

Interviewee: David Kammer
Interviewer: Gus Nolan

May 30, 2002
MHP

David Kammer

Marist College

Poughkeepsie, New York

Transcribed by Erin Kelly

For the Marist College Archives and Special Collections

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Marist College Social Aspects

Summary: The following interview occurs with David Kammer, who speaks of his participation as a Brother at Marist Training School. In the beginning of the interview, David Kammer reflects on his early educational years during the Depression into his involvement with the Marist Brothers. David Kammer speaks of the Novitiate and Scholasticate as well as many other people involved in Marist College's earlier years including Brother Paul Stokes among various other Brothers. Within the interview, David Kammer also speaks of the physical plan of Marist College in its earlier years as well as his various responsibilities as a Brother. David Kammer also speaks of his working at St. Ann's Academy and Marist Institute of Theology. The interview ends with David Kammer's reflection on *Marist's All* and its impact on the college.

“BEGINNING OF INTERVIEW”

Gus Nolan: Good afternoon. Today we are interviewing David Kammer. This is part of the ongoing Archive project. They are interviews with past students at Marist College. Today is May 30th. It's about three o'clock in the afternoon and the interview is taking place in the Marist College Library in the Archive Center. Good afternoon David.

Joseph A. David Kammer: Good afternoon Gus.

GN: David, could I have your full name please?

JADK: Joseph A. David Kammer.

GN: Were you named after any member of the family?

JADK: The Joseph came from my grandfather and my father.

GN: And the A?

JADK: I do not know where that came from. I usually don't say what that is but I will here. It is Alfred.

GN: Okay.

JADK: The David part came from my grandfather because his name was Joseph David.

GN: Where and when were you born?

JADK: I was born in Wheeling, West Virginia September 24th, 1921.

GN: Okay and were there other members of the family? Do you have siblings and are they still alive?

JADK: I'm the oldest of six children. I have one brother and four sisters. One of them is deceased. My oldest sister is deceased.

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GN: Okay, and your parents' names?

JADK: My father's name was Joseph Otmer Kammer and my mother's name was Manetha. Her maiden name was Fralinger.

GN: Okay, and what did your father do?

JADK: My father was a mechanic, an automotive mechanic.

GN: Okay, and could you tell us please about your early education? Where did you go to grammar school and high school?

JADK: My first four years of grammar school were at St. Joan of Arc Parish School and that was taught by the Divine Providence nuns. My last four years were at St. Vincent De Paul's Grammar School in Elm Grove, West Virginia and taught by the sisters of St. Joseph.

GN: And where did you go high school?

JADK: I went to high school at Central Catholic High School in Wheeling, West Virginia taught by the Marist Brothers.

GN: And what year did you graduate from high school?

JADK: I graduated from high school in 1940.

GN: And what did you do then?

JADK: Then I looked for a job and the only job I got was as a bellhop and I was a bellhop for one year.

GN: Okay, and then following this job, what moved you to make inquiry into the Marist Brothers?

JADK: Well, in the course of that year that I was a bellhop, I sort of was... I regretted... I was lonely for high school and so I went to one of the Brothers,

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Brother Leo Anselm and I asked him “How much does it cost to make a Brother?”
and that led to my getting involved with the Brothers.

GN: Okay, let’s move this along and then when did you come to Poughkeepsie?
Do you recall the dates and years?

JADK: I came to Poughkeepsie. I left Wheeling on August 20, 1941 and arrived
in Poughkeepsie a few days later.

GN: At the famous Poughkeepsie railroad station?

JADK: At the train station. Starting of at St. Ann’s Academy, I by the way was
accompanied by Larry Hanshumaker and Bernie Garrett. The three of us came
in one shot together.

GN: That’s interesting. Let’s talk a little bit if you can about your recollection of
life in the Novitiate and then in the Scholasticate. What was the day like? Could
you take us through it in terms of academic aspects of it or schooling versus
spiritual versus the work life?

JADK: Well, the first things that perhaps I’d like to say would be that I arrived in
Poughkeepsie in the evening. In fact, we were taken to the Novitiate when it was
dark and in fact, that would be Larry Hanshumaker and myself. Bernie would
have gone to the Juniorate. It was so dark that they were... They ushered us
into the sacristy because the Novices were singing *The Salve Regina* and we
didn’t see anybody then. We were ushered off to the dormitory. [Laughter]

GN: The secret of a light. [Laughter]

JADK: They didn’t even give us a drink. [Laughter] So to answer your question,
the dormitory reminds me that, to my recollection, in the summertime, I

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remember screens. I mean, we were fighting mosquitoes all the time. In the wintertime, we sealed the windows by putting paper in the cracks otherwise we would've frozen to death. As far as the getting the academics, well, I don't know how much of this to say. This can go on forever if I talk forever but I already had a high school diploma and because this was Depression time, I graduated from high school not expecting to go to college. I had gone to my third and fourth year in commercial and so I achieved a high school diploma. It was a commercial high school diploma. Therefore when I came to Poughkeepsie, if I was going to go into teaching, I had to become an academic. So I needed to get the academic qualifications. So I proceeded to get a Regents diploma, therefore I had two diplomas, one commercial and one high school, one academic.

GN: Oh.

JADK: Very interesting, unique.

GN: You're probably the only person I know that has two diplomas [Laughter] from high school.

JADK: And in any case, in the two years, the second year as a novice, I did Latin III, in which they've never run a III. And in the first year there I did, you know, History IV and English IV which gave me the requirements for the Regents diploma.

GN: As a high school person coming into the Novitiate, how did the work program, the assignments, the so called employments that were divvied out strike you?

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JADK: Well, I didn't mind the work. In point of fact, my second year there, I became the truck driver since I had had experience driving. I had succeeded Brother Godfrey who had been the truck driver when I was there the first year. And I can't say anything about the work. You know, we worked regularly and we worked hard.

GN: It was not a particularly heavy burden? You were not spoiled at home so I mean, working was not exactly... You made your own bed and to do necessary...

JADK: I didn't mind.

GN: You didn't mind the work?

JADK: No.

GN: Okay. Let's move from the Novitiate to the Scholasticate. Now you're going into the full stream of college work and a new person has come on board here. His name is Brother Paul Ambrose? Can you give us some recollection of your impressions of Brother Paul in 1942, at this stage?

JADK: This would have been for the '43 because I came in in '41. '42 would've been the end of the first year. '43 was the end of my second year.

GN: So in the fall of '43 you're coming to the college, Marian College?

JADK: And that's when Paul Ambrose comes in.

GN: Okay.

JADK: Yea, well, he was a young man, thirty years of age, just graduated, just got his Master's degree from Catholic University. We had... The general attitude

was things were going to be looking up and he was going to be doing great things which he did.

GN: Who was on the staff with him then?

JADK: On the staff with him that first year was Brother Francis Xavier and Brother Leo Hyacinth.

GN: Hyacinth.

JADK: And Brother Francis Xavier taught the History and the Math. Brother Leo Hyacinth taught the Chemistry, Physiology and French and Brother Paul Ambrose taught English Composition and English Literature. These subjects were the foundations for our work in college academics leading us... Well, basically we were given with a normal school-like situation.

GN: Now what do you mean by normal school?

JADK: By normal school I envision people who are studying to be teachers and in the early days and in the 18th, early 19th century, early 20th century, a lot of Normal school prepared teachers and after two years, they taught and that's all they did. We did two years and then we were destined to continue our studies at Fordham University in New York.

GN: So your time coming here, there was not a four-year college. It was only a two-year college.

JADK: It was a two-year college and we called it Marist Training School. It was like a Normal school and we called it colloquially as the Scholasticate. And Brother Paul Ambrose was known as the Master of Scholastics. He was like a headmaster of a normal school.

GN: Okay, talking about the physical plant, do you have in your mind's eye a vision of where you slept and where you studied and where you ate in those years?

JADK: Yes. Greystone, first of all start with Greystone. The top floor of Greystone was the library and there was no librarian. One was Scholastics... The Brothers were studying, we called them Scholastics. One of the scholastics had that as an employment, a job. I was a librarian for one year looking after the books and...

GN: You didn't have a budget though, did you?

JADK: No budget. [Laughter] The middle floor of Greystone was a classroom and the bottom floor was the chemistry lab and a classroom and to the...

GN: West.

JADK: West, to the west of Greystone was a building that was known in those days as the Marian building and the main entrance to that opened onto a rather large room, which was used as a classroom, as an auditorium and as a study room. To the left or south of that room was a washroom and beyond that were rooms that we called the Pullman. The Pullman was a set of about four or five rooms on either side, the front of which had curtains. That's why it was likened to a Pullman. These were rooms where second year Scholastics slept. First year Scholastics slept over in the Hermitage, what we called the Hermitage, which would be... What is that, MacPherson?

GN: I thought yea, MacPherson's building.

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JADK: Which had been recently vacated by the juniors who went over to Esopus.

GN: Okay.

JADK: Back to the Marian building, the upper floor was occupied by a clothing room and a tailor shop and then my second year there, it was converted into a biology lab. My second year, the Pullman was changed to a classroom.

GN: And more space is provided then in the Hermitage for, since the juniors were gone, for the rest of the Scholastics to stay?

JADK: Yea. Yea in my second year, all the Scholastics were over in the upper floors of the Hermitage.

GN: Again, just for clarity, the chapel was in the Hermitage and the refectory, so all the cooking and eating was done there?

JADK: Yea, we slept over there. We had Mass over there. We did all the eating over there, all the meals were over there.

GN: Okay. What year did you finish here then? Was it two years after that that you...?

JADK: I spent two years, right.

GN: 1945?

JADK: '45, right.

GN: Okay and what's your first assignment then?

JADK: My first assignment was as a cook in Esopus.

GN: Okay.

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JADK: So in '45, '46, I cooked. Brother Eddie Volmer was my assistant and I had various distinguished people whom I cooked for including a certain Gus Nolan, who at that time, was a sophomore in high school. I cooked for Marty Lang who was a junior.

GN: Yes, right. He was a junior.

JADK: A variety of other wonderful people.

GN: Right, gone onto make their mark in this world in very limited ways.

[Laughter] Then moving on from that first assignment, what was your next assignment?

JADK: The next assignment was at the St. Ann's Academy in New York City, 76th and Lex, and I was there for ten years.

GN: Ten years? What did you teach at St. Ann's Academy?

JADK: I started teaching fifth grade. I taught fifth grade one and a half years. In those days, grammar schools on Long Island graduated some students in the middle of the year and as a result, St. Ann's had a habit of accommodating midyear graduates, taking them in as freshman and doing a full freshman year and a half year. So I was promoted to homeroom teacher of one of those halfway through my second year and I taught two classes of algebra to get the full year in and two classes of English to get the full year in. Paul Stokes, I think taught something else.

GN: Yea, we didn't talk about your major. What was actually your major in college or...?

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JADK: At... Here in Poughkeepsie, Paul Ambrose... I was kind of leaning to the math but Paul Ambrose said we had loads of math teachers and we needed English teachers so "You seem to be able to write pretty good so why don't you become an English major?" which I did.

GN: What were some of the other activities you were involved in at St. Ann's?

JADK: Well, the only extracurricular activity that I had at St. Ann's to my knowledge was the Sodality, that was one.

GN: And there was something about an introduction of a new concept in terms of cells, groups or cell...?

JADK: You know, someplace along the line, we introduced that.

GN: Now what was the purpose? Was there a follow-up of that? Was there an action program that followed this...?

JADK: We... I don't know how we get into that but in any case, instead of dealing with students who were part of the Sodality as a group, we tended to bring them into small units of five or six and bring out some thought and have them discuss it and share their ideas. That was sort of it in those days, I guess.

GN: Okay. In time though, you get another assignment which is to teach, to direct the operation in Tyngsboro. Where is Tyngsboro? Well, maybe I'm jumping something.

JADK: Wait, before we get to that, can I go back to the Sodality?

GN: Yes, please do.

JADK: I wonder where all this would be useful and important. Because we were doing... I had an assistant, Brother Ulrich Channel, one of my assistants and

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later on [Cocoa], I forget what his name was. He was also an assistant but anyhow, things were going pretty good and as a result we had a meeting in the library of St. Ann's of all the Sodality moderators in the New York area and it was interesting leading up to that. One of the things we had at the meeting was to invite a Jesuit priest who was well-known for his Sodality work at the time and Father LaFarge, (S.J.) I think his name was. And to set up that meeting I went over to the St. Ignatius Church to meet with him and do what was necessary to get him to come over and in so doing, he took me to his room or office wherever it was and we pass a room and he pointed out that that man, that priest there was a paleontologist who had just come back from China and he didn't introduce me to him but my conclusion is that that was...

GN: Chardin.

JADK: Father Teilhard de Chardin. So that's sort of an interesting episode in my mind.

GN: Yea.

JADK: That I missed the opportunity to actually speak with him. So to get to your question, what did I...?

GN: Okay, moving onto Tyngsboro. Where is Tyngsboro?

JADK: Tyngsboro is in Massachusetts up outside of Lowell, Massachusetts and on the border of New Hampshire, just south of Nashua.

GN: Okay, and could you describe a little bit this property in Tyngsboro. Is it much different from the property in Poughkeepsie or Esopus or is it... Are they pretty much all the same pattern?

JADK: Well, yea. It had had the pattern of Poughkeepsie in the earlier days because it had the farm and you had the farmer. So Tyngsboro, when I was there, was a Novitiate and the students did their studies but in so far as the their time on the farm of course there was an opportunity there for them to do all kinds of farm work and a lot of these people were from New York so coming to there, this was really quite a... Partly a novel and partly a challenge, you know? We had people go into the... When they first came, of course the corn was coming in and while I would kind of shoot the corn into the silo and somebody in the silo had to move the corn around so it would settle and it became intoxicating in there. [Laughter]

GN: Yea, right. That's an interesting concept that the Marist Brothers, we were founded in a farm-like situation and when they came to this country, it was pretty much a continuation of that.

JADK: Well, here in Poughkeepsie and in Tyngsboro.

GN: Yea, yea. And a lot of the recruits that become Marist Brothers were not farmers. They had come from the big city and didn't know much about cows or...

JADK: Yea.

GN: Corn or silent or anything related to that. Okay, continuing on in Tyngsboro, how long were you there?

JADK: Ten years.

GN: Another ten years? You don't move very much.

JADK: Well, it seems [as though...].

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GN: Could you say something about the interrelationship while you were there of the programs at the Novitiate and Marist College? Were some of them degree programs? Were they following... Were the students there beginning to get courses that were college-based?

JADK: Yes. My first year, I was the Assistant Master of Novices and the people who were there the first year are known as Postulants were really going... First year of college for them, which was geared to the program here in Poughkeepsie. It was the link in with what was going on here. And the second year course was dominantly religious or theological formation and... But there was usually one course that might have been linked in with the program here at the college.

GN: So that... I'm getting at the fact that there's a kind of a satellite college in New England that's part of Marist, an extension of Marist, as there was in Esopus.

JADK: Yes.

GN: And the interchange. Was there any visitation from the college people at that time?

JADK: Well, Paul Ambrose would come but very interesting too, the very first time that Marist College was up for accreditation, a representative of that team came to Tyngsboro just to look at Tyngsboro and to sit with me and interview me.

GN: Yes, incidentally, one came to Esopus also...

JADK: Is that right?

GN: And the interesting question he had is why did the college choose Poughkeepsie and then Esopus as its center of development. He saw Esopus as a much more rural and majestic campus to develop rather than outside the city of Poughkeepsie.

JADK: Yea.

GN: And he was right. Were there any outstanding students from your perception... Let's put the question maybe another way. Can you talk about some of the memorable people that you dealt with either on staff or students that came to you while you were in Tyngsboro.

JADK: Well, you know, my second year of course I was in charge and I had some wonderful people as my helpers there, most importantly which would be Brother Edmund G. Driscoll. Brother John Frances Colbert was also very helpful to me. Later on we had Bill Murphy, John Bosco, John Malich, people that were very helpful to me over that ten year period. Outstanding students my first year there, when I was just a helper. I was the assistant. That class was a fantastic class, a lot of very memorable people like John Wilcox and...

GN: John Wilcox now is teaching in Manhattan and he majored in theology.

JADK: And then Nathan, I can picture faces but I can't think of the names all of a sudden. Who's the priest in Leo right there?

GN: Owen Lafferty.

JADK: Owen Lafferty, Pasquariello, a lot of very smart guys in that class.

GN: Did Sean Sammon ever come through you?

JADK: Yea, he was... My last year there, he was one of my students, yes.

GN: Yea.

JADK: In between there were a lot of other memorable people, yes.

GN: Okay, along with this development of the college and the relation to Tyngsboro and then the college developing some other institutes. The Institute of Spirituality was developed. The institute was...

JADK: MIT.

GN: The MIT, Marist Institute of Theology, okay. Unlike you now, I'm beginning to get confused in the terms here. What was your perception of that and did you participate in it?

JADK: When it first started, my recollection is it was started by Marty Lang and Leonard and there may have been a third one. Leonard Voegtle...

GN: Yes.

JADK: And of course I was very much for this and I think I visited some of the sessions in the summer, a couple of them but that was towards the end of my time in Tyngsboro.

GN: Right. Okay, from Tyngsboro, how did you see the college? Was there a transfer in administration here? Had Brother Paul left and had Brother Linus... Linus with him, Linus Foy, come on since?

JADK: I think during my time in Tyngsboro, Linus did take over, yes, because...

GN: About '68, '69.

JADK: Brother Ambrose had become an Assistant General.

GN: Yes.

JADK: And I don't know who... Things in Tyngsboro continued to run smoothly with the college here, yes.

GN: Yea, but there was never any interaction? You were not ever responsible to report to the college authorities? The provinces were the official administrative people that you had to deal with rather than the college?

JADK: Yes.

GN: Is that right?

JADK: Yes but at the same time, the college, our working with the college was very harmonious.

GN: Yes. Well, for other reasons we have said before then that some of those courses or all the apostolate courses were really part of a college program.

JADK: Yea, yea.

GN: On this, maybe some removed and difficult concepts. Brother Paul had been here at the beginning and he's replaced by Linus and I'm not sure where you are in this transfer and if it ever did affect you. So that you could say that the administration of one was quite different than the administration of the other.

JADK: From the point of view at Tyngsboro, I don't recall many problems or any significant change, no.

GN: Okay. Why don't we move onto another aspect of your life. Where did you settle after you left the canonical state of Brotherhood? Did you go to Connecticut or did you go to New York, or where?

JADK: Well, maybe before... Can we just back up a little bit? I did, you know that Marist Institute of Theology which we were talking about a moment ago. I

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was asked to become director of that and I was director of that for the last two years. You know, organizing the people who were coming...

GN: To give the lectures?

JADK: To give them and...

GN: As well as the students? I mean, the student body...

JADK: Yea, we were recruiting, trying to recruit the students and we put ads in the NCR at a time when the only ads in there were ours and maybe one other. You know, those were the early days of the NCR when they didn't have a whole lot of advertisements. But anyhow, move on.

GN: Well, your experience at the MIT then gave you a wider specter. You were still involved in Tyngsboro or is this a separate part of...?

JADK: Well, I entered Tyngsboro and then went to Rome for the chapter III and when I came back from the first session of my chapter, that's when there was a vacancy for directing, leading the MIT.

GN: Right.

JADK: And they asked me to fill in.

GN: Okay, there was a point they wanted to make earlier a European study work as a Marist Brother both in the second Novitiate and also then at the chapter.

JADK: And I was...

GN: Some acquaintances you met then have been long-lasting, have they not?

JADK: Excuse me?

GN: Some of your acquaintances at the chapter on European studies have been long-lasting?

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JADK: Yea, I studied in Europe in '56 to '57, yes, in France and then I went back to Rome in '67 and '68 I think it was.

GN: Okay. Then moving on, you leave the canonical state would you say, of Brotherhood and you marry and live in Connecticut?

JADK: Yes and taught in the Litchfield Connecticut school system, yes, and I taught there for eleven years.

GN: This is up one now. It's been ten and ten, now it's eleven so we're making some progress. [Laughter] You're getting a little more stability I think in your stays.

JADK: Yea, so after the eleventh year there, that's when I reached sixty-five. No, I reached sixty years of age at the end of that eleven years and the system was trying to unload the older people in favor of the people who didn't cost them as much. So they gave me a "golden handshake", which in those days was the early days of "golden handshakes" and they weren't very great. I think it was about \$2,000, something like that. And on retiring from there, then I went to get a job in a Catholic school in Waterbury, Connecticut, which was run by the Holy Cross Brothers. Are you still interested in...?

GN: Oh, yes. Yes.

JADK: I taught there for five years until I was sixty-five, at which time I decided it's time to throw in the sponge for teaching full-time at least, you know?

GN: Full-time. And did you take up any other activity then?

JADK: Well, at that time I had already gotten into doing income taxes. So I did income taxes for a stretch of about ten years about four years beyond the high school experience.

GN: Teach? I see. Then what caused you to look towards the south and move to Florida? What was the inspiration to do that?

JADK: Well, after retiring, the general thought was maybe you should look into retirement in Florida and so we decided one day in December to go on down to scout around Florida and see what would be available. And the reason we went in December was that I was teaching tax courses in the fall, September, October and November. So those courses ended in November and I'm looking to go south in December.

GN: Okay, standing back I'd like to see what your perspective would be at Marist College now. Can you talk holistically as it were in terms of saying what do you feel the college has gained from your first initial contact with it to now, fifty-five or sixty years later? Did you envision that this might ever happen?

JADK: Oh, no. I could never envision this would happen when I was here as a student, no. I think the... I dare say that it has been a wonderful development, totally unexpected and frankly, I'm proud of it. I enjoyed coming here. When I have Marist College literature, I'm happy to show it to other people. In a way, it's too bad that it's not still involved with the Marist Brothers as much as it was.

GN: That's my next question. What has it lost do you think?

JADK: Well, I think the whole way of life of the past is gone and that's, from some point of view, that's too bad but time goes on and maybe this is a whole providential. This is the way it's meant to go, you know?

GN: Okay, moving into the period now of your retirement which is probably ten years or more that you have been in Florida...

JADK: I love it.

GN: In retirement. What things are you doing now?

JADK: What am I doing now? [Laughter]

GN: Yea. Are you teaching? Are you involved in any social work? Are you involved in activities?

JADK: Well, we are involved in what we call "The Healing Development." Working out at the parish down there we help to staff a system whereby poor people come in for help, food and various other needs that they may have. They run short on their... They get behind on their water bill or utilities bill and are threatened to be cut off and the parish has a fund that enables us to help them tie them over a bit. And it's up to us to make the judgment of whether, how much and whether we should give them, write out a check for this.

GN: Okay. Does this distract you after you have involved your two hours a week with this? Do you think about it later or can you go there and leave it behind you or do you take it home with you?

JADK: I think that basically we leave it behind. Once in a while we come away though with, you know, with lots of "How can people be in these situations in life?" you know?

GN: Yea. Okay. That's one activity. I would really miss if I didn't ask you about thing called *Marist's All*, for the sake of the Archives.

JADK: For the sake of the Archives. [Laughter]

GN: How would you describe this venture? What is it to you?

JADK: I don't know what to say about this.

GN: Well, I mean maybe another... Different, we can brainstorm a little on it. This is certainly a magnificent contribution I think in the totality of the years and the amount of work that has gone into it. The sixty-eighth issue I think I think is going to be published soon.

JADK: Yea.

GN: Well, what impact do you think it's had?

JADK: Well, first of all the things started out of the blue. At the time that you and I talked about it, the idea that there was a Province newsletter that was maybe in the days of the Province and it was interesting material for me and for those of us who were not canonically with the congregation. I appreciated... I think we appreciated reading these things and so the idea evolved that maybe there ought to be something that would cater to the needs of everybody, those who were in and those who were out. So it started out and was received well and the letters we have received indicate that everybody got a lot out of it and those that read it are overwhelmed by the types of activity that people are involved in. So many of them are involved in social services and human needs at one point or another, either teaching or guidance and what have you.

GN: And most of these people are Marist College graduates, are they not?

JADK: They're saying that they all are.

GN: Yea.

JADK: Or at least have attended Marist College. They may have gotten their actual degree elsewhere but they're a great, great majority of Marist College graduates.

GN: So we could rightly say this is a continuation of the work of a college through its graduates afterwards. Former students who are doing these things that have impressed so many other people.

JADK: Yea.

GN: More specifically, as I said, this sixty-eighth issue, what would you say is, on a typical issue, what's the amount of time that you have to invest in it? Is there any way of judging that?

JADK: That's very hard to say. Everyone had come up with a... In less than a year. You know, normally it gets published in quarterly and sometimes more frequently but nonetheless. Let's say if it's published quarterly, that means three months between one issue and the next, right. So with the first month and month and a half, there's a little bit of time and as things accumulate, the second month or month and a half, there's more time to put into it. Exactly how much, I could never say.

GN: But when you're putting time into it, you're talking about one or two hours a day?

JADK: Oh, yea.

GN: In typing and rewriting and editing, searching things out and proofreading.

JADK: Yea.

GN: Okay. Were there any disappointments in it?

JADK: No, I would say not.

GN: Maybe in one or two who have decided that they would not respond.

JADK: Oh, yea. Yea. I'm starting to get foggy. [Laughter]

GN: Yea, but that's so minimal because I can just remember there's only maybe two that have of more than... I think we have a mailing list of maybe 500.

JADK: Yea.

GN: And if over the fifty years, two people have said that I'm not interested in receiving this anymore.

JADK: Oh, yea. Yea, I didn't know that's what you meant. You know, out of them. Yea, that's right. In fact, at one point we... There were a number of people that we had never heard from and never written or anything and so we wrote to them to say, you know, "If you're really interested in this, let us now" and at that point, there were I dare to say four or five that said "Okay, don't send us anymore."

GN: Yea, but they all mailed a response. Even from those who had not written, they still wanted to receive it.

JADK: They still... Yea, they came through and said "Yes, keep me on the list."

GN: Yea, right.

JADK: Many of them said I'm just not a writer, you know, I don't know what to say.

GN: No one's interested in what I've done.

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JADK: Yea, they really wanted to continue to receive it and one of the benefits of the newsletter I dare say is the fact that we have maintained through it a certain... the same type of camaraderie and friendship that existed when we were together as a team, you know...

GN: Yea.

JADK: In the congregation.

GN: Okay. I really have nothing more to say. Is there anything I didn't ask that maybe you would like to say in terms of this interview?

JADK: At this point, I'm sort of punchy. [Laughter] I sort of have fallen down so I just think probably...

GN: Well, we can come back again and revisit this or letters can be sent to us here and revisions can be made if indeed. But we thank you very much.

JADK: Thank you very much. It's been a pleasure and a privilege.

“END OF INTERVIEW”