

Charlie Woods MU38 Side B April 1975  
Interviewed by Sandra Johnson

0-35 Early history. Charlie was born in Missouri. Folks came to Colorado when he was 5 to 8 years old, then when his mother got sick, moved to Oklahoma. After mother died, he returned to Montrose when he was 15 (around 1915) and stayed with his uncle. Went to work for Charlie Lebonitz, at the Telluride Transfer. Describes his work. Tells of renting horses to ride to the mine.

35-74 Describes the vehicle the drove to haul the gold and tells how he did it. Had two men holding shot guns riding on either side of him. Took the gold to town from the mine to the express office. Names the mines he hauled the gold from. He also sold Ford cars while working for Mr. Lebonitz. He bought a new roadster for himself for \$360.

74-188 Married Leona Koen in Telluride. Her father sold timber for the mine. He owned a timber yard. Speaks of why parents changed spelling of his name from Wood to Woods. He moved to Ouray after marrying his wife where he worked for Walter Wheeler who also owned a car business. Speaks of the slow period in Telluride during the time he lived there. Speaks of gambling in some of the houses in Telluride. Talks of the Sheridan Hotel. Talks of the damage from the 1914 flood. Speaks of the cold and the snow in Telluride and later the three feet of snow in Montrose. Worked for the railroad out of Ridgeway for 8 years. Speaks of Keystone hill in the early days.

188-327 Talks of working for the Pony Express in Missouri and riding horses 16 miles to carry the mail. After he left Telluride he moved to Montrose and worked as a mechanic. Also worked in Naturita at the Vanadium Corporation for twenty-five years. Speaks again of carrying the gold from the mines to the express office in town. Tells story of hunting squirrels. He talks about eating wild turkeys. Speaks of his birth in 1892. Talks of celebrating his birthday in the nursing home where he now lives. Speaks of his children and grandchildren. Speaks of wife's family.

KEYWORDS FOR THIS TRANSCRIPT

SIDE B

(0-35)

Telluride Transfer

(335-74)

Liberty Bell

Tomboy

Smuggler

(188)

Naturita

Vanadium Corporation

(74-188)

Sheridan Hotel

1914 Flood

PEOPLE

SIDE B

(0-35)

Charlie Lebonitz

(74-188)

Lona Koen

Walter Wheeler

(188-330)

Debbie Binder

Charlene Binder