

Mike asked Bruce and Charlotte if they belonged to any other organizations. Charlotte said she was a member of the Miner's Auxiliary. Bruce said he was a member of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers, National Society of Professional Engineers and the Masonic Fraternity. Bruce said he worked for the Bureau of Mines for 25 years. He graduated from the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines in 1935. He was the last one to graduate before they changed the name to the University of Alaska. Bruce and Charlotte were married in 1935. He worked briefly for the FE Company and Patty and General McCray for several years. He worked at Woodchopper, Coal Creek and Manley. He also worked for Arctic Circle Exploration out of Nome on the Seward Peninsula and Livengood Placers. Livengood was just a camp. The road to Livengood was built in 1935-37. He also worked on a dredge on the Salcha for Breaker Johnson.

Their grandson's name is Karl Thomas. Mike asked about bear stories. Bruce said he was working out of Ruby on Beaver Creek with Bob Kemp and Doug Hubert. They cleared an area for a campsite. There were a couple of raids on the cook tent by bears. One night they had a bear come into camp. Bob Kemp hit the bear with an ax and Bruce hit him with a club. They decided to go to the old cabin. The bear came back and Bruce headed for the tractor. The bear was chasing him around the tractor. Bob went into the cabin to get an old rifle and fired at the bear, but it didn't work. After a few hours the bear finally left. The next day they went into Ruby and borrowed a rifle that worked. Bob shot two bears the following night. They decided to move into the cabin. They left the door open because it was warm. They shot another bear that night. They talked about Don Himes getting attacked on the Livengood Road. He was working on a survey crew. The cook saved Don's life. Mike talked about Ed Jano's bear experience.

Mike asked Bruce if he was ever lost. Bruce said he was never lost, but he has been uncomfortable out in the field. Mike asked about transportation. Bruce said they would fly in and then they were on foot. He was an engineer at Coal Creek and he would also make examinations of mineral deposits. He said sometimes they would spend a week walking to a site. They used dog teams in the winter. He used dog teams on the Charley River (between Circle and Eagle) when he worked with Jack Ellis and Roy Moreland. They were prospecting and living in a tent. They were sinking holes. It was 70 below the winter they worked there. Charlotte would go out in the summer when Bruce was working out on the creeks. Bruce related a story about a bear encounter at Tofty. Bruce said that Bob Miller was still mining at Tofty.