

**SHARE YOUR STORY: STUDENT LIFE AT MUNDELEIN**

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Judy Ewing Lewis Oral History

Women and Leadership Archives

Loyola University Chicago

2020

## **PREFACE**

The following oral history is the result of a recorded interview with Judy Ewing Lewis conducted by Miranda Ridener on October 26, 2020. This interview is part of the Share Your Story: Student Life at Mundelein project, an oral history project to expand and enrich the Women and Leadership Archives' (WLA) records of Mundelein College's history through interviews with alumnae on student life.

Readers are asked to bear in mind that they are reading a transcript of the spoken word, rather than written prose. The following transcript has been reviewed, edited, and approved by the WLA Staff. Timestamps are provided every five minutes, within a few seconds of that exact point in the audio. Actions and sounds such as laughter are in parentheses, and notes added for context are in brackets.

### **TIME LOG AND OVERVIEW FOR SESSION 1**

[0:00-5:00]

Lewis's family, education, decision to enroll at Mundelein - influenced by Jean Dolores Schmidt, BVM (Sister Jean), major and minor at Mundelein.

[5:00-10:00]

Lewis's Mundelein class at the National Argonne Laboratory, work in computer programming, favorite place on campus

[10:00-15:00]

Lewis's experience living in Coffey Hall, friendships

[15:00-20:00]

Lewis's memory of Mundelein's dress code and Skyscraper central staircase tradition, memory of studying in the Skyscraper, recalling Speakeasies, roles in student government and influence by Ann Ida Gannon, BVM.

[20:00-25:00]

Lewis's experience with professors, activities with Young Christian Students

[25:00-30:00]

Lewis's work with Young Christian Students, experiences with mixers at Loyola and Notre Dame University, meeting her husband at Notre Dame University, watching the BVMs (member of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary) board the bus to go to Selma

[30:00-35:00]

Lewis's experience and participation in activist efforts at Mundelein, religious experience at Mundelein

[35:00-40:00]

Lewis's activist efforts after Mundelein

[40:00-45:00]

Closing remarks.

## **NARRATOR BIO**

Judy Lewis (Ewing) grew up in the South Side of Chicago. After receiving an Illinois State scholarship, she met with Jean Dolores Schmidt, BVM, who taught at the BVM novitiate across the street from Mundelein College. Sister Jean convinced her that Mundelein was the place for her. She entered Mundelein College in 1962 and was a five-day resident in Coffey Hall. She graduated in 1966 with a Math and Psychology Major. Her junior year she was Treasurer of the

Student Government, and her senior year she was President. She also participated in Young Christian Students (YCS). Through this she was able to travel to conferences of like-minded students and got to know her husband, Minchin Lewis. Mundelein provided her an opportunity that ultimately shaped her career. She was in a group of students that went to Argonne National Laboratory and took a coding class there. After graduation she took a job working to develop mainframe computer software for a bank. She worked in computer programming and coding for the rest of her career developing software for non-profits and subsidized housing. Judy and her husband have lived in Syracuse, New York since they were married soon after graduating, and Judy maintains activist efforts that she learned at Mundelein, using the YCS formula to Observe, Judge, and Act. This motto is quoted by Pope Francis in his new book *Let Us Dream*.

## **INTERVIEWER BIO**

Miranda Ridener is a graduate student in the Public History program at Loyola University Chicago and a graduate assistant at the WLA. She did her undergraduate work at Anderson University (Indiana) in history and dance. Her interests lie in museum studies, collections operations, and dance history.

Transcriptionist: Miranda Ridener

Session: 1

Interviewee: Judy Ewing Lewis

Locations: Chicago, IL and Syracuse, NY via Zoom

Interviewer: Miranda Ridener

Date: October 26, 2020

[Beginning of Interview]

[0:00]

Q: For the record, my name is Miranda Ridener, a graduate assistant, the Women in Leadership Archives interviewing Judy Ewing Lewis class of 1966 on October 26, 2020, for the Share Your Story Student Life of Mundelein Project by Zoom. I'm in Chicago, Illinois, and Judy is in Syracuse, New York. To start us off, could you tell me a little bit about yourself and your family, like when you were born and where you were raised?

Judy Ewing Lewis: Well, I was born on July 27 and in Chicago and on the south side of Chicago. And I have lots of cousins still in Chicago. And I have one sister who's an Adrian Dominican Sister. That's about it.

Q: That's very interesting. Thank you for sharing. Can you tell me how you came to be at Mundelein?

Lewis: That's a fun story. I was all set to go to Marquette [Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin]. Which is in Wisconsin. I had a roommate. Everything was set and then I got a small Illinois state scholarship, which obviously couldn't be used at Marquette. So, my search started to find a place in Illinois. And my mother had a friend named Marge Hofbauer, and she said that her friend, a BVM [member of the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary], had just arrived at Mundelein [Mundelein College] and that we should go talk to her. So, I did. And this little nun was very welcoming and told me and convinced me that my life would be changed if the minute I stepped onto the campus at Mundelein. So, I believed her, and I canceled my admission to Marquette and went to Mundelein. Another friend, Mary Gleason's mother, also was a friend of Marge Hofbauer, and she got the same directions to go talk to this little nun. And we both realized that we had come to Mundelein because of this conversation. But neither of us could remember what the sister's name was. And from time to time we'd say, Oh, maybe it's Sister Joan Frances [Crowley, BVM], maybe it's Sister—you know, we never found it. So forward 50 years.

Lewis: And I'm at the Mundelein reunion and we're preparing for the Mundelein our 50th reunion. And my husband and I's job was to direct people from the chapel to the Sister Jean Dolores room at the student center [Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt, BVM Multi-Purpose Room in Damen Student Center]. So not having been around when all the development happened there, we took a walk over there. We found the Sister Jean Dolores room and we saw this picture of this lady, a little lady in a red suit. And we said, "OK, now we know how to direct everybody over here." So, we were leaving the union and we ran into, again, this little nun or well no little woman happened to be in a red suit. I don't think she wears a red suit all the time, but we

probably wouldn't have noticed her if she weren't in the same red suit. And we got talking to her introduced her—we had heard lots about Sister Jean Dolores [Schmidt, BVM (Sister Jean)], although I didn't know her, and we were talking with her and sharing why we were there and asked her what she did at Loyola. And she said, "Well, I welcome the freshman class every year. And one of the things that I tell them every year is that when you step onto this campus, your life will be changed." I said, "Sounds familiar." And I said, "Sister, hate to interrupt, but any chance you know Marge Hofbauer?" And she said, "Oh, my best friend Marge Hofbauer." So, we had solved a 50-year mystery of who had convinced us to come to Mundelein. So that's my story.

Q: That's so interesting, Sister Jean has such a huge impact—

Lewis: Wonderful lady, wonderful.

Q: Could you tell me about what you studied at Mundelein and what your courses were like?

Lewis: OK. I started as a math major. And I was enjoying as a math major, and then I took a course in experimental psychology and I thought this is really interesting. And the next course I took was the psychology of learning. And I thought, oh, maybe I'm in the wrong place. So, I switched majors, but I actually finished my math major and then became a double major in math and psychology. But what really changed my career was an experience that Mundelein afforded us. There was no computer courses on campus at that time, but they made an arrangement with Argonne National Laboratory and we went out there and took a course in computer coding.

[5:00]

Lewis: So, I always say that my—all of those things combined made my career because I became a computer software designer and programmer. And the math helped, of course, having taken a course that helped on the resume, and in the psychology of learning, and all that helped me introduce a new program, teach what we'd written for new learners and knowing that everybody learns a different way. And so all combined, my education at Mundelein helped me throughout my career.

Q: That's really interesting, becoming a software program developer after starting as a math major.

Lewis: It wasn't something that was well known at that time. Now, you know, a coder is pretty familiar. So.

Q: Were you one of a few females in that field when you started?

Lewis: Oh, yes, the first, well, I had an interview at IBM [International Business Machines Corporation] and they told me that if a man came in more qualified or less qualified, they'd hire him first. And if a woman came in unmarried, they'd hire her first. And then, "Do you really want to take— you have to take a test" I said, "Yeah, I don't have anything else to do." "It's going to take 45 minutes." I said, "OK," so I took the test and I thought as I left, I will not be working for IBM. I did get hired by a bank that sent me to an IBM class for training on the particular

hardware that we were going to be programming. And when I got to the class, this is—I was married a month at that time, having gone to women's high school and college, and I was the only woman in the class. Except for the teacher, which was helpful, but some people say if you've gone to all women, how can you then exist in the world of men? My whole career, it was overwhelmingly men, but I never—I had learned at Mundelein I can do whatever I want to do. I can be a leader. I can be the head of the thing. I don't have to be the secretary of the club. I can be the treasurer. I can be the president. And so, I went well-equipped into a man's world.

Q: That's really fascinating. Were there any struggles you felt that you overcame in a certain way?

Lewis: After that first one, I felt I didn't, and it was a fortunate choice because at that time I worked full time until our children were born and then there was plenty of part time jobs you could work coding in, you know, at night or during the day or twenty hours or thirty hours. And so actually, once my children were born, I never worked full time again until they were in college. And of course, my daughters say while they were in school, I worked every minute they were in school. But it was a great—it was a great career for a mother.

Q: That's really fascinating. Thank you for sharing. Back at Mundelein, did you have any favorite places on campus?

Lewis: The lake [Lake Michigan] was my very favorite. When growing up in Chicago and vacationed a lot in Michigan, the lake, I loved going to the beach, but that's all I knew was the lake and sunny, you know, good beach days, but living in Coffey Hall, right on the lake. I learned all the moods about that—of the lake. You know, it could be angry. It could be sad. It could be pensive. It could be joyful. It could be you know, it was just—I just love being—living or being near the water. I don't live near the water in Syracuse. But we do have a boat. (laughs)

Q: Yeah, Lake Michigan definitely has its own moods.

Lewis: Yes, yeah, it's not just a place to go swim.

Q: So, can you tell me more about the living on campus and Coffey Hall what it was like and how it shaped your experience at Mundelein?

[10:00]

Lewis: It was great to be on campus and I was just a five-day resident, which really suited me fine at that point of leaving home. It was a nice introduction to being independent. Coffey Hall was new that year and it was the first year that there were seven-day residents. So that was fun and getting to know other people from other areas. And we had the option to stay a weekend. If there were an exam coming up or something, you paid a little extra and you could spend the

weekend. But just getting to be in a community of young women and learning. And just so much sharing of where we came from and where we wanted to go, it was a great experience.

Q: Did you have any particular friends that stand out to you in your memory at Coffey Hall?

Lewis: Oh, my goodness. I happened to be on first floor of Coffey Hall, so that was a—it's a short hall and so I could go down the hall and tell you all the different experiences because we'd've really got to know each other. We were—the upper halls, the upper floors, there were more people to interact with. Let's see. I don't know how to single out one of them, Liz Gordon is a good friend. She was—and she's now in California. Of course, my roommate, she was not my freshman roommate, but we met in the hall. She lived next door to me, and we said we've met, and we were from very different parts of the city. We couldn't figure it out and couldn't figure it out. But we finally discovered that we had met at an Ignatius dance. And the next year, Nancy Wiaduck became my roommate, and we were roommates all through Mundelein. But I see—I see Joan O'Connor and Mary Gleason, Sue Snyder. I just—and most of the freshmen Coffey Hall residents stayed on the first floor. We had an option to move and then others joined us. But it was a very close, I don't want to say clique, a close community, close family.

Q: Did you come across any challenges about living on campus that were different than you expected?

Lewis: Hmmm, well, there was the challenge of remembering not to walk out into the front door, come in or out the front door without being in a dress. You could go out the back door in slacks, but you couldn't go out the front door in slacks because that wasn't appropriate for women. Let's see other challenges. I think as students, we challenged each other. I remember in a Tea Room [Mundelein College cafeteria] conversation, they discovered that I had never had a pet, and this became, well, a lot of my lot of the friends, first floor Coffey Hall were sociology majors. And so, they felt that I had really missed an experience. So, they challenged me (laughs), and they bought me goldfish. They lived until the end of the—until graduation, and I gifted them to some who were going into apartments and stuff. Let's see other challenges were just daily challenges of differences of opinion. We had different backgrounds and some of my closest conversations where we challenged or explored other things with Carols Stachyra, and we used to talk in the in the stairwell. And I learned in my psychology classes that sometimes communicating in those in-between places is a way to resolve and explore a lot of issues.

Q: That's all really interesting, I was hoping you could tell me a little bit more about the dress—or front door dress only, I'm not sure I've come across that.

Lewis: Oh, yes, that was you couldn't—what is the lower level called? I can't remember.

Q: I'm not sure I know.

[15:00]

Lewis: I should know that, but it's—it's a big room with all the beautiful windows, and so you couldn't be in that room without being in dress code. So, we came from a high school where, you know, you wear a uniform to school, but the uniform was not like uniform, except there was a dress code.

Q: That's really interesting.

Lewis: Could you imagine enforcing that today?

Q: No. What was the dress code like, can you elaborate on it a bit?

Lewis: No, it was just it just had to be a skirt. Just couldn't wear slacks or jeans, blue jeans. Except you could you know, especially when they realized they had seven-day residents, they lightened up a little bit on that. It's a little hard.

Q: Did the skirts have to be a certain length?

Lewis: I don't remember that. I don't remember anything about necklines. I don't think it was an era that you had to deal with shorter skirts and lower necklines, so.

Q: Interesting. Were there other rules across campus or campus policies that were challenging?

Lewis: Well, we couldn't walk down the center staircase or walk up the center staircase, you could only do that once you were to graduate.

Q: Why was that?

Lewis: Just a tradition to make it special, to become a great achievement and something to reach for, I guess.

Q: So, in the Mundelein Skyscraper that center staircase?

Lewis: Yes. Yes.

Q: Oh, that's interesting. I don't think I knew that.

Lewis: One of the other interesting points in the Skyscraper. I think it's still there. There's a pendulum in the front hall.

Q: Huh.

Lewis: And you could watch how much the building was swaying. There was a challenge. I didn't like to watch that. (laughs) Jeepers, I can't think of anything that I didn't—that was challenging, I do remember being on the top floor or one of the top floors where we would have language labs or music labs and. It was great because they had these windows, and we could look out at Lake Michigan while we were doing our language or music or whatever. So, challenges. Not eating as much as—I wasn't used to and had breakfast, not gaining weight. It was a challenge, but that's about it.

Q: So, you also mentioned discussing differences of opinions with your classmates. Did you feel Mundelein was a very opening environment to those discussions, not just between students but with faculty as well?

Lewis: Yes, particularly there was a group called the Speakeasies and this was a group and I think we shared it with Loyola, and it was a radio broadcaster, Stan Dale, I think his name was. And he brought all sorts of controversial speakers to campus, which would raise I can't think of specific topics, but always opened our eyes to many different issues. In fact, I think there is a point that Loyola. It got a little too controversial. But the BVM said, oh, come on over, we continued being challenged in all different ways.

Q: Thank you. That's really interesting, I like hearing these kinds of stories. In earlier discussions between us, you talked about your time in student government. Can you tell me some more about that and the roles you had and the years you had them?

Lewis: I think I was a representative of student government in maybe sophomore year, and then I became treasurer, and then senior year I was student body president. And campaigning, you know, we had posters and handouts and all those kinds of things. But my you know, I mean, I'm sure there were there were issues and there was money issues and a variety of things that we had to work out as students. But probably a silly but most meaningful thing that happened was I'm not a big fan of speaking publicly and I was backstage with Sister Ann Ida [Gannon, BVM] and I, you know, said, "Well, I'm a little nervous." And she said, "Oh, Judy, I am nervous every time I go out onstage." And I was like, "You?" And she said, "And so right before I go out, I do this." And she shook her hands up and down. She said, "And now I'm ready to go." And I thought, here is this stately, totally wonderful speaker, and she was sharing something with me that was very personal and all of the nuns, all of the faculty were like that.

[20:00]

Lewis: One faculty member stands out, one of my psychology faculty members stands out who was had been in an automobile accident and she was a quadriplegic, and she was in a wheelchair. And we had to help her turn the pages of her notes. And I remember walking home with her once and we had to, the only way to get out of Mundelein on a level plane was through the freight elevator. And we got on the freight elevator to a certain level. We went in and then it went up in

the, it opened up at sidewalk level, and then we walked Sheridan Road to her home and just seeing a woman who said, "There's always a challenge. Yeah, I can—I can get through this," and I felt that was faculty, the BVMs, of course, and—and many students who had challenges that they were able to have the courage to face and succeed.

Q: What was that professor's name? Do you remember?

(Judy shakes her head)

Q: That's OK. Are there other faculty, professors that stand out to you for doing something notable like that?

Lewis: (Chuckles) I remember one that was sort of negative and I'm not going to remember this man's name. He was—he was a math no, an English professor, professor, and we asked him how long should the paper be? And he said something that would not be approved today at all. He said, "Long enough to cover the topic and short enough to be interesting." Yes, but. I also remember a German professor. Who was wonderful, and he had—he was tall, and he paced the floor and I loved it so much, I decided to take a second year and that was a challenge. That is one challenge I decided not to—not to fulfill. The second year, German class was only five students and the other four spoke German in their home. It would have been a wonderful opportunity to really learn how to speak German. But I was taking math and psychology and I thought, hmm, but I do wish I had taken that class.

Q: Do you happen to remember the German professor's name?

(Judy shakes head)

Q: No, that's OK.

Lewis: I can look it up. Great questions and bringing things to my mind that I never thought of that you would ask. It's fun.

Q: Yeah, no it's here to just talk about your experiences. So, you mentioned you were also a part of Young Christian Students. Can you tell me about that organization?

Lewis: OK, it was—short name is YCS and there's an adult group, a family group called CFM, Christian Family Movement. And I suppose in high school, I was somewhat involved in another group called CISCA, which was Chicago interaction—no Chicago Inner-School Catholic Action. So, I guess I always lean to some Catholic action type activity. And YCS was on many campuses, including Notre Dame. And I always like to go to conferences about YCS at Notre Dame. I had met a young man there. But the main tool of YCS was to observe, judge and act so you could take any issue, and there were in that group—I was challenged by many of the women who were part of that group. And we talked about different issues and then we would zero in on one thing and we'd say, OK, let's observe this issue and what can we do about it?

[25:00]

Lewis: And then there was always an action part of it, so. Remember that one challenging thing that the group was sort of saying, you know, everybody volunteers to go to the orphanage or work with children at a group home or and we think that's a lot of fun, but it's not really challenging. So, what should we do? More challenging. And so, we decided that the Mundelein neighborhood, there are many senior nursing homes. So, we went to the nursing home and said, is there something we could do? And it was it was a lot more challenging, and I remember we went, I don't know how long we lasted at it, but we went at least one night a week and helped feed the residents who were inab—unable to feed to eat themselves, and many were unable to communicate much. And but it was a very eye-opening experience.

Q: Sounds very interesting. Thank you for sharing. So, you mentioned that you met a guy at Notre Dame's campus.

Lewis: Yes.

Q: Were there opportunities to mingle with the men at Loyola?

Lewis: Yes. Mm hmm. Um, I met this guy very—I went—a friend of mine from the south side of Chicago, we went to the Loyola mixer. This is the weekend, the Friday night, maybe before classes started. And we stood and watched a lot. And then, the next night we went to Notre Dame. Of course, Notre Dame was all men, and they bussed in the women and we didn't go on a bus. There were some seniors in our neighborhood who were also going. So, we went with them and—What was your original question or was there—any way—that weekend—there's always sort of a negative and then a positive light. We were walking into Stepan Center dance—or, you know, hall at Notre Dame and the guys were lined up. We had a walk through the line and said to my friend Sue, “Never again,” but I met my husband that night. So, I probably didn't do a lot of other socializing. I mean, I did through YCS and through—but I didn't really like going to mixers and that kind of thing. So—But it worked for me.

Q: Thank you for sharing that. That's a really neat story. During your time at Mundelein, there was a lot of different activist efforts going on around the country as well as on campus. I believe you mentioned seeing the sisters board the bus to head to Selma. Can you tell me your perspective on that?

Lewis: Well, I can remember—I think we were looking out the windows and we said, what's going on? Coffey Hall we weren't in on this, the development of it. But I understand from Adrienne Bailey that it was the students at Northland [Hall, dorm at Mundelein] who organized this trip to Selma [Alabama]. And so, we went out, we saw our administration faculty, BVMs were very obvious, and they were boarding this bus and at that time, there was a lot of unrest on campuses and maybe the students at Mundelein were a little quieter. Many of us were first time

in our family, the first person to go to college. And so, this was this was pretty new. And as I said at other campuses, it was the administration and the teachers and the faculty who were trying to dampen down demonstrations. And here was our—our BVMs who were boarding the bus and teaching that it's okay to demonstrate peacefully and it's good to be an activist and to work for different issues. And that set us all up. I think many of us have gone to many, many demonstrations for a variety of things over the years.

[30:00]

Lewis: But I always laughed that, you know, our nuns were boarding the bus and the students, we went to the chapel to pray for them. Seemed like there was a role reversal there. And I think the religious sisters of many different orders have continued to board buses and Nuns on the Bus [a Catholic advocacy group] and who are, you know, out there peacefully demonstrating. And many of us have followed them.

Q: Thanks for sharing that. That's really interesting, the impact that the BVMs had on students and the way the students impact that relationship sounds very interesting.

Lewis: Mm hmm.

Q: Were there any other student activists' efforts that you witnessed during your time on campus?

Lewis: Um, I do remember we went through a period of sensitization of—they went through and marked the water fountains, white only, colored only, and bathrooms, and it was interesting, too. I don't remember what group that did that was the student government at the time or—but they brought home issues to us in a very concrete way. What was your question?

Q: If you had seen any other student activist efforts on campus during your time there or if you participated in any?

Lewis: Um, I can't remember participating in anything. I mean, we continue to, um, do things following Martin Luther King or whatever, but I don't—but there were—it was never a big issue because it was accepted and led by our faculty and fellow students. So, it didn't become a major issue.

Q: Could you tell me more about the sensi—sen?

Lewis: Yeah, I can't say it,

Q: That, could you tell me a little bit more about the black and white only signs? What that was like experiencing that?

Lewis: Well, I think it brought home the issue quite well and, you know, fifty-three years later, I still remember that. And—but now with Black Lives Matter, it's brought home to us even more. It's just hard to believe. That we could be so insensitive to people's feelings and needs and be privileged and not even realize that we're privileged. So, I think Mundelein laid the groundwork for me to be very open to those kinds of issues.

Q: Thank you. Let me go through my notes really quick. What part did religion play in your experience at Mundelein? Do you feel it shaped it in some way?

Lewis: It certainly matured it, and I think I found that my high school classmates who went to not parochial college or not Catholic colleges in some ways, their religion did not grow as much as those at Catholic schools who were challenged more in a comfortable environment, but we were challenged about our religion and what I believe, what we believed, and I can remember we had some wonderful theology professors in both BVMs and Jesuits.

[35:00]

Lewis: And I loved going to the Loyola Chapel. Madonna Chapel, of course, it's—the chance to see other people, but the music was absolutely stunning at that time and. The—one of the ending

songs we used at our wedding and then our anniversary, and it was Go Forth and Witness Together, so being a Catholic doesn't just mean praying, it means being in the world and witnessing. You know that life matters. In a very broad way. The children at the border, their life matters. The Black Lives Matter, and it's our job to not just pray, but to act, to act for people who can't act for themselves.

Q: Yes, thank you for sharing that. Are there any other things that we haven't talked about so far that you would like to cover about your experience at Mundelein or how Mundelein shaped you for future career paths?

Lewis: Well, maybe I'd just say a few things—more things about action and things that I've done since leaving Mundelein and—not in career wise, but of course, we, you know, marched in demonstrations for Vietnam War. Well—before we went into Afghanistan. My husband and I felt in the Vietnam era, there was a lot of hippies who were out there demonstrating, and we wanted to say, yeah, we could have that Hippie look too, but we would purposely wear business suits. And we dressed the girls up in the stroller to just say, you know, young business families believe this, as well as people that you think may be more liberal than you are. We at one point—I worked for with a junior league on a project helping foster stud— foster care children and getting better legislation in and more workers for them. And my final action, I don't know if it was my final but there's more, I felt that skateboarders in our neighborhood were being marginalized, they were the bad kids and what could we do to lock them up? I mean, maybe give them a skate park, but it's got to be closed-in fences and security guards. And I thought, no, no, no, no. And I my one of my lines was that the fences only keep out the adults, the skateboarders

could climb the pool fence when it was empty and skate in the pool. And they just wanted a place to—to skateboard and to be outside and peacefully interact with each other. And it was much more of a learning project than I ever expected. These young people were amazingly quiet when they were doing their sport and sharing and if a little guy came along, the older guy would go over and help and teach them how—how to do the sport. And we were bringing snacks for some event and we brought cookies and chips and they were like, "no, any water? Do you have any fruit?" So, this is a whole different group. So, we learn. But so—there's a lot of different kinds of Catholic action, if you want to call it Catholic action that's out there to be done.

Q: That's very interesting. Thank you for that. During those times when you went out and demonstrated, did you meet up with fellow Mundelein alums or any BVMs or did you follow what they were doing as well?

Lewis: Well, we were in Syracuse, New York, so we didn't meet up with others, but I always followed the Nuns on the Bus. I don't know if you're familiar with that group

[40:00]

Q: No, can you tell me some more about it?

Lewis: And now my brain is going to be really challenged. Sister—oh, I—let me go grab the magazine, she spoke at the Democratic Convention and they get on the bus, they board a bus and

travel to—across the country. And whatever the issue of the day is, they also go to Washington and meet with the senators and assembly and—and push for, you know, as I say, Catholic action. That's not just a single issue. And, oh, I'm. I can't remember her name.

Q: That's OK,

Lewis: but there's but—there's a, oh, probably seventy-five or a hundred different groups of nuns who gather together and they're continually—in fact, my husband's cousin is also an Adrian Dominican and she's been jailed a number of times (laughs) just to show that, you know, when she stands up for an issue for people who are, um, not privileged, that she's willing to do that and I'm—I can't quite follow her lead, but I'm always impressed with the religious women and the stance that they take.

Q: It's always interesting to see the differences—different groups talk about various topics and issues and all of that.

Lewis: There's a magazine called Connect Connection and that's—its sister—I had her name for a minute there, lost it, I'll call you back.

Q: That's alright, thank you.

Lewis: Her last name is Campbell.

Q: All right, so that's all of the questions I have on my end, I. If there's anything else you feel like sharing at this time, please go ahead.

Lewis: No, I'm fine, thank you. This was very nice meeting you and enjoying your conversation and your beautiful smile.

Q: Thank you. Thank you so much for your time and being willing to participate in Share Your Story with us. I will be stopping the recording.

[End of Interview]