

Transcript of interview with Frank Casier by Brad Edmondson:

FC: One of the earliest resisters was Ruth Newberry. She was the widow of the wealthy Newberry chain magnate who was a personal friend of mine; a great lady and a horse person, had a big horse farm down near Whiteface Mountain, in Ausable Forks.

BE: She's passed on.

FC: She did. There are a lot of stories about Mrs. Newberry. So she organized a group, which I had joined, and had a slogan of hands across the table, hands across the mountains, which supposedly was to protect the local people from the Rockefellers and this new brand of robber barons.

BE: What was the name of the group?

FC: The League for Adirondack Citizens' Rights. Tony Delia was an early member and one of our greatest supporters. I was a member. She was a very dominating lady, and eventually—as is often the case with grassroots people—there's dissent in the ranks.

Tony Delia and I then broke off into the Adirondack Defense League, because we didn't want to do Mrs. Newberry's bidding, great as she was. She eventually became friendly with Governor Rockefeller.

We used my office here in this house. Tony Delia, and Melinda Hadley was a secretary, and we wrote a lot of letters to the editor, and we made many trips to towns, speaking to town boards and supervisors.