Mrs. Jenine Sluzar Narrator

Interviewed by the Baldwinsville Messenger and the Baldwinsville Public Library May 25, 1994

Interviewer (I): Ok, we are here with Jenine Sluzar who is Phil Sluzar's wife. You lived in Baldwinsville around the time of D-Day?

Jenine Sluzar (JS): Well I lived around Baldwinsville, I don't remember too much about it.

I: What were you doing around that time?

JS: Oh dear I can't remember, it's been so long, I think I was working or something at the time.

I: Do you remember any memories about the rationing?

JS: Yes, I remember when we used to get coupon book with the stamps and the coins, the little discs they had. When you went to the store you had to use them for different things. It was hard during the war to get anything. I know I went shopping with my girl friend and we wanted to buy shoes. We had to use the disc, we couldn't use the stamps, you know. It was really hard. You had to give up a lot of stuff you couldn't get, but it was good.

I: You were able to get by with what you had.

JS: Oh yeah, because I was single then and wasn't married then and everything. Oh well, we just did it. And then I worked a lot too.

I: What were you doing?

JS: I worked down Syracuse Pottery out on Corn Street. I worked there for a while and then I left there and then I went to working at the hospital, I was a nurse (*state? Updates?*). I stayed there for a while and then went to work at GE. That's where I ended up, when I married Phil. But now I'm just a plain house wife now.

I: Do you remember anything about the black out and sirens?

JS: No, I don't remember anything like that. I remember my mother used to be on what they called sky watch, up by The Radisson out there. They had a building where she used to go and they had to watch for the planes and I used to go out with her in the evenings and watch it.

I: And you had to look for certain kinds of planes.

JS: Certain kind of planes; that's true.

I: Do you remember D-Day its self or anything specific things about that?

JS: I can't really say anything about it, because it happened and we didn't realize it. The time came and went kind of quickly.

I: What were some of things that you friends were talking about around that time? JS: I can't remember.

I: Did it seem that people were worried about what might happen?

JS: That they were, more or less, worried. I know when Japan surrendered. I was at my grandparent's-house on December the 7th-just as plain and everything. There isn't too much. I remember you had to save a lot of stuff. You had to save grease and send it away for something, but I forgot now.

I: You had to conserve a lot of things.

JS: Oh yes.

I: Reuse a lot of things

JS: Yes.

I: We were talking a little bit about your mother was a watcher, were there any other family members (involved)?

JS: No, just my mother and I. I usually went up with her at night to keep her company so she wouldn't be there alone. We'd be there at 6pm and stay there until 9pm, and then left. I think she did it two or three times a week. They all too turn with that.

I: Were there any other relatives in the service?

I: Thanks Jenine.

JS: You're welcome.