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AP Chem

Group 2

Interviewing Lucy Comly was truly a rewarding experience. I was nervous at first because I've never interviewed anyone before. Also, I was unsure what Mrs. Comly would be like. I thought she may be intimidating and hard to talk to especially because she had so many accomplishments and was so successful. However, she opened up a lot and wasn't afraid to share her memories. I was most interested in how she was able to accomplish what she did as a woman in a time when science and engineering was male-dominating. She mentioned that she was paid less than men and was often cut out of receiving credit for work she had done with a group of people. She said she noticed how women work to benefit everyone whereas men work to benefit themselves. The men wanted to take the credit of the groups work. She said this happened to her a couple of times.

I think her point of view is pretty accurate. I believe that women are becoming more prevalent in the scientific world and are becoming more respected. Hopefully the female attitude, that scientific accomplishments should be made to benefit the world rather than be made to bring fame to the scientist, will begin to integrate itself into the scientific world so that one day everyone can work together and it wont be a competition. I think we'd be able to accomplish so much more if we combined all our knowledge and made a huge effort to find a cure for cancer or something of that sort.

I also found it interesting how she viewed politics. Even though she disliked the loyalties politicians need to keep to benefactors she involved herself in the politics within her town, especially through the tree council. She remained active throughout her life and kept up a bunch of interests such as gardening and painting.

She was inspiring to talk to and gave good advice to our group which included me, Sara Turner, and Adele Ricciardi. The three of us are looking towards careers in science and it was nice to hear what she enjoyed the most and what she struggled with. Most of all she told us to put ourselves out there and create opportunities for ourselves, something that she had to do because she wouldn't have been noticed unless she promoted herself.