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# Mr. Francis W. Turochy

[0:00:01]

Interviewer: This is July 19, 1970, and my name is Angela Turochy *[phonetic]* [0:00:07] and I'm going to interview Mr. Turochy. Would you give me your full name please.

Mr. Turochy: My name is Francis Roland Turochy.

Interviewer: Your present address.

Mr. Turochy: 2204 New Castle Avenue , New Castle, Delaware.

Interviewer: How old are you now?

Mr. Turochy: I'm 69, I was born November the 25th, 1900.

Interviewer: Where were you born?

Mr. Turochy: In Poland, Loveland City *[phonetic]* [0:00:29].

Interviewer: On what -- under what government control was Poland where you came from?

Mr. Turochy: That was under Russian control.

Interviewer: And tell me your father's and mother's names.

Mr. Turochy: My father's name was Joseph and my mother's name was Anna.

Interviewer: Tell me something about your mother, father or even yourself at the early age before you left.

Mr. Turochy: My father was a machinist by trade and he worked in Warsaw and also in Krakow, after two attempts of opening his own shop and being robbed each time, he decided to go to the United States of which he constantly dreamt anyway.

He left Poland in the fall of 1904.

Interviewer: You just mentioned that your father left in 1904, did he come alone?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, he did.

Interviewer: How about the rest of the family?

Mr. Turochy: My mother, my brother, sister and I, we were left in Poland.

Interviewer: In other words, he left behind a wife and three children.

Mr. Turochy: Yeah.

Interviewer: What was -- what was his reason to come to this country?

Mr. Turochy: Because he thought that he could better himself here in this country.

Interviewer: And why didn't he bring the whole family at the same time?

Mr. Turochy: He couldn't afford it at that time. My father arrived in Philadelphia and stayed with a friend with whom he had been corresponding when still in Poland. After about a months stay in Philadelphia he moved to Chester Pennsylvania where he worked for the *[inaudible]* **[0:02:04]** works for many years.

And after dad left for the United States my mother gathered her family and belongings and went to live with my maternal grandfather in Jaslo, that part of Poland under Austrian occupation. There I entered school, first grade although I had been tutored by my dad for about a year before that.

Interviewer: So you did not that get much education in Poland, did you?

Mr. Turochy: I had one year education in Poland. Austria was much more liberal in their educational system and a lot Polish language to be taught, about a year and a half later my father sent money and steamship tickets for our passage to the United States.

Interviewer: Describe your trip with your mother and your brother and your sister.

Mr. Turochy: Well, we left Jaslo -- my mother gathered up, and actually my sister, my brother and myself, and we left Jessop for Grimmen, Germany, we traveled there by train and there we boarded a ship and sailed for the United States. The trip was rough, and one time the ship stopped because of heavy fog which lasted for a couple of days and kept blowing its whistle.

It rolled quite a bit and the passengers were not allowed to -- on deck, and mother was sea sick and stayed in bed most of the trip.

We arrived in New York, May 1906 then by train to Chester, Pennsylvania, in that same year in September I went to first grade in the public schools and continued to two years of high school. In 1915 my dad moved with his family to Wilmington, Delaware where he went to work for the Harlan and Harlansworth Shipbuilding Corporation, then later work with Betts machine company.

I had to give up schooling to help with finances and went in as apprentice with the Betts machine company, years later was bought by the DuPont Company, I served three years there.

Interviewer: Let me go back to a little bit of your earlier life, I don't think you mentioned but how old were you when you left Poland?

Mr. Turochy: I was 6-years old.

Interviewer: Do you remember much of Poland?

Mr. Turochy: Oddly enough I remember incidence, I remember going to school there and, well, quite a few different things, yes, I remember them.

**[0:05:04]**

Interviewer: Anything tragic that you remember, that you recall that happened in Poland?

Mr. Turochy: No.

Interviewer: ***[inaudible] [0:05:12]***

Mr. Turochy: Oh, yes by the way, I do remember one incident, I was playing out in the road and dad had a blacksmith shop at that time and I saw a dog running along the road there and at the same time one of the workers who worked for dad spied him too, so he ran out a grabbed me and the little dog that I had with me and brought is inside. The reason for that was, that it was a mad dog running down the road there and he recognized him for such.

And of course the others came out then and they disposed the animal.

Interviewer: This is unusual to remember such an incident at such an early age as you were at that time, now this would be very interesting to know when your mother and your brother and sister arrived here, what did your mother do, did she have to go to work maybe, did she keep borders? Tell me what she did to help your father.

Mr. Turochy: Well, after we got settle in Chester, the times were not too good then and mother did keep a few boarders for, I don't know, perhaps two or three years, I don't remember quite well there, for how many years.

Interviewer: Did you have any business of any sort, did your mother owned any store or anything?

Mr. Turochy: Not until I was I think about 8-years of age, my dad opened up a grocery store and then she ran a grocery store while my dad worked at the Wallman's *[phonetic]* [0:06:48].

Interviewer: Did you have to help out?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, I did.

Interviewer: What did you have to do in the grocery store at your age?

Mr. Turochy: Well, just acted as a clerk and get as much as I could there to help mother.

Interviewer: At the age of eight or nine, that's unusual, did you have to go and pay bills and things like that?

Mr. Turochy: That I did. And we had no telephone back then and I did the errands and probably 20 blocks or more I ran with a piece of paper to order merchandise for from the store and these were trips that I really enjoyed though.

Interviewer: You mentioned that you left the country with your brother and sister, how many more brothers or sisters did your mother -- did your mother have here, how many more children did she have here?

Mr. Turochy: Later mother had more children here, there was only three of was that came here and she had five more in the United States.

Interviewer: You were describing your first job in this country, let's go back to it again, tell us.

Mr. Turochy: Well, my dad is working for the DuPont Company or rather for the Bett's Machine Company at that time, that was before the DuPont Company purchased it. He got me in as an apprentice and during my apprenticeship I went to high school at evening classes and then be going to *[inaudible]* **[0:08:09]** college and I studied bookkeeping and business administration.

I had to have served about three years as apprentice, I went to work for the Harlan and Harlingsworth Shipbuilding Corporation in the final year of the World War 1 to make some of the, so called big money then.

Interviewer: How much were you paid on the first job first of all and then later?

Mr. Turochy: Well, on the first job I earned very little as apprentice naturally but when I finished my apprenticeship I was up to \$28 a week then which was...

Interviewer: What year was it, can you remember the year?

Mr. Turochy: That was 1917. When the war ended work stopped and I was laid off, then an epidemic of flu broke out in the United States and my whole family of 10 people, six boys and two girls, mother and dad were laid up with it. I had up the worse but fortunately we all got well, yet my family doctor died at that time from this flu.

My dad brought a business about that time, back in those days it was called an ice cream parlor. And I went to several ice cream parlors and ordered different types of ice cream dishes, paraffin, banana splits, et cetera, et cetera.

Interviewer: To gain weight.

Mr. Turochy: No, in order to learn how they were fixed. Where I had the time -- the grand time learning. I stayed with dad for about two years then dad sold the place and bought a farm because of ill health and I went to work for an insurance company.

**[0:10:02]**

In June of 1929, I married a girl with whom I was dating for about two years and then *[inaudible]* **[0:10:11]** became my wife and for many years afterwards we worked hard to get it, to make a nice home for our two sons, Ronald who was born back in March 1st, 1932 and Richard born November the 3rd, 1934.

Interviewer: What were the conditions in the country at that time, you mentioned year 1929?

Mr. Turochy: Well, that's the year of the stock market crash which lasted for I think for about 10 years. In that period of time I worked at many odd jobs, insurance salesman, furniture salesman, radio salesman, et cetera, up to about 1939 when I started with the Harlan and Harlansworth Corporation and work during the Second World War.

During the next two years I taught men to become machine operators because machinist were scarce, we were then in full strings in the war effort and returning big gun barrels on the -- the large laid, and later I was put in charge of the number one and number two machine shops on the second shift.

Interviewer: Was that the only job you held during that time?

Mr. Turochy: No, I also did some moonlighting -- what is called moonlighting nowadays back then I -- another man and I went into sort of a business, we were refinishing floors during the day while we were working on our regular jobs in the afternoon, in the evening.

Interviewer: So you work on the second shift then?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, I did.

Interviewer: What time did you start that second shift?

Mr. Turochy: We started at 4:30...

Interviewer: And you...

Mr. Turochy: That gave me an ample time all day long to do other work and we earned extra money, because we -- I had gone far in debt during the whole depression and I wanted to get rid of my debts as fast as I could. My wife also worked back then as a secretary for the DuPont company and together we were able to get out of our debts in other words and square up with the people who we owned.

Interviewer: How bad was that depression, how badly did it affect your family?

Mr. Turochy: Now, it was quite bad because most of the members of my family didn't work and just picked up our jobs and was barely in *[inaudible]* [0:12:43] the whole time really.

Interviewer: But you owe a lot everywhere?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, indeed. Quite a bag...

Interviewer: Now with two small children, and how did you manage to provide them with the necessities of life during that depression?

Mr. Turochy: Well, I went out, and sometimes I earn some money and sometimes I didn't, then I came back on a cup of coffee that I had in the morning after an all days looking for work or trying to make a dollar.

I owed *[inaudible]* **[0:13:21]** I think it was somewhere around \$240 to \$50 back then, the man was just gracious enough to leave a note for me so that our children could have it.

Interviewer: How about the -- were you able to provide the children with the necessities such as fruit, juices and so on, how did you manage?

Mr. Turochy: Well, we tried hard then to see that the children are at least well feed. My wife and I we really suffered with hunger back then.

Interviewer: Did you develop any disease because of the lack of food on your part or your wife's part?

Mr. Turochy: No, fortunately not. My wife though became quite seriously ill and she was hospitalized and had cancer removed, and that's about 14 years ago now and then we prayed during that whole time.

Interviewer: But following the malnutrition during the depression, did she suffered with any other decease?

Mr. Turochy: Well, she had anemia and the...

Interviewer: Which was a forerunner of that cancer wasn't it?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, I imagine so, yes.

Interviewer: You were saying about the two jobs you held, tell me some more about the work.

Mr. Turochy: Well about a year before the war ended the plant was sold to the Public Incorporation in Philadelphia, I continued working with them until the



end of 1946 when the work began to slow up, and the new company began to liquidate the plant.

**[0:15:04]**

I left then to look for work, not being able to find a job I decided to build homes, I was the first to get started in this area not realizing that I was really getting into it. Materials were scarce because of the government had direct positioned all the wood for the war effort and act as count for a number, et cetera, in Maryland, in Delaware and Pennsylvania.

Interviewer: You're saying something about building homes and I'm sure that those homes were maybe for yourself maybe to earn a living by selling them and making some profit, but let's go back and see -- did you build a home for yourself, the first home?

Mr. Turochy: No, the first home that I began to build was for my father-in-law and that gave me the experience later on. This is a home that we had started to build because work was so scarce during the depression and my father-in-law asked me whether I had any *[inaudible]* **[0:16:06]** and I said I had a little, and he says, well supposing we build homes and sell them at least we can earn a living that way.

But the end result was that people were not buying on, because of the depression and I had to take over the home myself.

Interviewer: So that became your first home that you owned?

Mr. Turochy: That's right. That was my first home that I owned.

Interviewer: Where was that home located?

Mr. Turochy: That was located in Richardson Park area in Ashley on Valley Road.

Interviewer: Did you continue building homes after the first home in Ashley?

Mr. Turochy: No, as I mentioned, we did not because this home was hard to sell and finally I had to take it over myself, but after the war I built homes again, the first one that I started with after paying off all my debts and all, I had earned some money and saved and I began to build a home for myself in Woodcrest area.

I thought back then that I could build myself a home for about \$6,000 and I would have a home that would last for my descendants in other words. But...

Interviewer: Did it prove too expensive and would you live in it?

Mr. Turochy: Well, the thing is, that I built that home and invested entirely too much money in it because the home cost me 19,000 to build which was just out of this world back in those times. The homes were selling then for \$4,000 and \$5,000 which were good homes and here I had invested about \$19,000 and I was going sick about it and I tried hard to sell it.

Interviewer: You have -- you have to dispose of it, you couldn't keep up with the mortgage?

Mr. Turochy: That's right, because not only did I spend all the money that I had saved but I also had to get a big sized mortgage, I think it was \$10,000 mortgage that I got for that home.

Interviewer: And you couldn't handle it?

Mr. Turochy: So I realize that it was too much for me, I couldn't handle it and after about a year's effort, I sold it...

Interviewer: With a loss?

Mr. Turochy: ...to an Air Force Captain, at a loss, I got \$16,000 for it. I took a loss and he's glad to be able to get some of my investment out of it so I could continue on.

Interviewer: Did you build any other homes; let's say for profit about that time?

Mr. Turochy: By then -- by then I learned a little bit about what was happening there and I began to build homes which was lower homes for sale, although materials were *[inaudible] [0:19:00]* plentiful and I made more money for them, but I knew what I was doing by then so I built four homes which sold very quickly because there were need for them.

Since material was hard to get, and the prices of it went up tremendously and also I realizing what was happening to the economy in this country and encountering the much difficulty in the building of homes, I decided to give up building.

Interviewer: The prices of homes were still high, what other contributing factor was there that did not permit you to build homes, to continue building homes?

Mr. Turochy: Well, I got sick, that was hard work and in lifting the materials I developed a bad case of hernia and I had to go to a hospital for an operation then, so that was another highly contributing factor to the fact that I had to stop building homes.

**[0:20:01]**

Interviewer: But just before you developed hernia, did you try to get work somewhere else?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, I did but then because of my condition...

Interviewer: You were not aware of it I assume.

Mr. Turochy: I wasn't aware of it but when the doctors examined me, they would not accept me and I couldn't get a job anywhere.

Interviewer: So because of your condition you could not get unemployed insurance I suppose.

Mr. Turochy: That's right.

Interviewer: Was it difficult again for you and your family?

Mr. Turochy: Well, for a while, yes. Because I wasn't working, naturally, I had to go to work somewhere to earn money for...

Interviewer: Even raise for the operation, I guess.

Mr. Turochy: Oh, yes.

Interviewer: Was your wife working at that time?

Mr. Turochy: There were no -- there was no Blue Cross back then and we had to pay for hospitalization and doctors and everything, we had to pay that out of our pockets, that was cash.

My wife had gone to work and she was working again for the DuPont company and that was our only income but that was not enough to live on.

Well, I did find a job at the West Steel Company, that's what it was named back then, it's Phoenix Steel now. And I got a job there as a machinist again and I worked there for almost two years but that was -- work was very hard for me, the conditions under which I worked there were quite bad and I decided that I had to get out of that because I thought the work was too hard.

So I quit there, after of course, squatting around for a while, I didn't find anything, I decided to go into business. Then I looked around for a good location to open up a hardware store and about the Spring of 1951, I found a place and worked on the hardware store in the New Castle area, renting a building at first, then about two and a half years later, I purchased an adjoining property with a house on it and built the store and checked out a new stores and renting them and until now I have five stores all rented.

And my residence is in the -- is behind the stores on the same grounds. After about 15 years in the hardware business, I decided to retire, my sons not wanting to take over the business I sold off the merchandise and rented the store and retired.

I've been retired now for about seven years.

Interviewer: You just mentioned about your sons not one wanting to continue with the hardware store business that you had opened up. Now tell me about your two sons, what education has the older one got?

Mr. Turochy: Well the older one has up to, about two and a half years of college and he got married and decided to go on his own.

Interviewer: Is he in business or is he working for somebody?

Mr. Turochy: No, he was working for me for about two years and decided that he didn't like sales -- selling merchandise in other words, so he decided to go on to a business of his own, he worked for a while for several...

Interviewer: Model.

Mr. Turochy: Model making firms until he gained enough knowledge and opened up a business of his own.

Interviewer: You mentioned he gained enough knowledge, did he also get schooling in that line?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, he did. He went to Temple University. And he opened up a model making place of his own, he's been there ever since...

Interviewer: Under what name does he go in business?

Mr. Turochy: Professional Model Builders.

Interviewer: He has a -- is he by himself or is he a partners?

Mr. Turochy: He was by himself for about two years and he took on a partner who is a very skilled man in that line too and they have done some beautiful work, they had some of it exposed at the World Fare.

Interviewer: The Moorman exhibit I think you mentioned.

Mr. Turochy: That's right.

Interviewer: That was done by him, your son?

Mr. Turochy: That was done by him, that was the Sermon on the Mount.

Interviewer: Did he do some work for the City of Wilmington.

Mr. Turochy: Yes.

Interviewer: Was he complimented for it?

Mr. Turochy: Yes. He got a diorama to build for the City of Wilmington because the city was under a urban renewal effort and he was praised for that.

**[0:25:04]**

Interviewer: What did he introduce in that line, something unusual?

Mr. Turochy: Well, I could lift out the different section or even individual pieces of property and placed them in any spot that they wanted, in other words, in their planning which helped them very much in their planning of the...

Interviewer: What did Mr. Larson say about that?

Mr. Turochy: That was a very, very good model.

Interviewer: And you said that your son is married, your older son, how many children does he have now?

Mr. Turochy: He has four, three girls and a boy.

Interviewer: What are their ages?

Mr. Turochy: The oldest girl is 11, going on 12, the next one to it is 10 now and the boy is eight, and then they have a little girl only four years old now.

Interviewer: Now tell me about your second son Richard, about his education and how well versed he was and other lines besides schooling?

Mr. Turochy: Well, my younger son, he went through college, he has a Bachelor's Degree, then of course, he was drafted for the army and he served, well both boys had served -- my older son had served in Korea.

Interviewer: Well, talk about your son, how -- was he in the service and what did he do in...

Mr. Turochy: I'm sorry that I didn't mention it first but my older son was in Korea for three years and he was flying these big box cars, he was load master on one them.

Interviewer: Did he get any stars?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, he did.

Interviewer: It was bronze stars, wasn't it?

Mr. Turochy: He was -- he had a small decoration, yes.

Interviewer: Bronze star.

Mr. Turochy: Yes, bronze star.

Interviewer: And he came back safely didn't he?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, he did. We were very happy he was...

Interviewer: Didn't suffer anything at all. Now tell her -- go back to the younger son, about his education you were saying and then he went to the army.

Mr. Turochy: Well, he was in the army too but he was...

Interviewer: During peace time.

Mr. Turochy: Yes. This was after the Korean war...

Interviewer: And before the Vietnam.

Mr. Turochy: Also before the Vietnam war of course, and he served in his country, he was in Columbia, South Carolina and there he was assistant to the army chaplain.

Interviewer: What is he proficient in very well?

Mr. Turochy: Well, he went to Wesley in Princeton and there he studied math which was the major he studied and music as well. He plays the piano and he also had voice training there too. He sang in the Westminster choir.

Interviewer: He has a degree in conducting I understand.

Mr. Turochy: Yes, he also, later while in the army, he studied more, went to a school, I forget the name of the college now but he studied in...

Interviewer: Orchestra conducting.

Mr. Turochy: Orchestra conducting and also...

Interviewer: Choir directing.

Mr. Turochy: ...choir directing and all that. So after he was released from the army he came home and he went for further studies and while he was in the **[inaudible] [0:28:06]** college, one of the DuPont representatives came in and he was hired right then.

Interviewer: They send him to school to Philadelphia at their expense and kept him on a payroll.

Mr. Turochy: That's right. Yes.

Interviewer: What is he doing now? Who does he works for? Who did he work for first?

Mr. Turochy: Well, he started with the bank but then he found out that he couldn't make advances there very fast and of course the banks don't pay much

and it takes quite a bit of money to keep the family together nowadays so he went with the Hercules Company -- no, I'm sorry.

Interviewer: DuPont company first.

Mr. Turochy: It was DuPont Company at first that he worked for five years, that's right.

Interviewer: And he's presently working for who?

Mr. Turochy: And at present he's working for the Hercules Company which offered him much more money for the work that he's doing.

Interviewer: What's he doing besides working for the company, what else is he doing?

Mr. Turochy: Well, he also is a choir director in a church and he gets well paid for that too.

Interviewer: How big of a family he has?

Mr. Turochy: Well, he has two children, a young girl of seven and a new born baby now. Not exactly new born, it's nine months old now.

Interviewer: Now that you are retired, are you very active in anything else?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, I joined the Polish National Alliance...

Interviewer: Many years ago actually.

Mr. Turochy: Many, many years ago, that's back in 1929 when I joined it. It's a fraternal organization and I took a 20-year policy, I paid that off and after that was paid off I took out another one and also was able to finish that this year in fact, 1960 -- 1970.

Interviewer: So how many years have you been married up until now?

**[0:30:06]**

Mr. Turochy: I'm going through my memory, 41 years. Forty-one years, yes.

Interviewer: You mentioned about the activities that you have, you mentioned PNA, what do you do besides belonging to PNA?

Mr. Turochy: Well I held the different post in the PNA to begin with, I was -- the moment I joined, I was elected as a reporting secretary and I held that job



for a number of years and then of course, I was asked to become president of the lodge but I gave that up in favor to a friend of mine, a very good friend of mine who's wife has died and I thought that he needed something...

Interviewer: Hold on to it?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, to hold on to, for diversion in other words, so they elected him and I was elected...

Interviewer: Secretary?

Mr. Turochy: Treasurer of them.

Interviewer: Treasurer at first.

Mr. Turochy: Yeah, treasurer at first.

Interviewer: And now you are a financial secretary.

Mr. Turochy: I am now a financial secretary for a number of years, although I held -- posted as treasurer for a quite number of years too.

Interviewer: And you're very active now, aren't you, in PNA?

Mr. Turochy: We are...

Interviewer: When *[inaudible]* [0:31:15]

Mr. Turochy: I am very active, it is a highly desirable organization to belong to and I've been a delegate to the convention, my wife has also been a delegate several times but that's quite strenuous and I don't think I want another job at being a delegate.

Interviewer: Besides belonging to Polish National Alliance, what other organizations you belong to?

Mr. Turochy: Well, I belong to, in fact I had joined the Masons. Yes, I am a Mason and I had gone to the degrees around among most of them are the shrine now which is -- we have to have a 32 degree in order to be a shriner. I've been a *[inaudible]* [0:32:12] for a number of years.

Interviewer: And besides Masons and Polish National Alliance, where else are you active outside of your home?

Mr. Turochy: Well, fondly enough is the president of the council of Polish societies and we've been working very closely together in many of these organizations for many years and I accepted the job there again as a recording secretary and we're doing quite well there although because of the conditions in this country now I also am a member of Delaware Internal Security committee which was organized about a year and a half ago.

The council of Polish societies together with the Department of the Veterans and Foreign wars got together and they were decided to organize into this committee because of the conditions of this country.

We were very much concerned as to what was happening here.

Interviewer: What was the purpose of this organization?

Mr. Turochy: In order to combat the student disorders on campuses, also some of the foreign ideologies that the professors were teaching, so we have grown now in number, I imagine there is about 50,000 because we have every veteran's post in Delaware -- behind us.

Interviewer: What other big organizations?

Mr. Turochy: Well, there are big organizations I shall mention because there are many individual members and the auxiliaries are the war veterans with us, the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion and also the fraternal order of Police and the Jewish war veterans and many, many others that have joined us, so we have a large number of people behind us.

Interviewer: So this organization, this new organization is really anti-communistic not only to fight student disorders but to fight anything where communism is breeding.

Mr. Turochy: Definitely, and definitely so, yes. We were responsible for I imagine thousands and thousands of telegram sent to President Nixon...

Interviewer: Supporting him.

Mr. Turochy: ...supporting him in other words.

Interviewer: And how about the latest thing that was done by this as far as the Pledge of allegiance?

**[0:35:02]**

Mr. Turochy: Well it came to our attention at one of our meetings that the Pledge of Allegiance was not recited at the Wilmington High School, so we gave -- all the veterans -- all the, rather the members attending in were quite shocked and my wife being the secretary there was delegated to write a letter which she did to Superintendent Madden, Mr. Madden, public school educational system.

And we had a letter from him, it was a quick response whereby he stated that he was not aware of the condition and since the condition against it, he sent letter to all the principals of the schools also a copy of the letter to us, to this disc in other words stating that the Pledge of Allegiance must be recited in all our schools.

This year's election of officers, I was selected to act as chairman of the legislative committee which takes me to go around occasions.

Interviewer: What other activities are you involved in?

Mr. Turochy: Well, at present, I've been asked to teach the Polish language to youngsters in our committee here and I was also approached by many individuals who had come from Europe, in Poland in other words to teach them the English language which I happily accepted and which I am doing now.

Interviewer: So you are really enjoying yourself and your retirement, aren't you?

Mr. Turochy: I certainly am and I certainly continue, I mean, I certainly do hope to continue on for many years to come here.

Interviewer: Well, looking back at your lifetime from the time that you arrived, as a little child, are you sorry that you are in this country? Would you rather have been kept back in Poland when you were a child? How do you feel in comparison to the two countries?

Mr. Turochy: No, I am very thankful and grateful to God that my parents came here and brought me along with them, I would not under any circumstances choose any other country to live in.

This is my country, I am an American citizen and I wouldn't consider ever leaving here.

Interviewer: And really to stop to think of it, with a man with limited education as you've had, being of immigrant parents, that you became so successful

later in life and you are now able to lead a comfortable and easy life in your old age, you really do not have too many worries.

And your health is, how is your health in the present?

Mr. Turochy: I would say fair. I'm very active, I'm quite healthy. I've been suffering a little of arthritis which becomes...

Interviewer: Disease of the old age.

Mr. Turochy: Yes. Which becomes sometimes, very rarely though intolerant but with the help of the doctors and so forth, I am quite busy and able to get around well.

Interviewer: And you're hoping to continue that way.

Mr. Turochy: Yes. I hope to get back into my hobby which is art, pottery and...

Interviewer: Sculpture.

Mr. Turochy: Sculpture. And a number of painting too.

Interviewer: You mentioned about art, I remember, didn't you organize an art club?

Mr. Turochy: Yes, I did. We have a club consisting of about 17 artists now in State of Delaware, all Polish -- of Polish decent rather and we had the first drawing at the -- we had the first drawing *[inaudible]* [0:38:51] I didn't tell you the story in a merchandise mart back in 1966 which celebrated the thousandth year of Christianity of Poland, in other words, the millennium.

Interviewer: And then in 1967, and you have two more exhibits I think.

Mr. Turochy: Yes, in '67 and '68, also in '69 where we're also planning to have one this coming fall in October.

Interviewer: Where will this one be held?

Mr. Turochy: This would be held at the Wilmington Savings Fund Society which is a bank, of course, and they graciously gave us time there and they're going to do a lot of advertising for us.

Interviewer: I think we've covered many, many fields and items of interest, so this will now conclude the interview and I want to thank you very much.

Mr. Turochy: All right, thank you.

**[0:40:01] End of Audio**