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5-8-2008

## Interview with John Martinson Jr., Birds & Bees Community Farm, 2008 (audio)

John Martinson Jr.

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# PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

## INTERVIEW INDEX

INTERVIEWEE: John Martinson

Interviewer: Clint Anderson

Date: 5/8/08

Location of Interview: Birds & Bees Farm

Research Assistant: Stephenie Bitz

Interview Series: SUSTAINING NORTHWEST LANDSCAPES & COMMUNITIES

Recording Equipment: DIGITAL RECORDER (WINDOWS MEDIA AUDIO FILE) WITH AN  
EXTERNAL, OMNIDIRECTIONAL MICROPHONE

Time            Notes

:13	Name stated for the record
:35	Birth Date & Place
:49	Talk of home town (Bishop)
1:22	4H/FFA
1:34	Family Garden
1:50	Young Gardening Experience
2:00	Intro to Organics
2:19	Exposure to Organics
2:25	Undergraduate exp
2:30	Alan Chadwick (student farm)
3:23	Exchange student at Denmark Farm
4:32	Influence from Denmark to current day
5:50	Denmark Experiences
6:15	Life after university farm
6:33	Salinas Valley Farming (farm laborer)
6:50	About Salinas farm
7:34	PHD Studies (Graduate school in NY)
7:57	Childhood – Almond Ranch (family) Experience/Influence
8:35	Barley Farmer

Time	Notes
9:30	Literary Studies
10:32	Apartment Gardening
11:57	NY Small Truck Farm
12:29	Farming during school
12:59	Decision to Farm
14:15	1 <sup>st</sup> wife – Reasons for coming to Or
15:14	Novel
15:53	1 <sup>st</sup> hearing of a CSA
17:02	Entry into farming
17:42	Naming the farm
18:00	Urban Bounty Farm
19:10	Discontinue working with Urban Bounty Farm
21:28	Novel about Soviet Union (explanation)
22:55	Children
23:34	About 1 <sup>st</sup> Wife
24:45	House
25:25	Forestry
25:51	Land trust name and history
26:44	Bev – current wife
	Had to stop tape due to interruption of customer....counting started over
:57	Evolution of farm
1:22	Beginning of seasons
2:00	Current weeks/work
3:05	CSA meaning for John
4:45	Target customer
5:22	CSA customers
6:21	Re-donation rate
6:40	What sets farm apart from others
8:32	Advantage of pick up farm
10:56	Word of mouth marketing
12:29	Shares

15:52	Customer's wants/expectations
17:34	Recipes
18:01	Volunteers
20:00	Workers
21:00	Determining what to grow/lovage, stinging nettles
25:15	Waste
26:53	Diverse operation
28:00	Organic food has blemishes
29:55	Pests on the farm/chemicals used
31:03	Other pest control methods
35:43	Soil
36:52	Nutrition in food
37:19	Organic fertilizers
41:21	Economics in owning a CSA
43:52	Challenges
46:05	Land Trust Payment
47:10	Seeds
49:33	Seed Saver Exchange
53:00	Monsanto
54:18	Self Sustaining
57:47	Future of CSA
58:59	Economic margin of CSA
59:34	Short term for CSA
1:00:30	Long term for CSA
1:00:50	Distribution System
1:01:34	Future of Birds and Bees
1:02:59	# of shares provided
1:03:47	Growth
1:04:23	Rainwater
1:04:45	Irrigation
1:05:22	CSA – last words