



# Virginia Jones

*Great Basin Indian Archive*

GBIA 030A



**Oral History Interview by**

**Norm Cavanaugh  
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Elko, NV**



Great Basin College • Great Basin Indian Archives  
1500 College Parkway Elko, Nevada 89801  
<http://www.gbcnv.edu/gbia/>  
775.738.8493



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Interviewee: Virginia Jones

Interviewer: Norm Cavanaugh

Date: February 27, 2012

[Drumming and laughter at 1:00]

J: [Singing—some chanting, some in Shoshone—from 1:03-2:02]

*Puyawan tutuantsi* means “little ducks going into the water.” That’s what it means. And if any of the little kids like to learn that, they can have that song. I told a lot of people in Owyhee that they can have it. Everywhere I go, wherever I sing it, I told them they can have it. It’s the best way for our Indian people to learn the feeling of Round Dance songs. And there’s a lot of Round Dance songs that we sing; Linda knows quite a bit of Round Dance songs. Long time ago, we used to gather at my mom’s. We used to have a good time singing to this and that. So, maybe Linda could think of one of her songs, and, you know, sing one of hers, too. So, that’s one of them, the songs that if you guys want that little duck song, you guys can have it. And then the song that we sang before is what Linda and I usually sing all the time, when we get together and we just sing that at the Round Dance when we have it in Owyhee. We have powwows there, we sing Round Dance songs over there in Owyhee. And then we sing at the HDC, sometimes we do little doings down there. It’s fun. It’s fun to learn how to sing with your family. So, if there’s any of you guys have any songs that you guys want to share with me or anything, or—like, Raymond sitting up there says, “Yes! Yes! Yes!” [Laughter] Yeah, so that’s that duck song. So you think any of you guys can tangle that? Huh? Yeah, if you guys can sing that? It’s just like I was telling you guys. Like, “*Way-ya-ay, ya-ya-ay, Ya-ay-ya / Ya-ay, Ya-ay.*” All the Indians use that kind. “Yah-hey, Yah-ho, yah-ho.” You see, the “Yah-ho.” The “Yah-way.” “Ha.” And when people sing Indian style, you notice that. We listen to it. “Yah-ho, yah-hey.” Just sing, the Indian songs that you sing. Do you like that?

Like that one goes, “*Ya—*” See, when I first sing that, sing it out, “*Ya-WAY-ya-ay-ya.*” See? “*Ya-WAY-ya-ay-ha, ya-ya.*” See? Like, when you’re in band, the band teacher go like this to you. And you go like this, and you get *higher* with your notes. See? And when he stands there, go like this, and look at you, you know? See, it’s all in the same rhythm. The same thing: same, same, same. That’s when you were in band long time ago. That’s what they go by. “*Ah, Ya, Hey, Ya, Ho.*” All those. “*Ya-hey, ya-hey, ya-oh, hey, ya-oh-ya-ay, ya-oh. Hey-ya, way-ya, way-ya, hey-ha, way-ya, hey-ya.*” See, that’s how it’s always done. And if you want to learn any song you want to sing, like... I don’t know if you guys want to learn the ducks. It might be a little too hard for you. Do you want to learn it? It’s fine with me. Do we have anybody here that writes Shoshone? Anybody? That writes.

U1: That’s the—

J: Yeah, like—

U1: Like the Wick Miller?

J: Right. Like, you write it down in Shoshone, like words.

U1: I made a—I made a book that the elders in South Fork helped me do, but they’re not the Wick Miller or Beverly Crum writings. They’re spelled the way they sound.

J: Yeah. That’s the same. There’s like, like the way they spell on words on Shoshone. Like, when you talk Shoshone, you know, that’s the same thing, almost the same thing. But music is the same, it’s a little different. Like, all they’re, like, “*Ai, aiwi, ai-ya, ai-way,*” you know? Long time ago, I remember, I was, when I went to this powwow thing in Owhyee. Bill **Liam** used to be our teacher, too. I remember that. I was young then. Bill **Liam**, way back. He taught us how to sing some songs, but I can’t remember them now

at this time, you know. But I sing lot of other songs, and if I could help you guys in some way of learning Indian songs, I'll be glad to help you guys any time, whenever you guys want to see me another time. I know that this is a short time that we have today. And we are all ready to learn, I think. So we got one hour to start fixing up our songs, here. So, Linda can look for one of her songs, and then after Linda, **guy** can think about his songs.

C: Can you sing that one that you sang earlier?

J: *E neaite* [7:44]?

C: Yeah.

J: *Tenankwa* [7:46]?

C: Yeah.

J: Oh. [Laughter] You want to pass the drum on? Y'all wish you had one again? You guys want to sing again, or...?

X: I'll sing with *motsi* [8:01] on that.

C: Okay.

J: Oh, you want to sing with me? Well, okay then. Yeah.

[Commotion and laughter as X and J move about]

[Sings in Shoshone from 8:21- 9:51]

J: *Aisen pas* [9:52]

[Applause]

X: Thank you.

J: You did it! [Laughter] Okay. Okay, I used to listen to Art long time ago, singing to Art Cavanaugh, a cousin of mine. I used to listen to him. And I like the way Art used to sing. How he used to hold himself out, how he used to come out to—convention center used to

always ask for Art to come here and sing. And I used to tell Art, I said, “These people sure like the way you sing, you know.” I *really* like the way Art Cavanaugh sang. I know he was a relative of mine, and I just love the way he sings his Indian songs. And another one was Judy. Judy Trejo. I just love the way she sings. We got called long time ago to sing at her memorial. And that was sad. There was about forty-three hand drums in her funeral. And that was a *lot!* We had a *long* line, waiting for people singing at Judy’s.

So... I know I used to sing, I remember this one song of Art’s, and so I’m going to sing it to you guys today. I’m not saying you guys have to learn it or anything, but I asked Art if I could sing this song before. He said it was okay. “Go ahead, sister, go ahead and sing it whenever you want. If you can learn my songs, go ahead and sing them,” he used to tell me. So, I’m going to sing one of Art’s songs, since I just love to hear his songs. Even when he’s gone today, I still put on his tapes all the time. Because I love his singing. And when you guys become singers, you guys going to really enjoy yourselves singing.

You’re going to be the one they sit here on the table and turn on the recorder, and say, “I’m going to record this song, get yourself a drum and you’re going to sit there.” First time you sing a song, like, “Blah.” [Laughter] Like, “Ho, ah!” [Out of key and off beat.] Wait a minute, now! [Laughter] You wind it back. That’s what I do. When I start making a song, I’ll be sitting there, saying, “I have the song right here. It’s right here in my head. But the minute I’m going to pick up that drum and start drumming, it takes off. I lose it. And I’m ready! This tape’s already going!” [Laughter] [Sings from 13:07-13:08] That’s no good, so I’ll stop. Start again! I could do that about four or five times with a song, before I start straightening up the song. So, don’t feel too bad if you go home and start singing, and says, “Hey! That song don’t sound right!” First time, it doesn’t sound right.

One day, you going to stand there and say, “Thank you, Creator. Thank you, Creator, for putting that song in my heart. And I want to thank you for that, Creator.” And you’re going to stand there, and you’re going to burn that cedar to **the drum**, now. You’re going to cedar your drum off, and say, “Thank you, Creator. Thank you for helping me, putting that song in my heart for me.” It’s going to come out to you. When you start singing a song, it’s going to eventually come to you. You’re not going say, “Oh! What happened to it? Where’d it go? Where did that song go?” You won’t think that. It’s just an automatic thing. Be there for you, because it’s already in your heart, and in your mind, and you’re the keeper of the song. So, it’s hard. I know it’s hard. I know it’s hard at first to start learning how to sing. I was young long time ago, and when my aunt used to tell me that—“Oh, let’s sing!” So I **wound up right singing**. She says, “Sit down right here beside me.” And she used to call me *Numittsi!* And you know, with the grandmother, says, “Oh, *Numittsi*, sit down!” [Laughter] And she’ll say, “*E kate, e kate! E kate, numittsi!*” And then you say, “Oh, *I’m Numittsi!*” [Laughter] “I’m going to sit down,” you know? And then you sit down. And then that’s where you’ve got to stay. Now, when your aunt or an elder tell you to sit down, that’s where you’re going to stay. And you’re going to listen. So, lot of things that I learned—I learned how to sing, and I’m glad I learned how to sing. You guys are going to feel that way, too, when it comes to the time when you guys have your own drum, your own sticks. You’re going to carry it, and you’re going to sing the song. It’s going to be hard at first. First, when you start, it’s going to be a hard thing. Everything’s like that. Everything that you learn on this Mother Earth, it’s hard. Everything through life, if you know it, if you see it, it’s hard. It’s hard to learn. Everything is hard to learn. But once you learn it, it’s there. So... So I’m going to

sing one more song, then I'm going to pass the drum. So be thinking of a song, you guys! Be thinking of a song that *you* guys are going to sing to *me*. And see, I want to hear what you guys are going to sing. Eloy?

U2: I have a question, yeah.

J: Oh!

U2: Sometimes, I hear a song, and I says, "You know what? That was *my* song! They *stole* it from me!" Before you sing someone else's song, is it proper to, I guess, to sing their song before you even start? Is that the more traditional way?

J: Yeah, well, that's what they usually say: that—like, it's better for you to ask. Ask the person. You know, if you feel that there's a maker of the song, the person that—see, I made the ducks myself, see, okay? I made that song. I'm the maker, I'm the really maker of that song. So, the ladies down there in Owyhee sang that that time, and they said they were singing it *wrong*. And then, another lady come along and tell us, "Hey! You're not singing it like Virginia's singing it! You're singing it wrong! Why are you singing that, then?" And then she kind of got upset with her. But, if the maker tells you, "Go ahead, sing that song. You can have it, it's yours. Be happy." Sing it. And it's better to ask, too, a hand drum singer. "Could I sing that song? If I'm at another powwow someplace, could I sing your song?" Always ask before just, you know, go off and sing somebody *else's* song. So, that's what I do. And I know lot of songs from a long time ago. This elderly guy used to be hanging around our place a lot. And that's how I used to sing some of *his* songs. Like one of them's right now, like this elderly man that used to sing around our place. I'll sing one of his songs. [Singing in Shoshone from 18:08-18:43] See, this is what this one older—Linda might remember him. Do you remember that song? Okay, Linda

probably remember him. He used to hang around my mom and them a lot, he goes all over, just all-around guy. He sang a lot of these songs, and I was younger then, you know? Probably Linda was younger, too. So, every year that old man come around singing, there I am really singing along with him! [Laughter] I get my stick. I'd get two sticks, and then I'd be following him. I'd be following him with my sticks and singing with him! [Laughter] And he says, "Why do you keep following me and singing?" He'd tell me, "Quit following and singing with me!" I said, "Go ahead, sing." And then he'd be singing—and there I am, singing again, following him! See, that's how that song stuck in my head. Because I was younger, you know, and I was singing right along with him. So, what can any of you guys tell me about this hand drum? All you guys like to hand drum, and you guys like to hand drum. You guys like to sing. You guys like to sing songs, you guys like to play—I mean, sing hand drums. Once you start singing a songs, it'll be hard there for a while. I say about maybe two or three years, it's kind of hard. But eventually, it falls into place on its own. The more you pray for it, the more you talk to it, the more you sing it, it's there. There's nothing hard.

U3: How do you make the drums?

J: What we do is, either we get elk hide, or we do deer hide. Or either cow hide. But the elk hide is the number one hide to use. They're the best. I learned that. Because the deer hide, you have to warm it up. Like, for instance, you're over there at a powwow, someplace outside. And you're going to sing Round Dance songs. The deer hide gets cold very fast. I don't know why. But that's all I learned on the hides. That the deer hides get cold. And I do not know what this one's made of, I didn't make this one. To be honest with you guys, I didn't make *this* one; this was given to me. I sang on the Round Dance, first place,



during Labor Day. During Labor Day [19]96, on September. Made by Joe **Caskey** and Lucy **Caskey**. They made this drum. And when I signed up for that hand drum contest—there's a lot of us signed up—I took first. So, they gave me five hundred dollars plus this drum. This was given to me. And I was very, very thankful that this drum was given to me by those two old people. That was before they passed on, they gave me this. This was the last drum that Joe and Lucy made. And Joe **Caskey** was original Round Dance singer. The maker was an original Round Dance singer. And he told me, he says, "Virginia," he said, "You can sing all my songs if you want to. You can have them all. I'll pass it to you," he said to me. Because he said, "I'm not going to be around forever, so I'm going to pass it to you." They had the songs of the Round Dance. He say, "You can sing all my songs if you want to. I don't care. You can take it from here, and go ahead and sing it wherever the powwow's at." But you know, it's real hard! It's real hard to—the more I hear Joe's songs... I can't make out words, you know, the way the older people sing long time ago. They're kind of little faster at singing than we are today, or something like that. You know, their songs? And there's a lot of songs that I couldn't make out what Joe was saying in lot of his songs. But I'll be glad to continue his songs that I could hear. I have the tapes of his songs, and sometime I listen to them, but, you know, a lot of times, it kind of makes you real lonesome for them, when you keep hearing these songs. They're older songs. When you sing the occasions, you kind of get lonesome for them. So I just put the tapes away for a while, and thought, "Well, I'm just going to continue my own little songs, or whatever I'm singing." So I'll just do it like that. So, this one is what I won from Joe **Caskey** and Lucy, and then I think this was when they had the gathering of the—I think it was the Senior Citizens. And the doings there they were having. The

Senior Citizens' powwow or something they were having. And that's how I came to this one, that's how I won this one. So they're the ones that made this. So, you can tell how they made the drum. I'll show it to him, so he can look at it, how it was made and all that. That's what Joe did. And this drum is what I made not too long ago, myself. I made this drum. I redone it, I took it off and redone it. But, the casing here, the wood, you have to get wood glue and work with it, and fix these up. You have to do them a little like trying cutting in pieces, and putting wood glues, and stick them together and all that, and it dries like that really hard. So, there's a lot of work to this. And then, the hide-scraping; this was a deer hide, so I went and put brains on it to help it. You know, so it won't be cracking up and all that. So, this one's treated with brains. But that's deer hide. That one is deer hide. I wish I had a elk hide. And the elk hide ones have the more bass to them. They sound real spiffy. I like the way they sound. They got more good sound to them.

U4: It's a lot of work, huh?

J: Yeah, it's a lot of work. And I have another hand drum at home. That one's a little bigger one. I need to bring them out now. I think that, together, I made about maybe six hand drums. I already sold them. You got rid of them, and sold them to the other people! So, it's work. But if you like to go into hand drum making, and—those things that, like, if you start working on hand drums and different things, you can sell them for, like, two hundred and fifty dollars. That's what they run. They run to maybe three hundred and fifty dollars. But it's off one of them.

U5: Have you ever had one, like, break on you?

J: No. Mm-mm. If I *do* have one break, I go to the river and let it go. I let the whole hide go. Untie it, take it apart, pray for it, cedar it, let it go. I just let it go down the river. I

don't keep it because it already ripped. You know, you can't keep a hide that's ripped. So I just pray for it and let it go down the river. That's what I do. So I'll do it. So, does anybody have a song that someone'd like to sing, or...? Oh, you want to sing you like?

U6: Rock and roll song, that's all I know! [Laughter]

J: Boogie-woogie? [Laughter] Well, they got some hoobie-hoobie-heggie! Like, "Ah—ooh, ah, ooh..." Yeah, oogie-oogie. [Laughter] Yeah, so... It's good to learn, though. It's good to learn the Round Dance.

U7: How do you remember all these songs?

J: Well, like I said, when you're small, you kind of, they kind of just stuck up in here. Like I say, I was just following this singing person, and I was listening to them sing. And Linda probably did the same thing. She probably sees singers here and there in Owyhee, too. We learned. We sing all different ones' songs. We follow each other's songs. That's how it is. Some of us make our own. Some of us pick up somebody else's. It continues on and on. It's just like what Judy was telling me long time ago. Judy has a CD out. I don't know if anybody's here heard her songs. Judy Trejo, she has a CD out? CD? She's got thirty-four songs on that little tape! Thirty-four Round Dance songs. And she told me that those songs was originally not really her songs, either, because they were another guy's songs that sang with them all the time. And different ones, you know, that sing with them and all that. They sing the songs, and they do this and that. So that's how they learned. Different people try their songs. Oh, everybody. If you could hear a lot of people, sometime you record them. You record their songs, you hear them over and over, rewinding them over, and so you get songs like that, too. Play, like, somebody's song, you sing that. Do you know this, if we start a song? Okay. Oh, no?

U7: No, I don't have a song.

J: Oh.

U8: I seen lot of Indian drum songs, they put a lot of English words in it now.

J: Oh! The reason why they do that nowadays is that they put these English words in them, just like I keep telling you. Long time ago, the older people, the older ones from way back, when they used to sing Indian songs, they—you don't hear them talk English, right? Lot of them talk in Shoshone, or their own language, or whatever tribe they are. Some of them, the reason why they put these words in them—I, myself, noticed that this is coming out into the powwow circle. I've been noticing that. It's been coming out into the powwow circle. So, what's happening is, like I said, long time ago, the older people—the ones that used to sing long time ago, back in those days—they did not put words in there. They don't have English words. They say it in their own languages, different tribes. But nowadays, the ones that you're talking about is when they have English words in there. This is what they call "Forty-niners." These are the forty-niner songs that you're hearing. When you go to powwows—I've went to powwows many long years. I've been in the powwow circle. Ever since 1972, I've been in the powwow circle. I went to powwows all over the country, all over. All over. Like Fort Duchesne, Cedar City, Reno area, all that Reno area, different area, all over. Idaho. I've been all over to different powwows. I've seen the circle of life. I went everywhere. That's a reason why I said when you go to the powwow circles, you go to powwows, you see all of that. All the powwow circles that you see, people nowadays are singing songs at the powwows, and they're forty-nine at the regular powwow. Usually, forty-nine comes after the powwow. You know what I mean? After powwow's over, then they take their little group out there,

outside, and say, “Hey, come on! Let’s go out there and have a forty-nine!” *That’s* what you call singing in English words. Like, “I love you / Oh, how are you, my sweetheart?” and stuff like that. That’s English words. Like, “Hey-ya-ha / hey-ya-ha / Oh, I love you, honey dear / Oh, I’ll sing to you tonight / In my tipi.” [Laughter] That’s *all* the English words. That’s all pertaining to *after* the powwow circle. We have powwow, Indian powwow, right there, going on. People dancing, dancing. Nowadays, I been hearing recently, seeing, the powwow that’s coming into the circle is now, we are having that forty-nines coming into the powwow circle. So, I don’t know where it was welcomed to come into the powwow circle. I don’t know who started that, where it started from. I don’t know if it started from Arizona, or I don’t know where, if it started from Montana, Oklahoma. Wherever it came from, it happened. So, nowadays, we got it with our powwow here. See? But if you hear an older person sing, like one of our older elders—I’m talking about our elder people, our older elders—stand there and grab this drum and sing: they’re not going to sing words with English in it. They’re going to sing their own old songs. Which, we can’t stop that, because it’s already welcomed into the circle of life. It came into that circle of life like this. Where our drums are, our drums are sitting right there. And we’re the ones sitting behind them, okay? We’re the ones sitting behind our powwow. Okay, for instance, this is a big powwow drum right here. And for instance, I brought my drum like this over here to the powwow, too. Okay, so I’ve got this powwow drum here. This powwow drum sitting right here. Whoever brought that, that forty-nine song, into the powwow, we can’t say, “Hey, don’t bring this song into this. Don’t bring that into this powwow.” We can’t say that, because everything, everything we do—I’ve said it already—the Creator gave us a reason to do everything upon this Mother Earth

today. That's why I'm saying that we had to welcome that into our powwow circle.

That's why we got those English words today. So, did I answer your question?

U7: Oh, yeah. Very much so.

J: Okay! All right. Anybody else?

U9: Having the powwows, there lot of—you hear it, when there's a lot of them, you right. Lot of the young singers, *lot* of them, going to [\_\_inaudible at 36:33\_\_] powwow.

J: Right. Yeah. Yeah.

U9: They go out here, and they use the English words and things in it.

J: See, what you're talking about is now that, what's happening today is, we have a lot of young kids coming back now, okay? We have a lot, a lot of kids coming out and singing and all that. And nowadays, they hear that. See? They go, they get called, and say, "Hey, you guys, we're inviting you guys to come to this powwow someplace." So, okay. Like, our boys in Owyhee. They get in their cars, and then they off to the powwow. They go maybe to the Fort Duschesne, Utah. Okay? Then they go to Oklahoma City, maybe. Or they go wherever there is a powwow. Maybe they're powwow followers. Maybe they go to Yakima. They go all over. And these boys go to these powwows. They stand there, and somebody else in the crowd that has this kind of drum says, "Hey, come on, you guys! Come get you guys's hand drums, and join us!" And you're not going to say, "No, I can't," because you love to sing with the powwow hand drum. You love to sing song. You love to sing songs whether it's in English or not. But I'm saying that it already came into the powwow circle. We don't know where it came in, from what state, we don't know who brought it back, or what happened. So, we just have to say, we're going to welcome that. Well, anything, as long as we sing, you know? Because we all are still

praying to that same Creator right there, in everything that we do—even our songs.

Everything, you know? We do all that. So, I don't know if you guys learn anything, or you want to sing, or whatever. It's up to you guys. I have the two drums here if you guys—Linda's got one over there—you guys want to sing Round Dance songs, and get the feeling of the drum, and I'm fine, it's alright with me. I can give you guys the drum, you can practice, or you need help with song, just sit by me and I'll help you. You know. You like to learn. I know it's hard. First time, it is hard. But as the years go by, everything gets easier. I know lot of times, lot of these hand drum singers make it look easy. We have all kinds of hand drum singers up through this way. They have number one, our brother, the **Flatlodge** family. Mr. **Scabby Road**. Yeah. They sing a lot. And they have lot of nice songs [\_\_inaudible at 39:58\_\_]. And with the forty-nine, lot of people, like you say, they got words in them now. Now, they just got tapes coming out, words, all of them. I don't know, probably they're in different states. They have all different kind of songs. All different kinds. I have some tapes like they have. But you know what? I try to sing their songs, and I can't! I can't even pick up their songs! And then, some of the Owyhee boys saying that last time, they said, "Come on, Virginia, go get your drum! Where's your drum?" I have to run to the **powwow** and get my hand drum. And then, you know what? We never did do this, to be honest with you. I don't know if Norman remembers. I don't know if Linda remembers, or Allen, or any of you guys out here remember that. Shoshones never really did that. It's not the Shoshones' tradition. Okay, how many of you guys went to this powwow they had in Elko here last year? How many of you people? Okay, did you guys see how they gathered everybody? The Round Dance singers all came in this big circle? Did you guys see that? Shoshone

people don't do those things. Never. Shoshone don't do those things. It's not our tradition. Our tradition is to stand there in the middle and sing. Or either dancing with whoever. That's Round Dancing. *That's* Shoshone. That's your Shoshone way.

U10: Do a drum contest up there. We went to drum contest up there.

J: Did you guys?

U10: Yeah.

J: You guys get anything?

U10: Win five hundred. First place.

J: Win five hundred? See, that's what I say. See, nowadays, all the boys are going into this, see? The more you start singing, the more you're a good whistle singer, you know? You can sing out with your throat, sing all out, start hitting this drum. That's when you can start winning dollars. But lot of them guys said our Indians didn't do that. So, nowadays, our younger boys are going into that. Our kids. Our younger boys are going into hand drum, just like what Raymond's saying. Our younger boys are going into that. They're traveling to different—competing with other children. But it's good to learn how to sing hand drum songs. And if any of you want to learn songs, you can learn songs. And it isn't hard to learn. It's not hard. It's easy. Once you start a song, it's easy. Dalvin probably knows song. Yeah, Dalvin knows song. Lot of times, I hear him singing Native American Church. They're beautiful. They're beautiful songs. I've heard that. I've went to the Sun Dance in Owyhee. All the songs that was sang there. Whatever they do is different, too. There's all different ways. All of us Indians learn in different ways. We all learn this. Some of the—like, some of your family. Like, I know Linda almost all my life, you know? We grew up together, Linda and I. And Diane, too. Our sister Diane. And Linda, I



grew up with Linda. All my life, I grew up around Linda. And I know Linda belongs to the Native American Church. I know that. And my mom used to tell me that. She said, “Respect your friend! Respect her! Have a lot of respect for your friend. She belongs to the Native American Church.” And she said, “I know *you* don’t go to no church or no nothing! But, respect her.” I said, “Yeah, I will, Mom. Don’t worry. Linda is my friend, and I’m always going to respect her.” So that’s why I say that if you have a friend, always respect your friend. I don’t care if they belong to the Native American Church, or they belong to a *taibo* church, or whatever, you know, anything like that. We all pray to the same Creator. We all pray to the same person out there. We all pray. Some of us pray in *Taibo*, some of us pray in English, whatever you can speak in, we all speak in it. We pray. I think everybody knows how to pray. And I’m thankful, up to this day, that I can stand up and pray to my Creator, and say my thanks to Him every day. Pray to Him every day. That we have another day here. And I’m thankful. So let me say now, that if you guys want to learn the hand drum, you can sing. You guys can practice it now if you guys want. We got, what, thirty more minutes? If you guys want to practice with the drum, it’s fine. And if you want me to help you guys, I’ll be glad to help you guys. Linda: pass the drum towards **Ilola**. And right here’s the drum stick, too. And if they want to practice or something, or whatever, or some of those boys over there, or—to get the feeling of the drum, or...

U11: Virginia, can you sing some more?

J: Okay. [**Singing in Shoshone from 46:03-50:18**]

[Applause]

U12: What’s that song?

J: That song right there was passed to me by my brother. I may not be singing it the right way, but maybe Norman does understand. Maybe he recognize the song.

U12: That grasshopper?

J: Yeah. Yeah. That was, he told me I could go ahead and sing that. I asked him if I could sing the song. And I just love that song, and I always sing it all the time, so I asked him if I could sing it. And he said, "You can have it, sister, if you want to. Any songs of mine, you can sing." That's what he told me. But that's one of the songs that I sure liked. When Art Cavanaugh sang that song, I sure liked the way he sing. But me and my mom and them used to go to McDermitt powwow. When I'd see Art over there with Ethel, I'd go and talk to my brother, and ask him, "I could have that song? Are you sure?" "Oh, yeah, sister. You can have it. Go ahead. Whatever you hear, you could carry it on for me." So, that's one song I've already carried on for him. So, I'm thankful and I'm glad I can sing that song for him.

U12: When you sing the song, how many times you sing that same thing over and over? Four times, ten times—?

J: You can sing that, oh, about maybe four hour—you could sing that song all night if you want to, you know! [Laughter] As long as the Round Dances keep on going. Then sometime, they pass it to the second Round Dance song. Somebody with another drum will be singing beside him. Then they'll sing, and they'll go on and on. So it continues on, all night long. Different songs, or same songs for a while, then they switches to a different song. So... Okay, I'll sing one more song, and I want all of you guys to start thinking about songs that you guys are going to do next.

U12: What's it going to be about? Tell us. [Laughter]

J: About anything you want to sing.

U12: Okay.

J: **[Singing in Shoshone from 52:33-54:52]**

[Applause]

Okay! I'm going to pass the drum, because—we'll start from this side, and go around this way. Okay, Walt's singing! Oh! Okay, then pass it to Eloy. Pass this drum to Eloy. Give that drum to Eloy, and then he'll sing one little song. He'll pass it to Helen. Helen will sing something; if she doesn't know, she can pass it to the next person, or continue it on until it ends up here. Okay. We'll see if anybody learned anything from this! [Laughter]

U13: Helen, you're going to do this, right? Yeah. Right?

ET: **[Singing in Shoshone from 55:42-56:08]**

[Applause]

J: Okay. You can sing whatever you want. Whatever you want. Whatever your heart desires.

ET: Don't nobody mess around! [Laughter]

J: Just so that you're hitting on that drum like that.

U14: [Singing from 56:35-57:30; lyrics in English are written below]

I saw you looking at me

I loved you, honey

You were my one and only

But you left me

It's all good

I still love you, hey-hey, hey-hey-ho.

[Applause]

U15: [Singing at 57:44]

My daughter was a little girl

She came home from school one day

Then she says to me,

“Daddy, would you like to hear

What I learned in school today?

What I have learned in school today?”

[Continues singing as recording fades out at 58:49]

[End of recording]