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Behind the Apron Project: Ruth Smith Interview, 1997, Part 2

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WEBVTT

00:15:15.000 --> 00:15:28.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: —and the awards is what I got when I was going over to Leonardtown over at the, uh, fairgrounds, uh, participating in the contest.

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Mhmm.

00:15:28.000 --> 00:15:35.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: You know, they just came with a plaque and an oyster knife and my name and my time and everything on it.

00:15:35.000 --> 00:15:44.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Ok, uh. I understand, did you shuck in other areas or do competitions in other areas or states?

00:15:44.000 --> 00:15:53.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Yeah, I went to [[?]] three years straight, 'cause I won it in Leonardtown. I went to [[?]], three years.

00:15:53.000 --> 00:16:03.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Ok. What type of uniform did you have to wear or use in shucking oysters each day? Is there a particular uniform, or what type of equipment did you need?

00:16:03.000 --> 00:16:14.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Well, all we needed was the shucking knife, and we, we had a rubber apron to put on, because on account of the water, the juices, the stuff from the oysters.

00:16:14.000 --> 00:16:25.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Ok. Where did you buy your equipment that you needed or the items that you needed for shucking oysters?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Uh, Denton Oyster House.

00:16:25.000 --> 00:16:29.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Who runs or owns Denton Oyster House?

00:16:29.000 --> 00:16:51.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Ok, during the time that I was working there, uh, when I first started, it was Warren Denton, and he passed, and his son Charles took over. Uh, several years then, Charles passed, and it's another name there. I haven't been down there since he was there.

00:16:51.000 --> 00:17:04.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: When did, uh, you stop shucking oysters?

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: Oh Lord, it's been about, mmm, almost 11 years.

00:17:04.000 --> 00:17:09.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: What did you like most about shucking oysters?

00:17:09.000 --> 00:17:25.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: The surroundings, the people, and it was like that you wasn't on a job, working. It was just like, a great big family having fun and working.

00:17:25.000 --> 00:17:31.000

<i>Shelia Montague Parker</i>: Ok. Uh, what did you dislike about working at the oyster house?

00:17:31.000 --> 00:17:33.000

<i>Ruth Smith</i>: I didn't.

00:17:33.000 --> 00:17:38.740

Ok. Uh,



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