

Interview with Anita Meyland, Marquette, Michigan April 16, 1992

First Interview Session:

TAPE 2 A&B

SIDE A:

RMM: - Anita could you tell us a little about, you mentioned earlier the Harden years and the Job Corp. You were involved in the Job Corp, could you tell us a little about your involvement and what happened there?

AM: As I told you, wherever there was art, I was there. So, every summer, there was an artist who had a workshop up in Marquette. One of my favorite artists from Milwaukee, I got him to put on a workshop for Northern in the summer. I went over to the campus to register for that workshop about June 29th or something. As I walked into the building--where I registered--this was the time we had Quonset huts. Do you know what they are?

RMM: Mmmm.

AM: Well, there was a lot of Quonset huts. I noticed at one of the Quonset huts, there were a row of students trying to register for something. So, I walked over there. I had registered for the summer course. I walked over and I talked to the one student who was at the end of the line. She said, "They are looking for art teachers and craft teachers". Job Corps is looking for art teachers and craft teachers; we're in line to register. So, I stayed in line. When it came to my turn, I walked into the room; the Head of the Recreation Department was doing the selecting you know. I stepped into the room and he said, "My god, Anita you got me off the hook". He said, "Your hired". He said, "I have had all these people pour in here and I have to make a decision who I am going to hire". But would you take the position? I said, "Sure".

Then in the meantime, my poor husband is parked somewhere on Presque Isle waiting for me to come back from this workshop registration. So, I got to his car, he says, "This is the last time I am going to wait for you. I said, "You'll be sorry, you'll find out". We got home and I said, "I am expecting a call at one o'clock. You'll find out why I was late".

Sure enough, the call came at one o'clock and I was hired. It was an \$8500 job. So, his face was kind of red. I took that job that allowed a salary. Mr. Meyland became seriously ill. I guess Harden had the idea that I would be able to carry on; so, they extended the art in the Job Corps. It was really supposed to be more business art. I did cultural art, but what they were looking for were people who would teach business art. You know people who do silk screen and stuff like that. But while it lasted—it was good.

RMM: What kind of students were in the course?

AM: Terrible, terrible, terrible girls. You never knew when you came to your room, if someone would be holding the doorknob on the other side--not to let you in. Over the fourth of July holiday--I never concealed any of my art paper--I came in and the girls had taken big sheets of art paper and slashed them in two. They were a very, very bad

group. There were several that you felt sorry for because they were in it but as a whole they were a real bunch of rowdies.

RMM: Did your art make any in roads?

AM: For some of them, some of them really enjoyed it and were going to have futures. But others just took it because they were earning money. It was discontinued; some of the federal jobs remained on--not the Job Corps.

RMM: How did the community view the Job Corps?

AM: Not very good because they had contact with these girls in the business places. Not that they would steal but they would come pretty close to it. They didn't mingle with the girls in town nor the girls in town didn't mingle with them. They all stayed in Carey Hall; that's where the Job Corps was conducted.

We had a portrait of Ms. Carey done. I told Miss Carey about an artist in Escanaba who did her portrait, a very lovely portrait of Miss Carey which was hanging above the desk in the entrance hall. One day, I came to work and somebody had taken the paper down—shot the paper with darts of Ms. Carey. So, that is the type of vandalism that went on.

RMM: Was the painting saved?

AM: They took it down. I don't know where it is now. It was a huge painting—had no painting at all.

RMM: How do you view the art department at Northern today? In the more recent years? Say since Mr. Gorski came in and there was kind of a change in direction and all. Do you have any comments about that or some of the people that you have worked with over there?

AM: Don't get me on Gorski. Gorski is so low in my estimation that I wouldn't even have him sit on the scholarship committee. I've taken more art courses. He's a philanderer. He philosophizes all the time because he doesn't know anything about art. But the rest of the department are okay. They have got some wonderful men. Leete, the furniture man and of course the silversmith [Wedig] is outstanding, I don't know why he stays here. He is the one who did the courthouse gates and he also did the grillwork [ironwork] for my gazebo [Presque Isle]. He could go anywhere, I guess.

RMM: Wedig, Dale Wedig.

AM: Wedig. Marv Zehnder's pottery. Marvin Zehnder has always been a favorite of mine. But the fact that Northern, they got that—what do you call that place where the pottery is--that building?

RMM: Birdseye.

AM: They should have burned Birdseye down. You know, they used Birdseye and it never changed. At one time, Holly Aldrich, a wonderful silver smith and she started silver smithing classes in Birdseye. She had to set up her own workshop, her own shelves and everything. I went there about ten years later. They are still using the same

stuff she pulled together. Birdseye has not gone up one bit and they should get rid of it. Really build a good building.

But pottery is alright because he's got a little realm of his own. But the rest of Birdseye—stuck in the basement.

RMM: Were there other faculty members that sort of, over the years that sort of stand out? like Don Bottum? Others?

AM: Oh, yes. I must tell you. I am in communication with Don Bottum—I just recently had to write the obit for a faculty wife who had died. Her husband was in Manual Arts. After he died the college took her on in the Home Economics Department [1953]. Well she died just a year or so ago. I had to do her obit.

RMM: What was her name?

AM: Ms. Ferns—Esther Ferns. Earl Ferns was her husband who died of a brain tumor. But at any rate, I started Esther Ferns obituary by saying, there was a place called, "Camelot" similar, there was a place called "College Heights". Because all the young faculty that came to Northern in that era built homes on College Avenue. It was in proximity to John D. Pierce, close to the hospital, and close to the college. So, that was a desirable place to build a home. Most of those people have died on College Avenue--lived there until they died. I think that was the original college settlement. They were just ordinary faculty.

RMM: I think Hal Wright--now he's retired but—he lives...

AM: He was later in a more expensive era. He still can't sell his house because he wants too much money for it.

RMM: Do you remember we had some famous people who came to town; Mrs. Roosevelt or could you comment on some of those visits?

AM: Oh yes. I remember when Mrs. Roosevelt came to town [October 4, 1956]; everybody went to the Air Force [Base] to see her come. The committee members took her in a car and took her to Northern. You never got close to her. I was even at that time, a pretty good Democrat. I sent a corsage to the hotel. I never heard. I kind of held it against her but thought how silly of me to even do that. She was rushed into town and out of town as quick as possible.

Margaret Meade came here and she was glorified. We had a member of the English Department [James] Cylod Bowman. Mr. Meyland's boss, who was really in charge of those speakers. We got some wonderful speakers. Another person that we got was Frank Lloyd Wright [MJ July 6, 1936].

One of the outstanding women in town—as far as an artist is concerned—was Mrs. Lautner [Vida]. Her husband was a faculty member; he was getting so old when he taught the last couple of years. Students in his class got so tired of the way he taught must of [inaudible aside]. They listened to him drivel along until they couldn't stand it anymore. Somebody would take their books from the desk and throw them on the floor. That would mean bell and they would all dismiss themselves. He knew nothing.

She was an artist and still is. Her son is John Lautner an outstanding architect in the United States.

RMM: So, do you remember when Frank Lloyd Wright came?

AM: Oh, yes. I remember really well. I remember he spoke at Northern. But I remember his going to Northern.

You know Northern had a beautiful campus. You had the main entrance to Kaye Hall, there was a wide section that came up from Presque Isle. On all sides of it were plantings so you walked up that center pavement and you got to Kaye Hall. But there was also a diagonal entrance that came from--it ended at Longyear Hall. The diagonal was sort of a short cut. I remember when Frank Lloyd Wright was here. Mrs. Lautner who lived across the street, was walking up that diagonal path with Frank Lloyd Wright. She was kind of a stately, tall woman. He of course had a big black cape and a real art hat (porkpie). I'll never forget that--as a silhouette from the back--to see Frank Lloyd Wright and Mrs. Lautner together. So, I remember it well.

Out of that, Frank Lloyd Wright came back here and built a home in Marquette--"Deertrack [Village]" is one of Frank Lloyd Wright's show places. Mrs. Lautner's son, John Lautner went to Taliesin which is an architectural school in Madison. John and Mary Bud Roberts [Lautner] both graduated from there. So, they were instrumental in bring Frank Lloyd Wright.

RMM: I see. He gave a public lecture?

AM: Just recently he did. Yes.

RMM: No, no I mean--when Frank Lloyd Wright--when he came.

AM: Lecture in Lee Hall [correction: Kaye Hall, Lee Hall was built in 1948], as I told you. Anything that happened in Marquette happened in Lee Hall [Kaye Hall]. We were all invited tickets or not.

RMM: Do you remember in the process of saving Longyear Hall? Do you remember activities in Longyear Hall?

AM: Yes, I remember that really well. Most of the activities were in Kaye Hall in the center. You would have classes in Longyear Hall. There were two floors of classes. As you walk the corridor [inaudible], the closer you got to Longyear Hall the more the floor wiggled. So, when you really got to Longyear Hall you had the feeling that maybe you'd make it or maybe the floor would break down. It was sort of annoying. "I have a history class in Longyear Hall, I hope she makes it--I hope Longyear Hall will lasts that long". So, it had a reputation of being a musky. Members who taught there didn't like it either because it was the back alley of the college.

RMM: What was it used for, primarily classes?

AM: History classes and social science classes, I guess. Not science classes they were deluxe; they were on the other side.

RMM: Peter White?

AM: Mm mm [Yes].

RMM: Lou Allen Chase had his classes in Longyear Hall?

AM: I doubt whether he was still there in Longyear. He may have had. Most of the history classes were over there.

RMM: Were there faculty offices in Longyear Hall?

AM: I know the bookstore was in Longyear Hall. I know Mr. Brown had an office in Longyear Hall. I think there were a few classrooms but mostly it was the Library. It was the college library; it was in Kaye or Longyear Hall.

RMM: Oh, I see. Were you here when they constructed Pierce and they had the school?

AM: Yes, we were quite disturbed because Kaye Hall and Longyear were red sandstone and John D. Pierce was wood [Nancy: it was brick; it was red brick] Was it brick? At any rate, it didn't fit--Kaye Hall's red sandstone. "Nancy is a graduate of John D. Pierce, aren't you?"

Nancy: "Kindergarten through high school".

AM: I had an expression now that I used "--from Bates to Bottum". Ms. Bates was the Kindergarten teacher and a lot of the people like Nancy started with Ms. Bates and they finished with Mr. Bottum in college "--from Bates to Bottum". I think Mr. Bottum is the oldest surviving faculty member.

RMM: Could you just kind of highlight him a bit? What he was like?

AM: Oh, yes. He was—they were a very economical family. What you should really use for these references is Don Bottum--did his whole life and he called it, "The Bottum Line". That's a good reference book; he tells you how they came to Marquette. They came about the time we did and how frugally we all lived. About the frugal home they built when they first came here. How low the salaries were; so, that's the bottom line.

Then while Jamrich was here, Mrs. Hilton, wife of Earl Hilton in the English Department, was given \$1000 to do the history of Northern. She got along pretty well until it came to the last chapter. She had finished the book. Jamrich made her do over the whole last chapter. He didn't get enough credits. Those two...

Then I think, oh, the man who's Head of the Social Sciences--West. I think Luther West did a treatise on Northern. The worst thing Luther West did, he composed a little ditty and it got to be Northern's college song. It killed "Come Men of Northern" which really was Northern's fight song ["Come, Men of Northern" written by Conway Peters, Music Professor NMU in 1923, Hilton p.68] but it became a lukewarm lyrical thing [West's song]. Northern--I don't know if they always sing it but the old timers always sang the fight song, "Come Men of Northern...Let us all great glory share..."

One thing that I was going to mention to you. We talked about the outdoor festivals that we had. When the year came to an end, Phy.Ed. teacher would always corral her best dancers and they go out on the lawn behind the college and have an outdoor festival. But at the same time in June, they would have a Rush Day.

I haven't heard anything about a Rush Day; that use to be an annual event. They had a huge ball, I think the diameter of the ball was as large as this table. Anyway, a huge leather ball. They would push that ball from one side to the other. The Thetas, the Tri Mus and everybody helped with Rush Day; my daughter was born on Rush Day.

I remember my husband had to be called from the campus because they...I think the Tri Mus had gone down to the gas station and got all the oil, dirty gasoline and dumped it over apples. Then they soaked the apples in this dirty gasoline and they threw it at the opposition. One of the boys, Mr. Meyland was attending to, (when he was called to the hospital for my daughter's birth), he came home--said, "he was getting half an apple out of a poor freshman..."

It was rough, it was rough; the girls had part of it too. The girls class took place at Presque Isle and they had a two by four--connected two by fours--that reached from one end of the pond to the other. So, the girls would walk on it, across the pond--which I think is foolish. And that was the bond at Northern which isn't exhibited now very much except for football games.

RMM: So, this Rush Day then was held in June?

AM: In June, yes.

RMM: Is there a special day they did it or just any...?

AM: I guess it was always a weekend in June. This was June 5th, the one I remember mostly.

RMM: So, part of it was pushing this great ball...

AM: And then of course they had a parade you know with cars and things....

RMM: When you were here and then as the years passed, how did the campus expand? It went from Kaye Hall and then how did it grow?

AM: Well, in buildings of course, it grew from Kaye Hall to all the dorms you know. Some of the dorms are connected with Northern, like Gries Hall and West Hall are really almost on the campus--you know and almost connected with it. Then, the others were out at the fairgrounds--Meyland Hall, Magers Hall and Spooner. No, Spooner Hall was on the campus. Carey Hall and Spooner Hall were sort of connected. Later on, when they were naming all these buildings after faculty members. One faculty member said, "They named all the buildings after what they thought were the good professors and--just the flunkies got named to some of the lesser halls . There was a little rivalry if you were named. You could see that.

RMM: We have our offices, the history department has their offices in Magers Hall, could you...

AM: Magers Hall is named after Mildred Magers, who was the first women to have a doctorate; she was in the English department. She was studying languages; she was kind of stuck on herself--especially, when she got her doctorate. She died. On this

diagonal path, I'm talking about. She just dropped dead; she had a heart attack on that diagonal path. Mr. Meyland felt terrible about it.

Then Mrs. Carey was coming to Marquette, but she took the shortcut--the Big Bay Road--that cuts into the main Big Bay Road and she hit a car and killed her mother. She was an invalid for two years. She was all in pieces. It was just terrible, just terrible. That was the biggest accident that we ever had at Northern but she came back finally.

RMM: So, she didn't pass away from that accident?

AM: No, she was strung up with everything--her legs, her teeth, her whole head was smashed in. That happened in October, when they were on a sightseeing tour for the color leaves.

RMM: Okay. You probably have many, many stories...I have pretty much, I made a list here...

AM: What I can't figure out...I was telling Nancy—I wasn't too well this morning. But I worried all night. I lost twenty years. From Waldo till now, there are eight presidents and I've given the longest of ten years for each president that only gives me 80 years. Where if this is the Centennial, it's 100 years. "Where are the other twenty years? Was there a transition period between some of these Presidents?" We had one long transition and that was after...

Nancy: Well, you start in 1899. You didn't come here until 1920.

AM: No, I wasn't counting...[Confusion three people talking at the same time]

Nancy: There were less than 1,000 students at Northern when I was in grade school but by the time I got out of high school which was 1956. There were more, I don't know how many thousands by then. They had started by building--the old library had already been torn down. That was one of the first building that when I was a teenager was built back. Then, Lee Hall was built somewhere around that time too. Carey Hall was built--the first Women's dorm and the one on the other side [Spooner] was the Men's dorm. Those are the first dorms that I think they had at Northern, that I am aware of. I don't know if they gotten rid of the Quonset huts by then—that was after World War II—being up there too.

RMM: Those I think lasted until they built Cohodas. I think they still had those. They were there when I came in '69; they still had them.

Nancy: Behind that, was the school woods. We used to go on picnics out there--that was a big occasion. It was really dense woods back there. There were little paths going through it. Where we use to go down on nature walks. It's all Northern's campus now.

RMM: What's there now? Hedgcock fieldhouse and all that...

Nancy: Yeah. It would be where Jamrich Hall is...where all the classroom buildings—all that whole area.

RMM: So, everything that is open--like an open plain today--used to be thick woods.

Nancy: Yeah, except part of it was hills. There was sleigh rides near, where Whitman School is.

AM: There was a farm up on the plains.

RMM: Where?

AM: When we came here, the area behind Northern was still open fields and they had cows grazing there.

I remember, when Charlotte was born 1927, and my mother stayed with me. We lived in a new house. There was room for a garden. There was just the kind of soil that you dig up next to the basement. My mother would take a pail and a shovel. She would go out on the plains behind Northern and pick up the cow dung. So, there were cows grazing there?

RMM: So, that would be where West Science is today?

Nancy: Well, I think, down that way...it was woods. "Wasn't it more up to the left, to the South, where the fields were?"

AM: Well, College Avenue was part of the fields, I know that.

Nancy: Yeah, but then to the South, I mean to the North of—near Wright Street—up that way--it was where the woods were.

RMM: Okay, so most of that campus that is now all open...that someone was complaining about the other day--that there aren't any trees or they're just putting them in. All the trees were cut out at some point?

Nancy: There was a stand--there was a swath down there of tamaracks--all kinds of trees.

AM: Harden was a great saver of trees. [Nancy inaudible]. When Meyland Hall was built. There were pine trees in the front of it. Harden said, "Never will those pine trees be cut if I have anything to say because Mr. Meyland was set on those trees. They are there."

SIDE B:

AM: ...comedian.

RMM: Who is this now--Don Bottum?

AM: Don Bottum, never a shady story. This I could have sold. I gave a black and white exhibit of Lake Superior during the time when Kaye Hall was being torn [down]. This is the black dragon which is the demolition equipment. You see Kaye Hall in the background. You also see the heart with the trees on it, that was sort of a scared spot for Northern. A lot of universities have a "trysting" place, like a bridge; this was sort of a lover's heart. It had the shape of a heart. It had three big pine trees on it. They were scared. One Rush Day, a couple of fellows brought a chain saw and cut down the pine trees. They had to almost lock the...[inaudible].

RMM: Oh, my lord.

AM: Also, when Kaye hall went; the heart went. Sometime during my study years at Northern, I took a biology class or botany class from a woman by the name of Schacke

[c.1931]. During that time, we had to make a biological map of the campus. One of the older...Mrs. Mattson who was an older faculty wife had discovered among some papers--a complete map of every bush and every tree that was on the campus. It was just a gorgeous thing. Through the years, I have lost it. I just hope someone has it. They had every type of shrub and every type of tree that was to be had on the campus. It went all the way up--what is now where Kaye Hall was--on both sides of the path in front--where you entered the college; there were bushes. It was like a botanical garden and all went through the years.

RMM: They just died off and they never replaced it?

AM: No one took care of it.

RMM: So, the whole front--everything around Kaye Hall was...

AM: was on this map. Evidently, they had somebody at that time who was a botanist with them.

RMM: Are there any other things, I mean--I've missed a bunch of things. Oh, one thing I wanted to ask you about, "What are the various category of things that you have collected over the years?" I know Diane was telling me that you've collected dishes [pottery] and a whole bunch of things.

AM: Why don't you ask me what haven't I collected?

RMM: What haven't...(Russ laughed)

AM: Money! This collection here--I don't know whether it's a rumor or just somebody's good idea. When they make over Longyear Hall, they're going to have art galleries and special rooms. They'll have one room that they are dedicating to John Voelker. They'll have all his memorabilia and fishing rods. The person who is organizing said, "Would you allow us to exhibit your china." I said, "I be glad to have a place for it because my youngsters don't want it." I have china.

At one time at Northern, [pottery exhibit]; I have that on tape--very nice tape [video tape]. I had 200 art pieces, art pottery on exhibit in Lee Hall. Diane Kordich has a tape of that also. She took me through and I gave her the whole story. The Mining Journal gave it a write-up. They said I had 20 pots and I had 200 pots; it was a misprint.

So, those are the thing I've done. I have lace scarfs in one of these boxes. I am a nationally registered button collector. I collect...and of course books. Can you imagine what that means to me right now--that I can't read. It's no fun.

This thing about the blue china collection. It just isn't blue china. It's pieces that came from certain homes. Like that big plaque back there that came from the Kaufman home. There is another bowl that came from the Sherman home. Several of these plates back here came from the [inaudible]. Most of them have a history. I have all of that listed somewhere. They are all well known. This is a "Delft" plate. But this is a "Spode" plate. Nancy cleaned the thing up there and everything she turned over is either a "Spode" or something. [Note: The technique for transfer printing on earthenware was perfected, Spode's blue and white transfer printed wares were generally considered to be among

the finest ever made.] So, it's not just blue and white. A lot of people say she just collects "blue willow". Well that's just one pattern.

RMM: How long have you been collecting?

AM: Well, I'll tell you how long I have been collecting; when I was married in 1924, I had a luncheon set. It was Blue Willow ware [pattern]. Some of it is still in this cabinet; through the years, I've been china collecting.

RMM: Quite a collection. If you want to make some comments about your husband, and his teaching? Gunther and the English Department at Northern? What were some of the things that happened in the early days while he was teaching? Anything memorable or outstanding in terms of...?

AM: Well, I'll tell you. Only a wife can say that, I think he was the biggest intellect that ever came to Northern's campus. In many ways, he was not ostentatious. He had a wonderful literary background. He didn't do anything but read books and smoke. I can remember when Charlotte was about a year or so, we had to move to Chicago on account of his health. As he got off the train or got on to the train, I had to carry the baby because at that time Lincoln's big biography had come out. He was carrying Lincoln's biography. He was very, very literate and he was called on by a lot of literary societies in town to give talks, especially the women of literature.

In the department, well his first boss was, Dr. Bowman. It was thumbs down on Mr. Meyland. There is always that in any Department. There is always somebody at the top that has to keep their job assured and there not going to let anything below them get up. We were always poor; we never were on salary. In fact, when there was a change in the presidency; I think it was after those buildings came in, anyway the new president came in—weak president.

RMM: Tape or Pearce?

AM: Pearce died and they were looking for a president; I don't know why I went to the Chamber of Commerce? I can still remember coming out of the Chamber of Commerce building and running into the President of Northern. He said, "What brings you down to the Chamber of Commerce and I said, "Well, I was just trying to convince somebody to let my husband be the Head of the English Department." He looked at me and he said, "You have the audacity to tell me who I should appoint?" I just walked away. I was fighting; I was fighting for more money--that was what I was fighting for.

All those years, we had very little money. I think we always had the worst cars in town because we never could afford it. I feel so sorry for these people that are being criticized for being overdrawn. I can relate [audible]. You know those blue slips you got at the bank well...At that time, we always paid rent. The first house, we rented was \$60 a month; the next one--\$75 a month.

I always had helped because when I complained that I was tired of bending over the washer, Mr. Meyland would say hire somebody. He was so used to that because his mother [inaudible]. She always had people working for her. I still thank my good health, on the fact that I saved myself in my younger years because those were the years that you could get a college girl for \$2 a week or \$5 a week.

Oh, I was going to tell you this. In our early years, the attendance at Northern of the number of freshmen we would get in the fall, would depend on how good the potato crop was. For our first years of Northern, we always had "potato days". Where the students were excused, like for deer hunting. They were excused to go home to market the potato. Now that is quite a piece of history.

I also remember Mrs. Fern's [wife of Professor Earl Ferns] had a student working for her. She came from the Copper Country and she was taking Phys. Ed. She needed a white middie blouse [Note: A middie blouse was inspired by military uniforms - The "Sailor" Girls' School Uniform. The type of shirt with a large collar, similar to the ones used as uniforms in the navy]. So, she sent home for some material. Her mother sent back a tablecloth. So, Mrs. Fern had to make her a middie out of a tablecloth because her mother couldn't afford to buy the material. Those are things that really go down in history—but they were there.

RMM: As you look back at it...were most of the students, what financial condition would you say they were in?

AM: They were poor, they were poor. If they had more money, they went to another college or they went into their parent's business. We were guests of a family up in Houghton one time. They had a boy going to Northern--who was quite the boy. He was good in athletics but he also had wealthy parents. So, his parents invited us to dinner at his home which was an experience. Then on the way home they put heated bricks in our car to keep our feet warm-- heat extract.

RMM: extraction?

AM: extraction

RMM: So, they were...the family was poor?

AM: Oh, no they were wealthy.

RMM: Oh, they were wealthy.

AM: It was a special honor to be invited to their home. They were a real Copper Country wealthy family.

RMM: Now, you said you were originally from Milwaukee. You grew up in ...?

AM: I went to grade school, high school and college in Milwaukee...then Madison. I taught from 1919-1924, I taught English [inaudible]. When I came up here--faculty wives were not allowed to teach; so, for years I couldn't teach but after my daughter was

married, I went back to teaching. The public school granted me an award for having taught 39 years in public schools.

RMM: How did your husband...Gunther was from Milwaukee as well? How did the two of you meet?

AM: Canoeing. I used to go canoeing. One October, we went to a canoe trip down the Milwaukee River. I met a young man in 1916. I met a young man. He was the one that went on that first canoe trip. I didn't like him because he was short. There was this tall, gangly guy, my husband--that same day, I started going with my husband.

From 1916 till 1924, all the while I was teaching. He was either working for his dad or going to the University of Wisconsin or he taught at the West Allis--where they teach Manual Arts at night school. He taught English at night school to people who were in the Manual Arts Department. We've always been teachers.

My daughter graduated in 1970, I guess. She immediately went to Detroit and taught in Detroit until she was married. She and her husband moved to Media, Pennsylvania and she took her Masters in Pennsylvania. She got a job in the Speech Department, at Dekalb University...Northern Illinois University; we were with Northern Michigan University and Northern Illinois University.

I have a granddaughter who's with a foundation for civil rights. She is working on a foundation where she travels all over the United States. She gives lectures on the bill of rights; so that is her job. Another [grand]daughter...they were all three here for my birthday. The middle one, Susan, is a teacher and she lives in Lake Zurich but she teaches in Mount Prospect, I guess. My oldest grandchild, I sent him to a culinary school in New York for his graduation gift. He is now a chef at quite an exclusive country club. They are all in the Chicago area. I was just wondering what happened to Diana's office is right downtown, where they had the flooding.

RMM: Oh, that's right.

AM: She called and I don't...

RMM: Oh, I see.

AM: We've always been in education it seems.

RMM: OK...seems at least for now you have answered all my questions

AM: I've fed you a lot of little stories which I think are un-do-able.

RMM: No, this is the type of thing you want because eventually, we are thinking of putting together a complete history. But, what you want is a lot of these little stories, that aren't the official papers of the president. Or something, that it tells about life and about the students. How...what people were thinking and feeling and so on. That's really what this is about.

AM: There wasn't enough pride being directed at Northern. That has died out, but I don't know why. I guess because it was the original site of Northern here in town. Before that, when we first came and lived on College Avenue...across from us on College

[corrections: Kaye] Avenue...was an old plain building which was the first dormitory. Where the students slept you know and as it lost its use, as a college dormitory...it became a nunnery; where the nuns stayed.

Northern never has had any strong religious stance. Northern never had any strong political obligations. In fact, most faculty members would never tell. Mr. Meyland would never tell whether he was a Republican or a Democrat. Well, I decided he was a Democrat [inaudible].

RMM: So, Northern always kind a came through as being apolitical...

AM: One man at Northern, you'll be hearing about him--Casey C. Wiggins (Professor of Commercial/Business and Penmanship). Casey was kind of an odd ball at Northern. He led his own life and he was a Democrat; he acknowledge that. He was also a Civil Democrats. His wife was a strong Methodist [inaudible...as well...]. One 4th of July, Casey Wiggins was the host of bringing the flag and raising the colors. As he was doing it, his rope got entangled. He said, "Jesus Christ untangle these ropes." That got to be the story in Marquette. This religious man who was [inaudible]. He said "Jesus Christ" in front of everyone. There are a lot of little stories like that. [inaudible].

Mr. Meyland was the Head of the air raid wardens in Marquette. They had a blackout. A total blackout for the city of Marquette. We would have had a total blackout if it weren't for...except Woolworth's--the store, had forgotten to turn off the lights in their windows--in their showcase windows [inaudible].

We had a blackout party; we had a bunch of young marrieds in Marquette. I was in Civil Defense. Well, I thought, I'll stage a blackout party. So, we had a blackout party. At a certain time in the evening, I turned off all the lights in the house. Everybody was just standing. A couple people were under the table here in the hallway. The lights came on. They were in a compromising position. It was fun.

RMM: OK.

AM: I know most of the people that are at Middle Island Point. Middle Island Point sort of got to be the place for faculty. It started with Ms. Spalding. Ms. Spalding [Art] had a cottage there. Then, the Lautner's had a cottage there.

Oh, I didn't tell you this. When, President Harden came here; he brought his own hence men with him. The big job was to cut the faculty but he said, "Out of those men he brought here--three would become college presidents," and they did. Dr. Allen [Max] became president of St. [inaudible] University somewhere in the west. What do you call it? [Albert Burrows] became president of another college. Then the college...[inaudible]. At any rate, Bosworth left Northern. There was a time when those men really did their jobs. Bosworth was sort of a PR for Northern.

He had a big chart and he was asked to lecture at every woman's club in town and in the Upper Peninsula. But, he always had this chart. Well, I was in charge of getting programs. I got him a speaking job at some time. I don't know where it was. Low and behold, he had been there before. He had used the same charts. Of course, we were always involved in debate teams. Mr. Meyland was in charge of debate.

One thing I didn't know and I learned it a week ago in the NorthWind. Gunther was Head of the college news from the time he came here. The college news--they met here at this table (raps table) for 37 years. That was really a wonderful thing. My daughter, in turn became part of the college news in the college she taught on her dining table for years. But the college news was the publication; now it is the NorthWind.

I had a call from a student about a month ago. She said, "I am doing a write up on Meyland Hall. Could you tell me about it?" Then, I told her, as much as I could about Meyland Hall. Then, the same student or another student called me in the same time span, "Would you tell me about Mr. Meyland and stories about faculty members?" So, by and by I wondered where he was going to have this published. Someone gave me a NorthWind. I learned that I had been married to a champion boxer all my life. I didn't know it. What did it say under his picture?

Nancy: He was the fastest!

AM: That's it, yes...the fastest. The reason they said he was a champion boxer--they must have misunderstood. When, we went to Madison 1915, he was on the University baseball team. He was a good pitcher. I don't think he was a champion pitcher? Champion boxer? So, through the years your life gets mixed up

RMM: Especially, when it gets in the newspaper. It gets re-arranged.

AM: This history, I was really hanging onto my skeleton with the present administration. I think it is so wonderful. President Kaye had this wonderful, wonderful culture sort of a Renaissance period. Just like that, we had this Non-Renaissance period with Munson--who could care less about Shakespeare. Then, we went into our Rut period where a man was not well and we suffered because of that. Then all of a sudden, we came to a man who evidently had quite a few business contacts or he couldn't have gotten all those buildings built. So, we had a builder. Then after the builder, then we had to find ample use for these buildings and that is where Harden came in. I really think, in my way of thinking the two men that I think are outstanding for the good they did at Northern were: Harden for the buildings left at of Northern and for the traditions Kaye left at Northern. Traditions can be good or bad. The tradition, I would like to forget was one that [inaudible].

RMM: Mmm-mm.

AM: The first year, we came here [1924], we went to Middle Island Point. You know where that is don't you? Well, Bowman had a cottage way on the top; we called it "Sky High". But we were at Ms. Spalding's cottage which is below the hill. Mr. Lee had thrown boxes of ashes in the fireplace and some went up the chimney. So, we set the whole side of the hill a flame. We were all dashing around with brooms and water. Somebody came down and said the president of Northern is sitting up there on the rocks on the top of the hill--looking at the fire. He said, "Let it burn." That got to be the word around town. He said leave the fire like that. President Munson said "Let it burn. It will burn itself out."

RMM: You certainly have a lot of wonderful stories with Northern this has been great. Thank You.