

The information we gathered during an interview with Dr. Lucy Comly seemed like only a glimpse of the fascinating life she led. She was able to succeed as a female scientist in a less accepting age, as well as care for her husband and son and pursue her interests in art and society. Any of these interests alone would be noteworthy, but Dr. Comly's success is truly unique and admirable, especially for a student of science, preparing to embark on a college education.

Dr. Comly had to make a lot of difficult decisions during her life, and seems to have chosen the right path in each situation. Though she turned down the opportunity to study at Stanford in order to marry her husband and live in Boston, she still succeeded in her career, completing her PhD at UAlbany and going on to work at GE in Schenectady. Some may say that that was the wrong career choice, but Dr. Comly's commitment to family and a life outside of work is commendable, and has certainly served her well, as she is very proud of her husband and son, and happy to be a part of their lives.

What I found most interesting about Dr. Comly's life was her involvement in public life and government. Scientists have a reputation for keeping to themselves and being more antisocial, but Dr. Comly was on the Board of Trustees at the Dudley Observatory, an active member of the Niskayuna Tree Council, and has participated in local government in her area. Certainly as a scientist she could have ended up dry and uninteresting, but her multi-faceted career and life story make her a pleasure to interview and listen to. She is such a well-rounded woman, and this is why I admire her immensely.