

**Interview with Wanda Ingram  
Cimarron, Kansas  
January 16, 2006  
By Charity Bailey**

*Q. What was the decade you lived in when you were my age?*

*A. Late 1940's and early 1950's.*

*Q. Where did you live during that time frame?*

*A. Three and one half miles south of Kingsdown, Kansas,  
Ford County.*

*Q. What did your parents do for a living?*

*A. Farming and Cattle*

*Q. How much was your family income?*

*A. \$ 300-500 a month.*

*Q. What chores did you have throughout your household?*

*A. Cleaning, cooking, and washing cloths on a Maytag wringer  
washer for a family of ten.*

*Q. What problems did you face growing up?*

*A. My folks were in a bad car wreck so lots of responsibilities  
of running the household fell on my shoulders, as I was the oldest girl.*

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*Q. What was your major form of entertainment during this time period?*

*A. Sports: basketball, Track, Tennis, softball. Church, school plays, movies, friends, and school: English, Bookkeeping, Typewriter, and Typing, History, Algebra, Health foods, Cooking, Sewing, Reading, Math, and Writing. Also School Dances, Roller-skating, and Music.*

*Q. What were the names of some movies that you remember from this time?*

*A. Lots of musical movies with Fred Astaire, Debbie Reynolds Westerns and Gary Cooper, Jimmy Stewart and Henry Fonda.*

*Q. What were the names of some of your favorite songs during this time?*

*A. "Put Another Nickel in the Nickeodium," "Three Coins in the Fountain," "Tennessee Waltz."*

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*Q. How did your songs relate to what was going on in the world?*

*A. Lots of songs at that time were sad because they were written for woman who were missing their men that were in the service at that time.*

*Q. What were you doing during this time, as a major occupation such as work or school?*

*A. I was in school*

*Q. Do you remember the price of vehicles during this time?*

*A. Early 1950's they were probably two-three thousand.*

*Q. What was going on politically during the time I'm talking about?*

*A. We were in a war, World War II*

*Q. What were you most worried about during this time?*

*A. I was worried about our country being attacked by Germans and Japanese.*

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*Q. Is there anything else you would like to tell me about this decade before moving on?*

*A. Well, I can remember one time we were working on a puzzle. We had it on the dining room table and we got so excited we jumped up and pulled off the tablecloth and there went our puzzle. We ran outside to look at this huge plane that was in the air.*

*Q. How did you feel about this interview?*

*A. I wish it had been ten years earlier. My memory was much better.*