Oral History
Joda Ferguson

[Signature]

Wyo. History
Chris Paul
Boda Ferguson is one of our active women residing here in Rock Springs. She is the Clerk of Courts in Sweetwater County, working for Judge Soule. A very busy woman and ever busy now with the growth of the county and state.

Boda was born on November 27, 1939, in Greeley, Colorado. Living there only one month, her family moved to Cheyenne, residing two blocks away for the capital building. Being an only child, she lead a good childhood. Her parents were Charles N. Suits and Mildred Noble Suits.

Boda’s father worked on the Union Pacific, which made it very hard to spend time with his family. He was a supervisor, which made it that he was on call twenty-four hours a day. In fact, Boda and her mother saw so little of him; it was like having company when he could sit down and eat dinner with them.

Mrs. Suits was a very devoted mother, also concerning herself with her daughter’s needs. Mildred Suits was thirty-eight when her daughter was born. Burget
in her ways, put a generation gap between Zoda and her. She had few friends, keeping very much to herself and her daughter. Mildred was a woman devoted truly to her family.

As a young child, Zoda remembers her parents giving up their car for the sake of the war. It was a frequent request the government made, in which the family could sacrifice. She also remembers having to do the wash with a wringer and line drying everything. They had no washer; when they did the one, it was quite a while before they got a dryer. Another luxury item they didn't have was a television, instead they listened to the radio. Zoda was twelve years old before they got their first television.

As a child, Zoda past time by dressing up her dog and pushing it around in a buggy; as kids did to dolls today. At the age of four, she started playing the piano, playing until she was nine. She then started playing the violin at nine and played well into college.

Zoda started kindergarten
at the age of six, attending Gibson Clark Elementary School. Zoda always wore a dress to school, it was not acceptable for a young lady to wear slacks, in fact when on trips to Denver, Zoda had to wear hat and gloves. Zoda also attended Micronis Jr. High and Cheyenne High. While in junior and senior high, Zoda belonged to a couple of organizations: the Junior Choir, State Youth Group, and Joe's Daughter. As most girls did, Zoda had a steady boyfriend through high school. They're Senior Prom was similar to those of today, Zoda attended with a blonde date. Zoda attended Colorado State University on a full scholarship for "Applied Voilin." In December of her freshman year, Zoda married her blind date for Senior Prom, Max Kaiser. They both finished out the year; then Max got a job and Zoda became pregnant. Zoda has two children, Ada born December 23, 1959, and her son Charlie was born June 1, 1962. After twelve years of marriage to Max, it dissolved by divorce.

Zoda and her children continued to live in Cheyenne until
She married her second husband, Jerry Ferguson. Zoda and Jerry had known each other briefly in high school, and then started to get to know each other fourteen years later. They were married in Cheyenne, December 16, 1973.

Her new husband and children later moved to Casper, Wyoming. Jerry was Chief of Police. They lived there for four years, then moving here to Bozeman in 1980. Zoda’s daughter Ada is now married and expecting her first child; Ada and her husband Chris are residing in Woodland. Her son Charlie is going to college and is transferring to the University of Wyoming in the fall.

Zoda is a very active member of the community; besides being Clerk of Courts, she also belongs to the following organizations: The Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile, Wyoming Federated Nat State Music Club, and the Federated Women’s Club. Zoda Ferguson is a very pleasant and friendly person, whom I’m very happy to have as a friend and boss.
NAME: Zoda Ferguson

PRESENT ADDRESS: 307 Tyler B.S.

1. Present profession or occupation: Clerk of Courts

2. Occupations followed in the past (give dates):
   Executive Secret. Field Rep for March of Dimes

3. Date of birth: 11-27-37   Place of birth: Greeley, Colo.

4. Date of moving to Wyoming: 12-39

5. Full name of parents (give mother's maiden name)
   Charles H. Suitz
   Mildred Hobbs Suitz

6. Names of brothers and sisters (and to whom married):
   None

7. Schools attended (give dates):
   Cheyenne High School '58
   Col. State University '59

8. Places of residence in Wyoming (give dates):
   Cheyenne 39-76 Rock Springs
   Husk 76-80

9. Military service (dates, awards, area served, rank, etc.):

10. Political offices held (give dates):

11. Political affiliation: Republican

12. Religious affiliation: Episcopalian

13. Marriage (spouse's name, date and place of marriage):
   G. JERRY H. Furgason
   12-12-73 Cheyenne

14. Children (names, dates of birth, grandchildren, etc.):
   Ada 12-23-59
   Charles 1-1-62

15. List of clubs and societies of which you are a member:
   1) Eastern Star
   2) Daughters of the Nile
   3) Wyo Federated Past State Music Club
   4) Federated Women's Club