



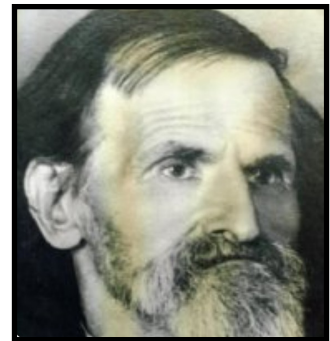
Reel to Reel Recap with Joe Dougherty (1886-1967)

Transcribed by Daniel Kreymer



[Cherry Valley School](#)

Last year, pre-covid, the archival group was thumbing through shelves and found several old reel to reel tapes. Through Sustaining Grant funds provided by 4Culture, the team had the reels digitized. Voices were brought back to life as the interview was originally taped by pioneer Ralph Taylor (1903-1989). When Joe Dougherty first came to the valley in 1893, it had only been a few years since Washington had achieved statehood. Here, he attended schooling from the first grade, to the first year of high school. In school, Joe had the opportunity to meet the



[James Duvall](#)

daughters of James Duvall, Duvall’s namesake. Upon seeing James, Joe described him as a “tall, slim, oldish man with a prominent chin whisker.”

Originally Joe had traveled from Seattle to Snohomish by a boat named The Mabel and then from Snohomish up the river by the steamer, Echo. Joe also recalls James O’Leary, the man who in 1888 built his home (which at one point served as an early post office), into which he (Joe) moved, in 1899. In later years, Joe worked as a bridge tender vividly remembering how the only indicators of an oncoming boat were the whistling, smoking and sight itself of a boat as it entered our beloved valley. Joe recalls some of the river



[The Black Prince](#)

boats in operation such as The Monte Cristo, The Northern Light, The Black Prince, and The T.C. Reed. Primarily, as Joe explains, the cargo included hay and grain, since back then, the valley had very few cows. On the way down the valley, the boats would mostly carry groceries and supplies for the farms and logging camps. Once in the valley, the boats would tie up at any available farm!

When it came to the railroad, Joe recollects firing the steam shovels on two railroad cuts near his property. Additionally, Joe recalls not only the opening of The Grange and its earliest members, including Joe’s mother, but also his 1912 election as the master of The Grange at the young and prosperous age of 23! Looking back on some of the social events he participated in as part of The Grange, Joe held the Literary society especially in high regard - “they added a lot of life to the community!”

When it came to landmarks, Joe remembers the old Valley House, where he got acquainted with all the owners and even tended bar until its closing due to prohibition. Joe also adds that the Valley was filled with great hunting material and he himself put many years into the craft. His farm produce, as he summarized previously, would be sent by boat to the booming Seattle. Finally, when asked about any possible improvements for the Grange, Joseph put it simply, “I don’t know what suggestion to make, they work for almost everything.”

[Valley House](#)



May 10, 1917

Leo's younger brother, Vincent, is writing again to tell Leo of everyday happenings around the farm, school, and community. Potatoes and strawberries were planted in the garden and the Duvall Fair was a big hit. Vincent asks Leo if he has seen any of the "feathered sex" on Angel Island, and wonders at the places Leo must be seeing.

The envelope: (to) Mr Leo A Dougherty

Angel Island, Cal Co 8 U.S.A.

(postmarked) Monroe WASH May 11, 1917

(from) Vincent P. Dougherty

Dear Brother:

I wrote you a letter the day before you left Fort Lawton, but I guess Mamie did not forward it to you. Gee but you sure are covering country; just think of it, a Dougherty going to the P.I. Ha! Ha! For "catsake" cut out telling about the good things of the Army. You are getting Joe all "fusst up". A large number of guys went from here. Twelve including you. Some of them are: Clifford Pinkerton, "Red" Hamilton, Walter Johnson, the teacher, "Whity" as a sailor left today. Vern Graham also went into the Cavalry. According to the letter I received they must make you keep your clothes pretty clean, but I do not think that would be very hard for you to do; as you are pretty particular with your "duds" anyhow.

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You also said that there was 5000 men at Angel Island, they must be pretty thick or else the Island is bigger that I think it is. Have you received your "gat" yet?

We are getting along pretty well with the field back of the barn is practically all planted except a little, and the harrowing. We also have some potatoes planted in the garden. Your cow is sure a "bear" since she came in, giving as high as 42 pounds per day. Jimmy and I finished the job of hoeing the strawberries which you left partly done. All the tress are in blossom here now.

I don't suppose you see much of the sunny south on account of not being able to leave the Island. Is there many of the feathered sex on the Island. You ought to make a hit with that uniform of there is.

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I bet you was one of them that got tanked on the way down.

School is coming fine that is the end is. It leaves out the eighteenth of the month and I will write and tell you whether I flunked or not.

Thanks for the "kale" you sent me and you will find enclosed some "lettuce" to the amount of five "beans" which Mamma is sending to you.

The school gave fair last Saturday night and we cleaned up \$114 + I was dressed as a clown and dished ice cream, or in other words I was Wierien as Jimmy would put it. Well I guess I am about at the end of my letter

knowledge so I think I will put the damper on it for this time.

Alohe (farewell to thee)

Your Brother

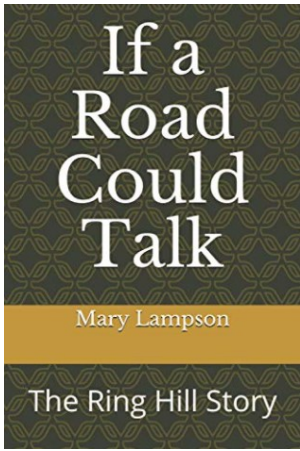
Vincent Dougherty

P.S. Don't forget to use your quill and if you run out of paper write and let me know Hoping you will get a week in the Kitchen V.D.



Early 1980's

40-year DHS volunteer Mary Lampson publishes again



Mary stepped into the editorship and interviewed, wrote, and persuaded others to write for the Wagon Wheel. Mary continued to enter each edition into her computer. The member's' collections of newsletters and Mary's computer disk made it possible to assemble the three editions of the Wagon Wheel.

For anyone that is interested in local history, a new book is out that tells the story of Ring Hill from its logging days more than 100 years ago to recent times. First known as "Poverty Hill", It is a story of subsistence and survival of the earliest settlers on "stump" farms and continues with changes, adventures and misadventures of more recent times.

The title of the book is *If a Road Could Talk* and is [available on Amazon](#). Author is Mary Lampson, long-time area resident. Among the people she interviewed was a member of the first family that settled on 232nd. Avenue in 1916.

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Upcoming Events

April 29th DHS BOD Zoom meeting 7 PM

May 2nd Dougherty House Open for Season every Sunday May—September (except 07.04.2020) from 10 am—2 pm

May 15th Novelty Hills Cemetery Spring Cleaning Event

May 22nd Tree pruning class with Greg Giuliani @ Dougherty House

May 31st Memorial Day Salute @ Novelty Hills Cemetery 10 am

That little EXTRA

The difference between being *ordinary* and **extraordinary** is the **EXTRA!** DHS is looking for volunteers and have a range of opportunities that would fit with the little extra time you can share with us! Please email us.



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Support DHS with a yearly membership that assists volunteers in properly archiving. From digitizing photos and audio to saving and storing items and artifacts. Download the membership form [HERE](#).

\$15 Individual Memberships

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Instagram



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VALLEY



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