Interview Outline for
Frank Jovanovich

*Use the outline to write notes on/when to use a photo or document.


II. What do you know about your father's (Fred Jovanovich family history in Merkopal, Croatia?)

A. Who is Francis Susich and Jacob Jovanovich?

B. Describe Merkopal/ Fred's ancestral home/economy/trade etc. Historical importance.

   1. Role of sheep

C. Describe Fred's-education/work skills/talents impact of wars in the old country.


   2. Fred ends up in WW I on German side.

D. Discuss why Fred decided to leave the old country and immigrate to Canada after 1921.

   1. Discuss Fred's work activity.

II. What do you know about your mother's (Mary Mataya) family history in Merkopal, Croatia?
A. Discuss your mother's parents, Frank Mataya and Sofia Skender.
   1. Focus on the sawmill business.

   2. Focus on the immigration of Mary's parents to America and settlement in New Mexico.

   3. Focus on Mary in New Mexico and returning to old country to marry Fred c. 1913
      a. Frank born in old country
      b. Mary immigrates with family c. 1927 to Canada.

III. Discuss Fred/Mary and family's decision to immigrate to the U.S. in c. 1929.

   A. Focus on places moved to:
      1. Missouri
      2. Peoria, Illinois-baker
      3. Mystic, Iowa

IV. Discuss Fred/Mary and family's decision to locate in the Cle Elum/Roslyn area.

   A. Where did you live/describe life in the neighborhood as you would remember it.
      1. South Cle Elum-1931

      2. Roslyn- 1930
         a. Living across from Roslyn morgue
         b. Living on Dakota Ave.
c. African-American families in Roslyn

d. Focus on Roslyn business-Meat Markets-taverns-grocery stores-NWI Co./Rooming houses/Roslyn Hotel

3. Ronald

   a. Focus on why homes so close to road.

B. Discuss Fred's work activity in the local area.

   1. Focus on bakery in Roslyn next to Casassa Hardware. Discuss bakery operations in detail. (slow bake break) Financing to start the business. Competition/Impact of Western Miners on the business.

   2. Focus on bakery operations at 1st&Harris in Cle Elum.


C. Discuss why Fred and family move to Seattle.

V. Describe what life was like growing up in an immigrant family.

   A. Discuss family values toward:

      1. Education (We will discuss your school years up to graduation.)
a. Croatian vs. English (Frank to say a few words in Croatian.)

2. Work/Chores
   a. Part time at Safeway
   b. Men at war kids on firewatch at Salmon la Sac
   c. Fred Jr. works on GrandCoulee Dam-1935
   d. Frank has paper route?1st bike
   e. Frank sells seeds.
   f. Frank shovels sidewalk at the Rose Theater

3. Resourcefulness/Great Depression
   a. Money shortage and chicken.
   b. Gardening/spuds/kraut
   c. Free bones/noodles/woods as a food source.
   d. Picking coal along tracks/coal prices
   e. Family cow and arresting cows in Roslyn.
   f. Recipes-jeloditz/falachinka/poltevetza

4. Community values
   a. Know each other/ help each other.
      (Swede Hall)
   b. Family lodge activity- Ely,
Minnesota/Segota home.

5. Holidays and special events in an immigrant home.
   a. Christmas/Easter-Blessing of the food/your house/your throat.
   b. Father Kuchera and permission to visit another church or wedding. Discuss wedding customs.

   a. Musical instruments/dances/songs
   b. BBQ lamb or pork
   c. Bocce at Bull Frog
   d. Tom Mix visits Cle Elum in 1936.
   e. Local sports-Baseball

7. Citizenship issues- Fred becomes citizen in c.1938. Explain the delay and how this follows you in World War II.

8. Home remedies and medical care.
   a. Miner's hospital/Dr. Low /Dr. Rogalski/Dr. Brown.
   b. Miner's accidents vs. NWI responsibility.

9. Inventions which changed family life.
   a. Coming of the auto.
   b. Importance of the RR.
c. Coming of the radio

VI. Describe what changed after WW II.

1. GI Bill
2. Family values
3. Community values
4. Resourcefulness

VII. Closing- What advice would you give a young person in order to cope with the future? Assume someone is about to move or visit the local area. What should they know and appreciate out our local heritage?