

Sarah Connors
interview with ^{Reuben?} Rubin Asgaard

me: when and where were you born?

Mr. A: Aug 21, 1950 Ishpeming Mich.

me: what are the names of your parents?

Mr. A. Robert and Emilin

me: what do your parents do for a living?

Mr. A. His father was a miner and mother was a housewife.

me: what are the names of your ~~bro~~ brothers and sisters?

Mr. A. Mike, Bruce, Carla, Diane and ^{Shelia?} Shella

me: Are you currently married?

Mr. A. yes to Rachel Asgaard

me: what are the names of your children?

Mr. A. April, ^{Craig} Craig Asgaard

me: How long have you been working in the Iron Industry?

Mr. A. 24 1/2 yr.

me: why did you choose to work in the iron industry?

Mr. A. I want to stay in the area, I chose work over further education and the mines paid well.

me: Please, name those relatives who worked in the iron industry?

Mr. A. Both Grandfathers, father, father-in-law, three brother-in-laws two brothers, and four uncles. ^{include + stress}

me: what are the names of the mines you have worked in?

Mr. A. Mather A, Mather B, ore improvement plant, ^{Pioneer} Pioneer Plant,

Republic mine, Humbolt mine, Tilden mine and the Empire mine.

me: over the years what kind of duties have you performed for the CCI?

Mr. Labor, crusher operator, miner, scrapper man, break man, ^{brakeman} brakeman, ^{maintainance} maintenance, ^{matmance} matmance, ^{machanic} machanic

me: ~~As~~ as much detail as possible please describe the main duties of your job?

Mr. A. Being a maintenance ^{mechanic} my duties are to repair electric shovels and drills in the Kinder pit. ^{include + quote}

me: Does this job require any special training or high education?

Mr. A. Yes, it required ^{passing} many matience test within a 15 week schooling which was held at the ^{and welding} matience mine also on the job training a peirod which lasted ^{3 1/2} years before you became a matience ^{sp} machanic ^{sp} standard. ^{include}

me: Please, describe any special machinery or equipment that you use on this job?

Mr. A. welding machines, hand tools, drill presses, tortes,

me: dial indecators, high ^{hydraulic} electric tools. ^{check these names with him)}

me: what is the most challenging or diffucult part about your job?

Mr. A. working in sub zero weather in the pit. ^{include}

me: Thinking back over the year what was the most challenging or diffucult duties you had to proform? and explain?

Mr. A. I think the most challenging task was taking and ^{passing} the matience machanic standard course which was from Jan. 1978 to April, 1981.

me: Over the years what have you enjoyed about your job?

Mr. A. money. also the different skills I have learned being in the matience field. ^{quote}

me: what are the biggest responsibilities about your job?

Mr. A. Safty to yourself + your co-workers. ^{include}

me: If it apply to you describe the most clangerous situation that you have been in?

Mr. A. when I work underground at the Mather B one time I was caught up what we call a high country in smoke after a blast after about a 90 foot climb down a lot went through my mind. Ask your dad he was with me that day. ^{include}

me: Have you been involved or have you witnessed any accidents?

Mr. A: Yes, many pinch point accidents where you get your fingers or hands caught. But one time I was in a 2 ton truck that was hit by a 120 ton truck but no one got hurt that day. But it sure was scary. include

me: could you describe either the most numerous situation you have ever seen over the years?

Mr. A: Nothing is very numerous ^{or per nose} except when ~~in the lunch room~~ ^{in the mine} makes are day go much quicker. include

me: please describe your working conditions?

Mr. A: My working conditions are dealing with grease oil, dirt, rain snow ^{include} cold, heat, sleet or any other conditions that could be dumped on us.

me: How have safety standards changed & what improvement do you see are yet to be made?

Mr. A: Safty standards are very ^{strict} ~~stricked~~ today ^{versus} back in the 70's or 80's but I guess it is well worth it. ^{But it did cut out on acid ent}

me: How have you seen the duties of your job change over the years?

Mr. A: It is getting easier because the newer tools that are on the market for us to use and they also make the jobs quicker & safer

me: please describe ^{what you co-workers} are like?

Mr. A: my co-workers age from 35-60 yrs old there's a lot of joking about ^{include + give} the old bucks working here but they all have a lot of experiance they taught us a lot through the years. But the older generation still has some old work habits ^{cause arguements} it does

me: During your career, were you involved in any special projects or have you implemented any new programs?

Mr. A: yes, when we started are ^{ma:ntence} ~~matineces~~ department on the computers I was on the implementation team. we are on a network through Cleveland which we have been on line for about 1 year now and it's doing well. It is very advance for most of us here are generaction didn't have computer in school. include. ^{stress that they learned on the job.}

me: Have you ever won any awards or have you been recognized in any way for your job performance? (4)

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So write
you

Mr. A: Just safety awards we receive as a department if the accidents frequency is down.

me: At an time have you felt like changing jobs or careers?

Mr. A: No, I'm at one of the highest paying jobs at the mines now I'm here for the money not the companionship.

me: What do you think the future holds for the Tilden and the Empire?

Mr. A: I think the future is good for both we are two of the largest and most competitive mines in the world. Both mines continue to buy new equipment to improve their production as needed and that keeps us on top. *[include + quote]*

me: What does the future look like for the iron + steel industry in general?

Mr. A: Iron ore will always be in demand we have the largest ore bodies here at the Empire and Tilden to fill these demands.

me: What do you feel must be done in the future for C.C.I. to remain competitive?

Mr. A: *good quote* We have to keep producing our high grade pellet at a low cost.

me: What do you think has been the key to the success of C.C.I. where other companies have failed?

Mr. A: Updating equipment and keeping competitive by watch cost if you don't watch your cost making pellets the mine will not stay open its all on how its managed. *include*

me: Looking far into the future, how do you think history will remember the Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company and its workers?

Mr. A: Iron ore was and is so important world wide that history is already made also by its museums which show that decades of *primitive* ways of mine to today's method.

me: How has the role of women changed in the iron industry, and what direction do you think it will take in the future?

Mr. A: women changed, it some as far as extra facilities need on the properties but the equipment is still runned by people could be men or women today back in the early years up to the late 190's women could not have made it under ground. Clerical work only. ^{Facilities} ^{stress that mining changed that means women could handle the work}

me: What skills do young people of today need to develop if they plan to work for C.C.I. someday?

Mr. A: Operating skills mechanical skills, computer skills, and learn to get up early in the morning. ^{quote}

me: In a related question, what advice could you give in general to the students of today?

Mr. A: Go to school, get advance education and use your head to make a living not your back. ^{Good quote}

me: Please describe what you enjoy doing in your spare time.

Mr. A: Hunting, fishing, ski trips, four wheeling, and going to camp to relax.

me: If you had to do it all over again, would you make the same career choice?

Mr. A: No, like I said before its good money but its not health working in the mine. If I knew now a further education would have been much easier & healthier.

me: Looking back over the years, what impressions stand out most in your mind concerning your association with C.C.I.?

Mr. A: Well C.C.I. wanted us to be all one big happy company

me: Before we end this interview, is there anything else that comes to mind that you would like to add?

Mr. A: not really but thank you very much for choosing to interview me.

me: and also Thank you!

The End

1. job duties - yellow
2. equipment - blue
3. safety - pink
4. workers - orange
5. union -
6. Iron company -