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Fay Brewster Lancaster, Oral History Index

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**Interview with Fay Brewster Lancaster conducted by Louise Skinner and Marcia Lair
October 22, 2019**

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00:00:01	Introductions and general Information
00:00:40	Born in 1922 in Carthage, TX. Father worked for the railroad. First memories from about age 4 – mother, grandfather, “hobos” coming through
00:02:09	Family moved into a painted house, memories of cousins as playmates, going camping to Allison Camp [in Sutton County]and Garner Springs [in Concan, TX], swimming in the Sabine River
00:03:30	Went to the Mitchell School [north of Carthage], went to the Baptist and Methodist churches
00:04:20	Moved to the country outside of Cooper in 1940. Went to church in Doctor’s Creek, met Dorothy Allison, who introduced her to her future husband, Wallace Lancaster. Whirlwind courtship. How Wallace got his nickname, “Lod”
00:08:28	Memories of early married years, ended up farming cotton
00:09:30	Memories of Cooper – in contest with Jenell Box at Roy Cain’s Dry Goods Store – won a washing machine [1954]; Tom Boyd’s Shoe Store; worked at the Hospital and at American Wood [in Commerce, TX]. In 1971, after mother passed away, moved into parents’ house. Worked at Boat Factory
00:12:03	Parents’ names – Otto and Ruby (Cathey) Brewster
00:12:45	Cooper square crowded on Saturday nights, went to movies. Memories of Chandlers Grocery
00:15:03	Early years, raised children in a 2-room house behind Lod’s parents house. 3 children - Karen born in 1944, Sammy in 1950, and Tony in 1964
00:16:40	Memories of Carthage – parties and dances, learning to drive a Model A Ford, mother made dresses out of flour sacks, visits to aunt and uncle, home medical remedies, grandfather’s syrup mill
00:22:21	In 1936, favorite teacher took class to the Dallas Fair – rode the bus
00:23:43	Tornado in Delta County when she was pregnant with Sammy
00:25:50	WWII – Lod was in the Army; went to Washington, then to the Phillipines, then to Tokyo while peace treaty was being signed.
00:28:40	Memories of life in Carthage – no electricity - had an Aladdin Lamp, eventually got a telephone; dirt roads, car would get stuck; Fay had to cook everything from scratch while parents worked in the fields with mules; feather beds, no Insulation in the house; helped mother with the wash pot; mother liked to fish
00:33:39	Had no TV for many years; listened to the radio – Stella Dallas, Grand Old Opry
00:36:00	Has a Facebook account – keeps track of family and friends
00:37:30	Church memories: Rehobeth Methodist Church in Carthage - went by wagon or walked; went to Doctor’s Creek and Antioch churches in Delta County. When they disbanded, went to First Baptist Church in Cooper.
00:40:05	Grocery Store memories – didn’t buy much except coffee, flour, and sugar – everyone had a garden, did a lot of canning. Mother made butter and sold it in town. Kept butter and milk down the well to keep it cool.
00:42:33	Words of advice to future generations – Live right