



2019

Photo by Randy Wright

# BETSY THIES

**Interviewed by Carol Weingartner**

**Compiled and Edited by Carol Weingartner**



**Santa Barbara Botanic Garden**

**Oral History Program**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>INTERVIEW HISTORY</b>	<b>vii</b>
Early Life and Family . . . . .	1
Adult Life . . . . .	4
Activities at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. . . . .	7
Recollections of Garden Directors and Garden Guild Friends . . . . .	12
Garden Guild History and Projects. . . . .	23

## INTRODUCTION

Betsy Carol Thies was a volunteer for 47 years at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, retiring in December, 2018, on her 90th birthday. She was active in the Garden Guild, a group founded in 1971 with the purpose of creating decorative items made from dried plant materials for sale to raise funds to benefit the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. Betsy led the Garden Guild for many years.

Betsy's honors include Volunteer of the Year in 1996 and 2014. She received the Blaksley Bliss Award for lifetime achievement in 2017, and the Presidential Achievement award from President Barack Obama in 2015.



## INTERVIEW HISTORY

INTERVIEWER: Carol Weingartner

SETTING OF THE INTERVIEW: The interview took place at her home in Valle Verde, Santa Barbara. The interview lasted 50 minutes.

EDITING: A transcript was prepared by the Rev online transcription service which was then proofread and corrected by Carol Weingartner .

Betsy Thies reviewed the edited transcription and made changes by correcting names.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Photos are courtesy of The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Guild and [sbbgphotos.org](http://sbbgphotos.org).

ORIGINAL MATERIALS: The original audio recording and edited transcripts are stored in the archives of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. Qualified researchers may apply to the Librarian of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden to hear the recording or review the transcripts.

# BETSY THIES

## Early Life and Family

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C Weingartner: This interview is part of the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden Oral History Program. Today is Friday, May 10th, 2019. The narrator is Betsy Thies. Recorded at her home in Valle Verde, Santa Barbara. The interviewer is Carol Weingartner. Today is the first session with Betsy Thies.

Betsy Thies: Very good.

C Weingartner: Okay.. Can you tell me about your childhood? When and where you were born, whether you had brothers and sisters and what your parents did?

Betsy Thies: Well, I was born in Mount Clemens, Michigan, on Christmas day 1928. I had an older brother and a younger sister. Mount Clemens was a small town. A little bit further away from Detroit, in a suburb. And it was in a different county, so it was their county seat. It was an important little city, but it was mostly a farming community around it.

C Weingartner: Sounds nice.

Betsy Thies: Yes, it was. And we were close to the lake, Lake St. Clair. It's just a little lake in the Great Lakes. So we were close to the water. Had lots of good fish.

C Weingartner: Oh, wow.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. And just over on the other side was Canada and I had a lot of Canadian relatives because my grandfather had come from... Well, and grandma had come from Canada to the states, when my dad was about 10 years old, I guess. Oh no, no, no. That's wrong. My dad was the only one that was born in the states. He had two older brothers and they were born in Canada. My grandmother originally came from Ireland. Not Ireland. The other part of Great Britain.

C Weingartner: Scotland?

Betsy Thies: Scotland, yes. Memory is a terrible thing nowadays. Yes. My grandmother had come when she was 15, with another young woman, and she was a hat maker. I wonder what they call those.

C Weingartner: Milliner?

Betsy Thies: Milliner, yes. She was a milliner. But she came at 15, across the ocean with a friend.

C Weingartner: Very brave.

Betsy Thies: Very brave. So, we think... Did good things then. Imagine that. That was on my dad's side. And my mother's side, my mother was actually born in California. Her father wanted to be a gold miner. Usually, we don't think about gold miners as being family people, but they were. A lot of them were. My grandpa and grandma... And they had two boys and then my mother was born in California.

Betsy Thies: They didn't strike gold. Except they have a couple little pieces as souvenirs that are not in the family anymore. I don't know what happened to them, but they had to go back east and make a living. Gold mining didn't do it. So they lived in Michigan.

C Weingartner: That's quite a change.

Betsy Thies: Yes. Yes. But grandpa had a grocery store, a meat store in Niles, Michigan, which was across the state from Mount

Clemens. My dad and mother met on a train. Between Mount Clemens and Niles was one of the stops. My grandma got on and they met on a train. Just kind of a nice little story. Had a good life

## **Adult Life**

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Betsy Thies: I grew up in Michigan. Went to Michigan State College. Met my husband there and we were married two days after we graduated. Lived in Illinois for a while, where he had a job and then he was recalled to the Navy, so we were all over the place. In between, we had four daughters and finally settled in... Well, finally came here to California. , We settled and we lived for a while in Massachusetts and in fact, we lived several years there. It was Raytheon. It has offices and near Boston. So we were a suburb of Boston. Lexington. Nice little town. Because often times, he had to come to California on business, we moved to California and have been here since 1958 I think it is.

C Weingartner: Okay. Can you tell me about your college years, what you studied?

Betsy Thies: Social studies. Social work. I was a social worker.

C Weingartner: You were a social worker? Wow.

Betsy Thies: For a very short period of time.

C Weingartner: Did you tell me once that you were a librarian for a while?

Betsy Thies: Yes, but that was as a volunteer. But I liked libraries and I actually, just for the fun of it, went to classes at our city college. Library studies. I like libraries.

C Weingartner: Oh, I do too. After college, did you work?

Betsy Thies: Off and on, but not very long.

C Weingartner: And can you tell me what kind of work your husband did at Raytheon?

Betsy Thies: No, I can't tell you particularly. Sometimes it had to do with submarines. Communication, I think was a lot of it.

C Weingartner: Was he an engineer?

Betsy Thies: Yes.

C Weingartner: Yes. An engineer. Can you tell me about your children? Four daughters?

Betsy Thies: Four daughters. Nancy, the oldest one, now lives in Canada. Eastern Canada. Janet who lives close to Philadelphia. In New Jersey, though. Just over the bridge from Philadelphia. And Nancy has two boys. Janet has five kids. Four girls and a boy.

C Weingartner: Wow.

Betsy Thies: Yes. That's a big family.

C Weingartner: A lot of grandchildren, then.

Betsy Thies: And Avis had an unfortunate accident and severe brain damage and she had to be hospitalized for a whole year after the brain damage. But she's doing very well. She's in a home up in Santa Maria and she comes down on the train to visit every once in a while. She's doing really very well.

C Weingartner: That's good.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. And Margie, my youngest one, lives here in Santa Barbara. We're good buddies.

C Weingartner: She was over when I first came to visit.

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: Does she have children?

Betsy Thies: She has three, uh-huh (affirmative).  
Two girls and a boy. And she is now a  
grandmother herself.

C Weingartner: That makes you a great grandmother.

Betsy Thies: Right.

C Weingartner: Did you ever think that that would  
happen?

Betsy Thies: Well, I never really thought so, no. But  
you know, things do happen. They're  
darling little kids.

### **Activities at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden**

C Weingartner: Can you tell me why you decided to  
volunteer at the Santa Barbara Botanic  
Garden?

Betsy Thies: Why did I? It seems to make... Well,  
I visited the Garden and I got a  
membership. I decided to volunteer. I  
guess I might have heard about it from



Betsy Thies and Ida House, ca.1977

my friend. I went to a Christmas party with somebody I knew from church. And she had some decorations that were handmade, that I thought were so attractive. I asked her about and she said, "Oh, well I made these." And I said, "How clever." And I've always enjoyed handiwork. I do a lot of sewing. I made clothes for my girls and I liked to do that. So that attracted me to make things. I inquired and found the Guild and they accepted me after a little while.

C Weingartner: After a trial period?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Then I was hooked on it. Been here ever since.

C Weingartner: 47 years. I would say that was hooked.

Betsy Thies: Yes. Yeah.

C Weingartner: What were your favorite projects to work on?

Betsy Thies: Well, I enjoyed making the wreaths at first, but then I created a couple things of my own, which were kind of fun and were popular to sell. Yeah. I think the wreaths and the little creatures I made myself.

C Weingartner: Yeah, very cute.

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: As a member of the Guild, did you have to go out and look for...

Betsy Thies: Oh yes.

C Weingartner: Did you have to collect seeds and pods and things?

Betsy Thies: We had trips where we went and collected as a group. Sometimes we had very interested people come out of their houses as we would collect. I remember on Alamar, there was a row of trees and they had a pod that was... Can't remember the name of it, but anyhow, they had a pod. Several pods. So we walked out in the street and we had big, tall... And every once in a while, a neighbor would come out and, "What are you doing?" And we had some kind of a permit saying that we could to carry with us.

C Weingartner: Oh, because those trees belonged to the city.

C Weingartner: Yeah.

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: Yeah, you would have to have a permit, wouldn't you?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. So we had a permit. Anyhow, we created interest in the neighborhood sometimes. Yeah, we collected all around. And we went out to the... Where was it we collected things? Well, just around town.

C Weingartner: Did you go to the university ever, to collect things? They have some exotic trees there.

Betsy Thies: I don't recall going out that far. I know I got my husband collecting things, too. He had a place where he could find some really good size pine cones. It was near the parking lot.

C Weingartner: I noticed in one of these, some of the Garden literature there, they're asking for Bunya-Bunya cones for the Guild to make little people and things like that.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah.

## Recollections of Garden Directors and Garden Guild Friends

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C Weingartner: You get moved in 1958, you joined the Garden slightly thereafter, and then got started with the Garden Guild. Do you have recollections of... I think at that time, Katherine Muller was the director of the Garden. Do you have recollections of your interactions with her?

Betsy Thies: Oh, Katherine was such a nice person. She was always very helpful. She knew where things grew in town. She used to lead tours.

C Weingartner: Of trees?

Betsy Thies: Tree trail tours through the town. I went on several tours with her. She was very knowledgeable and had interesting stories to tell about different trees and so on. Her tours were really wonderful.

C Weingartner: Were they well attended?

Betsy Thies: Yeah, I think she limited it to like 15 people or something like that. Yeah. Because you can't handle a big... We'd all have to hop in our cars and go from one place to another.

C Weingartner: I understand.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. I loved her tours. She was so gracious with her time and her talent. Yeah.

C Weingartner: It sounded like she was a big defender and promoter of the Guild. Do you have that impression?

Betsy Thies: I think she liked us, yeah. We were eager and helpful. Yeah.

C Weingartner: Can you tell me about your memories of Fifi Webster?

Betsy Thies: Oh, Fifi. She was such a gal. She had so many interests. She shared them with us. That's how I got my skill with lettering. She loved to do lettering and she'd write little poems sometimes. She was a very creative person and an interesting person to be with. Always had stories to tell.

C Weingartner: I bet you did a lot of talking as you were working, making things.

Betsy Thies: Oh, sure! Sure. That's part of the game. Yeah. Yeah, we got to know each other's families pretty well at activities.

C Weingartner: How many members worked with the Guild and how did it change over time?

Betsy Thies: Well, at first... Golly. I've got this.

C Weingartner: Yes.

Betsy Thies: I don't know if I gave you that. Did I?

C Weingartner: I made this copy for you. History of the Garden Guild.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Okay. Yeah.

C Weingartner: Roughly how many members? What did you notice changing over the years?

Betsy Thies: Well, we had fewer and fewer members because of age, for one thing. People didn't usually join until they were mature.

C Weingartner: Mature?

Betsy Thies: People and I think during that time, a lot more women would be working than prior. Most people stopped being housewives and raising the children, only to be working housewives. And they just didn't have the time.



Guild members at work in the Guild House (a.k.a. Weber Studio)

C Weingartner: That's why there are not so many young people coming into the Guild. There were people of all ages in the Guild when you were there? Is that right?

Betsy Thies: Uh-huh (affirmative). Yeah. Yeah. We had our meetings and our activities. Although there was a short time... Excuse me... that we did have meetings on Saturdays. We did have a couple working ladies and so we opened up on Saturday. They were the only ones that would go on Saturday, so they missed the companionship and instruction from the older members.

C Weingartner: They missed many of the good things about the Guild.

Betsy Thies: That's about the time that we... Of course, then we lost our spot. The director wanted to use...

C Weingartner: Was that after the fire in 2009? Or a different time?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Must have been after that fire. We moved to... At first, we were in one of those great big moveable truck things, up on the hill.

C Weingartner: Oh, really? Uh-huh (affirmative).

Betsy Thies: Yeah. And then we got space. Where did we meet? We met in that little room beside the library.

C Weingartner: Oh. This was after the fire? Is that right?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah. We had that little space and then we moved back. I think that's the progression. We had the house and then we... I remember moving out of the house. It was so traumatic.

C Weingartner: It was a lot to move?

Betsy Thies: So traumatic.

C Weingartner: I bet.

Betsy Thies: Yes.

C Weingartner: Was that the architect's house that the Guild took over?

Betsy Thies: Uh-huh (affirmative). Yeah.

C Weingartner: Then into the small room beside the library.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. So that's quite a change.

C Weingartner: Now you're in the volunteer cottage?

Betsy Thies: Uh-huh (affirmative).

C Weingartner: It's in what was Dr. Schneider's office.

Betsy Thies: Pardon?

C Weingartner: That was Dr. Schneider's office where your work room is now.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah.

C Weingartner: Do you have recollections of the other directors? Remember Dr. Ralph Philbrick?

Betsy Thies: Oh yes, I remember Ralph very well.

C Weingartner: Do you have any impressions about his time?

Betsy Thies: Well, yeah.

C Weingartner: He was there for quite a while. 1974 to 1986.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah and he was a good director and I knew him in other ways. In fact, I introduced him into a group in town. It was kind of a... We were a city committee. And we were a review of the new properties... The Environmental Review Committee of the city.

C Weingartner: Oh, that sounds pretty important.

Betsy Thies: Well, I guess so. But we worked with the city and I was a member of that. And we would go with the staff people to see where new homes were being built. The idea was to make sure that the land wasn't kind of mixed up with single family homes and commercial things. They called it the Environmental Review Committee and it was a city...

C Weingartner: And that was volunteer work?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah. And I was on that committee for quite a while.

C Weingartner: Wow. And Dr. Philbrick was also on that committee?

Betsy Thies: I don't think so. I don't know how I got into that.

C Weingartner: Sounds pretty important to me.

Betsy Thies: I can't remember. Anyhow, I'm not sure they even have that anymore.

C Weingartner: I don't know. Did you remember the next director, Dr. David Young? He was there only for three years. 1988 to 1991.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. My memory of him is very little.

C Weingartner: Short time. And then Dr. Ed Schneider came in 1992 and resigned in 2010. Do you have memories of Dr. Schneider?

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: Was he supportive of the Guild's work?

Betsy Thies: Not whole-heartedly, no.

C Weingartner: Not whole-heartedly.

Betsy Thies: He just sort of let us do our thing. He had some ideas about opening a shop in town and selling the Guild things in town. He wanted us to bring in... You know, if we're going to use space at the Garden to create and so on, he wanted to...

C Weingartner: That's a different attitude.

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: Yes. Yes.

Betsy Thies: Instead of just selling it on the property...

Betsy Thies: Yeah, at one time, he was talking about... And his wife got involved, and his daughter. They wanted to be the shopkeepers, I guess.

C Weingartner: Oh. That's really interesting.

Betsy Thies: That never came to be. It was talked about a little bit and the people in the Guild, we didn't like the idea of going downtown and shopping and being in a...

C Weingartner: Selling.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. We thought that that was not helpful to the Botanic Garden.

C Weingartner: It sounds like the Botanic Garden, even back from Katherine Muller's time, was bringing in some welcome money by the Guild's activities.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah.

C Weingartner: And that when Dr. Muller was there, am I reading the board was very supportive of the Guild?

Betsy Thies: Uh-huh (affirmative).

C Weingartner: Then Dr. Windhager came in 2011?

Betsy Thies: Doctor?

C Weingartner: Steve Windhager, our current director.

Betsy Thies: Oh. Oh yeah.

C Weingartner: Has he been supportive? Do you feel he's been supportive of the Guild?

Betsy Thies: Not strongly. I mean, I think he recognizes it has been a good part of the Garden, but it is fading out. And I think he's not overly concerned about...about this. I'm just assuming.

C Weingartner: Do you have memories about the volunteer moratorium in 2009?.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. That was kind of a rough time, wasn't it?

C Weingartner: Yes.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. And we had to speak up. Yeah. All I remember is that I agreed with what the members wanted to do and I got kind of sheltered by... What was her name?

C Weingartner: Allena Donatii?

Betsy Thies: Allena?

C Weingartner: Allena

Betsy Thies: Yeah. And we had meetings on how to get through to the director and have things... I don't know. Yeah. It was a difficult time, but I agreed with them because...

C Weingartner: With the volunteers?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. The director at that time was so much money involved and wanted to do a lot of things that I thought were too grandiose.

C Weingartner: For like the building plan?

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: They called it the Vital Mission Plan.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah. That was an interesting time.

### **Garden Guild History and Projects**

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C Weingartner: Were you ever in a leadership position with the Guild? Did the Guild elect officers?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah, I was chairman and we had membership chair. We had regular business meetings. For a long time, we

had quite a few members and we had a monthly meeting and Robert's rules and the whole thing.

C Weingartner: Good form.

Betsy Thies: Somebody took notes. I suppose there is a collection of...

C Weingartner: Minutes, huh?

Betsy Thies: Minutes someplace or other.

C Weingartner: Somewhere.

Betsy Thies: Yeah, but that's long gone.

C Weingartner: Was there a procedure for approving Guild projects if you wanted to make something? Did you have to show it to group and then it was approved?

Betsy Thies: Oh, yes. Yes. The work room was open five days. No, not on Saturday. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Five days, yeah. There was an assigned person who was kind of, it was their day to open up and people would come on whichever or multiple days if they wanted to. But generally speaking, for

several years, we had quite a good size membership. It was wise to divide them out just to have work space.

C Weingartner: So people would volunteer on a certain day?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah and we had a hostess for each day of the week. Whoever was the hostess would get there early and open up and other workers would come. Usually, it was just the morning. Some people did come in the afternoon, but that was pretty scarce. We had it pretty well organized so that people would... Either you were a Monday person or a Tuesday person. Some people were multiple days.

C Weingartner: I noticed, in looking through the history of the Garden, that they had classes sometimes in wreath making or other crafts?

Betsy Thies: Oh yeah. Oh, definitely. Yeah. People would come and say they were interested and what would you like to do? And yes, every year we would have classes for newcomers. Particularly with the wreaths, because they're quite complex

Betsy Thies: Yes. And other things. Sometimes people had their specialties. I had my little mice. And sometimes I would get somebody who would be interested in that, so I'd show them how to do it. Most of the time, people said, "Oh, that's okay. You do it better."

C Weingartner: Yule logs. Is that a project? Yule logs?

Betsy Thies: Oh, yes.

C Weingartner: Is that a project that was a popular one?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah, that was for Christmas time. We used to sell a lot of Yule logs. I don't think a lot of them got burned.

C Weingartner: Too pretty.

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: Can you tell me about the shop? Where was the shop located at first? And then did you get moved?

Betsy Thies: The shop at first, when I first joined, was right behind the book shop and the entrance. At first, people would come to the shop and that's where they'd get their



Besty's signature mouse

Photo by Randy Wright

ticket or pay for the entrance fee, when they started charging. Because I think at first, there was no charge.

C Weingartner: I remember that. There was no charge.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Anyhow, that's part of the row of offices and whatever. The very front part was a shop and behind that was the Guild shop. I think there's a picture of the... Oh, this is the workroom. General meeting, yeah. Anyhow, the shop was smaller than it is now. But by half.

C Weingartner: By half. Did you make nativity sets, too? For Christmas?

Betsy Thies: Oh yeah. I made angels. Angels galore. I made all those for Christmas sales. Lined them up just to show. I think that was for the big sale.

C Weingartner: Can you tell me your memories of the Christmas sales?

Betsy Thies: Oh, that was a big time. And we worked hard getting things ready for it. Everybody pitched in. There's the display of 2005. That was in the library.

C Weingartner: I have a wreath like that on my door.



Making angels, 1999 Photo by Don Matsumoto



Customers waiting for the Guild Holiday Sale to open, November 1978  
Photo by Steven Timbrook

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah, we had a lot of our little things displayed on the little Christmas trees. Yeah. That was a big... You know, we worked so hard for that one weekend. I guess at first, we were just open one day and then we opened it, had it for three days.

C Weingartner: Were there a lot of people who came?

Betsy Thies: Oh yeah. Especially the first day. We'd have a big line of people wanting to get in. Yeah. But even that kind of had its time. There was a time when the Natural History Museum, they had Christmas sales and they would be open special hours. They had a big sale.

C Weingartner: Was it similar? Was it natural materials?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Well, it was all sorts of things that they would have. But especially for the Christmas season. For people to buy gifts.

C Weingartner: What were the Guild's most successful products that they made?

Betsy Thies: The wreaths, I would guess. And then we would have, at Christmas time, decoration. We would have what we

called swags, which is a... Yeah. Instead of a wreath. You hang it up. Then a lot of us would make little things that you would hang on the tree. And those were popular, too. Yeah. I guess those are all at the... We had the record of what we sold and how many of this and how many of that.

C Weingartner: Oh, so you kept records so you knew what things you made that sold well?

Betsy Thies: Yeah. We knew. We took an inventory before the sale and then afterwards. We knew if we only had one left or if we didn't have any left, we knew how many were sold. When we had a lot of members, we had people doing different jobs. We could do things like that.

C Weingartner: Did you ever volunteer in another capacity at the Garden? I think you said you were a Garden Guide at one point.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. What else did I do? I worked in the library. I just was a volunteer and I did whatever needed doing.

C Weingartner: In the library?

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: Were you ever employed by the Garden, that you can recall?

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: Yes?

Betsy Thies: Mm-hmm (affirmative)

C Weingartner: What did you do when you were employed?

Betsy Thies: I worked in the shop.

C Weingartner: In the shop?

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: Perfect.

Betsy Thies: I worked in the shop for maybe five years. I can't remember for sure.

C Weingartner: Do you have any recollections? I was reading in the early days of the Guild, that they were in the kiosk, that little open structure by the Blakesley Boulder.

Betsy Thies: No. No. I came after that.

C Weingartner: After that.

Betsy Thies: That was the very beginning, I think.

C Weingartner: It sounds kind of uncomfortable.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. I think it was like, just almost like a shack.

C Weingartner: Yes.

Betsy Thies: Partly open and there maybe were four or five people. It was a pretty small group to begin with, I think.

C Weingartner: What were some of the most memorable events and accomplishments in your many years at the Garden?

Betsy Thies: Oh, golly. I don't know that anything stands out, really. We had some great sales. I met lots of people who were nice friends. Early times with... Fifi was such an interesting person to know. And she was always learning herself. And when she would say, "I'm going to take this class at the..."

C Weingartner: Adult education?

Betsy Thies: Adult ed, yeah. That's what I'm trying to say. And, "Oh, well I think I'll sign up, too." If Fifi wanted to do it...

C Weingartner: Made it fun.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. Yeah. She was a great storyteller. We'd sit over lunch and have a great chat. Sometimes, we even went to her house for lunch, a group of us. And that was fun, because she had a little place behind her house that she called the clubhouse, I think.

C Weingartner: How fun. Do you have anything else you'd like to add? We could probably end here.

Betsy Thies: Yeah.

C Weingartner: I'm out of questions.

Betsy Thies: Well, no. I miss those times.

C Weingartner: I bet.

Betsy Thies: Yeah. And we made some really nice friends. And unfortunately, age takes its toll. I'm the only one left of...

C Weingartner: Of your group.

Betsy Thies: Of that group. Yeah. And I decided that now that I'm 90, I think it's time to retire.

C Weingartner: You certainly gave your time for a long, long time.

Betsy Thies: Well, I wouldn't have done it if I hadn't enjoyed it.

C Weingartner: I hope not. Well, I think this concludes our interview with Betsy Thies on Friday, May 10, 2019.