

## **1979 Tractorcade to Washington D.C.**

### **Interview with Marjory Pivonka Scheufler**

**September 24, 2012**

**Conducted in the Scheufler home, Belpre, Kansas**

**Interviewers: Joan Weaver and Rosetta Graff, Kinsley Library**

**Also present: Ed Scheufler and Zane Lakin**

Joan Weaver: Following your husband, Ed's, interview, maybe we should begin with having you explain just what parity means.

Marjorie: What we were referring to when we first got started with this, farmers were paying 18 and 19% interest. Our son had come back. He had gone to college and ROTC, four years in the military, then came back to farm in '75 and '76. So we expanded. We borrowed money and went into irrigation and all this stuff. Everybody said, "Oh yes." The Federal Land Bank said, "How much money do you want? Borrow money!" And we did. By 1978 and 1979 we were getting into trouble, then the interest rates went sky high. So that was a lot of what started the American Agriculture Movement. We had decided we were going to call ourselves professionals. We were professionals and we were getting no payment for being the professionals that we were. It was already starting. The price of machinery was just skyrocketing; the price of our crops was going down; interest was 18 and 19%. I don't care how good a farmer you are, you aren't going to make it unless you have something that's going to help you out. It's like Ed said about the dairy farmers, they weren't interested in striking, they were doing fine.

But when we started out in Edwards County, we had Darrel and Jim Titus, and there would be two carloads of us that would go from town to town to give these talks. They would call an AAM meeting of the farmers in that county, and then we would go talk to them. We all took our little turns and said our little thing. Alvin Wheaton went some, and of course, Darrel was so good with talking. I always gave the women's perspective. Most of the time, there would be farmers and their wives who would come to the meeting. But when Ed talked about Fredonia, we drove two and a half hours or whatever it was clear down to Fredonia. I had my little speech for the women, and there wasn't one woman in the crowd! The men all left their wives at home. So then we decided we were going to strike. Somewhere, I have pictures of the tractors coming from the west, and the big tractor that led our Tractorcade was Gerald McCathern's tractor. (*McCathern was the National Wagon Master, 1978-1979.*) It had the great big flag on each side of the dozer blade. Coming down from the west, it was so impressive. We just joined right in then, you know. We decided that we would go as a support for Bev (*Beverly Snyder*). Bev was the only woman in the United States that drove her tractor all the way without a husband or a man to help her. There were women that drove tractors, but she was the only one. She serviced her tractor; she did everything. I think there was one time when she had something electrical and one of the men had to help her. She was the only one. So we were support for Bev (*Snyder*) and for Lester (*Derley*), so they stayed with us. I did the cooking for all of us, and I would pack lunches every morning. Everybody had their lunch. Lester, every time he could find a place where there was a grocery store or something, he supplemented. His truck looked like a nest. I don't know how much weight he gained, but I think he ate Oreo cookies by the ton.

Now Lester said, "It's okay with me if we're going to go camping and we're going to go in this trailer and everything." We had a 22 foot trailer on behind our pickup. But he said, "I have to have a shower every night." He said, "I'll haul water or whatever I have to do, but I have to have a shower." And we said, "Oh, okay." Our trailer had a pretty good tank on it for fresh water. About the first night out, he got out of the shower, and we said, "Well, how did you do?"

Because Lester's a big man! And we said, "How'd you do?" And he said, "Fine. Just don't drop the soap!"

So we had so much fun doing what we did, but it was so much work. None of us realized what we were getting into. And none of us realized how hard it would be. Spirits were high and adrenalin was flowing. You know, we were going to change the world. Jim Titus. We kept saying, "Jim, aren't you going to go?" and Jim would say, "No, I'm not going. I'm not going" And we said, "Jim, get your tractor and go!" And, "No, I'm not going." Two days before the Tractorcade was going to start here, he decided he would go! So, he goes to town and he buys a new pickup, and he borrows his son-in-law's little camping trailer. He and Jean had never camped (Jean will tell you this too!) But anyway, he said, "I'll drive the tractor and Jean, you can just pull this trailer with this new pickup." So we start out. And what was it about his tractor? His tractor didn't have a heater in it? The heater wasn't working in his tractor cab, but that was okay, what did we know? We all gathered from the State of Kansas in Topeka, it took us a day or two to get everybody there. (Ed: "I drove his tractor.") Yes, Ed drove his tractor to Topeka, so I drove our . . . .

Ed: Jim had to work on his new pickup.

Marjorie: So they caught up with us. Ed's bringing the tractor to Topeka and I'm in our pickup with this trailer. My idea of this whole thing was I took my knitting, and I was just going to ride along with Ed and do the cooking. That was my idea! We got to Topeka, and it was rainy, nasty, freezing rain, and of course Jim had joined up with us by then and he was going to drive the tractor. Jean said, "Ed, will you just drive this new pickup until we get out of this weather?" And Ed said, "Sure." I could drive our pickup. The first thing I remember-- I have no idea where we gathered, out in the country somewhere-- there was a hill, and it was so icy that most of us had trouble getting up the hill. So we got started and 14 and 16 days later he was still driving Jim's pickup and I'm still driving ours because the weather never, ever cleared. Never, ever cleared. The sun shone the day we started down into Washington D.C.

We had snowstorms. One place in Virginia somewhere, they were predicting a blizzard. We were up in the mountains and they said, "You have to get off of the mountain." We were supposed to go camping on top of the mountain at a park, and they said, "You can't camp here. We're going to have a storm." They said we had to get down off of the mountain. There was a college campus off the mountain. So here we are, all these tractors trying to get down off the mountain. They said for support vehicles to all go ahead, go ahead and get down. So we start down off this mountain, and we were following Lester's truck. The snow was so bad that all I saw was the three clearance lights on the back of his truck! That's what I was following. Ed was the same way, there were three of us, and we got down onto that college campus and got stopped. What Jean was supposed to do was look on the side of the road and make sure I was still on the road. We got down there and both of us, we just collapsed. I told her, "It doesn't make any difference where I drive ever again, I will never be afraid."

Joan: This was coming into Washington, D.C.?

Marjorie: We were still coming into Washington, D.C. We were in Virginia. Jim (Titus), we tried to keep track of Jim, because he just wasn't the best of the drivers. This one time, he veers off when we were going under a viaduct and he went up over it! We followed him to get him turned around and we got him back down. The first night out, it froze. I think the son-in-law had put water in the little camper and everything. They had not a clue about how to keep a camper. All the water pipes froze. The rest of the trip, they had no running water in the camper.

So, it was kind of like Ed and I were helping Jim and helping our guys. Of course, we had told Jim all this time, "Oh come on, you've got to go. We're going to have such a good time!" So here we are. Every morning, we get up at about four o'clock in the morning. We're stopped by about four o'clock in the afternoon, because we have to service all these vehicles. Of course, Lester had to go ahead and make sure he had enough fuel for our tractors. Everybody was servicing their vehicles, checking everything out. We were exhausted, so we went to bed in pretty good time. Four o'clock in the morning, we were up eating some breakfast and making the lunches because we weren't going to stop. You didn't stop, you'd just drove.

Joan: Did people pull out for pit stops?

Marjorie: No. It wasn't so hard on the men, but it was really hard on the women. They devised all kinds of ways for a pit stop. Some of them were rather ingenious. Every morning, cold wind blowing, snow, sleet or rain or whatever it was, here would come Jim Titus. He would open up the door in our camper wide as he could (we were trying to stay warm!) and he'd say, "Are we having fun yet?" Every morning! So that was the humorous part of it.

Joan: Darrel told us about staying in Indianapolis at a race track?

Marjorie: Yes. I think after the police and the highway patrol found out what they had on their hands, or course they would radio ahead and tell them. They just wanted us out of their state. When we got stretched out with enough space between the tractors for people to go around us, we were about 15 miles long. So then they had to find a gathering place for us. They couldn't just let us come into a city. We stayed in fairgrounds; they tried to put us anywhere they could. I think it boggled their minds, they had no idea what was going on. And I think our Western bunch was the longest, we were the biggest bunch of tractors that gathered as we went. We stayed-- they tried to find a place for all of us, and then the logistics of getting us back out of there the next morning. Most of the time, the highway patrol and the sheriff's officers were wonderful as far as trying to help us. But it was self-preservation on their part, just to get us out of there.

Joan: How long did it take to get there?

Marjorie: 16 days. No, 14 days. We were the last to get in, because of our adverse weather. The rest of them, they were coming from the north and the south. There were three or four different trails that were coming into Washington D.C. We were the longest and we had the worst weather; we were two days late.

Joan: Didn't some of the communities sort of host you? Hot food or anything like that?

Marjorie: No, I think there might have been one time when they helped. I don't know what city it was where we had the blizzard.

Joan: You had one in Indianapolis.

Marjorie: Anyway, we were there. We were stopped there for like two days and couldn't get out. That was when the guys just took their tractors and cleared hospital parking lots and schools and wherever they could help. They just cleared the city.

Ed: The gathering point for Washington D.C. was Fredericksburg, that's where all the tractors met. They gathered there so they could all go into Washington D.C. at the same time.

Joan: Now did most of the tractors have a blade on them?

Marjorie: No. Very few of them did. But we had one, whose tractor was Dub (*W.A. Stapleton*) driving? He didn't drive a tractor up there, but he was driving someone's tractor. We were out here at this Cherry Hill Campground and we had gone in one day before. The men had gone in the tractors had just completely disrupted Washington D.C. Well, they weren't going to have that again, so the next day (I think) we were coming back in again and what they did was they came from all directions into the Capitol. Well, everybody had a C.B., and Ed and I had a little portable television set that I would set on my lap, and we were with Lester, and plug into the cigarette lighter. Well, I was seeing news reports, and the news reports were saying that they were herding the tractors onto the Mall, and that the Mall was completely surrounded by busses or city vehicles, anything to completely surround the Mall. They had like one or two ways they were herding the tractors in and they were telling the tractors, "This is the place for you to park." But we were also hearing that they were going to corral all of them and keep them there. So, when I was listening to all of this, and here I was telling our tractors, I said, "Don't go in the Mall! Don't go in the Mall!" Of course, everything was stopped and you didn't go very far and it took a lot of time. Our three tractors that we had with us, they took off kind of on their own. Of course, I couldn't get them on the radio anymore. They took off, and we didn't know where they went. We didn't know if they were in the Mall, we didn't know where Bev was, we didn't know where Dub was... We couldn't find them, and of course the Mall was just chaos in there. And if they were going to herd all these guys in there, there was no way for these farmers in these tractors-- there was no way to feed them; there was no sanitary conditions for them. They just got them off the streets.

So we had no idea where our guys were, and we didn't dare take our truck in there because we wouldn't get back out. So Lester knew he wasn't driving in there, so we finally said, "Okay, we're going back up to Cherry Hill." So we went back up to Cherry Hill and it was dark. We were so disheartened because we'd lost our guys. We got back up to Cherry Hill, and here was Bev and here was Dub, and they had their feet up! And we said, "Where have you been?" And they said, "What?" They had no idea what had happened; they didn't know. And we said, "Well, everybody but you two are corralled down at the Mall!" And they said, "Well, we decided to just take off on our own. We came back up here." So that was two of the tractors that weren't there at the Mall. Then things went downhill from then on. They had to fix up sanitary conditions. They wouldn't let anybody out... People could walk in, and this type of thing, but the tractors couldn't get out. It was pretty bad.

Joan: You said that some of these tractors could have gotten out if they'd wanted to. They were big enough to...

Marjorie: They could have pushed a bus out of the way, but they weren't going to do that. There were city trucks, there was anything... and they were parked bumper to bumper to where there was no way you were going to get in between them. I guess maybe you should admire Washington, D.C. for their ingenuity, but it was bad.

Joan: So, did that condition stay until you decided it was time to go home?

Marjorie: I think they were letting tractors out a little at a time to where they weren't all in there

all that time.

Joan: Did they pretty much fill up the Mall?

Marjorie: Oh yes. All of the commons was full of tractors. Of course, the sightseers came down. I have to tell you (I don't know if you'll put this in the report or not) but I was kind of... this was when we had gone back up to where we were going to lobby. Anyway, they had Alvin Wheaton and Jack Wolf and Ed and I. I don't know who the other guy was, anyway, it seemed like I was in charge of these men. We were walking down a street, and of course the boys had their AAM caps on. Some city guy came by and he said some snide remark about farmers. And you know how big Alvin is, Alvin turned around and just decked that guy! Smacked him and knocked him down. By then I was saying, "Taxi! Taxi! Taxi!" I got them out of there! Oh my.

I don't know what else, when we started back home, like Ed said, most of the tractors were hauled back home. We started home, and Jim and Jean followed us. We went through Virginia and came kind of the southern route. We had landladies that we visited on the way back home a little bit, so it took us a little longer than a lot of the guys. Most of them just flew home because they were having their tractors hauled back.

Joan: So what did you do for the initial three weeks that you were there? How did you spend your time?

Marjorie: Ed and I, we lobbied. Some of us were assigned certain congressmen to go see, and we were down on the Hill every day. Every day, we were down there. It was important that there were numbers of us. We didn't care who the congressman was, if we could go in and lay a piece of literature on that desk and say that we were there. We wanted them to know the presence of the farmers in Washington D.C.

Joan: Now you had your hats sitting here, and you've talked about selling buttons. What was that all about?

Marjorie: Well, you know, almost every state, it turned into like a convention. A large convention. Almost every state would have buttons or people had made them just like we did. We exchanged the buttons and we started having collections of buttons. And there were a lot of hats.

Joan: Who did you say had the button machine?

Marjorie: Bev Snyder had it. She was making buttons back here before we left and we did that to make money. I will say that each township in Edwards County, there would be one or two of us assigned to that township. We would go around and ask farmers for donations. Ed and I, in Belpre Township, were never turned down. We always had... somebody gave us money. This was like, \$10 or \$20. But we were never turned down. We did a lot of the talking and speaking. I've still got my speeches, I've still got them.

Joan: Oh, you do!

Marjorie: I'll give you one of them.

Joan: We would like that. Some of these buttons, I think I will just read some of them or have

you do it. It says, "AAM we have just begun to fight. 1977-1978." and "American Farmers are the key to your belly!" and "American Agriculture First Annual Oklahoma City Convention." Now was that before the Tractorcade or after?

Marjorie: That would be after. And I've got to tell you about our conventions. In the central part of the United States, the states would host them. We went to Arkansas. Little Rock, Arkansas, had a convention, and their governor at the time was Bill Clinton. He was the only governor of any of the states, Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Nebraska... He was the only governor that came to our convention. He gave a little talk and shook all of our hands. I was so impressed with that young man! So then, in the years that followed, when he started and ran in the primary, everybody said, "Who's Bill Clinton?" And I said, "I know Bill Clinton!" I said, "He will win the primary." And they said, "Oh we don't even... He's from Arkansas!" But I said, "He'll win." Well, he won the primary. And at that time, I was county commissioner and people over there, mostly Republicans, said, "Who's Bill Clinton?" And I said, "He's your next president!"

It was "Ha, ha, ha." And I said, "I'm not kidding you. This man will be your next president." And sure enough, he was the next president, and I have loved Bill Clinton through thick and thin. And the main reason was because that man had enough interest in us to come one little old convention.

Joan: That is a good story! Another button says, "American Agriculture Supports You!" and "Pulling for Parity." That's a nice one, green with a tractor on it. This is the funniest one, "I wish I was a dog and Carter was a peanut tree! Kansas AAM." Now what's this one that says, "WIFE?"

Marjorie: WIFE was born out all of this. That was *Women Interested In Farm Economics*, possibly that was what it was. It became quite active in the state of Kansas. I think there is still a WIFE convention; I think there still is.

Joan: And then there are little stars all over the hat. What were those for?

Marjorie: I'm not sure, I don't remember anymore. I think it was towns that we went to where we talked, we had the little stars.

Joan: "Farmers Feed You."

Marjorie: Also, from that came the signs along the main highways that say, "Farmers Feed (so many) People."

Joan: That started back then?

Marjorie: That started from that. And what else started from that, that keeps on going? I think right now even, people are more aware of agriculture. They don't think that their milk comes from the grocery store so much anymore. There was a lot of education going on for the public. The one thing we got a lot of local publicity when we came into a town, but nationally, we became very disenchanted. Because nationally, the news was managed. There was no national news that said there were 8,000 farm tractors coming into Washington D.C.

Joan: I looked in our archives at the old *Post* and *Life* magazines. I thought surely 8,000 tractors

in the Mall would have a picture. No. That really surprised me, and I did this months ago when we were starting to think about this project.

Marjorie: We came to the conclusion that our news is managed. That was the first time. Disillusionment started when we found out that. We would call back home and say, "What did they say on the national news?" and they'd say, "Nothing."

Can you imagine? 8,000 tractors on highways and byways coming into one central spot and no news?

Joan: Well, and in the wintertime when it wasn't an easy trip, too. It was a phenomenon.

Marjorie: No news. Of course, it was covered when we got to Washington D.C. and we tore up the Mall, so they said. Then we found out they always reseeded the Mall every spring anyway.

Ed: Tell them what happened when Dole talked to us.

Marjorie: Oh yes. That was the last time I voted for Bob Dole. We gathered in Topeka and Senator Bob Dole talked to us. He thought we should just all go back home and let him handle it. He could do the work we needed done. That was the last time I voted for him! He was no help at all.

Joan: How about Nancy Kassebaum?

Marjorie: I can't remember too much about her. You know, people talk about her a lot, but I'm not thinking that there was too much influence there. Of course, Bob Dole, you know, he was very influential and was on a lot of committees. But we were disillusioned. We had all kinds of reports and statistics, and all we ever got was the assistant to the senator or to his representative. Then I found out that that assistant read that report and interpreted it to the congressman! Which you know it never, ever got read.

Joan: So is this something that you would do again?

Marjorie: Oh yes, in a heartbeat! Yes. I sure would. It was something that I really, really believed in. And like you said, I'm not sure how much good we did in changing any laws. I'm not sure we did, but I think we changed perceptions. I think we changed their perception that we were a hayseed that came to town on Saturday night. I think we changed that perception because we had speakers that were so articulate, men that wrote books afterwards. Educated men. It was just like our son, he came back to farm after four years of college and four years of military. And you're telling me that this man isn't educated? And he can't make a living on our farm?

The perception of always having you retired at 65 and leaving the farm to your son and he carried on. All gone, all gone. You can't do it. All of those things that we thought were going to happen in our life, didn't happen. In 1983, Mark finally quit farming; he had farmed since 1976. That's how long it took for him to have to go find a different job. We talked about it, and we were almost bankrupt. We talked about it, and we said, "Mark, we'll farm until it's all gone, if you want to." And he said, "No. I have an education and I can go someplace and I can work. But you and Dad can't do that." He had been married for about a year and he and his wife packed up and went to Portland, Oregon. That was where he was from, and they've lived in Oregon ever since. We just always thought that the farm would be left to him. But it wasn't. All of those things that you grow up with, don't happen anymore.

Joan: What was it like to do this together? Was it a bed of roses?

Marjorie: You know, Ed and I have, I guess, a unique marriage. We've always done everything together. Most times, most farmers, that's what you did; you did everything together. But all this coming up, the wives had to go to town, the wives had to find a job. The husband got his farm work done, and then he either worked nights or else he worked during the day and did his farm work at night. Like I said, all perceptions were changed. Ed and I were fortunate enough that we still could do all of this together. I remember one time, we were really in trouble with the bank, We had gotten a lawyer and were ready to figure out how not to lose the farm. We didn't lose the farm, but we came so close. And at that time, there were organizations that would help the rural farmer by then. There were organizations that were for mental health.

Joan: What years are we talking about here?

Marjorie: We're talking about '84 and '85, probably. There were mental health organizations through our church that were saying, "Come in and let us help you." There were farmers that were drinking; there were suicides and divorce. Oh, divorce was really coming on. So Ed and I, we took advantage of going in for the mental health evaluations and what that could do to help us to figure out what we were going to do to live. I remember Ed saying, he said, "Well, if I have to lose the farm, I will be the best damn whatever I'm going to be. I can do anything." And he can! He's a carpenter, he can do anything... So that was our attitude, if we have to lose the farm, we can do this.

So we go in for this mental evaluation, and it was all about stress! You know, "What stresses you?" Well then I got mad at him, because he said, "Well, yes, farming is a stress, with breakdowns and this, that and the other. But no, I don't think I'm so stressed. I don't think so." Well, then my questionnaire was all this stuff that he did, and I found out that no, he wasn't stressed. He gave it all to me! Then I got mad at him. But we've always done everything together. We still do. We have done that ever since we had children. We had made up our minds that we would raise the kids together and there would never, ever be this "Mom against Dad". The decisions were made together.

Joan: On the Tractorcade, you said it was a lot of fun and a lot of work, but the group pretty well hung together through thick or thin. They kept their cool for the most part.

Marjorie: For the most part. I think about that first day in Washington D.C. when the farmers were not going to be pushed around, well, I think one guy got maced. I think they broke the window in his tractor and tried to pull him out of his tractor. It was getting a little hairy. So, everybody had to calm down. Then of course, the police said they couldn't keep on doing this because it was bad publicity for them. I think that was when they decided that they'd better corral us.

Joan: In situations like that, who is the leadership that would say, "Okay, we've got to calm down."

Marjorie: We had a couple of guys from Eastern Colorado that started this whole thing.

Joan: Who were they?

Marjorie: Well, we're trying to find their names. (*Bud Bitner, George Bitner, Alvin Jenkins, Darrel Schroeder, Gene Schroeder, Van Stafford,*)

Joan: I think we have them.

Marjorie: I know you've got them, because Darrel would have told you. There was leadership there that told the farmers, "You can't do this. This isn't why we're here." Of course, you always had a hot head or two. But we just, everybody... you know, there were huge crowds of people. There were huge crowds of farmers everywhere, and we just managed it. We could not have had that, it would have been chaos, I believe. That wasn't what we came for.

Joan: Well, there had been earlier demonstrations in the '60's and in the Democratic Convention that didn't become chaotic. This was a little bit different demographic group.

Marjorie: I think we knew why we were there. We didn't do any good as far as legislation was concerned for whatever was going to help us with our prices or with our interest rates. There was nothing. But where we did do the good was in education people about a farmer. I think they still thought we had outside toilets and... I don't know, I don't know what they thought. But they did find out there were some pretty darned well educated people out there.

Joan: This has been very, very interesting. Are there any other thoughts that we need to get down?

Rosetta: I just have one. I have a family friend that got in trouble with the Federal Land Bank, and they almost lost all. They did lose the land, but they kept the house. They were still paying for years just for the house and they had to pay the high interest rate. So a lot of the problems actually stemmed from the government didn't they?

Marjorie: Oh yes.

Rosetta: This is a new concept for me.

Joan: Is it sort of like the housing thing now, where they made the housing interest so low, and then everybody couldn't pay?

Marjorie: Exactly. They had...like I said, the Federal Land Bank in '75 and '76, we were going to borrow some money to put in irrigation. It was like \$50,000 or something to put in a couple of irrigation systems that we needed to borrow. And they said, "Sure, no problem. How much more money do you want? Do you need to work on your house? What do you need to do? How much more money do you want?" And we said, "No, we just want to put in two irrigation systems." But then through the years, from '75 and '76 on, we borrowed more money to put in more irrigation systems. It's kind of like the Pollock, you know, that he didn't make any money with one truck, so he got a whole bunch of trucks and didn't make anything. This was the concept, they said, "How much more money do you want?" When Mark quit farming, we were in debt. Mark was in debt and we were in debt. I think the extremely good financial advice and legal advice we had gotten, we saved our farm. That's the only way we did it. In fact, I won't tell you who our bank was, but our bank's lawyer, in a meeting with the bank and the lawyer, the lawyer said, "Well, we will bankrupt you because you are pillars of the community, and we will set you as an example."

Joan: He said that in a meeting?

Marjorie: Yes he did. And then we found out that we could have sued him for it. But he did, he told us that. So by then, you just don't get me that mad. You just don't get me that mad. And I thought, "Buster, come hell or high water, you are not going to do that to us." Those were fighting words. But so many, you have to understand, marriages. If you had a marriage where the husband and wife got along and sure they loved each other, but if they didn't have that much in common except maybe children, and there were a lot of people like that. When adversity came, they each went a different direction. There were farmers that did not tell their wives how badly off they were. And we have great faith in God, and there are people that could not turn to that. They couldn't turn to their God or their church. There was just so many things like that, and then it got really scary when you started hearing about guys that committed suicide. The drinking that went on; they turned to alcohol. It was how you solved your problems, there was a lot. I think about that, and I wonder, was that how it was back in the '30's? Some families stayed together and some couldn't?

Joan: Except by the '70's, divorce would have been easier.

Marjorie: Yes. That was the repercussions of that, and they still go on. We're not out of the woods. My gosh, there's all kinds of people that are still going through bankruptcies. They can't make it. And I don't know, at one time, like Ed said, I think we were probably at 2,400 acres, and couldn't make it. Ed is an excellent farmer, I mean, he is an excellent farmer. You don't get all these farm awards and soil conservation awards because you're just out there scratching the ground. And we couldn't make it with our son? That much ground couldn't support two families?

Joan: Well, are there any other concluding thoughts about the Tractorcade?

Marjorie: Oh, we'd do it again. I don't care how old we are, we'd do it again. I'm not sure that we'd be capable of doing it again. Our thoughts would be there, wouldn't they, Dad? We'd do it again.