96.

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1965  
no. 4  
Index

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Interview of John Hartman, of Great Bend, Kansas  
on dual track at 3 3/4 ins  
Interviewed by Ken Zrubek, April 28, 1965

- 000-002 Introduction
- 003-023 Folk legend of Skunk Johnson
- 023-028 Flank
- 028-032 Discussion
- 032-051 Story of a ghostly light

Interview of Walter C. Harsh, Lincoln, Kansas (82 years old)  
on dual track at 3 3/4 ins  
Interviewed by Donna Harsh, May 9, 1965

- 052-053 Introduction
- 054-100 Account of blizzard of 1888; story of interesting incidents in early life; discussion of neighbors
- 101-109 Crops grown in early days
- 110-115 Steam threshing machine
- 115-127 Story about horses - kicked by colt
- 128-146 Father's homesteading in Trego County in 1878 from Illinois
- 147-152 Chicago fire
- 153-158 Erie Canal
- 159-168 Father was ordained minister & farmer
- 168-183 Games: Shiny; marbles; spin top; swimming; skating
- 184-192 Preparing blocks of ice for storage to use for refrigeration
- 193-202 Discussion of basic needs of people in early days
- 203-206 Fine neighbors
- 207-222 Played cornet in community band
- 223-232 Story about Tipton, Kansas
- 233-245 Railroad story (Wacanda Springs)
- 248-287 Moved to Texas  
Fish story (interrupted)

Interview of Lee Samuels, Stockton, Kansas  
on Dual track 3 3/4 ins  
Interviewed by Donna Harsh, May 9, 1968

- 289-292 Introduction
- 292-318 Discusses members of his family when a boy
- 319-345 Hiring harvest hands. Interference from IWW members
- 346-357 Discussion of IWW (I won't work)
- 359-383 Horse & buggy; Pearle's All Healing Oil, used inside and out
- 384-390 Why I don't like fish
- 391-415 Mail carriers
- 417-448 Land swindlers in Florida
- 449-488 Schooling in the late 1880's; 1890's
- 489-524 Working in the lumberyard
- 525-577 Railroad shipping
- 578-617 Hard times at Wakeeney in 1930's; Lost in a dust storm

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Donna Hartman

No. 4 619-622 (Repeat of part of story of working in lumberyard)  
623-674 Story of his Uncle Bob Samuels who married a part Indian  
Index woman  
675-678 Old Bob, a dog (A story of a well trained animal) (Interrupted)  
679-720 Description of dugout  
721-765 Finishes story of Old Bob  
766-769 Introduces song  
770-782 Song: "Casey Jones"  
785-789 Song: "Don't Count Your Chickens Before They're Hatched"  
790-838 Winter of 1911: Snowstorm  
839-874 (Story already in progress)  
Where Samuels worked  
(Story interrupted)  
874-end Blank

Tape mended at the beginning

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8 min

Interview of John Hartman of Great Bend, Ks -  
Tells about grandfather living in Great Bend - tells  
Man called <sup>Shunk</sup> Johnson was chased by group of  
Indians - hid in cave + ate skunk meat from  
Indians - hid there for 7 days. Tells also about  
a ghostly light glows, the exact place where  
a pair of Indian lovers were killed -

32 min

Interview with Walter C. Harsh of Lincoln, Ks.  
was 82 yrs old - Tells about big blizzard -  
Tells about fish story - Hard times - crops  
grown early days - Tells about Steam  
threshing machine drawn by horses - tells about  
Colt kicking him - Tells of father homesteaded  
in 1878 in Trego County - making enough money  
to send for his wife who lived in Chicago -  
His grandfather tells about big Chicago fire.  
Grandfather had only 3 months schooling was  
farmer + ordained minister - Games played  
were! Shiny, marbles spin top, swimming + skating.  
Tells about blocks of ice from river + used ice  
for refrigeration in storage - Tells about playing  
Coronet in community band - also played band in  
various small towns - Story about playing in saloon  
at Tipton - moved to Texas & told fish story

Tape #	Time	Break between side A and B
RT 398 F666m 1965 No. 4 (continued)	18 min	Interview with <u>Lee Samuels</u> of Stockton, Ks in 1965 at Hays, Ks - Donna Harsh's father - born in 1897 about 9 miles from Ellis - Tells about members of his family - lived on farm - + tells about hiring men for harvest hands - Had 1 W W men for working - Home + buggy days + 19 miles from their home - So used "People's All Healing Oil" for all purpose healing - Tells of broken arm - Tells why he doesn't like fish - gotten bone in throat - Tells about mail carrier -
(Continued on Side B)	40 min	<u>Lee Samuels</u> tells how he was swindled about land in Florida - Tells about going to school about 3/4 mile away + at times go Ice Skating + how brother fell in ice water - Tells of rough teachers attitudes towards his pupils - Tells of working in lumberyard - jokes they played on some customers - working for Hardman Lumber Company at Wakeeney, Ks - Tells about railroad shipping coal for Thrush Machine - Scooped thousands of pounds of coal for about 6 years - Transferred to Wakeeney - Talks about 1933 Dirty Thirties - Took coal to Wakeeney + got lost in dust storm, after an hour found elevator, + along railroad he followed. Tells about Uncle Bob Samuel located around Ogallah, started a store - back to Oklahoma for part Indian woman he married. Meeting place at Uncle Bob's store place - Tells about dugout + plastered wall with lime + how additions were added as family grew - Tells about the dog called "Old Bob" - how dog was trained to drive in milk cans - how "Old Dog" saved his wife's life. Tells how Lee Samuels sang songs - Tells of worst snowstorm in 1911 -

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Song or Story Information, Form C

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1. Informant's name. <i>Lee Samuels</i>	2. Date <i>5-9-65</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Casey Jones</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Casey Jones</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? —	
7. Approximate date of learning: —	
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):	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
12. Remarks <i>dad also gave some interesting information about the days of the dust storms, the Florida land swindle, the L.N.W.</i>	
Collector's name <i>Flora J. Hark</i> Address <i>208 Ash</i>	

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Song or Story Information, Form C

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1. Informant's name. <i>Lee Samuels</i>	2. Date <i>5-9-65</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Don't Count Your Chickens Before</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>They Are Hatched</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? _____	
7. Approximate date of learning: _____	
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):	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
12. Remarks	

Collector's name: *Alonna J. Harsh*  
Address: *708 Ash*

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Song or Story Information, Form C

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1. Informant's name. <i>Lee Samuels</i>	2. Date <i>5-9-65</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Lost Court Your Chickens Before</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>They Are Hatched</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? _____	
7. Approximate date of learning: _____	
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):	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
12. Remarks	

Collector's name:  
*Alonna J. Harsh*  
Address  
*708 Ash*



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Song or Story Information, Form C

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1. Informant's name. <i>Walter C. Harsh</i>	2. Date <i>5-9-65</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story:	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story:	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story?	
7. Approximate date of learning:	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate):	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
12. Remarks <i>I feel that I can't classify material from this informant. He mainly just rambled, except for some interesting information about conditions of the times during his early life, and some "tall tales". He mentions a relative who worked on the Erie Canal. To play a cornet as he does, at 82, isn't bad!</i>	
Collector's name: <i>Donna Harsh</i> Address <i>208 Oak</i>	

INFORMANT BIOGRAPHY, FORM B

1. Name <i>Walter C. Shush</i>		2. Date: <i>5-9-65</i>	
3. Address: <i>Lincoln, Kansas</i>		4. County	5. Age: <i>82</i>
6. Place of Birth:			
7. Ancestry <i>Welsh</i>		9. Education (circle highest) Grade School 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 <input checked="" type="radio"/> High School 1 2 3 4 College 1 2 3 4	
8. Language spoken: <i>American English</i>			
10. Places of residence <i>Numerous places in Kansas, but mainly Lincoln and Stockton Texas</i>		Dates:	
11. Present occupation: <i>Retired</i>		12. Former occupations: <i>Railroad</i>	
13. Father's name: <i>Thomas</i>		17. Mother's name: <i>Laura</i>	
14. Father's place of birth: <i>Kansas</i>		18. Mother's place of birth: <i>Kansas</i>	
15. Grandfather's place of birth: <i>-</i>		19. Grandfather's place of birth: <i>-</i>	
16. Grandmother's place of birth: <i>-</i>		20. Grandmother's place of birth: <i>-</i>	
21. Place and condition of interview:		<i>The interview took place in a home.</i>	
22. Remarks: <i>The informant, my father-in-law, generally is a wonderful story teller about his early life and the things that happened. Although I had attempted to prepare him as to using the tape recorder, the informality, and such, he was extremely nervous. He has a keen sense of humor and could have contributed a great deal, but his nervousness seemed to inhibit his memory, even though he'd used tape Recorders before.</i>			
		Collector's name: <i>Alonna Shush</i> Address: <i>208 Ash</i>	

INFORMANT BIOGRAPHY, FORM B

1. Name <i>Walter C. Harsh</i>		2. Date: <i>5-9-65</i>	
3. Address: <i>Lincoln, Kansas</i>		4. County	5. Age: <i>82</i>
6. Place of Birth:			
7. Ancestry <i>Welch</i>		9. Education (circle highest) Grade School 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High School 1 2 3 4 College 1 2 3 4	
8. Language spoken: <i>American English</i>			
10. Places of residence <i>Numerous places in Kansas, but mainly Lincoln and Stockton Texas</i>		Dates:	
11. Present occupation: <i>Retired</i>		12. Former occupations: <i>Railroad</i>	
13. Father's name: <i>Thomas</i>		17. Mother's name: <i>Laura</i>	
14. Father's place of birth: <i>Kansas</i>		18. Mother's place of birth: <i>Kansas</i>	
15. Grandfather's place of birth: <i>-</i>		19. Grandfather's place of birth: <i>-</i>	
16. Grandmother's place of birth: <i>-</i>		20. Grandmother's place of birth: <i>-</i>	
21. Place and condition of interview:		<i>The interview took place in a home.</i>	
22. Remarks: <i>The informant, my father-in-law, generally is a wonderful story teller about his early life and the things that happened. Although I had attempted to prepare him as to using the tape recorder, the informality, and such, he was extremely nervous. He has a keen sense of humor and could have contributed a great deal, but his nervousness seemed to inhibit his memory, even though he'd used tape recorders before.</i>			
		Collector's name: <i>Alonna Harsh</i> Address: <i>208 Ash</i>	

INFORMANT BIOGRAPHY, FORM B

1. Name <i>Lee Samuels</i>		2. Date: <i>5-9-65</i>	
3. Address: <i>Stockton, Pa.</i>		4. County <i>Rock</i>	5. Age: <i>68</i>
6. Place of Birth: <i>A farm between Wakeeney and Ellis</i>			
7. Ancestry <i>—</i>		9. Education (circle highest) Grade School 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 High School 1 2 3 4 College 1 2 3 4	
8. Language spoken: <i>American English</i>			
10. Places of residence <i>Wakeeney and Stockton were the places of residence, except for the years 1926-27, which were spent in Wyoming</i>		Dates: _____	
11. Present occupation: <i>Retired</i>		12. Former occupations: <i>Lumber yard</i>	
13. Father's name: <i>Jim</i>		17. Mother's name: <i>Sarah</i>	
14. Father's place of birth: <i>Kansas</i>		18. Mother's place of birth: <i>Kansas</i>	
15. Grandfather's place of birth: <i>—</i>		19. Grandfather's place of birth: <i>—</i>	
16. Grandmother's place of birth: <i>—</i>		20. Grandmother's place of birth: <i>—</i>	
21. Place and condition of interview:		<i>In my home</i>	
22. Remarks: <i>When I was planning to tape information from this informant, my father, my mother said he wouldn't cooperate, she was positive. As we talked and proceeded with the interview, Dad seemed to actually enjoy it. I believe that an experienced interviewer could obtain some interesting information from Dad.</i>			
		Collector's name: <i>Donna Hark</i> Address: <i>308 Ash</i>	

INFORMANT BIOGRAPHY, FORM B

1. Name *Lee Samuels* 2. Date: *5-9-65*

3. Address: *Stockton, Ks.* 4. County *Roos* 5. Age: *68*

6. Place of Birth: *A farm between Wakeeney and Ellis*

7. Ancestry *—* 9. Education (circle highest)  
 Grade School 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
 High School 1 2 3 4  
 College 1 2 3 4

8. Language spoken: *American English*

10. Places of residence Dates:  
*Wakeeney and Stockton were the places of residence, except for the years 1926-27, which were spent in Wyoming*

11. Present occupation: *Retired* 12. Former occupations: *Lumber yard*

13. Father's name: *Jim* 17. Mother's name: *Sarah*

14. Father's place of birth: *Kansas* 18. Mother's place of birth: *Kansas*

15. Grandfather's place of birth: *—* 19. Grandfather's place of birth: *—*

16. Grandmother's place of birth: *—* 20. Grandmother's place of birth: *—*

21. Place and condition of interview: *In my home*

22. Remarks: *When I was planning to tape information from this informant, my father, my mother said he wouldn't cooperate, she was positive. As we talked and proceeded with the interview, dad seemed to actually enjoy it. I believe that an experienced interviewer could obtain some interesting information from dad.*

Collector's name: *Donna Garch*  
 Address: *308 Ash*

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Song or Story Information, Form C

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1. Informant's name. <i>Walter C. Harsh</i>	2. Date <i>5-9-65</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story:	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story:	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story?	
7. Approximate date of learning:	
8. Has the informant seen the story or song in print? Yes ___ No ___ (Where and when)	
9. Was song accompanied by a game or dance? Yes ___ No ___ Describe.	
10. Instrument used (if played in a special manner indicate):	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
12. Remarks <i>I feel that I can't classify material from this informant. He mainly just rambled, except for some interesting information about conditions of the times during his early life, and some "tall tales". He mentions a relative who worked on the Erie Canal. To play a cornet as he does at 82, isn't bad!</i>	
Collector's name: <i>Donna Harsh</i> Address <i>208 Ash</i>	

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Song or Story Information, Form C

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1965  
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1. Informant's name. <i>Lee Samuels</i>	2. Date <i>5-9-65</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story: <i>Casey Jones</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>Casey Jones</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? —	
7. Approximate date of learning: —	
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):	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
12. Remarks <i>dad also gave some interesting information about the days of the dust storms, the Florida land swindle, the L.N.W.</i>	
Collector's name <i>Glenn J. Fush</i> Address <i>208 Ash</i>	

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Song or Story Information, Form C

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1. Informant's name. <i>Lee Samuels</i>	2. Date <i>5-9-65</i>
3. Informant's name of song or story. <i>Don't Count Your Chickens Before</i>	4. Record or tape Number
5. Standard name of song or story: <i>They Are Hatched</i>	
6. Where and how did informant learn the song or story? —	
7. Approximate date of learning: —	
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):	
11. Special explanations of the song or story by informant:	
12. Remarks	

Collector's name:

Address

*Alonna J. Harsh*  
*208 Ash*