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## Interview with Aleta Weekly

Sasha Lourie

Aleta Weekly

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Researcher: Sasha Lourie

Event: Interview with Aleta Weekly

Where: Country Court retirement center, Mount Vernon, Ohio

Date: Wednesday February 2, 2000

**This is a brief transcript of my interview with Aleta, a long-time county resident born in 1916. This interview discusses life growing up on a small family farm outside of Centerberg, life in the county during the WW2 years, more life on the farm, and a very detailed history of the Weekly family. Although not recorded in this transcript, some of the most important information from this interview deals with the family farm and Aleta's experiences growing up in rural Knox County. This transcript is a record of part of our conversation regarding the Kokosing River floods of 1913 and 1959.**

**...Can you tell me a little about the 1913 flood?**

The water came up around where the Station Break is, the old, old depot there. It came up there, but it didn't damage there, in the depot, but it did down on the railroad yards.

[13 seconds]

[lots of family stories]

**So you were here for the flood of 1959?**

Yes I was.

**Can you tell me about that?**

Yes I will. My daughter was in about the eighth grade. They went to school and she came home about 11:00 when they closed school. And by that time we had water in the basement room. We were living on the corner of East High and Wingold Street which is just this way from Center Run. And of course Center Run was out of its banks...

[More on the flood]

I was standing with my daughter, and I had gone, and we were standing on the corner, where were we, the corner of East Main and High Street, Main Street, when the flood took, broke the doors in at the Montgomery Ward store and flooded down there. Of course our electricity went off at early in the morning, and so I was...Our basement was full of water.

**How much water did you have in your basement?**

...That was all on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January . That was my dad's eightieth birthday, and I know my brother had kidded him about it. He said, 'that was a heck of a way to celebrate his eightieth birthday.'

[More on the flood]

I know people that they took out down on the West End out of their upstairs windows. They took boats and rescued people.

[Snow storm of 1967, family, dying clothes, childhood life on her family's farm,