

Interview with Emily Lancaster White

April 7, 2011

Conducted in the White home, Kinsley, Kansas

Interviewers: Joan Weaver and Rosetta Graff, Kinsley Library

Joan: Let's start out by telling us your full name.

Emily: Emily Kay (*Lancaster*) White.

Joan: When and where were you born?

Emily: I was born east of Kinsley in my home in Edwards County. (December 31, 1936)

Joan: What were the names of your parents?

Emily: Emma Catherine Dolechek Lancaster and Fred Peter Lancaster.

Joan: Was his given name Fred? Or was it Frederick or something?

Emily: Fred.

Joan: Then your grandparents on both sides?

Emily: My grandparents were Amelia Emily Dowling Lancaster and Peter Lancaster, and I don't believe there was a middle name. I never heard of it. And then Margaret Kramer Dolechek and Ferdinand Fred Dolechek.

Joan: Did you have brothers or sisters?

Emily: Yes, there were nine of us.

Joan: What were their names? Maybe just do their first names.

Emily: Virginia, Vivian Leonard (or Jack), Fred, Jr., Luetta, Marvin, JoEllen, myself and Lanes.

Joan: What brought your families to Edwards County?

Emily: My dad always told us that his grandmother and grandfather (*Lancaster*) were divorced back in Illinois, and she (*Grandmother Isabelle Lancaster*) brought most of her family out here in a wagon and settled southwest of Kinsley. One time I looked it up, and I think it was about 80 acres probably there.

Joan: Your mother's family was from here?

Emily: No, my mother's family came from...

Joan: I mean, is that the family we were talking about right there?

Emily: No, that was the Lancaster family.

Joan: The Lancaster family...

Emily: Came here.

Joan: But they (*your Dad's grandparents*) were divorced and she came here for what reason? Did she have family here?

Emily: I don't believe so. (*I don't know why she came.*)

Joan: She just loaded up the wagon and came here. Oh my goodness.

Emily: That's the only thing my dad ever said that they knew (*about his grandparents*).

Joan: About what year? Do you know?

Emily: I'm going to say about 1880's, but I can find that out because I imagine that it's on a deed that she had on this property. (*Information later supplied was 1885.*) I just happened to run across it when I worked at the courthouse. I ran across where she lived, and evidently my Grandfather (*Pete*) and my Grandmother (*Amelia Dowling*) were married here (*in Kinsley on February 12, 1888*). I don't know exactly how the Dowlings came, but they homesteaded some land south of Kinsley which I think now that it was the Lewis Ranch out there (*around the Arkansas River*). I am thinking from looking at the records (*in the Registrar of Deeds Office*) that he probably (*lost the land in a tax sale*). Then they went on, and my grandmother was probably married by then. They (*the Dowlings*) went on to Oregon and settled in Oregon. We never did hear a lot about them.

Joan: That's interesting.

Emily: I think my older sisters and brothers probably knew a little more about them than I did. But they never mentioned a lot about them.

Joan: Well, it would have been unusual at that time to have a divorce.

Emily: Yes, on the Lancaster side. Well, in fact my grandparents (*Pete and Amelia*) were divorced in 1928. It's kind of one of those things. Interesting. You can go to the courthouse (*in The District Court Office*) and find divorce proceedings and things like that. My second cousins, got in genealogy a little bit, and they went upstairs and found where my Grandfather (*Pete*) Lancaster had been administrator over his mother's (*Isabelle's*) estate. It is very interesting what you find. They had everything down, what everything sold for, I mean the dishes and everything. Cows. And it tells in the divorce (papers) exactly what they got per cow or whatever. (*It tells who was to receive what and how much is was worth.*)

Joan: That is interesting! Okay that's the Lancaster side, what about the other side?

Emily: The Dolechek side...but I might tell you, my Grandmother (*Amelia Dowling*) Lancaster came over from Wales, England, when she was three years old. They came, I suppose, to Illinois somewhere, and then came on out here (*Kansas*). The Dolechek side and the Kramer side, I found some aunts had done some work on that. They came from Dubuque, Iowa, then to Dubuque, Kansas, and I assume settled there. My grandparents (*Margaret Kramer and Ferdinand Dolechek*) were, I think, probably married somewhere around there. But they both, according to what she found out, came from Dubuque, Iowa and settled down around Dubuque, Kansas. Evidently, my Grandmother and Grandfather (*Dolechek*) moved out here to a farm just west and a little north of Kinsley. When my Grandfather

Dolechek died (I don't think he was that old when he died) then my grandmother moved into town. But, my folks were married on January 13, 1920 in Larned. There were nine of us.

Joan: You said you were born on the farm. Was there a doctor in attendance? Do you know?

Emily: No, I don't really know for sure.

Joan: You were number what of the children?

Emily: I would have been number eight.

Joan: So she would have known how to do this.

Emily: Well, back then, they always said my Grandmother Dolechek was what they called a midwife. She helped people. I kind of think there was a doctor present though.

Joan: That's interesting though, that's the first mention we've ever had of a midwife assisting. Not your birth, but she was doing it for other people. That's interesting to know.

Emily: They told us this. I don't remember that. I've just been told that she went to different homes and helped with births and helped out the family.

Joan: So what was it like in your household? You're father was a farmer?

Emily: My father was a farmer. My grandfather acquired (*a farm and grass*) land. Dad used to say that, by the way. They were farmer/cattlemen. My dad raised cattle and he was more or less in with his dad. His two brothers were, well, I guess just one brother really was in farming with him, but when my grandparents divorced, they split up the ground. My dad, I think, farmed all of it, while my uncle was in the service.

Joan: This would have been in World War II?

Emily: Yes, World War II, when my Uncle Dale came back to Kinsley (*after the war and went back to farming*) then they kind of split up what they had. Dad farmed more or less what my Grandmother (*Amelia*) got (*in the divorce settlement*). She had the homestead where we lived. Dad, like I said, raised cattle.

Joan: What other animals did you have?

Emily: Well, they had a horse, chickens...I don't remember Dad ever having any pigs.

Joan: Or sheep?

Emily: No sheep. I don't think cattlemen ever had sheep.

Joan: What crops?

Emily: Wheat, mainly. My dad always farmed south of town, on a piece of ground south of town out by the feedlot (*on the farm I grew up at*). I can remember Mother getting up and killing chickens and

making pies and then I imagine we took all this food to the field, when he was in the field.

Joan: Now, you had brothers, so was that enough help? Or did he have to get outside help?

Emily: No, I don't remember him ever having any outside help. My brothers helped him. But I was like five years old when my brothers (*Jack and Fred Jr.*) went to the service right after they graduated. My two (*older*) brothers graduated the same year, with my older brother. So my brother Marvin helped a lot (*with the farm work*).

Joan (aside): Do we have Marvin listed there?

Emily: Did I not mention Marvin? Yes, I did.

Joan: Now when your brothers were going to the service, that's not World War II is it?

Emily: Yes. It would have been kind of late, I guess you could say. (*They went into the service in June of 1943 and got out in 1946*).

Joan: Towards the end.

Emily: Yes, I think they were in until about '46. But my brother Jack was in the army and my brother Fred, Jr. was in the Coast Guard. And I'm not sure what my Uncle Dale was in. I can remember them coming home once in a while. My Grandmother Lancaster died in, I think, '43. My brothers had just joined. I think it was in August when she died. But they came back home for it; they were able to come back for the funeral and my Uncle Dale was there. I have a picture of them with Leonard, Fred Jr. and I and Mother and Dad when they were home for my grandmother's funeral. But I cannot remember my dad ever having to hire anybody. I never did really drive the tractor too much, but my sister JoEllen did.

Joan: What were your chores then?

Emily: Mainly to gather the eggs. And I helped with dishes and house cleaning. My sister (*JoEllen*) tells me because she milked the cow (*and I had to do the dishes*).

Joan: You had only one milk cow?

Emily: I know we had one most of the time when I was growing up, but we could have had two. We raised a garden at that time and my mother did a lot of canning. They butchered hogs, and back then it seemed like it stayed colder (*in the winter*). My Uncle Freddy (*Dolechek*) would come and they would butcher a couple of them in the garage. Then they would cut them up and render the lard. Mother sometimes made soap.

Joan: Did you smoke it? How did you store it?

Emily: For the hams they had a (*salt*) rub that they put on. Then they put them in a sack and hung them out in what we called the milk (*or wash*) house. She did her washing in there, if I remember right, she had a wood (*cook*) stove in there. She heated her water on the stove. We used to hang clothes out when it was freezing, or she did, on the line. She would bring them in and they'd be froze dry, as they called it. But she had to lay them out and let them finish drying. Then she got a washing machine (*with a gas engine*), a wringer type, Maytag washing machine. I liked to help her do that, put the clothes through

the wringer (*to take the water out of the clothes*).

Joan: What did she do before the washing machine?

Emily: I can't remember ever doing wash on a washboard. She always had a washing machine, and it had a (*gas*) motor and a wringer. I don't remember if the one before had that or not.

Joan: Maybe that's the question, what about electricity? When does that come in?

Emily: We didn't have electricity or running water until late '49 or early '50. They had the rural electric, but it didn't come close enough (*to the house*) for us, and the electricity from town didn't come out quite far enough. We lived just east of Coon Creek Bridge which used to be the old highway. It came by our house before they put the new one in. I don't remember too much about it. I remember traffic going by there (*our house*), but I don't remember too much about them putting that highway there (*Hwy 50*). I probably remember them working on it and everything.

Joan: So whatever kind of washing machine she had before that had to have run on something other than electricity.

Emily: Yes. And maybe she did it on a board, or she could have washed in tubs too, I don't remember. (*What I remember was a washing machine with a gas motor.*)

Joan: Your dad didn't have a generator? What did they call those?

Emily: Plants. I just don't ever remember him having one.

Joan: And you used an oil lantern?

Emily: We used lanterns, that used to be one of our jobs, was to clean the kerosene lights and be sure and watch that you didn't break the mantles on them! She had a (*gas*) iron it would have been, and I suppose probably when she was first married and still with the other kids, she might have just had to heat her irons. Because we did have some of those around, but she had one that you put...it had a little tank on it, and you had to pump them and a tight thing that you used on them....

Joan: Refrigerator, ice box, did you have one?

Emily: We had an ice box. You went to the ice house to get ice.

Joan: Here in town?

Emily: Yes, here in town, they had an ice house. It would be over by where the Cooper house was. (*Located on the corner of Hwy 183 and 4th St.*)

Rosetta: Where Judy Donley lives now? (324 E. Fourth)

Emily: Yes. Where Judy Donley lives now. In through there, there was an ice house. Do you remember where it was?

Rosetta: Yes, I do.

Joan: They didn't deliver it? You had to pick it up?

Emily: I don't remember them delivering it. We went and picked it up with ice tongs, and put it in the icebox. (*We had to pick it up from the ice house. They used ice tongs to pick up the ice to move it to the icebox.*)

Joan: And heated with?

Emily: We had a wood burning stove.

Joan: Not coal?

Emily: I don't think it was coal. I don't ever remember having (*to bring in the coal or wood for the stove*). Well, it might have been a coal stove, but I just don't remember carrying the coal (*ashes*) out and stuff that you did have to have if you had coal. (*I know the stove set in the living room. I was young, so I didn't get to do much with the stove.*)

Joan: It was chilly in the house in wintertime?

Emily: A little bit. It was two story, and we slept upstairs all the time. A lot of times, mother sent us up with a hot water bottle to put on your feet. You slept under a lot of blankets, quilts, and you hurried in the morning to get down where the fire was. I don't remember my older sisters being around the house so much, as they stayed in town with my Grandmother Lancaster when they worked at the picture show and did things in town. So they kind of stayed with them.

Joan: Is that when they went to school?

Emily: Yes, when they went to high school. I don't remember them being in the home so much as I do Marvin, JoEllen and myself and Lanes.

Joan: What is the age span then?

Emily: Well, my eldest sister was sixteen years older than I am.

Joan: Well, with nine children, that's probably about as quick as you could have them.

Emily: The first four were just every year. And I went to school at the Southside School.

Joan: How did you get to school

Emily: I normally walked, but I remember my father driving us in (*to school in the morning*). It was about a mile in (*to town*), so it was probably about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile (*to school*). And I always went to Southside school and started in kindergarten. I went through the sixth grade there and then we went to Kinsley High School. That was back when the kids on the south side of town went to Southside School, and they were brought in by buses. Then north side kids went to the Northside; it's on the north side of town.

Joan: Did all the country kids go to the one school?

Emily: No, the country kids, when they started coming in, the south part of town and the south part of the county came in to Southside. But I'm going to say that probably wasn't too early. (*I don't know when the country kids started coming to school in town.*) Jay never said he went to country school or not. There were country schools around, but we were close enough, we didn't have country school. We went into Kinsley to Southside School (*and Kinsley High School*). As far as I can remember, it always looked like it does now.

Joan: How big was your class?

Emily: We had some pretty good size classes; I'm going to say probably 15 or so. When they started (*built*) the lunchroom, the kids that rode the buses went to Northside. Jay went over there in the 6th grade. So the bus (*country*) kids went to Northside School (*because of the lunchroom being at the Northside School*).

Joan: The lunchroom. Is this the one that everybody came to? I heard that the high school had to....

Emily: At that time, yes. When I was in high school, the high school went to the lunchroom there. I'm not sure when they built a lunchroom onto their school.

Joan: So they had one lunchroom for all three schools? Or just the two?

Emily: It would be, more or less, just two. Because if you didn't live in the country, you went home for lunch. But we used to. We had an hour for lunch, so we usually, or I usually went home. My brother and I (*went home for lunch*), and my dad sometimes would probably pick us up and sometimes we walked. But you had an hour, so you had time. And Mondays were usually washday, so you usually had cooked ham and beans on that day because it was easy. We went to high school at Kinsley High School.

Joan: What activities were you in? Were you in band?

Emily: For a little while, I was in the band. I played the clarinet. My junior or senior year some of us didn't do that anymore. (*I quit band.*) I think they had Kays. Sports were football and basketball, mainly. Wrestling came in, maybe our junior/senior year, they might have started wrestling. But the girls didn't have basketball or anything like they do now with all those sports. I don't know if the town kids had baseball or anything they did in the summer because we didn't participate in sports. But I don't even remember having any at that time. And we were in Glee Club.

Joan: Were you in 4H?

Emily: There was no 4H (*Corrected: There was 4H but I didn't belong.*)

Joan: What did you do for entertainment?

Emily: Played outside. We used to have an old Negro man that had goats. They called him Bus Martin, you've probably heard of him

Joan: Yes, in fact we have a picture of him. (*This was incorrect.*)

Emily: In fact that house over here, next door to me, he might have owned that property at one time. I

never did look that up for sure. But he had goats (*across the road from where I grew up*), and he used to go by the places (*grocery stores and restaurants*). That's when you got lettuce and stuff in those wooden crates. He'd have boxes (*empty crates*) over there, so we'd go and get the boxes (*crates*). We'd take the boxes (*crates*) and set them up and put boards across them and make us a restaurant and made mud pies.

Joan: You'd play house with them!

Emily: Yes, we did. We lived close to the creek (*Coon Creek*), but my mother would never let us go down to the creek very often. Although my older brothers and sisters, (*in the winter when the creek*) froze over, they got to skate on the creek.

Joan: Can you tell us anything more about Mr. Martin?

Emily: Not really, I just remember he went around (they said he went around) with a wagon and just picked up the lettuce leaves or spoiled food or whatever from the restaurants or grocery stores and brought it out and fed it to his goats out there. One of them got away one time and was chewing my mother's clothes off the line. She was not very happy.

Joan: Did you notice your parents having any prejudices?

Emily: Not really. I don't ever remember my folks saying anything prejudiced about anybody. They grew up with them back then. (*There were several families*) around here (*Kinsley*). My siblings, some of them, went to school with the Skeet Winchester's kids and the Gaines' kids. I think they tried to treat them just like ordinary people. I don't ever remember them ever saying bad words about any of them. Of course, back then, probably most of them, did not mingle a lot with white people, I suppose, although they were in school together. I think it was just one of those things nobody thought anything about probably. We didn't. I don't ever remember thinking anything bad about any of them.

Joan: Now, did you go to the movies?

Emily: We went to the movies. Saturday night, mainly.

Joan: So you came in for the big Saturday night in town.

Emily: Yes. My mother always cleaned house on Saturday. We scrubbed and waxed, you might say cleaned from top to bottom. When we were older, we (*my sister Jo Ellen and I*) cleaned the upstairs and then mother cleaned the downstairs. Then we went to town in the evening. That's when the grocery and the drug store (*and other stores*) stayed open (*on Saturday nights. That is when Mother did her grocery shopping.*). We got to go to the restaurant usually and eat, when I was a little older. I don't remember doing it when I was very young.

Joan: So the family would go out and eat? Or you...

Emily: Mainly, the kids (*my sister Jo Ellen, brother Lanes, and I*) would be able to go (*out to eat*), and then we would go to the show. And that's when the show had a serial. I can remember having news reels at the show during the war.

Joan: Now, we have been told that the theater was segregated. That blacks and Hispanics were in the

balcony.

Emily: I remember that they only sat in the balcony, and we weren't able to go (*sit it*) the balcony until we were in high school, I think, and then that went by the wayside, probably.

Joan: I think World War II started the change.

Emily: I think so too. But I do believe that's true, because I think they all had to go and sit in the balcony. I don't remember that so much, except I've heard my family say that they used to stare at them at the show. (*They were very strict at the show.*) You could not be noisy! You could not put your feet up on the seats!

Joan: You'll need to listen to Bobby Kallaus interview because he got noisy up there.

Emily: Did he get noisy?

Joan: Backed his motor cycle...

Emily: I don't ever remember him doing that. My brother and I and sister Jo Ellen, I guess, went. I can remember my folks usually went out on Tuesday night because they had a drawing for money on Tuesday night. I was trying to think about that, and \$200 comes up to my mind. But I'm thinking that probably it was up to that much. Then when that \$200 went out (*when they drew a winning ticket*), they started it back. I don't think it was \$200 every week. I can't tell you what they started out with; I just remember on Tuesday nights, they did that.

Joan: Did your folks ever win?

Emily: Not that I ever remember. I never remember them saying they won it.

Joan: You would probably remember that.

Emily: I suppose they took the tickets. I don't know; I don't remember how they did it. But on Tuesday nights, a lot of times, my brother and I were home (or in later years there), we would make fudge. On every Tuesday night we would make fudge! You know, my mother baked a lot of pies (*and bread*) and things. We really didn't have a lot of cakes. Mother's specialty, I guess you could say, was pies and angel food cakes. She baked angel food cakes for our birthday. Almost all the time, she would bake angel food cakes for other people. I can't even tell you how much they might have sold for, probably not very much, but we always got to help sift the sugar and flour, and she would sit at the table by the window and beat those eggs by hand in the big (*round*) crock. It was kind of interesting.

Joan: And you had the eggs. How many chickens did you normally keep?

Emily: I'm thinking probably around 20 or 30. We always got (*baby*) chickens to raise in the spring.

Joan: You bought the baby chicks.

Emily: Yes. We didn't really have any place (*to keep meat in the summer time*), so we ate a lot of chicken in the summertime because we didn't have any place (to keep meat). In later years, we'd dress them and take them to town (*to a place where we rented*) a freezer. In the same way though, Dad took a

beef in and had it butchered, but they always left the meat in town at the butcher shop, the locker plant. You'd have to go and pick up meat every so often and take it home. (*Dad would take a calf they had fed to the locker plant where they butchered the calf. After they had it frozen, they would put it in a meat locker that we rented.*) But I think when we got electricity, (*we got a freezer*). (*After we got electricity*), I can remember we got running water. We got rid of the pump.

Joan: Was the pump in the house?

Emily: Yes. We had a pump in the house and washed dishes there. We'd heat the water and (*wash the dishes in*) the dishpans, isn't that what you used to call them?

Joan: Did your mother sew your clothes?

Emily: Most of them. During the war time, I think a lot of them were sewed with flour sacks. She used to always try to get flour sacks that matched so that she could make clothes out of them.

Joan: Do you remember any other things from the war? Rationing?

Emily: Sugar, Mother always talked about sugar being rationed, we didn't have as much sugar. They had some type of coupons or something that they got, that you could take and use for certain things at the store. Tires were rationed. I think I can remember Mother saying or talking about they'd give seeds and stuff away for you to be able to plant your garden. So that you would have plenty of food, because it was probably hard to get some foods.

Joan: A Victory Garden.

Emily: I just remember the tires and the gas and everything because during the war for farmers that was one of the big things was gas, some to run the tractors and things. My dad always said...most of the time he filled his granary with wheat and then sometimes he'd haul some into town, but I suppose because of it being so far into town, he'd save it and sell at a better price. Because I'm sure we always played in the granaries and played in the wheat and everything.

Joan: Did you go to the Methodist Church at this time? You're probably going to tell us you were married in it.

Emily: Right. I went to the Methodist Church. My folks really didn't. My mother was raised a Catholic, but when she married my dad, she quit the Catholic Church. My father's family was all Congregational. They went to the Congregational Church, but my dad and mother never really did go to church that much. I went to the Methodist Church, and think I probably got started in that because of friends going to the Methodist Church. That's where I kind of went.

Joan: What were the activities like? When you were in high school or in there, what went on at the church?

Emily: Sunday school and church. That really about all that I remember. I don't remember them having a youth group at all. (*After I was married,*) I helped with Sunday school, well, with the really small kids in the nursery on Sundays a lot for church. But I don't remember them having a lot of activities.

Joan: Did you go skating? That's something else people have talked about.

Emily: We went skating. The skating rink at one time was down in the old Pink Building, down at the park. I think the Jaycees was who started that (*and the club ran it*). I can remember my brother Jack helping with that, when he got back from the service, probably. Then Feldmans had the skating rink out there (*on Hwy. 56*). And we did a lot of skating, and I liked to skate. Probably couldn't do it any more. Ice skating, like I said, I never did try ice skating, but my brothers and sisters talked about how the kids came from town and you have heard of Bill Williamson and Don Schafer. They came out to skate and spent a lot of time at my folks' house, so I hear. My sister, Virginia, the oldest one, was sick. I don't remember what she had (she had pneumonia I think) but Mother had the house all cleaned up for Christmas. The kids all came out to skate. They all ended up in the house. My mother was gone. Mother always had nuts and candy at Christmas, hard candy probably. They put the nuts under the wooden rocking chair and let Virginia rock in the rocking chair and cracked the nuts. Bill Williamson and Don Schaffer remembered that for a long time. I think they went home and didn't come back for awhile. I can think of a lot of things that they tell me that they did, because they had to make their own entertainment, I guess you'd say. They had to make their own, they didn't have help. I'm sure they went to a show and (*had ballgames*) to go to, but it was nice for them to have people to come out and be able to do this (*as we didn't have a lot of money to go places. When I was young Coon Creek had a lot more water in it, and it would flood.*) It was nothing for us sometimes to wake up in the morning and have the creek flooded in our yard.

Joan: Your house, was there a basement?

Emily: No, there was no basement. It was up. It sat up off of the ground a ways.

Joan: Did the creek ever come up into the house then?

Emily: Not until 1965. There was one, I think, earlier than that, but we moved. I must have been pretty young; I don't remember it so much, in the '40's sometime. I guess our house sat probably three feet up off of the ground. They said it slopped up on our porch, but it never did get up in the house. But they had taken us up to Grandmother Lancaster's, and I guess we stayed there for a few days until it went down. I imagine the river and the creek both came up at that time.

Joan: Was this the '40's or the '60's that you're talking about?

Emily: I'm probably thinking that was in the '40's. In (*June*) 1965, it was...my dad, I believe he was on the county commissioners at that time. It was at harvest time. Of course I was married, and I came in to help my mother. Jay drove his combine (*in*) and helped (*my dad*) cut wheat so they'd get the wheat cut before it flooded.

Joan: So you're watching the creek rise while they were in the field.

Emily: Yes, they knew it was coming. It was the big one where the dam broke out in Colorado. It had a crack in it or something; it broke and it (*the Arkansas River flooded and*) came through. So Jay came to help my dad, and when they finished up my dad's farm, my dad went out to help my brother Marvin, and we went on back home. That was the year that it got into the house. My folks had about a foot of water in the house. Mother had a new carpet put down just ten days before this all happened. They had just started to do some remodeling to the house, even though the house didn't belong to the folks. When my grandparents had separated, my grandmother got so much of the land and my grandfather got so much. So my grandmother had the land where (*my parents*) lived. It was owned by the three (*Lancaster*) boys that were left in the family. After flood came through, my dad decided he was not

going back to fix it up unless he could buy it out. The other two brothers really didn't want to sell. The folks moved to town and bought Orville Winkler's house (*on 6th Street*). That's where they lived (*until their deaths*). The farm was later sold at an auction. The house was torn down after the land was sold.

Joan: Okay, you graduated in the class of...?

Emily: 1954.

Joan: I assume you met your husband in high school?

Emily: Oh yes, he went to grade school with me too.

Joan: So you met in grade school. So when did you figure out that you liked this guy? In grade school?

Emily: No, I don't even remember him existing. We were in the same class. Like I said, they went to Northside after the fifth grade. It was probably our junior year that we started dating.

Joan: How did you get together? You're both at the high school at this point.

Emily: I'm just trying to think back. I worked at a bakery, remember Lloyd's Bakery? I don't know if you remember the Lloyd's having the bakery there (*in Kinsley*). He says he came in one night and I already had somebody there that I was going with at the time, so he didn't ask me to go out. But I suppose through school and school dances.

Joan: Now was the bakery your first job?

Emily: Well, I babysat some, but the bakery would have been my first job.

Joan: Was that after school closing or Saturdays?

Emily: Mostly Saturdays, day and nights. I probably worked for maybe 50 cents an hour.

Joan: Were you a baker? Or did you work the counter?

Emily: No, I worked at the counter. They had a little food counter in there too. Sometimes at noon I'd go down there and work through the noon hour.

Joan: What did they serve?

Emily: Just sandwiches and soup and baked goodies. Then we'd have to clean the (*glass*) cases all out at the end of the evening.

Rosetta: Where was Lloyd's bakery?

Emily: I'm trying to think which one it would have been in. It was just east of Ehler's Store. I can't remember if it was the first store or the second one.

Rosetta: There used to be a shoe store in that little, tiny building. But then right next further east was the Bidwell Building where they had barbershops and stuff in there.

Emily: I can't tell you, maybe if I saw the street there, I mean a picture of it, I might be able to figure it out. But I can't remember for sure, and I don't really know how long they (*ran the bakery*). I mean they were in that building all the time I remember that they had the bakery. I was probably 14 or 15 when I helped them. I was pretty young, but then when I got older, I think probably my junior and senior years, I worked at Duckwall's Store. I guess right when I got out of school was probably when I went to work for them (*C. O. Mammels Food Store*).

Joan: What did you do for Duckwall's?

Emily: Oh, I stocked shelves.

Joan: And Duckwall's is a variety store?

Emily: It is a variety store. That's when they had the candy in there. Cases of I-don't-know-how-many different kinds. (*On Saturdays nights we had to take the candy out of the glass cases and clean the glass and the candy bins.*). They had toys; they had clothes; they had just about everything.

Joan: And you were still open late at night at this time?

Emily: Yes. I'm going to say that probably they stayed open until at least 9:00 (*or 10:00 p.m.*). In fact, all the stores did.

Joan: I've never asked this, but when did that stop? When did stores start closing at 6:00?

Rosetta: I worked at Duckwall's when I was in high school and I graduated in 1960, and we were still staying open late on Saturday nights.

Emily: Could it have been in the '70's?

Joan: Probably, it was probably as a result of the declining population.

Emily: You know, Saturday used to be the big thing. We all came to town, and there were cars all up and down Main Street. And people went into the Rexall Drug Store to visit because it stayed open. I imagine it stayed open until 10:00.

Joan: It may have been connected to the movie theater a little bit, when a movie got out or something.

Emily: And the movie, if you missed part of a show, you could stay and watch it again.

Joan: And then you said you worked for Mammal's (*Grocery Store*) when you were still in high school?

Emily: No, that was right after I got out of high school that I worked for C.O. Mammal's (*misspoke and said Krogers*) for a while. (*C.O. Mammal's is now Circle K auto on the corner of 6th St. and Marsh*).

Joan: When did you get engaged?

Emily: In June, right after graduation.

Joan: Anything memorable about that you want to tell us?

Emily: No, some things just come as a surprise.

Joan: So he picked out the ring and showed up with it?

Emily: Yes, he went to Dodge with his folks. I don't even think his folks knew it, but he had went to Dodge with his mother and family for some reason. I can't even tell you what jewelry store he bought it at.

Joan: How did he get the money for the ring? What was he doing? Because he was in school too at this point.

Emily: He farmed with his dad some and his uncles.

Joan: And he put it away.

Emily: I guess, he put the money away. Of course, back then it didn't cost near as much. They weren't near as expensive as they are now. I can't tell you what date it was. First part of June, I remember that.

Joan: Did you take you to the movies or out to dinner or something?

Emily: Well, no. In fact, he kind of wanted me to go to Dodge with them. I thought that was kind of odd, but I had to work. There was no way I could go. That night, he brought it in and we were just riding around, I guess. He said something about it, and I don't even remember where we were at the time.

Joan: And you were overwhelmed.

Emily. I guess. I can't remember if it was before we left the house because he came out and got me, I remember that. But whether we were just riding around when he said something and handed it to me or what, I'm not sure what he did. I don't know whether he'd remember now.

Joan: Now this was in June and you got married in October in the Methodist Church. What was your wedding like.

Emily: We just had a really small wedding. We just had our families there.

Joan: Did you have a traditional wedding dress or just a suit?

Emily: No, I had kind of a creamy colored (*off-white*) suit that I had made in school. That's back when they had home-ec and you sewed your clothes. We had a small reception out to my folks' house with a small cake. Just for family and a few of our friends. We had two that stood up with us and a few other friends. Nothing really special. We weren't old enough to do this, but we went to The Lamplighter over in Dodge City. The Lamplighter was a club over in Dodge City.

Joan: I assume they served alcohol.

Emily: They served alcohol and I guess food. They usually had dances. This was on a Saturday that we got married (*at 2:30*) in the afternoon. We had the reception and Mother had lunch for us that night,

sandwiches and (*salads*). Then some of my brothers and sisters took us over to Dodge. When we came back, we spent the night in Kinsley. We didn't go anywhere.

Joan: Did you stay in one of the homes?

Emily: We were in Jay's folks' home. We lived with Jay's folks for probably a month or so. We bought a trailer house.

Joan: Where was the park?

Emily: It was parked out at the farm. Jay's folks lived on a farm eight miles south of Kinsley. Her parents had lived there when Jay's folks took over the farming and after they retired. So Jay was helping them, and we bought a little small trailer house. We set it out there alongside (*his folks' house*). So we didn't have to go too far (*to hook up*) water lines and electricity. Probably about a month, I would say, before we got that all fixed and ready. And then we lived in that until November of 1958, just after Debra was born.

Joan: Okay, so that's three children. You had Amelia (Faye), Milly and Debra.

Emily: Debra didn't spend much time there because the people moved out of the house. We always called it the Lober Place. You know where Jack Miller lives or had the house out there (*on Hwy 183*)? It was just west of Jack Miller. In fact, I think Benders (*own it now*). But there was a house on there and the Winfield's lived in it and they were going to move down around Greensburg. They came and asked us if we would like to live there. Of course, we jumped at the chance, even though it was still two bedroom. It had a big kitchen and nice living room. We put bunk beds in the kids' bedroom.

Joan: Did you buy that?

Emily: No, we didn't buy it. They just wanted somebody to live there to protect it, so we lived there until November of 1965, that was when the flood came through. Jay's uncle had remarried. He lost his first wife, and his second wife didn't like the storms and when the flood came through, it really bothered her. So they moved to Colorado and then Jay's folks moved to town, and we moved back over to the farm where we lived before, which was really nice, because we had four bedrooms. So we had more bedrooms and a big living room and a big kitchen.

Joan: And you had five little girls, so...

Emily: We had five girls before we moved back (*to the farm where Jay grew up*) and then in 1976 around November or December, my daughter always said, "Mom, how come we (*always*) move in November?"

Joan: Wasn't any farming to do.

Emily: No! (*Jay's grandparents had farmed and lived on this land for several years.*) The Eslingers owned that land. The lady that owned it (*a daughter had inherited the land*) decided she wanted to sell it. It had been in the Eslinger family for years and years. She lived in Arizona at the time, and so they decided they wanted to sell it. Jay and I talked about maybe trying to buy it. It sold for \$900 and acre, so we decided we couldn't buy it. Back then that was a lot! (*Farmland was*) just beginning to go up. We had a chance to buy a place, but we didn't think we could afford to do it out in the country. So we

got to looking around and looked at several places. This had just been built, and we looked at it. I liked it. At the time, two of my girls were already gone to college, Faye and Milly, so we decided that we would buy it. We did, and moved to town (*in November of 1979*), and we've been here ever since. I've always wished I could build on another room, you know, but we didn't do it.

Joan: Okay, let's see. Your husband, did he do both cattle and farming?

Emily: They raised some cattle. My dad had cows and calves. They bought yearlings in the spring and sold them in the fall. Jay had a partnership with my father on some cows and calves. (*Jay wintered them and Dad summered them.*) We did that until Dad got sick and decided he couldn't go to the pastures anymore and see his calves and cows because his breathing was bad. So, we bought him out. Kept them for probably a year or so, when Jay decided cows and calves wasn't what he really wanted to have. So we got out of the cow business.

Joan: And then he was doing what?

Emily: More or less farming, and then they'd buy the cattle in spring and sell them in the fall. They didn't winter them.

Joan: He was raising wheat?

Emily: Wheat.

Joan: And alfalfa?

Emily: All our ground was rented. He rented some from Jack Miller, and he had some he rented from McBrides that they had inherited over close to us. Of course, he farmed some for my mother and dad. He farmed a quarter of ground that they owned.

Joan: Was it all dry land farming?

Emily: All. Well, Jack (Miller's) was irrigated and it was in flood irrigation for a while. We did have alfalfa on that. Then they went to a sprinkler system, which was really nice because moving irrigation pipe isn't fun. And it's muddy.

Joan: When did that happen?

Emily: I suppose probably sometime in the 80's, late 80's maybe.

Joan: And you had all girls. Did you have to hire help or did he...

Emily: He hired some help. His dad helped until he was about 70 years old. They had some help. They hired mainly relations. That's basically what we had. We had the Craft boys, Rod and Keith both helped us, and stayed with us in the summertime a lot. They just stayed with us and Alice Peterson's kids helped sometimes. We hired them, but they never stayed at our house that I can remember. They worked for Jay. But mainly what he hired was the kids that were old enough. Then our grandson Steve started going (*to the farm*) with his grandpa when he was two or three years old, following him around. When he got old enough to drive the tractor, he helped them (*and worked for us*). And their partnership in what we have left, but we got rid of most of it. We did buy our quarter of ground that my father and

mother had. After Mother passed away, I always told Dad I'd try to keep it in the family. So we purchased that from the estate. So we now own a quarter of ground along with a house! And some interest in some pasture, four of the family (*members*) kept the pasture ground. It's like 480 of pasture. My sister Luetta and her husband usually (*rent the pasture for the summer and*) run cattle in that now.

Joan: So the land is still in the family.

Emily: The land is still in the family. I just looked it up, and the quarter of ground (*that we own*) is just off of the parallel down there, that we own. My grandfather and grandmother were the second owners of it, and it was bought in 1899. It's been in the family over 100 years. The pasture land (*was bought at a later date*). And the house my grandfather had owned, well, I call it the Cheap house, but he'd owned that ground down there too at one time, and then sold it off. I don't know exactly where my dad was born. He was born in that house that we were talking about that we lived in or whether he was born in the house that was just across the creek to the west. Who lives in there now?

Rosetta: Sollitts?

Emily: Because I understand my grandfather owned that house at one time. (*Working at the Registrar of deeds Office, I would find my Grandfather Lancaster's name in several pieces of property.*) I asked my dad "How come Grandfather had land up there? Most of his land was south?" He said his dad used to trade a piece of ground for a horse and buggy or some cattle or something like that. It is just kind of surprising that you could do that back then. My grandfather went to Arkansas. I don't know whether that's where he bought cattle or what, but I know he went to Arkansas. And he was crippled. I never did ask my dad if he knew how he got crippled. He walked with a limp. I never thought to ask questions.

Joan: And you don't listen when they tell you anyway.

Emily: Jo Eslinger does a lot of genealogy, and she told me one time, "Emily, just sit down with your dad and a tape recorder and get him to start talking." I never did, and I'm very sorry that I didn't, because I think he probably...

Joan: That's why we're doing this today. Okay, let's see. We talked about electricity, and once you got to live in that house you had electricity for the rest of your life, right?

Emily: Yes.

Joan: Telephone. When did you get your first telephone? Did you have that in the house when you were growing up?

Emily: Well, yes, we did. But I can't tell you when we got it, but before we had electricity. I think so, yes. We had the old crank type and a party line.

Joan: And television, when did that come in? Did you have it before you were married?

Emily: My folks didn't. I don't think my folks had it before we were married. Jay's folks did, they had television. I'm trying to think. I'm not sure we had television in our little trailer. If we wanted to watch television, I think we probably had to go to somebody's house. But my folks had gotten it. We might have had it when I graduated. But you didn't get many stations and you didn't really watch it that much.

We listened to the radio a lot. My Dad always had a radio going a lot.

Joan: And you had all these girls. Where did they go to school? Now, you had them in the hospital?

Emily: Yes, in the old hospital on 5th Street. They were all born there. Dr. Atwood delivered them all.

Joan: You kept him on retainer.

Emily: Yes! And you know, talking about health and stuff like that, I see it's not on there, but I think when we had the oldest one, it cost us \$80. The whole hospital bill was maybe \$100.

Joan: How long did you stay in the hospital?

Emily: I stayed a week. And then my mother would never let us go home right away. We always had to go to her house for another week usually. But yes, they were all born in Kinsley. They all went to school in Kinsley. They went to Southside most of the time, no, I'm wrong, they went to Northside. And then, I don't know, they kind of divided them again. I don't know if they got too many kids, but they kind of divided them up again and they went to both schools. Some of the classes got too big, so they had to separate them again. Milly always went to Southside and Faye went to Northside school.

Joan: I think Mary Kallaus told us that she got back and forth when going to school in the 3rd grade, 4th grade, one of those.

Emily: It seemed like it, and she was always being moved. Faye ended up being over on Northside, but I was thinking Milly always went to Southside. We kind of carpooled out there and brought them into kindergarten a lot of times. We took turns; there were two or three families out there.

Joan: Because the bus did not...

Emily: Well, they would pick them up in the morning if they went to morning kindergarten, but if they went to afternoon kindergarten, we took them in and the bus would bring them home. It kind of depended on how many kids they had. A lot of time Jay's folks, when they lived in town, Jay's dad would take the little ones into kindergarten to the school. They thought that was fun to eat lunch with grandpa and grandma and then got taken to school, for kindergarten.

Joan: Were your kids in 4H?

Emily: No, they were in Girl Scouts. I don't think Jan was, I don't remember Jan being in Scouts. But the older ones were in Scouts, and I helped with Scouts a lot. I took two or three trips with them.

Joan: Where did you go?

Emily: One year we took them to Colorado, up to Colorado Springs.

Joan: Was this camping?

Emily: It was camping. Very cold! It ended up being very cold. I can't remember what the place was called now, but it was out close to the Air Force Academy because we took the kids to see the Academy. But this was a place that had boating, and they could horseback ride and do things like that. So we went

there. I'm trying to think, that was probably Shelley and Deb, maybe. Faye and Milly, we took a train ride one time to Six Flags, Texas. Then one time, we drove down there with one bunch of (*Girls Scouts*) to Six Flags. I'm thinking we had maybe five or six girls.

Joan: When you took the train, what year would that have been?

Emily: Oh, I don't remember.

Joan: It would have been late 60's probably.

Emily: Yes, it would have been in probably, yes because Faye graduated in 1973. So I'd say it was probably in the late '60's when we rode the train. We took those kids on the train.

Joan: Were there sports for your girls at the time?

Emily: They had basketball. They started doing basketball, I don't remember them having volleyball so much, but I think they started girls' basketball. The older girls never played. Shelley and Jan played a little bit, mainly in junior high. They didn't play sports (*in high school*). When they were old enough, I think all of them pretty much worked for Mabel Schroeter at the little restaurant called the Northside Café.

Joan: As waitresses?

Emily: Yes. In the summer time I would never work, but in the wintertime, after the kids got older and in high school, I kind of substituted at the high school (*lunchroom*). I had worked at the Dyne Quick Restaurant west of town some. Then, when Mabel Schroeder took over the restaurant, I worked in the wintertime for them. The kids were all in school at that time.

Joan: As a waitress?

Emily: As a waitress. Summertime was out because it was harvest time, and I didn't work when my kids were home.

Joan: When you worked in the winter, was that to supplement the farm income? Or to get out of the house?

Emily: Oh, both, probably. Yes, you know, with the girls in school, there were always extra things they had to have. It was nice to have the extra income.

Joan: Did you sew their clothes like your mother had sewn yours?

Emily: No. But Jay's mother sewed a lot of clothes for them. She liked to sew, and she did do a lot of sewing. When I was first married, we did have an Extension unit out there that I belonged to. Jay's mother belonged to it, but I don't think it stayed active very long.

Joan: Did you belong to any other organizations in the '50's and '60's?

Emily: VFW Auxiliary. I joined that probably in about '57 or '58.

Joan: How large was that organization at that time?

Emily: They probably had 120 or 130 members at that time.

Joan: What were the requirements to be in the VFW Auxiliary?

Emily: You had to be a mother, daughter, sister, or wife. I can't remember if you could be an aunt or not, I don't think you could. Step-children or grandkids. You had to be related to a veteran. One that was in war-time and overseas. Then later on, they took in the Vietnam and Korean war vets. But see, for a long time, they weren't called wars, so they couldn't join. But they finally went to the Legislature and got that changed. But you still had to be in at a certain time.

Joan: What were your activities back then?

Emily: In the VFW? Really, we did a lot of dinners and cooked meals for things.

Joan: Did you support the veterans somehow? Medical or?

Emily: We helped the veterans' hospitals and things like that. Mainly we made money to send to them. There was a VFW National Home, and that was where the children or wives of veterans who had lost their parent or father in the war could live. And so we supported that, and we mainly sent money because we were so far away from Topeka and Leavenworth and those places. They still do some things for Fort Dodge, I believe, and we still send money.

Joan: How many are in the group today?

Emily: Probably 80. They have tried to get some new members in, they're not as active as they used to be making dinners and doing this type of thing. But with dues, we are able to send in money for certain obligations that they have, like cancer research. That's like \$2 a member. They send (*items to the hospitals*) at Christmas time. They still try to do things for that. They had a project where they made some type of a little sock or something or other that you can stick dollar bills in when you take them (*to veterans in hospitals or rest homes in your county*). They used to make a lot of little favors for the hospitals out here. It got to where they didn't like to have those brought in so much. I don't know if it's (*because of*) germs. You know, they've gotten so particular with all of that kind of stuff. I'm still active in (*the VFW Auxilliary*). For a long time I was treasurer and secretary. I held presidency at one time. I still am a Trustees. I haven't been quite as involved as I once was, but I'm trying to get back into it a little bit.

Joan: Okay, let's go back a little bit. What do you remember about the loss of population and when they had to consolidate school. Do you remember anything about that time period?

Emily: Not really, too much. Jay, did you ever go to country school?

Jay: No.

Emily: We fought, Northside and Southside fought a lot. (*Not really fought; it was just a rivalry. Northside and Southside had basketball teams and often played against each other.*) We did have basketball in grade school because they did go to tournaments. But the girls didn't have it. But, really the first consolidation that I kind of remember, because we lived close enough to town, none of us went to country school. So I don't remember too much about the country schools coming in. But when they

consolidated Offerle School and Kinsley High School it wasn't very pleasant at that time. I don't think they wanted to do it, but cost wise and everything I think they had to. But after the years have gone by, nobody thinks a thing about it anymore.

Joan: Of course, we kept the elementary school in Offerle for a while,

Emily: And that helped. Then when the Catholic school closed too, that probably helped a lot with that over there.

Joan: Your daughters, let's go through and say what's happened to them. Where are they now?

Emily: My daughters? Well, they all live here in Kinsley.

Joan: All five of them?

Emily: All but one, Shelley.

Joan: I guess I should have gotten their married names.

Emily: Faye's is Trent. She lives here in Kinsley and she works for Great Plains Economic Development in Dodge City.

Joan: And Milly, what's her married name?

Emily: She's never been married, it's White. She works over at Fairpoint Communications, in Dodge City.

Joan: And Debra.

Emily: Her name is Aistrup. She works in Dodge City at ADM Grain.

Joan: And Shelley?

Emily: Shelley is in Houston, Texas, and her name is Williams. She is just a housewife.

Joan: And Janice?

Emily: It's Hogan. And she works at the (*Farmers Bank and Trust in Kinsley*).

Joan: That's sort of unusual to have four out of five.

Emily: Yes, and really they've all been fairly close around here, other than Shelley. Her husband was in the service, so they lived in Jacksonville, Florida, and several different places. So we got to see several different places.

Joan: Let's summarize your life. What did you do after 1970? You had a pretty important job.

Emily: In 1977, I went to work in the Registrar of Deeds Office as a deputy. I worked as a deputy until 1989, when Vivian Feldman retired, who happened to be my sister. I worked for her through those

years. Then I ran for Registrar of Deeds in 1988. I retired in January of 2009. I'm just a housewife now.

Joan: And you were Registrar for...

Emily: I worked as deputy (*for 11 years*) and Registrar of Deeds for (*19 years*). It was a very interesting job, I learned a lot. Of course, it was interesting to me because a lot of the names (I didn't know the people) but I'd heard the names before and I'd heard my parents (*talk of them*).

Joan: And you got the job because of your sister?

Emily: Yes, when she won the election she'd had some people in mind and had asked them. For one reason or another they ended up not being able to go to work for her, so she asked me about it. I thought, "Oh, no, working for your sister..." She had called and asked them (*the County Commissioners*), and they didn't have any policies against that at that time.

Joan: And your youngest daughter was nearly out of high school?

Emily: Right, so I decided I'd would go ahead and do that. It was kind of different because I'd always worked where I had my summers off. This was a fulltime job. So I had to adjust to making meals and everything for harvest.

Joan: Why did you make the decision to run for the office? Was it just natural?

Emily: Well, I guess it was a kind of natural thing to do. I wasn't ready to retire yet.

Joan: Did you have any opposition at first?

Emily: No, I never had any opposition. Vivian didn't either. Well, she did the first time. There were several that ran at that time. I think they were just ready for a change maybe at that time. I just never had any competition or opposition there. It was just kind of an easy in, you might say, more than some people have had, you know. But I think if you are kind and listen to people and are helpful, that's the way you get reelected.

Joan: Okay, so over the years, you have seen the population of Edwards County decline.

Emily: Yes, the stores declined. You know, back when I was young, there were a lot of stores in town, a lot of businesses. Through the years, and you know, I worked up at the courthouse, I've seen a lot of businesses go out. People coming and people going. Sometimes you wonder when people move here, what they are doing. A lot of them live here but work in Dodge.

Joan: Like your daughters. How many were in the class that you graduated in?

Emily: 43.

Joan: About how many of those do you think stayed in Kinsley and made their living here? Now, they may have retired somewhere else.

Emily: About ten of us, give or take. But now, there are only four or five of us that are actually here.

Well, Darryl Miller came back, so Darryl is here. So there are probably about seven of us that are still here.

Joan: So there were quite a few people that after you graduated that left.

Emily: More or less left and didn't come back.

Jay: The ones that stayed were living on the farm.

Emily: Yes, helped farm.

Joan: How do you think living in Edwards County affected your life?

Emily: I had a good life here. I think it has been great. We've got a great town. People are nice and friendly. I've been to big cities and visited big cities, and like I said, my daughter has lived in several different places. I'd take Kinsley, or a small town, Edwards County, over a big city any day.

Joan: What do you see for the future of Edwards County?

Emily: I'd like to see us get some businesses in, but with the economy like it is, I'm just afraid that we're not going to have a lot of luck

Joan: Do you think the population will continue to decline?

Emily: Oh, I think we might stay maybe about the same now because we've gotten a few people that are retired here. Kind of like my children. They live here, and they work in Dodge. I think we're going to find that happening probably a lot.

Joan: Is there a reason they don't move to Dodge?

Emily: Well, probably because it is more expensive to live in Dodge. Of course, now the gas is higher. But they seem to get by with that.

Joan: Do they prefer the small town?

Emily: I think they just prefer the small town. This is where they've lived. We're a pretty close family. We do a lot of things together.

Joan: How many grandchildren do you have?

Emily: We have five grandchildren. There are two boys and three girls. We have five great-grandchildren, two boys and three girls. The three girls are all step-grandchildren. They keep us going again. We're getting involved in school things again. We keep the one little great-grandson who lives here in town, I keep him off and on because his mother is going to nurse's training. She'll be through this year in May. So I probably won't have him as much, and he has begun to go to the babysitter more often. We enjoy him. It's kind of a past time for us.

Joan: Is there anything else I've forgotten to ask you that you'd like to tell about your life story on this tape? Highlights or interesting stories? Unique experiences?

Emily: Right now I can't think of anything right offhand. You know, growing up on the farm, we

didn't go out, but we did a lot things at home together. Like I said, our families have always been pretty close, with family dinners and get-togethers. Christmases and things. A lot of good memories.