



**Interview Summary and Index – 003**

**Interviewee:** Diane McMaster McCoun

**Interviewer:** Melvin P. Thatcher

**Date:** August 17, 2015

**Location:** Salt Lake City, UT

<b>Summary</b>	
<p>This is the continuation of Interview 002 with Diane McMaster McCoun, daughter of Clara and Stuart McMaster.</p> <p>Diane remembers her mother composing songs at the dining room table and shares memories about the composition of well-known Primary songs: <i>Teach Me to Walk in the, My Heavenly Father Loves Me, Kindness Begins with, and Reverently, Quietly</i>. She also talks about other types of songs composed by her mother, especially <i>Pickleville</i>.</p> <p>Diane closes by recalling how her parents served others through singing as a duet for funerals and church meetings.</p> <p><i>Note: For more background on music in the McMaster family, listen also to Interview 001 on her page in the Oral History Project section at <a href="http://wasatchhollowcc.org">wasatchhollowcc.org</a>.</i></p>	

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<b>Time</b>	<b>Brief description</b>
00:00:00	<b>Introduction.</b> Continuation of Interview 002 which was interrupted by a phone call.
00:00:22	<b>Family influence (cont.).</b> Diane’s parents sang together for over 65 years at funerals, church, conferences. Father could remember words and tunes when his memory was failing. Brothers formed a trio singing Kingston Trio and Mills Brothers songs in their youth.
00:02:24	<b>Mother composing.</b> Composed at dining room table. Could be heard early in the morning humming as she fit words to music. Diane names some of her songs. Mother woke her children up and sent them to bed with singing.
00:04:33	<b>Stories about selected Primary songs.</b> Diane share memories about her mother’s composition of a number of songs: <i>Teach Me to Walk in the Light</i>



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	(00:04:47 and 00:10:16), <i>My Heavenly Father Loves Me</i> (00:06:13), <i>Kindness Begins with Me</i> (00:14:03), and <i>Reverently, Quietly</i> (00:14:55)
00:15:30	<b>Non-religious songs.</b> Wrote songs about music, humorous songs. An example is given, <i>Pickleville</i> , a song about a small town near Bear Lake. A variety of Clara's songs are included in <i>Sing a Happy Song</i> , a collection of her compositions which was compiled by her children.
00:19:35	<b>Music in family life.</b> Diane reminisces about how music was ingrained in her father and family members singing together.
00:21:43	<b>Service through music.</b> Parents sang together for 65 years but never charged for performing. Sang at events organized by General Authorities of the LDS Church, among them President David O. McKay. Visited every Christmas by Neal Maxwell, Marion D. Hanks, and Elaine Cannon. Sang at more than 1200 funerals.
00:23:43	<b>Funeral singer.</b> Mother and father spent many lunch hours singing for funerals at Larkin Mortuary. Son Tom, when asked at elementary school about his [government attorney] father's occupation, said, "My father is a funeral singer."
00:26:30	<b>End time</b>