

From Mabel Finney

Hi Tom:

As we discussed, the Alice Baker info you gave me is sufficient for a succinct biography.

What I'd now like is personal insight/remembrance of those who were personally acquainted with A.B. Consequently, you could gather this info via a telephone interview at your convenience. Below are sample questions. Feel free to reword/revive them at your discretion. I would like to have their exact wording, however.

1. How did you become acquainted with Alice? In what context? How long?

Moved into the home next door to them in 1948
(She & her sister)

2. Overall what kind of a person was she?

An intelligent, sharing, caring, giving lady (non-judgmental most of the time)

3. What do you remember most vividly about Alice Baker?

Her strength to continue caring about others even as her health deteriorated. - She could be seen planting a new tree when an older one was lost to the ax.

4. What traits or characteristics best describes Alice?

I believe she could see into the future at times - She believed Eagle would benefit from D.W.W. being brought here when many were against it.

5. Why did she promote a library for Eagle?

And in the same way, she was able to foresee a dire need for the library to be a possibility for Eagle -

She belonged to the Writers' Workshop in Waukegan; even when she could no longer drive, she would ask others to take her. She believed in the printed word being available for everyone - She wrote articles for "Landmark" and the Eagle Articles for the Freeman's Centennial Edition - She was an "everyweek" attendee of Eagle United Methodist Church and active in anyway she could help out.