

**NOREEN KELLY (SALTVEIT) McGRAW**

June 2000

Tape 1 of 3, Side A

U.S. District Court of Oregon Historical Society

*Transcription by P.K. Gott, Lane Powell PC, Spring 2007; reviewed by Noreen McGraw  
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DR = Diane Rynerson (Interviewer)

NS = Noreen Kelly (Saltveit) McGraw (Interviewee)

DR: Interviewing Noreen Saltveit McGraw, as part of the Oral History Project for the U.S. District Court of Oregon Historical Society. This is Tape 1, Side 1 [A], and we're speaking on... May 24?

NS: Yes.

DR: May 24, 2000. So, Noreen, we were talking about what it was like for you to move from Medford to Portland. What year was that?

NS: That was in 1960. And, just to put it in some context, I graduated from law school in 1955, and then I borrowed some money and went with a friend of mine to Europe for five months, so by the time – and we stayed in youth hostels and so forth, and by the time I got back it was December, so it was almost 1956, that I actually drove to Salem with my Dad, who was a lawyer, and was sworn in by the Supreme Court. And then I started practicing law with my Dad. He had a very large practice which included just about everything, but with a heavy emphasis on litigation. So, he threw me into the drink almost immediately. I think I had been practicing all of a week when he sent me out to Phoenix to defend a drunk driving case. And, I lost.

DR: Phoenix, Arizona?

NS: Phoenix, Oregon, [laughter] before a hanging judge. And, unfortunately, I lost, although I gave it my all. And, Dad later told me that this was a hanging judge but the client wanted to say his piece [chuckles]. So, I tried a lot of cases with my Dad, and it was a wonderful learning experience because he was really giving me a lot of pointers on how to try a case, what the point of an opening statement is, putting together pieces of proof, and just a lot of interesting things. He, unfortunately for me, was talked into going on the Circuit Court bench in 1957 and, so, I inherited this still-massive law practice and begged my older brother to come practice with me, which he did. And, so we put out the fires and tried a lot of the remaining cases. Some of the – remind me when we get to the point about cases, and I’ll try to remember some of the cases that I either had myself, or we tried, because there were some very interesting cases during that time period, including criminal defense and mortgage foreclosures. I even represented a woman who was a Native American trying to get benefits under a combination of Indian and Riparian laws. So, the thing about a small town is you do get a wide variety of experience.

And, during that period of time I was also the City Attorney for Gold Hill, when Dad became a judge. And before he became a judge, I was actually the City Judge of Medford, while practicing law full time for a couple of years. And, I think in large part, that was due to my being a woman, and also being a brand new lawyer, because the Mayor wanted somebody who was idealistic and would let people have their say in City Court.

Anyway, by the time 1959 rolled around I was really ready to leave Medford. for a number of reasons. I think the biggest one was because I had been – I had had a very romantic love affair and was engaged for a while to a young Frenchman, and that broke up, and simultaneously I was dating some and I felt like I was living in a goldfish bowl. And, I was afraid that I would end up just getting married out of [sighs] fatigue [laughs] or something, trying to tell people, “No, I wasn’t engaged,” because I’d gone out with

somebody twice. And I...

DR: Let me just interrupt you for a moment.

NS: Sure.

DR: Was this Frenchman somebody you had met in France? Or was he somebody you met in Medford?

NS: I met him in law school...

DR: Oh.

NS: ... my last year.

DR: Okay.

NS: And, he was over here on a what they call a stage (pronounced "stahzhe") with Weyerhaeuser, and so that's another long story. We ended up having an ongoing very close friendship, and he finally became a French senator. But, he died about three years ago. In any event, I knew I wanted to keep trying cases. I enjoyed trial work but, more than that, I still, even though I was doing a lot of it, I was still getting the terrible butterflies every time I'd go into court, and I decided that if I could go off to the big city, recapture my youth (because I felt like I was 27 going on 40 at that point), and get to the point where I was trying so many cases that it was no longer giving me the sleepless nights, then maybe I could come back to Medford some day. So that was my motivation. And I sent out résumés to probably 35 or 40 law firms, trying to get a job. By this time I had also tried a couple of Supreme Court cases. (There were no Court of Appeals cases in those days.) And, had briefed and argued them, and I had tried just about every kind of case there was to try. And, I had been treated really very well in Medford by and large, by the judges and the lawyers, so I was really kind of surprised

that it was so hard for me to get a job. I interviewed, out of those 35 to 40 people that I contacted, I probably had interviews with 10 to 12 different firms. I got one job offer out of all that. This was, of course, before the Civil Rights Act, so people were not as careful. I had people asking me back for a second interview and saying things like, “Well, you’re a nice Catholic girl. Won’t you get married and have babies, and stop practicing?” I mean, they were very up front about what they were concerned about. One lawyer told me, after talking to me and looking at my résumé, “Well, frankly, we were looking for a glorified legal secretary, like ‘X’ firm has, but it sounds like you wouldn’t be satisfied doing that.” And, I said, “No, I would not.” Another prominent law firm told me that they thought I would be happy doing research in the library, like a couple of their “girls,” and I told them, “No. [Laughing] I wanted to try cases.” So, finally, I had an opportunity to interview with the Attorney General to see about doing trial work. And, although at that time they didn’t have any female trial lawyers in the Department of Justice that tried jury cases at all, I was offered a job by the Attorney General, who was then Robert Thornton, trying workers’ compensation cases. And, those were jury trials in those days. And, furthermore, they were litigating against the Pozzi law firm, and Nels Peterson’s law firm, in other words, the top plaintiffs’ law firms. And, although our practice in Medford had been primarily plaintiff oriented, I talked to Phil Levin, who was then a partner with Pozzi’s firm, and he convinced me that I could do this defense work and still not be totally wearing my black hat. So, I decided to give it a try. And, the other thing that was attractive about it was that it was in Portland, which is where I wanted to be. So, I wound up my cases and my brother and I got in another attorney, Bob Grant, who took over my case load, and I came to Portland. And that’s what I started doing. Trying these cases that at that time lasted one or two to three days. And, they were medical/legal. So...

DR: Let me just interrupt you for a moment. Would this be in '59 when you came to Portland?

NS: It was actually '60.

DR: O.K., by the time you wrapped up?

NS: By the time I wrapped everything up.

DR: O.K. So was it early 1960?

NS: It was January 1960.

DR: Oh, o.k.

NS: And, the thing about it, though, was that even though we were in the Portland office, we tried cases all over the state. And, so, I also got the opportunity to go to Tillamook County, and try cases in Clackamas County, or even over to Pendleton, and so it was a great experience to see the different court houses and try cases against the different lawyers. I remember, as the youngest person on the Attorney General's staff there in Portland, I used to go over to the call of the court assignments, which was somewhat different than they are now. Judge Charles Redding was the Presiding Judge and he did not like the Attorney General, for a number of reasons. He was having a political feud of sorts with Thornton. So, when we would report ready or not ready we would be prepared for an onslaught. The first day I went in to this large court room, presiding court, for call of the calendar, was a very eerie experience because there weren't other women in the courtroom. Out of some 300 lawyers there was only one other woman lawyer in Jackson County at the time.

DR: Who was that?

NS: Jeannette Marshall [*laughs*] and she's still there. She did not do a lot of litigating, but they didn't have such a thing as the call of the calendar in Jackson County. But they sure did in Multnomah County, and I remember when I came in it was a weird feeling

because everybody turned around and stared at me like I didn't belong there. It was like walking into a men's bar [*laughs*] of a different sort. But, gradually, people got used to seeing me and, for the most part, I was treated pretty well. But, with a few exceptions. Because I think there were some men that really did resent having a woman there. They didn't think women belonged in the law. But I have to tell a little story that always warmed my heart. The attorneys on the other side, who were, might be Chuck Paulson, might be Don Wilson, Don Atchison, and I, all developed a good rapport. We were all young attorneys working hard at trying to make our mark in the profession. And, there were some older attorneys like Burl Greene, who had everybody's respect, and what would happen is that if one of the attorneys was going to be trying a case and I had a case coming up against them or someone in the Attorney General's office did, and a couple or three days were covered by the weekly call, then I would report that "X" was not ready, but we were ready, or we were not ready, but "X" was ready, or whatever, just so the judge would get a status report. And, I had this case against Burl Greene, and he had asked me to report that he would not be ready, or that the case was not ready, and so I got up and did that and Judge Redding I guess was feeling particularly ticked off at the Attorney General that day, because he just lit into me. And, in the middle of what certainly seemed to me like a tirade, Burl Greene, who was in the court room, got up, which took a lot of guts for him to do, with a whole court room full of lawyers, and interrupted the judge and said, "It is not Miss Kelly's fault, Your Honor. I was the one that asked for the continuance, because my doctor isn't ready," or whatever the excuse was. But I've always loved Burl for that, and that was an example of – I mean, he wasn't the only one – there were other examples of that, that for every man who might resent you, there was somebody that was very fair about just seeing that you weren't knocked down just because you were female, or whatever.

DR: Did the interjection stop the tirade?

NS: Absolutely. Stopped him in his tracks. Absolutely. So, anyway that was kind of – I joined the Oregon Trial Lawyers at that time, and I was the only woman going to their

meetings, and I think gradually people just became used to seeing me around, because I was in court a lot trying a lot of cases. I had a couple of funny incidents that happened. The first case I tried was a case against a lawyer named Jim Navarra, who I don't think is alive any more. He was with Wes Franklin's firm.

DR: Is it N-E-V-A-R...

NS: N-A-V-A-R-R-A. Uh-huh. Very good trial lawyer. Anyway, Jim was trying to get permanent total disability for his client – which is like a lifelong pension. And, I was defending for the State Accident Insurance Fund. And, Frank Pozzi came and sat in during the whole trial because I was a new animal, so to speak, and there was a lot of speculation about what impact would this have on the juries. So, Frank sat in, I guess, just to size up what was going on. Well, anyway, to cut a long story short, the jury came back. They did not give Jim's client permanent total; they gave him an increase, some small increase. But, I had hung around and come back, and I heard the jury laughing off in the distance, and then Jim poked his head in along the way, because the jury was out quite a while and we were wondering why it was taking them so long, and particularly since they seemed to be getting such a charge out of something. And, the bailiff [*laughing*] – we were told that what had happened was that they were imitating our ways of summing up cases for the jury, and then they decided that Jim, who was married and had several children, and I made a nice couple. [*Laughing*] And they could see I wasn't married because I wasn't wearing a wedding ring, but they wondered if Jim were married. [*Laughing*] Oh, dear. So, there were a lot of funny experiences like that. I tried one case against Frank Pozzi, which was, turned out to be, kind of amusing because there was – Frank was trying to get permanent total for his client, and in those days Coos Bay was a very active port with personal injuries and the juries were known to be very sympathetic to the plaintiffs. However, they had a number of cases that were just absolute dogs, and so poor Dan O'Leary and Don Wilson, and then Don Atchison and all the troops went trotting off to Coos Bay to try this bunch of dogs, and Frank was just sure he was going to get permanent total for his worthy client. Well, what happened

was that I had sent – his client was not working, and he had had a pretty serious injury. And, I think his claim had been closed with 25%. And, so I had sent him out for a medical exam and his doctor, which was his own doctor, had rated him at 35%. So, I had offered Frank that 10% increase. But he pooh-poohed that and he was telling me how “nothing short of permanent total would suffice.” And, the judge was Herb Schwab, before he went on the Court of Appeals. And this was probably in about 1961, because I met my first husband and got married the end of '60, and we hadn't been married very long. Well, what happened was the doctor's nurse called me up, which she shouldn't have done, but she thought this guy was a real “four-flusher” and she couldn't stand it. And, so she called me up and she said, “I know I probably shouldn't be calling you up, but I think you ought to know” – this guy's name was Humbird – “that Mr. Humbird [*laughs*] has been participating in shootouts.” This was the era of Bonanza and Have Gun Will Travel, and there were a lot of people staging these shootouts. She said, “I happen to know that he is planning on staging a shootout with some friends of his. There's a train that goes to the barbershop quartets in Forest Grove. And he and his buddies are [*laughing*] planning on holding up the train” in this mock hold-up.

DR: I think I might have been there.

NS: Oh! Anyway, so I dragged Carl, my new husband, along, and another friend, in case I needed a witness. And I was going to – we didn't have a camera or anything. I tried to get an investigator to cover it. But, forget it, it was on the weekend and they didn't want to work on their time off. [*Laughs*] So the three of us boarded this train and headed for the Forest Grove barbershop quartet. And, sure enough, just before the train pulled in to the Forest Grove station, Smoky – his name was Smoky [*laughing*], that was the name he was using. (Not in his workers' comp claim; I think it was William Humbird.) But, they held up the train, and Smoky – this person who was totally disabled with his bad back – was rolling around on the floor vigorously, and all these things. So, I was making notes. It's 10:27, you know [*laughing*], et cetera. So, that was on a Saturday



and the case was to be tried on Monday. So, on Monday, Frank always tried a very efficient case, and he got through with Mr. Humbird, who was telling how he couldn't do anything because his back was such a problem, and how he tried to go through this shoe repair course but he couldn't even repair the shoes because his back hurt him so badly. And, he was done by 11:30. And, so I knew that I didn't dare start really cross-examining before noon because Frank would rehabilitate him. He was too smart. So, I kind of dawdled along and Judge Schwab [*chuckling*] was just getting fit to be tied. I mean, he and Frank both put it off to me being a new lawyer, and sort of inept. So, I was going around, around and around in circles, and then, finally, about ten to 12, Judge Schwab was just beside himself, and he said, "Miss Kelly, how much longer is this going to take?" and I said, "Oh, I've got at least another half an hour, Your Honor." And, oh, he threw his book down, he was so outraged. So, he said, "Well, I'm going to send the jury out now, and be back here at 10 to 1," or whatever. So, of course, once we got past [*chuckling*] the lunch hour I asked a few innocuous questions and then I launched into, "Isn't it true that?" – and at first, Smoky denied it. And then, finally, I said, "Well, isn't it a fact, Mr. Humbird, that on Saturday, at 10:20 you boarded this train?" I mean, suddenly, he realized that I had the goods on him so he came clean. And then, being flushed with success, I pulled, I did something that no experienced trial lawyer ever does. I started probing a little about his, how did you get into this? Well, it turned out he was an actor. And he had signed up for the Portland Civic Theater. And, pretty soon, the jury was all laughing. They were enjoying this. And, of course, he was enjoying his moment in the sun, and Frank was looking ill. [*Laughing*] So, when it finally, when this was all done with, Frank gave his usual "poor injured worker" speech, or he tried to, about give this poor working man an honest break, and it sort of went, Clink—No Sale. [*Laughing*] The jury came back with a 10%. Well, the funny end to that story was, that the guys who went to Coos Bay, who knew they were going to lose, because these cases were such dogs, all did really well. And, they never let Frank forget it. [*Laughing*] "Permanent, total." [*Laughing*] Oh, but it was, you know, one of those lucky breaks. So... it was interesting. But, there were a lot of interesting cases like that,

that happened in the workers' comp context.

DR: Did you find – you mentioned you traveled all over the state – did you find that you were home-towned at all, when you went to different courthouses and, you know?

NS: A little bit. Not too much because people knew I'd come from Medford.

DR: Hmm.

NS: And so, I probably didn't get the anti-Portland hostility as much as some of the other lawyers did. And, I was still pretty young, and I looked, you know, wet behind the ears. And [*chuckling*] so you got, as long as you really – but, you know, there was an interesting thing, Diane, that I should mention. And, that is, the jury psychology. When I first started trying cases in Portland I noticed it more than I had in Medford. Maybe because Medford was small-town and people knew me and knew my family. But in Portland I was a totally unknown quantity. And, what I noticed was that on the jury, the women especially, there was kind of a wariness at first. And, I finally realized that what it was, usually, was that the women were afraid that a woman lawyer would come in and would embarrass them, either because they weren't prepared, or whatever. And, I was always afraid I wasn't going to win, so I was always working extremely hard at making my theory clear and trying to marshal the evidence to prove it. And I began to notice that about halfway through my trials, there was sort of a visible relaxation. That didn't mean that I necessarily was going to win, but it meant that the women on the jury, particularly, and to a lesser extent, the men, were satisfied that I was for real. That I knew my case, that I wasn't going to waste their time with anything other than trying to prove the case. And, so they would kind of relax. And, then I think the momentum started going for you, once they knew you were really trying, because they sort of figured you had maybe an uphill fight a little bit. It was very interesting to watch that, though, in those days. Because they almost never saw a woman trying a case.

DR: Hmm. [Break in audio continuity.]

O.K. We're back on the record now with Noreen McGraw.

NS: We were talking about attitudes, and I think I had mentioned before that because I had really been treated, by and large, with respect, I mean, at least, a wait-and-see attitude, by attorneys in Medford, I was not completely prepared for the occasional attitude I ran into in Portland, which was one of a kind of disrespect. Sort of a sense of, you must be playing at practicing law, you couldn't be serious, since you're a woman. And which usually manifested itself in, oh, just kind of a smarmy attitude, is the only way I can describe it. And, even Judge Solomon, who had been a good friend of my parents – they were all in the Young Democrats together when my folks lived in Portland in the late '30s. I mean, he was friendly to me, but he, it was sort of like... humoring me. I was on the criminal appointments list, and, well, my first brush with Solomon was back in the late '50s, because my Dad represented Hugh D'Autremont, who was the youngest of the three train robbers...

DR: How do you spell...

NS: It's D'A-U-T-R-E-M-O-N-T. D'Autremont. There were three brothers who held up a train back in the '20s, in a get-rich-quick scheme that backfired, and four men were killed. It was a notorious case throughout the state, but particularly in Southern Oregon. And, without going in to all the details of the case which, of course, happened long before I was born, the upshot was that Hugh D'Autremont was 17 at the time of the killings and the train holdup, was the first to be caught. His older, twin brothers were not caught for quite awhile. And Southern Pacific and the Post Office, together, were determined to have these three brothers hung. It was death by hanging in those days. And, there were so many lawyers trying to get Hugh that, apparently, they tripped all over themselves and he ended up with a hung jury on the first trial. And how that plays in with my background is that my Mother was a reporter, not a court reporter, but a newspaper reporter, for a paper at that time. And she covered the D'Autremont trial and

she ended up being friends, corresponding friends, with Hugh D'Autremont and his Mother. And, eventually, Hugh was convicted and sentenced to life. The jury voted against, in effect, against the death penalty on one count of murder. Well, my Mother, because of corresponding with Hugh D'Autremont, talked my Father, who was then a practicing lawyer, into representing Hugh and trying to get him out on lack of speedy trial; the reason he kept getting turned down after 35 years in the prison was because of the three pending murder indictments. So, my Dad filed a motion to dismiss, which was overruled by the local judge. The judge had been around at the time of the murders, and would just as soon have seen Hugh D'Autremont executed. In the meantime, of course, his two older brothers had been caught and they were also in the Oregon State Penitentiary. But this has to do with Hugh. And, so, when my Dad went on the bench I inherited the case. And, so, I wrote the appeal briefs and argued it before the Supreme Court. It got turned down there. And, then, under that statute, you get a trial within 90 days – it's the speedy trial statute. Without going into a lot of detail about all of that, I finally was successful in getting Hugh out. But only after having to go to Federal Court as well as State Court, because once I had gotten the State Court indictments disposed of, then I found out there were two pending indictments in Federal Court. Well, Gus Solomon, who was the presiding judge at that time, was kind of anti-D'Autremont, not because of the D'Autremonts, but because he was mad at Phil Roth. This was before Phil became a judge, but Phil had run against Edith Green for Congress and Edith Green was a pet of Gus Solomon's, and so he thought I was in cahoots with Phil Roth on the case, and so he was somewhat rude to me. But, that was for the political reason. Well, what happened was I filed a motion to dismiss the indictment, I took it up to Judge Solomon's chambers, and went in with a local lawyer named George Friede, who was not a criminal lawyer at all, but was a friend of Judge Solomon's and just somebody on the scene in Portland. And Solomon said, "Your motion for a speedy trial is denied." After all, it had only been 35 years. [Chuckling] But, he says, "You can have a trial next week, if you want." "Do you want to go trial next week?" And I said, "Well, no, Your Honor, because I don't even know what the indictments are." And he said, "What do you mean, you don't know what the indictments are?" And I said, "Well, the clerk

wouldn't let me see them. He said they were sealed." So Solomon picks up the phone and says "Max," or whatever the county clerk's name is, "there's a little lady up here and she's coming down to your office and I want you to open up those indictments." So I got to see what the indictments were. They were burglaries from the mail train and robberies, but there was no criminal, there was no capital offense, and that was why they sealed them. They thought that if Hugh and his lawyers thought that there was a death penalty, maybe they wouldn't want to try to go to trial on it. So, I will say, to Solomon's credit, that he did eventually put Hugh on probation and, so, that removed the final barrier, and Hugh D'Autremont finally was released from prison. Because he'd been a model prisoner. Even the warden was kind of going to bat for him. Well, anyway, that's another story. So, that was while I was still in Medford.

So when I came to Portland, and after I finished working with the Attorney General – in the meantime, I had gotten married and had three children, and I was only practicing half time, with the Attorney General's permission. Enough time to try a case and take work home and so forth. Then I went out on my own for a while, and during that time I signed up for the criminal appointments – I was trying to get everything I could to make a living. And, so Judge Solomon appointed me on three major criminal cases. And, then, when I ended up being involved in this migrant worker class action, Judge Solomon was the judge in charge of that. But, you know, Solomon really did have, he didn't have a lot of respect, naturally, for women or blacks. I mean, that's the reality. He just thought they weren't quite as good. He did go to bat for Carol Hewitt – to try to get her a job. And he did really praise her to the skies as being the best law clerk he ever had. But, by and large, that wasn't really, I would have to say, his attitude. I tried a criminal case against Mallory Walker, who was a fine attorney. He was an Assistant U.S. Attorney, defending a guy in a Dyer Act case. And Solomon was scared to death I was going to get an acquittal. And he kept ruling evidence out of order, and it was primarily because he thought Mallory, being black, wasn't capable of getting a conviction. And the jury was out four hours, and Solomon was just fit to be tied. But that was sort of par for the course. And, as long as he was on the migrant worker class

action case, he would call me up at home when I was not down in the office and say, “now, Noreen, how are you gonna prove this?, or how are you gonna prove that?” [chuckling] because he was so afraid I was going to blow it. I mean, which I thought was interesting, and he said to me one time, “now don’t think you can just come into the court room wiggling your fanny and get your way.” [Laughing] Ohhh, and it’s, you know, you sort of feel like, what do I have to do to prove to this guy, that I really can try a case? It was interesting and, fortunately, we ended up with Judge Goodman and did win the migrant worker class action case, and I think we would have won it in front of Solomon, too. But it would have been [chuckling] tough going all the way. Just because of his lack of confidence, basically. Just based purely on gender, or whatever.

Let’s see. We were talking about other women that were around. There weren’t very many, and occasionally I would run into Neva Elliott, who was defending criminal cases, but she was pretty much only doing criminal law. And, occasionally, I would run into Mary Vershum out in Gresham.

DR: How do you spell Vershum?

NS: V-E-R-S-H-U-M. But she only did domestic relations, for the most part. And Aggie, I think I mentioned to you, Aggie Peterson and I, even when I was in Medford, and I don’t think we look at all alike: she’s got blue eyes, I’ve got brown eyes, and a number of other things, but people, when I would come to Portland, people would ask me, “Well, how’s St. Helens?” And I would say, “Well, darned if I know.” [Chuckling] They’d ask Aggie how Medford was. I guess there were so few of us that they just thought we were the only one on the block or something. It was interesting. But the other thing we were talking about, Diane, the difference in how law practice has changed.

When I became a lawyer there were 3,000 members of the Oregon State Bar. And, when I would go to Gearhart, which is where the Bar conventions were in those days, you’d always run into your classmates, or some lawyers from Medford, or an occasional

one from Portland that I'd know. So, it had a real small community feeling to it, which obviously, as you know, the Bar's four times as large now. And there were no such thing as sections. Most people practiced – I mean, if you were a litigator you expected to litigate anything that walked in the door, whether it was contracts, torts. You might become better known for one thing or another. I think during the four years I was practicing in Medford, I probably had over 200 domestic relations cases, but I only had two after that in the rest of my life because I didn't particularly care for them. I defended criminal cases with my brother, and some by myself. Lots of mortgage foreclosures, personal injuries, just everything from soup to nuts, practically. And I don't regret it at all because when I went out and practiced on my own I felt some competence in being able to do most anything. The other aspect of it we were talking about is that if I tried a case whether it was when I was with the Attorney General or out on my own, and I thought it should be appealed, or my client wanted to appeal, and I agreed to take it on, I would expect to file the notice of appeal, do all the appellate work, write the brief, go down to Salem, and argue it. It was vertical, I guess you'd say, in those days. And, now, of course, it's just pretty impossible for a lawyer – it seems like there's so much more information, or whatever it is, that it would be hard to do that. But, anyway, I went out on my own in about 1968, and I practiced – I wanted to keep practicing half-time because I had three small children, and in 1969 my daughter Mary was born. So then I had four children. Mary was still a baby, so day care was a real issue with me. And, the half time, as long as I was on my own, worked pretty well. I could rent office space and I was my own boss. And, at that point in time, I was handling mostly referrals from other lawyers, but I was also doing a lot of workers' compensation cases, because that field had opened up. And it went from being a fairly narrow field to a field in which dozens of firms were competing for the business, but there weren't a lot of people that had the kind of specialized expertise in workers' comp that I did. And, as a result of representing a guy who was referred to me by Jerry Weigler I handled his workers' compensation case and he happened to be the claims manager for workers' compensation for Kemper Insurance. So then I became, eventually, the primary counsel for Kemper Insurance in defending workers' comp cases

for a number of years – maybe 10 or 12 years. Which was very helpful because it kept the money coming in and, not only with my growing family, but especially following this migrant worker class action case which took place between '69 and '71. As a result of that case, really, Don Marmaduke and Charlie Merten and Larry Ashenbrenner, who were looking to form a public interest law firm, wanted me to come in with them. They thought I would add that Hispanic element because I spoke fluent Spanish – and had, as a result of that case primarily, a lot of Spanish speaking clients, and non-profit organizations I was representing – and so that was a component they thought would be helpful. Well, let me tell you, the Kemper Insurance money [*chuckling*] really helped tide us over during some of the early dark days, when we were struggling to make a go of it.

DR: When was that, that you began that firm?

NS: 1971. And, it lasted until '73, and then Charlie Merten and I went out on our own. Don went to Tonkon Torp & Galen, which was forming, and Larry became a major attorney, first for the Department of Interior representing Indian affairs, and since then has been a major counsel, if not the chief counsel, for the Native American Rights Fund. He's been in Anchorage, Alaska, for a number of years.

[End of Tape 1 of 3, Side A; Side B Blank]



NOREEN KELLY (SALTVEIT) MCGRAW

June 2000

Tape 2 of 3, Side 1

[Transcriber's note: The first several seconds of Tape 2 are audible, but unintelligible; the transcript begins mid-sentence.]

DR: [. . .] 2000, in her [. . .]

NS: Right. In the course of this migrant worker class action that I headed up inadvertently, as I explained to you, [*chuckling*] I talked a lot with the two helpers that I had. One was Al Sigman who was a Reginald Heber Smith fellow, and a law school graduate from the University of Pennsylvania, but who had not yet passed any bar, but was working out of the Legal Aid Office. And, the other person was Karen Fink who was a University of Michigan graduate, but she graduated in Sociology or something like that. But Karen had become very involved in both the civil rights movement and the women's liberation movement, and Al was very active in the anti-Viet Nam War movement. I talked a lot with these two young people, and they came to the house a lot because I was still trying to practice law only half-time. We would do a lot of our strategizing and work at the house. As I got to understand their concerns it really made me much more aware of some of the social injustices that were happening with women and also the draft. Al spoke Spanish. He came from a tradition of Sephardic Jews. He had a real feeling for the workers' movement, and that opened my eyes to a lot more, increasingly more, the bigger picture.\*\*\*[Transcriber's Note: **Transcribing stopped: working from a (replacement) tape that is "zhooping" and impossible to follow. The original tape had the identical problem.**]

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**NOREEN KELLY (SALTVEIT) McGRAW**

June 2000

Tape 3 of 3, Side A

[Transcriber's Note: The following is Tape 3 of 3, Side A, which begins mid-sentence with Noreen Saltveit McGraw speaking.]

NS: ...well, anyway, this case went on for 12 straight hours and the attorney on the other side who represented the telephone company, it wasn't US West, it was another telephone company, said, "When I go to Portland, nobody makes me try a case for 12 hours in a row." [*Laughing*] Complaining about cruel and inhuman treatment. And, when I think of those times, Diane, it's funny because I can see that the '70s – we all had a feeling that social justice was achievable and that it was a great time to try to achieve it, and it was sort of now or never. And the reality was, that that was the truth. Because when you got into the '80s, there weren't the possibilities of reform from within, nearly as much as there were in the '70s. The '70s were kind of a rough and ready time when you could try all sorts of new things and new theories and battle, and do your share of winning, and feel like you were really accomplishing something.

The other event that really stood out in my mind from the '70s was the whole farm labor bill. There was a bill that passed the legislature in the '70s, and I'm not sure exactly when that was, but my recollection is it would have been some time between '74 and '76, and I'm just not sure. But, a lot of the farmers were very frightened that the farm workers were going to become unionized. It was a time when Cesar Chavez was making great gains in California. There were some beginning attempts to organize in Oregon, and so the legislature passed a very regressive farm labor bill that would virtually have prevented farm workers from organizing on any level, even a small level, would have really crippled, not only organizations, but lawsuits and a number of things. It was really a very regressive bill. And the question was, would Tom McCall, who was

then Governor, sign it? That was a very hot potato because farmers, particularly then, had a huge impact in the legislature. And, so, Cesar Chavez came to Oregon and there was a great mobilization around trying to get McCall to veto the bill. And, because I had been so active working in support of Chicano organizations, like Valley Migrant Legal, Cisco Central, I was asked to a strategy meeting, which was really fascinating for me. Cesar Chavez was there, and Jerry Cohen, his lawyer, or the lawyer for United Farm Workers. And, I don't know, there were probably ten people or less. The strategy was to have a mass and a prayer vigil in front of the State Capitol, and it was going to be a candlelight vigil. There were, I think, as I recall, it ended up with about 5,000 people massed around the Capitol, but all in this very peaceful prayer vigil. It was very moving. Tom McCall, to his credit, did veto the bill, which took a lot of courage. And, then, he ended up later with a task force trying to rewrite a bill that could satisfy the farmers and still be fair which, frankly, just didn't happen. It just finally died. People began not to be so frightened that the farm workers were going to go over and \_\_\_\_\_ . *[Laughter]* But it was a big issue at that, and it was very interesting to me to have, to be able to see Chavez up close. He was a very, very serene, spiritual, kind of guy. But, one thing that was very clear was that nobody spoke for the union except Chavez himself. And, nobody spoke for him legally, except Jerry Cohen, who was his lawyer.

DR: Is that C-O-H-E-N or...

NS: I think it was, yeah, as I recall.

DR: Were there any other women in the room? At that strategy meeting?

NS: There was one. There was a woman named Kate Barton, who was the organizer for UFWOC in Oregon. A young woman who was then about 35 I'd say, or 40.

DR: One of the criticisms I've heard of that movement [tape zhoops]

NS: Wouldn't surprise me. [zhoops] I think that, particularly at that time, it was true, we ran into this a lot in our public interest law firm. A feeling on the part of both Chicano men and black men. Not so much Indian men. You know, like, our lawyer's a woman? [Zhoops] I must say that the people I represented in the Moreno case, weren't that way, because I spoke Spanish, and because they were really the poorest of the poor, because I used to hold weekly sessions with them. We'd get together on Sunday and I would brief them. Either, if they got to Portland they would come to my office, or I would meet them out in Hillsboro, on Sundays, and explain to them what was going on in the case. [zhoops] ... and built up a trust relationship. But, it was clear to me that it was the men who spoke for them, not the women, and that my position was really quite unusual, and I had just, they were just so used to me, and they realized that I was really on their side, that there wasn't that kind of negative feelings. But I do remember in a couple of cases that we had involving black people, a couple of times, just seem really confronted by some black spokesman, like, "Who are you, white woman?" trying to do [*laughter*] all this or that.

DR: What did you do?

NS: Well, I just sort of challenged right back and said, basically – of course you have to understand, I was young and feeling my oats. [*Laughing*] I'd just say, "Look, I'm a free lawyer and I'm on your side. If you want to try to find this kind and quality of representation, be my guest." I mean, I just wasn't about to take any guff. And, you know, part of it was, there was a book, what was it?, The Flak Catchers?, a book called something like The Flak Catchers, and that was sort of the theory back in the '70s that you shame, or try to make the white liberals feel guilty. And I just wasn't having any of it [*laughing*] because I felt I'd earned my stripes by my blood, sweat, and tears. Anyway, that's sort of, well, those are my memories of the '70s. And the women lawyers talk of coming in there was an important part of that. The raising of... raising of the consciousness, I guess. Of course, in addition to the women we've talked about, Sue Reeves and Kris Rodgers and Susan Hammer, there were some women that came

along in the '70s that were just so outstanding, that they [zhoops] and they made their mark in the profession. Most of them, I have to say, are very mutually supportive. Katherine O'Neill was a good example. I don't know when she started practicing, but she's been [zhoops] supportive of women. Aggie has been so supportive. I remember, in the '70s, Gayle Troutwine came along toward the end of the '70s. [zhoops] the Litigation Section. And I guess it was in the '70s that I started, before I got involved in editing books and the CLE, I was doing a lot on the lecture circuit with the Oregon Trial Lawyers, particularly talking on how to try an employer's liability act case, an offshoot of personal injury that maybe the younger lawyers weren't as familiar with. It was good, I mean, the Trial Lawyers were getting used to women trying cases.

DR: Were you ever involved in the leadership with the OTLA? [zhoops] Really?

NS: No I wasn't. Just doing, just being kind of on their lecture circuit. You have to remember that I was also raising four kids. [*Laughing*] Trying...

DR: I know, you were saying that was your memory of the '70s, and I was thinking, well, there were a few more things, too. [*Laughter*]

NS: Right. So I tried to avoid night meetings or anything that would interfere with [zhoops]...

DR: You also in the '70s were involved with the Multnomah Bar Foundation, towards the end of the '70s.

NS: Yeah.

DR: What did you do with that group?

NS: Well, that was the group that basically was handing out money to law students, and, I mean, they were non-interest loans. And, it was a good group. I acted as their treasurer

for a number of years. Bill McAllister was in that group, I remember. I think Sid Lezak was for awhile. That's basically what it was. We had a limited amount of money. We would have fund raising drives where we would put the arm on lawyers around to kick in some money, and then we'd try to make interest-free loans available. Of course, toward the end of the '70s, we were increasingly trying to help minority students. [zhoops] so much, I don't think so much women more than men. I think we helped women as well as men, but we were giving preference to black students. I don't think there were any Hispanic students in Oregon at that time. [Zhoops]

DR: ... still the Women's Auxiliary of the Multnomah Bar... [zhoops – tape zhoops for several seconds]

NS: No, I'm not remembering with... I think they might have been. I remember, I got, it's funny, because now I'm on the Multnomah Bar Association's Board of Directors [zhoops] but I remember getting very disgusted and upset with them. There was a woman who passed the Bar shortly before I did named Virginia Riley. She was one of the vice presidents. And, before – she became a vice president – before then they always had a woman as secretary, nothing else. And, then, because Virginia was quite popular, she did, sort of probate law. She and Helen Althous were in together, I think, for awhile. She wasn't doing anything that gored anybody's ox, so to speak, so she was sort of patted on the head and people were nice to her. But, she got to be, and they had an incredible number of vice presidents. Four or something like that. And the rotation had been [zhoops]... you got to be Fourth Vice President, then you went up to Third, then you went up to Second, then you went up to First, and then you were President. I mean, there was kind of a succession, and maybe in there you were Treasurer. Well, anyway, Virginia went from Fourth, to Third, to Second, and about the time she would be First, or whatever it was, which was like the incoming, they changed the rules. And I remember going to a dinner party at George VanHoomisen's house, and all the ex-DAs were there. Mike King and George Joseph and Charlie Merten, and a lot of them who had been Assistant DAs under George. Somebody was talking about them changing the

rules, and I made some really sarcastic remark which was probably in very poor taste [laughing], about, “Oh, yeah, just about the time a woman will finally have a chance to become President, you change the rules and prevent her from being it.” And there was sort of this shocked silence, but it was so obvious it was just terrible. And I think Susan Hammer was the first President, woman, who was ever President of the MBA. Little by little it changed. But you have to remember, Diane, that we, our law firm, our public interest law firm, did a suit against the Multnomah Athletic Club because women couldn’t really be members, and that suit arose because one of our clients, whom Owen Blank, who was working for us, then represented, paid the dues for years and years and years, and then her husband, George Leonard, who was a lawyer, divorced her, and he was going to get the membership, and she wasn’t going to get anything, because she was no longer the wife of a member. And, as a result of that lawsuit, they changed the rules, and allowed women to be active members in their own right. But, it’s a shame that it takes law suits, and people complain about lawyers and litigation, but you look at some of the forward progress. It’s almost like that’s what it took.

DR: That was in the ’70s? (Remainder of comment audible, but unintelligible.)

NS: That was in the ’70s, mm-hmm. I think it was *Leonard v. Multnomah Athletic Club*. And the other thing, after it was just Charlie and me, when the public interest law firm finally disbanded, which was, like, ’74, pretty early in the ’70s, then Charlie and I continued doing an awful lot of law reform cases. But it was no longer that it had to be at least 50% of our practice. [zhoops]

The Mt. Hood Freeway is a case that we, as a law firm, had undertaken, and really didn’t get resolved until about 1982. So it was a case that went on for 10 years. [Laughing]

DR: (zhoops)... about what you did for the Mt. Hood Freeway case.

NS: Well, Charlie – it was sort of a one-two action, in the sense that Neil Goldschmidt was Mayor during a lot of that time. And Frank Ivancie was always after Neil Goldschmidt, and his job. And, Ivancie was a big proponent of the Mt. Hood Freeway, which would have cut through S.E. Portland, decimated a lot of homes, and would have enthroned the automobile, forever. Well, the folks that were sort of full-steam ahead, including Ivancie, in trying to get this freeway rammed through, had not gone through the Environmental Protection Act requirements, and they were trying to fuzz them over. And, so, basically, what the Mt. Hood Freeway suit was about, was putting the skids to the freeway. Eventually, putting the skids to it long enough so that the Federal funding for the freeway was no longer available. And, therefore, it was no longer a reality. But the case was litigated off and on forever, it seemed like, in Judge Jim Burns' court, primarily by Charlie. Charlie was the lead counsel and did a terrific job on that case. But, it was sort of an – Neil Goldschmidt really was not in favor of the Mt. Hood Freeway either, because he could see that if we were ever going to get mass transportation in Oregon, including MAX – I mean, he had the vision to see that – that the skids needed to be put to this one more superhighway going up the mountain. And, of course, it was terribly controversial. A lot of people thought we should have this highway up over the mountain and, being a skier myself, I [*chuckling*] had a few mixed feelings, but I do think MAX is wonderful. And, you know, when I look at how Portland has the reputation of being a mass transportation mecca, I can't help but feel a sense of pride for our firm having really mounted that case and seen it through to victory. And, a lot of times when the case was at its hairiest, I can take some credit because I was funding our goal of keeping it going with insurance defense and the plaintiffs' workers' comp cases. So, I certainly supported the case, not just financially, but emotionally. I thought it was a good case.

DR: [zhoops]

NS: It was during the '70s that I first started getting some pressure to run for a judgeship. I think I mentioned last time about Mercedes' (Diaz's) benign influence trying to get me –



and Phil Roth too, actually, trying to twist my arm to get an appointment to the Circuit Court. But then the Court of Appeals was created. And, again, it was in the '70s, and I'm just not sure when. But I remember Don Wilson, of Pozzi Wilson, calling me up. He'd been an old friend, since he and I had tried cases against each other in the '60s. And, he indicated that he could get backing to ensure that I could get an appointment to the Court of Appeals. They needed somebody who could see the viewpoint – I mean, this obviously was the Trial Lawyers pro-plaintiff bar, but I did have defense credentials, too, because of representing Kemper Insurance and employers, and so forth. And, they thought I'd be fair. I thought about it, but I didn't really want to be committing to Salem. That was part of it. Then, during the time of that, there was a vacancy on the Federal District Court – the one to which Helen Frye was eventually appointed. I began to get pressure from trial lawyers to put my hat into the ring on that, because Jimmy Carter was a Democrat, and there hadn't been any women on the Federal bench in Oregon, and they felt I had the trial credentials and that this would be a real possibility. I really thought about that one. But, what kept me from giving the green light to the lawyers that contacted me about it was the fact that Charlie, my partner, decided he would like to be on the Federal bench. Even though, in my heart of hearts, I knew that Charlie probably didn't have a chance, that it probably was a woman's – this was a time when a woman, at least at that early time, would get appointed. And, so, that I probably had a better chance than Charlie. It just didn't feel right. I felt it would be disloyal of me to put my hat in the ring when Charlie really coveted it. And, I wasn't sure I really coveted it. *[Laughing]* In a way I did, I mean, it's, you know, just, the glamour, and the power and the rest of it. But, I never really put my hat in the ring for it. And, I think those were the times when I might have really seriously considered it. The times came and went, and it just seemed – I look back on it now, Diane, and I'm really glad that I didn't get judicial fever then. I think another factor was that my Father had been talked into letting himself be appointed at the Circuit bench. Because, at that time, there was a Democratic governor, and the people that were creating the vacancy: Phil Lowry and some other Republican legislators, weren't going to do it unless Dad would agree to take that position. But, Dad was a real advocate, and

I think that being on the bench, even though he was a good judge, was very hard on him, really hard on him. For one thing, he saw these terrible cases that came through Juvenile Court, and he saw the worst of human conduct, that was depressing. For another thing, he had been such an excellent trial lawyer himself, and he would see people doing a sloppy job and he'd want to get down there and try the case for them. I could really understand why Gary Kahn resigned after being on the bench awhile, because my Dad went through that, but he stuck it out. But, I could see that I wasn't sure I wanted to give up the advocacy at that time. I look back on it now, and it's interesting, because I think doing mediation and arbitration basically, that is a neutral position. At least you get to pick and choose the cases you take on. [Laughing] You don't have these sickening amoral situations where you feel kind of like no solution is really great in some of these, particularly the juvenile cases. Dad suffered a lot with those. I think I would too. [zhoops]... I did. And I actually am still on the list. I did quite a bit of *pro temming*, but mostly motions, in the last few years. But in the '70s I did a lot of *pro temming*. I think I mentioned that when Merce (Mercedes Diaz) got me on the *pro tem* list, I had a lot of trials in Phil Abraham's court. Phil would be doing something else and I would reside over cases and trials. It was fun. I liked it.

DR: I see that you served from '72, '76 as a *pro tem* and then '92 until the present. Why were you off there for the period in the '80s?

NS: I think I just got too busy and it was kind of by mutual agreement, because they called me a lot of times and I couldn't do it because I was trying a case myself. The other thing is that I, and I know other *pro temmers* that felt this way, it's kind of hard when you're litigating against people and then you go on as a judge. There's a feeling that you get an unfair advantage, because the trial panel of jurors sees you as an advocate, or let's say they see you as a judge in that lofty position. Then you come in and you're a litigator. It gives you kind of a leg up, so to speak.

DR: How often does that happen that the...

NS: Not terribly often. Especially not now, because you only sit as a juror for a week. But, back in those days, you sat, you were actually on the panel for a month, so there was more of a chance. I think it was a month, and then it went to two weeks, and then eventually just one week. [zhoops] So, there was that feeling and then we were so busy. Charlie and I got increasingly busy as the decades went on. I look back on some of my old files now – I mean, I used to do monthly summaries – we started doing this in our Law Reform days, just to show, make sure, that we were doing at least 50% Law Reform. And there were months when I was involved in 100 cases. I was probably trying, on an average – most workers' comp cases you could try in a half a day. They were before an Administrative Law Judge, in effect. But there was one that took three days. So they weren't all that short, and they were very intense. A lot of times you'd have medical witnesses. But I think that I – there were many months when I tried at least 10 cases a month. So, the volume was great, and the rewards were good. So, Charlie and I were, by the end of the '70s, we were making pretty good money, which was just in the nick of time [*chuckling*] because my oldest son was going to college in about 1980, and I really needed the money to help get them through – the four of them – through the institutions of higher education.

Then in '80 I had a very bad accident. I was trying to sneak a smoke. Actually, it's embarrassing to recount it. But I was out trying to sneak a smoke and, it was outside, and the reason I was outside was because my children hated to have me smoking and I would keep giving up smoking and then I would revert. I would get into a trial or something, and then I'd fall off the wagon and start smoking again. Well, it was just really mortifying. So I never wanted them to know that I was off the wagon, 'cause I would keep thinking, well next week I'll quit smoking again. So I was out there trying to hide. Basically, my number two son, John, really hated it and knew how to really lay a guilt trip on me. So, I was trying to be sneaky and smoke. And, the problem was I was out on these stairs down below the walkway between the garage and the house, and I was under the eaves because it was snowing slightly. But the steps were very slippery – they had moss on them. And the match that I was trying to light the cigarette with

kept blowing out, so I kept leaning over, farther and farther, and eventually my feet scooted out, off the steps, and I went down these steps, lickety-split, and I tried to grab for a post to stop my fall, and what I succeeded in doing was ending up going down head-first on my back, and I broke my neck at the bottom. So, it was very scary. It took me about two hours to get up the 14 steps, 'cause I'd have to hoist my shoulders on to a step and then my legs. Anyway, it was a nightmare. And I'm just really lucky that I ever made it back up, and got to the hospital, and eventually had a neck fusion. But, I was out of the office full-time for about 10 days. Then I started back to work, in a brace. And, so, Charlie and I were still very actively in our partnership together, and his wife, Karen Fink, was just getting through law school and coming to work for us. And, so we were able to, actually we were able to get by without too much. But I think that was part of Charlie's concern. And, getting married to Karen, and where were they going with their firm, and our practices. By this time, the Mt. Hood Freeway was coming to a close. And, so, all of those things kind of converged together and, finally, in 1982, Charlie and I had a very amicable split-up and I went out on my own. But in the meantime, before that happened, was when I started getting into the CLE stuff I told you about.

I was actually approached by the CLE to be the editor of the workers' comp book in 1980. They were about mid-way through the project, and chapters had been written, but the fellow, the lawyer, who was supposed to be the editor was having some problems, partially physical, and medical. So, it looked like the book was going to die. And, so they said that if I would take it over they would keep it on the drawing board. And, so, I said okay. I got involved and had some co-editors, and that was when Sid Galton was then a workers' comp referee/administrative law judge. And, he really wanted to work on the book. I have to say that I hadn't really, that I can remember, been aware as much of gays before that time. But, I liked Sid, and I respected him. And, in trying to find a place for him in this publication, I was battling my co-editors, who were very nice people, but. And that wasn't the excuse they used. I guess that kind of sensitized me, just like Karen Fink and Al had sensitized me to what young people were thinking about

with Viet Nam. More, focusing me more, and with women did Karen. Sid really sensitized me to the burden that a lot of gay people had in trying to get recognition. Anyway, to cut a long story short, I made him the Chief Reviewer. So, he had a title, and he got to look over everybody's chapter. And, anybody who knows Sid, knows how much intelligence and energy he has [*chuckling*], so he was a great asset. And, then, the next time that I put the book out, he was one of my co-editors. But he has sort of helped me see that there are a lot of areas in the law where we need to extend a hand to gays, too, and just be sensitive to the fact that they should be given opportunities based on their ability and their willingness to work, and not on external factors like that. Anyway, that started my getting so involved. Then I ended up on the CLE Committee, and eventually the Chair, the first woman Chair of the CLE Committee.

DR: What year was that, about?

NS: That was, let's see, around 1980-82; workers' comp had a real heyday during the '80s. There was a lot of energy with workers' comp, and we put out a lot of books. Almost every four years. Now that field has kind of died down.

DR: Has there been a workers' comp book put out recently?

NS: Not that I'm aware of. I don't think so. It's become so much more administrative law than it ever used to be. When it first went – you know, it was in the jury system. They were handled by jury trial until 1965, I think that legislation was passed. But, it probably was 1968 before all the pieces went through the system and you no longer had jury trials. But they were still tried. I mean, they were an anomaly, in that the cases were still tried like jury cases. And the rules of evidence were extremely strict. Most administrative law-type cases have some relaxation of the rules of evidence and hearsay, and various things, but not worker's comp. It was as strict or more strict than cases that would be tried before a jury. And that all began to really change in around 1990. The push was on to make it more of an administrative procedure. And that was when I

started moving toward alternative dispute resolution.

DR: And the Oregon Women Lawyer's Board from '92 and '95?

NS: Well, yeah. And it ties in with the ADR stuff actually. Now, you have to remember that Aggie Peterson and I had been friends all these years, and in the '70s and in the '80s, especially in the '80s, Aggie was always shipping me these cases from Columbia County because she figured that there was a federal angle, and she really didn't have any federal court experience and didn't particularly want to get any. She was very busy with her own practice in state court. And, so, actually Aggie is the one that talked me into going to the very first meeting that they had of the Oregon Women Lawyers. It was held in the Benson Hotel, I remember, and there was a big dinner meeting. I don't know if this would have been 1990 or...

DR: That was the Pioneer Women Lawyers Dinner?

NS: That's what it was.

DR: That wasn't the first meeting, but that was the first dinner.

NS: Mmm. Okay. Right. I had heard about it, but I hadn't really been involved before then, and then Aggie said, "you've got to come – these are really great women and they're doing great things for women in law," and so I said, okay. And, so I went. I was blown away. I really was. I thought, boy, there were so many women, for one thing. I think that I had started going back from time to time to Queen's Bench. I mean, I had really, since the Oregon Women Lawyers caucus days, I had developed an increasing respect for the Queen's Bench, and away from my old misimpression of ladies in large hats. *[Laughing]* So I was not averse to Aggie's suggestions. Besides, I wanted to see Aggie, who was always a lot of fun. So then, as I was moving out of workers' comp and trying to develop another kind of practice and doing the training for mediation, I thought to myself, I would like to get involved with OWLs and, besides, I could network with other

women and try to develop my mediation practice. So I called Aggie up, and I said, Aggie, you know, I read this ad – I think by that time the OWLs had their bulletin, because I was a member and I was getting the bulletin and I saw where they were asking for people to run to be officers, so I said, Aggie, I’m thinking of running for the OWLs Board, and then I told her why. And she said – she tried to talk me out of it, actually. She said, *[laughing]*, you know what you should do is run for the Board of Governors. And she gave me all her arguments, and she said, I’ll help you run your campaign. It’ll be a breeze. So, actually, I didn’t want to, I think I’d already put my name in and I didn’t want to welch on running for the OWLs Board, so I think I actually was on the OWLs Board and then also put my name in for this contest which – I may have my times mixed up – but I think what had happened was there was a vacancy, because Crookham had been knocked off the Board because he’d been appointed Attorney General. And, so I was running for that vacancy, which was about 2-1/2 years, instead of 3. But, in the meantime, I also had put my hat in the ring to be on the OWLs Board, and I was really glad that I was on both of them because at that time it seemed to me like the Board of Governors wasn’t as aware, or a lot of them had a wrong impression about, and so, since I was on the OWLs Board, I could correct the misimpressions that there were, and try to get them to give more credence and support to OWLs, so it was kind of a – and at the same time I could – well, as you know, Diane, at the same time if we had a conference or something, I could urge women to run for office in the Bar, and point out that I was on the appointments committee, and that their applications would be looked at with favor.

DR: You also gave the OWLs Board the insight of how things were done in the Oregon Bar, and that was really valuable to the women of the Bar.

NS: *[Laughing]* Well, it was fun to be able to do a nuts and bolts, “How Do You Get From Point A Into Leadership?” and I really enjoyed being on the Board of OWLs. I still, I will always support OWLS. I think they’re a great organization. And, the networking is fabulous. Women, and men too, feeling that they can do contract law, that they can be

their own boss, or they can be with a big firm, and they can move up through the firm, and just the networking and the mentoring opportunities are just fantastic. I'm happy to report that now that I am over in Central Oregon, although OWLs is not as active at the moment as it should be over there, there are a lot of excellent women lawyers over there. There's a woman judge, Alta Brady, and there's a woman who's with the Public Defender's Office, and Lynn Jarvis we were talking about, and Patricia Heatheran. I haven't met all of them. I'm just a newcomer over there, but it's fun to see.

DR: Judy Bigram?

NS: Right. And I did meet her. I tried to get her to talk at one of the OWLs conventions, or conferences, one time. I think she couldn't do it at the last minute, or something. But I need to look her up.

[Transcriber's note: This is the end of recorded data on this tape – though it appears the interview was continuing.]

[End of Tape 3 of 3, Side A]



**NOREEN KELLY (SALTVEIT) MCGRAW**

June 2000

Tape 3 of 3, Side B (Unmarked)

[Transcriber's note: Tape 3 is marked only on the first side as "A" – the obverse side is unmarked, but contains portions of the interview. The transcript begins mid-sentence.]

NS Diane, before we start recording today, we should do a little backtracking and I'd like to start with "What's My Line?" in case we didn't cover that in depth. What happened was when I was appointed City Judge by the Mayor of Medford at the end of 1956, then in the next year, in 1957, my Dad was appointed a Circuit Court Judge, and my older brother, Bernie (Bernard), who had come back to practice with Dad and me for a short time, having been in the Army, he had a stint as the City Judge of Jacksonville, which was a small town near Medford, and it was a once-a-week thing. But, what happened is that a friend of ours, Kenny Knackstedt. . .

DR How do you spell that?

NS K-N-A-C-K-S-T-E-D-T. He was a freelance photographer. And he was always trying to sell photographs to the AP and UP and whoever, to make a few bucks, and so Kenny got this idea of taking the picture of the three of us and selling it as a filler, which he did, and with a caption, "Three of a Kind," or some catchy caption. And the people that put on "What's My Line?" saw it. And, so, they called up, and they flew us back to New York to be on "What's My Line?" – which was a lot of fun. I don't think they would have guessed us, but someone in the audience yelled out, "Judges," and Arlene Francis heard it and so she went right to it. The others, who had not heard it, were way off the track. But, in any event, one thing I always thought was amusing about that, in the aftermath, was – of course, at this time, I was still City Judging, and three days a week I had traffic court, and five days a week I had what they call "drunk" court, which was down actually in the Police Station. And this was where people who got drunk, or

had a DUI, or some vagrant charges – just a wide variety of things – that was where those cases took place because a lot of the people were in jail and it was easy to bring them out of jail and into the drunk court room. Anyway, the police thought that was hilarious, because I had gotten a card from a lonely miner up in Canada, proposing marriage [*chuckling*] and so they, of course, somebody opened it and they read it and passed it around, and they were hooting and hollering. I was 24 at the time, so they thought it was very amusing, and were sending me cards themselves, signed “Ziggy” or some silly thing. Anyway, a lot of people, particularly in the Medford area, believe it or not, after all these years – 40-plus years – still remember the day that the three of us were on “What’s My Line?”. I wanted to cover that, because we had talked about it.

DR Yeah. Was there a studio audience there?

NS There was.

DR Well, you mentioned they shouted out. How large was the audience? Do you remember?

NS The audience was about 80 I would say, off-hand.

DR And where was it filmed? Do you remember?

NS It was filmed in whatever the CBS or NBC, whoever it was. And, at that time, John Daly was the emcee, and the panelists were Arlene Francis, of course, Ralph Bellamy was a guest panelist. He was then appearing in a Broadway play. And Bennett Cerf was on the panel, and Dorothy Kilgallen. And Lena Horne was their special guest. So that was – it was really big show biz and it was a lot of fun. They do a warm-up, and they warn the audience not to yell out things. But the way it works, is they have these acts, however they view them, and we were the larger act, and there was a girl who was a horse trainer from Syracuse and she was, say, number 6. So the only way she was going to get on was if the other acts were speeded up, and I think that someone from her

home town, not she, but from her home town [*chuckling*], I think was trying to get her on and so wanted to speed the process up [*chuckling*]. Anyway, it was quite a kick.

The other thing that you and I were talking about that I thought would be helpful to shed some light on what was going on, even before I got to law school, and sort of illuminated my practice and my life – the two themes that I got very interested and involved in what was called the Jociste Movement, which had started after World War II in Europe. There was a Monsignor Cardijn, and I think his name is spelled, C-a-r-d-i-j-n, who was very active in trying to re-Christianize Europe, if you will. So, he was trying to bring ideas of bringing Christ into the working place, into the schools, and so we had, first of all, there was what they called the Dialogue Mass Movement, where the movement was to get the mass in the vernacular and make it more meaningful to people, instead of being mumbled in Latin, where people didn't know what was going on. So, that was a part of it. And, now, we're used to that, so we don't think anything of it. But, it was a big deal back in the '50s in America when this movement kind of took off. In Europe there was also what they called the Priest Worker Movement, which was part of it. Their priests would go right into the working place and try to bring concepts of social justice to fellow workers. That has pretty much dried up, but Young Christian Workers was part of it. Young Christian Students was part of it. The Catholic Interracial Movement was part of it. And I became very involved in that while I was still at Marylhurst. And, coming from a liberal, Democratic family, it sort of resonated with me about the encyclicals and the whole idea of social justice, that the more liberal side of the Catholic Church had sort of espoused and gotten into. And it sort of dovetailed with me, with my liberal, Democratic background. And, in my sophomore year I believe it was, my second year, of pre-law, which was at Marylhurst, a Catholic girls' college, in addition to spending Saturdays working at Friendship House, a Catholic interracial center, I also had become involved in the Young Democrats at Marylhurst and this is where I met a couple of lawyers, I think I mentioned to you, that were real mentors to me later on. One was Phil Levin who was active in the Young Democrats. He had just come out to Oregon from Chicago University. He was a very

close friend of Sid Lezak and eventually became a partner with Frank Pozzi. Phil was probably the most brilliant person I ever met in my life. It wasn't just that he had this superior intellect. It was that he had a way of seeing the world and putting it in context so that he could look at what was going on politically and never get into a major kind of reaction because he could visualize the entire scheme of how the Democratic Party movement had been, where perhaps it ought to go. I mean, he wasn't a causist at all, he just had that kind of vision that helped you see things clearly. Another lawyer that had just come out from the East was Don Willner and he was very active. Anyway, I went to a convention, quite by accident. Keith Burns, an Oregon lawyer who was then going to Lewis and Clark, was very active in the Young Democrats. He was a good friend of an upperclassman named Joan Long. I used to think that Joan Long and I were the only two Democrats [*chuckling*] on the entire Marylhurst campus. But she talked me into going to the Young Democratic convention, which would be in 1951, I guess. And, there was an enormous split in the Democratic Party at that time, which also infected the Young Democrats, between people who were loyal to Truman, and people who were in the Wallace wing of the party – Henry Wallace – which was a big deal at the time. And, my natural inclinations were to kind of stick with the Truman wing, but this was the place where Phil Levin, having a cup of coffee with Phil, he could just paint the whole picture for me, and I could see why it made absolutely no sense to get caught up in the movement to support Henry Wallace, that that was a movement that was going nowhere, and that if you really wanted to help, say, the working person or the core ideals of the Democratic Party at that time, you needed to stick with the Truman wing and so that was when, I remember, I first started seeking Phil out for advice when I had questions about things or doubts about things. And, Phil was an avowed atheist but he wasn't trying to promote that at all. And, it was interesting, because he knew I was a devout Catholic, and he didn't hold it against me [*chuckling*] and we still saw eye to eye on things a lot and we respected each other from where we were coming.

Anyway, I think I was elected Seventh Vice President – something like that – they had eight Vice Presidents, mainly because there was this ferocious split between the

Wallaceites and the Trumanites, and I was young and I was a new, unknown quantity, and so people would rather vote for me, hoping that I would be okay [*chuckling*] rather than someone who was too closely allied with one side or the other. But, that got me started in a party kind of way, so that the next year when they had the convention I became, I think, Third Vice President, and then I was made the National Committeewoman for the Young Democrats. And, eventually, in my second year in law school I was elected the State President of the Young Democrats. It was a great opportunity, because it was in '52 when Adlai Stevenson was running. And, of course, I got to meet Adlai, and go to speeches with him, and it was just a real eye-opening, learning experience for me. And, it was in '54, the year that I was State Young Democrats President/Chairman, that Senator Neuberger was elected – a Democrat. And this was a big deal because it was the first time (in Oregon), I think, that a Senator had been elected who was a Democrat. Before then they had always been Republicans. And, most of the Congressmen were, traditionally. Oregon was a Republican state up until that time. That was a very close election. I remember staying up most of the night listening to the returns. Anyway, we actually had a small Young Christian Workers cell on the campus of the University of Oregon Law School. When I got to Medford and graduated from law school, we formed a Young Christian – that was Young Christian Students – we formed a Young Christian Workers group there in Medford, and I followed that until I came to Portland in 1960. I still was active with – what I then got back into being active with was the Stella Maris House, which was the successor to the Catholic Interracial Center there in Portland, and of course, got active in politics – I think I mentioned that – working on Kennedy. Where Phil Levin came back into the picture was that when I was trying to get a job in Portland, and I could not get a job as a trial lawyer, until I was hired by the Attorney General, I think I may have mentioned this to you – a lot of the firms that I interviewed with would pick up on the fact that I was Catholic and ask me if I ever intended to get married, would I have children, I mean questions they wouldn't ask nowadays, but in those days they were legitimate questions. And I remember when Thornton, who was the Attorney General, hired me as a trial attorney, he had to clear it first with Ray Lafky, who was my boss, and the lawyers that

were in the workers' comp section of the Attorney General, because they were the trial lawyers of the state that went around for trials. Most of them were dead-set against me being hired because they didn't want a woman, even though I had tried cases in Medford, and had actually handled cases in the Supreme Court. How I picked up on that was that Ray Lafky, who was just a real mentor too, just a great guy, told Thornton he was willing to give me a chance and Thornton had told him he wanted to hire me, even though I was a woman. I went out for coffee the first day that I was in my week of training in Salem. There were, I don't know, six or seven of the Assistant Attorneys General that tried cases, and we all went out for coffee. And they were all asking me questions and Ray got pretty upset because [*chuckling*] he thought they weren't leaving me alone enough, I guess, and so he turned his heel on them and said, "Yeah, you guys all told me you didn't want her and now you won't leave her alone." [*Laughing*] And they all looked extremely chagrined. I guess he had let the cat out of the bag. But, I have to say, they were all supportive of me, my co-workers were, although I did – and I think I mentioned this to you – have some trouble getting senior attorney status, five or six years later when the boss changed, when Lafky left, and that was put on the basis that I was only working half-time at that time but, in reality, it was because the new head felt unsure whether women really should be senior attorneys. It was sort of like, my mind's made up, don't confuse me with the facts.

DR Did you have any problem from opposing counsel that you could track to gender at all?

NS Yes. I remember one time I was in court arguing a case. I think it was before a case was tried, and the other attorney was trying – I think it was a motion in limine or something like that – and I came into court, and this would probably be in about 1964, and I was 32 or 31, something like that, and I was wearing the fashion of the day, but it was certainly appropriate. It wasn't anything shocking, but it was probably a couple of inches above the knee. It was the current style. I mean, it was not sexy at all. It was very professional looking, but it was above the knee. This other attorney made some kind of a crack about that I was trying to do something, I can't remember what. The

judge gave him short shrift on that. I thought it was really uncalled for. And, there were a lot of times when there would be kind of instances like that but, by and large, the people that did it were kind of out of bounds and other attorneys would kind of let them know they were out of bounds. I always tried to be professional and not to ever get into personal confrontation or competition with people. There were times when I had to. I remember one time an attorney made a personal remark based on gender, and I got up and objected and the judge, who was a little ponderous, was kind of mulling it over, and I said, "I object to this case proceeding until we have a ruling. This is a personal remark which is in violation of the canon of ethics." You learn to do that, to make an issue of it in a respectful and professional way, but not to let people get away with it. I learned that early on, trying cases with my Dad, that it bit you, that if you didn't stand up for yourself, the judge or the jury wouldn't really respect you. They would assume it was true, or you would have done something to call attention to the proper procedure. I have to say I had a few bizarre instances. There was one instance where I tried a case against a lawyer, a very good lawyer, and he wanted to get permanent/total, and he didn't. And he never forgot that, and he became a Circuit Judge, and about ten years later I was representing a doctor in a real estate case, which was a jury trial. This Judge lost it. If the other attorney objected, he would always sustain the objection, no matter what, and it progressed from there, to where it was like he was trying his case all over again, and this time he was going to win. *[Laughing]* And, it got so bad that it got to the point where the other attorney wouldn't even object, and the Judge would object and then sustain his objection. A couple of times he wheeled around in his chair and rolled his eyes, and it was a case in which I had told the jury in opening statement that the case, at first, was going to appear confusing. The issue was whether a real estate agent that failed in his duty of representation and a sale had been lost, and the doctor, who was the seller, had lost out. I told the jury, "It's going to appear confusing, but it's going to unfold like a mosaic, and if you'll just be patient you'll see the pieces fitting in and the picture will become clear to you." Well, on the third day of the case the other attorney, who was representing St. Paul Insurance, realized that the case had gotten derailed because of the Judge's conduct, so they decided to make a settlement offer, and we went

back and forth and finally settled. The Judge then told the jurors that the case was settled and dismissed the jurors. One of the jurors called up my client, and this is what she said, “Dr. X, we just wanted you to know that we were going to give you the entire prayer.” [Chuckling] And then she said, “you know, when the case started out the Judge seemed to be saying that your lawyer was incompetent, and we thought maybe she was, but we remembered what she said about the mosaic, and as the case progressed it became very clear to us that this real estate agent had let you down, and we got it, and we couldn’t understand why the Judge couldn’t get it too.” [Laughing] But, isn’t that funny? It was back in the days where jurors really highly respected judges. The judges could do no wrong. It was before Ito and the OJ case. So they didn’t blame the judge, they didn’t see that the judge’s conduct had become kind of irrational. They shifted their anger, or their confusion, to the poor defense counsel, who was just doing the job as best he could, with this runaway judge, and were going to give my client everything we asked, which probably would have resulted in an appeal [*chuckling*].

DR True.

NS Yeah. So, it was good it settled. But there were a few weird things like that, which I think resulted from the fact that at the time when I came along and was trying cases right and left to jurors, there weren’t any other women, by and large, doing that. And people were not used to this new factor. Most of them dealt with it fine, but occasionally people who maybe lost a trial or whatever, took it personally. I mean, it was like they couldn’t handle it, or something.

Anyway, Phil Levin – to get back to Phil Levin – when I got this job with the Attorney General I was really kind of concerned about whether – keep in mind, being a Democrat and a liberal Democrat and Catholic – and here I am trying cases in which I’m on the other side of the working man or working woman, I felt some conflict ideologically about whether I was on the right side. This is where people like Phil Levin were so helpful to me, because Phil sat me down and did a whole framework of workers



compensation. How it was social legislation, how it was designed to protect workers in the work place, and that being on the defense side I could honorably represent the Fund and not give away money but, on the other hand, make sure that somebody wasn't being gypped out of what was coming due to them. Ray Lafky was another one that really imbued us with that principle. So, those mentors, beginning with my Dad, and then when I left the Attorney General's office and we spent that year in Mexico, and I came back, I got a job with the law firm of Bailey, Swink & Haas before I went out on my own. Don Swink was another mentor. I think I would have had some women mentors, but there weren't any older women, or more experienced, women attorneys practicing law at that time. Neva Elliott was in town, but she was doing only criminal cases, and I had gotten away from doing just criminal law, or I never had done just criminal law. She just wasn't in a position to be a kind of a mentor to me. So the other women lawyers that were active at that time, in the early '60s, were either doing research like Helen Althouse, or were, frankly, glorified legal secretaries like Virginia Riley. You know, it just was a new kind of thing. And, there were a lot of people like Aggie, whom I already mentioned, who came along that at least we could share stories and understand. I'm grateful to the men that were mentors. And, later on, when I joined the Public Interest Law Firm with Charlie Merten and Don Marmaduke and Larry Ashenbrenner, I think we really helped each other out a lot. We were colleagues and we were sort of at the same level, but we were doing a lot of cutting-edge stuff when we could, in the early '70s. And Darrell Cord. And it was really nice to have somebody else with similar ideals that learned the ropes and different insights.

You know, Diane, going back to the Young Democrats convention. I cannot really remember exactly where it was. I think it may have been in the Multnomah Hotel, because a lot of the political activity in the early days did take place at the old Multnomah. But another place where – there was a Methodist church, I think downtown, or maybe it was the First Presbyterian, but it seems to me – anyway, it was one of the downtown churches. An awful lot of the Young Democratic conventions or mid-conventions were held there. And, what I recall about that convention in '51 was

that there were a lot of people that attended, probably the colleges were very involved. Lewis & Clark had a big delegation. Reed College had a big delegation. And my recollection is that the Reedies were very pro-Henry Wallace, or that side of the political spectrum. I remember there were students from the University of Oregon and Oregon State, because after one of the sessions I went out on a double date with a guy named Dave Cromwell who was a Young Democrat from Corvallis. And, Pacific University – it seemed like almost all of the metropolitan schools were very, very active at that time, and whether it was the split or the schism that was going on. In '48, which was quite a bit before that, there had been, I guess, a lot of people that thought that Truman was not going to win. I was really not old enough to be too cognizant of it at that time. I was just beginning to get really politically into it on my own at all by '51. But there was kind of a carryover and a feeling that Truman maybe was, believe it or not, now looking back, but there was a feeling that the early days of the New Deal had had a lot of energy and now that energy was fading, and it was right before McCarthyism began to be really, and was kind of picking up steam, so that on the other side there was a feeling by liberals that they were under attack or being besieged as un-American.

As a matter of fact, this is kind of an interesting side-line, but when I was going to college, even before I got to law school, I worked during the summers, for about three summers as a secretary/clerk/stenographer, because I took shorthand and typed, for federal agencies. I worked two summers for the Bureau of Land Management, and one summer for Crater Lake National Park, as a temporary employee. The Chief Forester, who was the head of the Bureau of Land Management, and this would probably have been in the summer of '52, Eisenhower, or maybe it was '53 after Eisenhower was elected, but he asked me about my politics. And he told me that the Young Democrats were on the House Un-American List [*chuckling*] and that he was a staunch Republican, and that he didn't want to be unfair, but he wanted to be sure he wasn't hiring, even as temporary help, some Commie [*chuckling*], and so I had to assure him I was a loyal American, and my father had fought in World War II. But, isn't it funny?

DR You weren't going to undermine Crater Lake that summer?

NS Right [*chuckling*], or the forest.

DR Or the forest. Did you find any other, sort of echoes, of McCarthyism that you were involved in, or in law?

NS Well, later on, into the '60s when I – this is quite a bit post – but I think there were traces of McCarthyism that lingered on, because there was a time when people were on the – the FBI was doing checks and you ended up on the FBI list, and I ended up there, which was a real shock to me. And it was because I was representing a lot of Hispanic non-profits, or representing the Chicano/Indian Studies Center, that I got on the FBI, not “Most Wanted” [*chuckling*] but, whatever that FBI list is.

DR How did you find out that you were on it?

NS Well, there was a newspaper article that said that it was shocking, but true, that a lot of people who would never suspect they were on the FBI Un-American, or whatever, list were listed on there. But, under the Freedom of Information Act, which was very new, if you had any questions about whether you were on this list, you could go ask the FBI, and it gave you their address and phone number. But, you couldn't get through on the phone number. So, I thought, well, gosh, I wonder if, by any chance, I could be on there? This was probably '71 or '72. So, I went down to the office and, sure enough, they had a file on me. I could not believe it.

DR They'd shown you the file?

NS They did. And it was all newspaper articles. It was newspaper articles about Chicanos, you know, do this or do that. And they just suspected that anybody that was connected with any Chicano rights organization or Cesar Chavez or anything like that, was suspected of being a Communist sympathizer. I mean, I was kind of shocked. And the

guy apologized. He said, “we’re not doing this any more, but we had certain organizations.” The closest that they could come to with the Chicano non-profit organizations was there was a group, called the Brown Berets, which was pretty radical. But, I never represented them. But there were, I guess, some people that were in the Brown Berets that were also in the CentroChicano, or something else that I was connected with. And, so, they kept picking up my name because, of course, I was very active representing the Centro, and Collegio Cesar Chavez, and migrant health clinics, and so they just put two and two together and decided, somebody decided, from the newspaper articles, that I was a suspicious character they needed to keep tabs on. [Chuckling]

DR ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) Democrats.

NS Right. And how I...

DS And how you were in the echoes of McCarthyism, even up to the '70s?

NS Right. The thing, when I think back on law school, and getting into the profession, a lot of the forces that played out in my life sort of came together in a very amusing way. For example, when I went to law school from Marylhurst, here I had been going to an all Catholic girls school, and I was this intense Catholic, having had my period of doubt, and refinding my faith and sort of a liberal arm of the faith, and dialogue mass, and all it. I became very good friends with Bert Griffen. (Off the record, he just died.) And, he and I really saw eye to eye about Vatican II and how that opened the doors to a more accepting and universal idea of Catholicism, based on the encyclicals, which had to do with social justice. There was that, and then there was the fact, which carried over into my starting this Young Christian Student cell while I was at University of Oregon going to law school. Then there was going from an all girls school to practically an all boys school at that time, going to law school. And a Catholic all girls school to a very sectarian non-religious law school. Then there was the fact that I wasn't 21 yet, and so I couldn't live off campus, and of course I was concerned about making law school,

because Dean Hollis was making it clear that only 1/3 of the students were going to make it and the other 2/3 are going to be out on their ear. And, so I knew I was going to have to study, and I had gone to the dorms to visit a friend my third year at Marylhurst to size the situation up, and it was chaos. And I decided that I would never make it if I had to live in a dorm, and I couldn't live in an apartment off-campus, so I decided to go through rush and this just really upset Dean Hollis no end, because I arrived at law school wearing a pledge pin. *[Laughing]* So, here I am, active in the Young Democrats, forming this Young Christian Student cell, wearing a sorority pledge pin and going through rush. *[Chuckling]* I mean, I can see why people would be shaking their heads.

DR Doesn't sound like the stereotypical law student.

NS *[Laughing]* No. And, I did pledge Phi Beta Phi Sorority, and I have to say that that probably saved my bacon in law school, because my sorority sisters were very good to me. They didn't make me do the usual pledge things. Instead of thinking I was just the weirdest thing that came down the pike, they were very supportive, actually, of having a law student in the sorority, and other than singing with the glee club and stuff like that, I really didn't have very many duties, and I really got a lot of support from the women in that sorority. Plus, I got to stay out until 11:00 because, even though in those days you had to be in by 10:30, was the closing hour, the house mother would put a magazine in her door and let me in through her door, so I could stay at the law library until 11:00 studying, and then come back. So it was a real Godsend. And, I actually lived in the sorority house through my freshman year and into my sophomore year when I became old enough to move off campus. In the meantime, there was a different house mother and she wasn't nearly as tolerant as the one in my freshman year. And, of course, I did make it, and I was in the middle of the class so, by and large, I have to say I got fairly good treatment, although I did get some discrimination from a professor in my senior year. But, by and large, it was fine. I had a rather unusual law school career, in that I had a great romance with a French worker who actually was not exactly a student. He was a graduate of a French university and had come over to study modern mill methods

at Weyerhaeuser's plant. The WAM had brought him over. So, I was kind of a semi-absentee student a lot of my senior year because of that romance going on. And, then, I also was trying to get ready to go over to Europe with a friend of mine, Cathy Clabby, because that had been a big desire of mine. And, so I was auditing French. Dean Hollis wouldn't let us take any courses outside of the law school, but he didn't say anything about auditing, so my senior year I audited both Oil Painting and second year French, and by the time the year ended, between auditing the second year French and talking with Jean Paul, who became my boyfriend, every day, I was really pretty fluent in French by the time Cathy and I got our bank loans and went to Europe.

And we were gone for five months. I found out that I had passed the Bar when we were in Florence, Italy. We were staying in a youth hostel, keeping it on the cheap. We finally came back in December.

DR You found out that you had passed, with the phone, or?

NS No, what happened was that people were supposed to let me know, and I had given Jean Paul my itinerary – he was back in France by that time – and, of course, my parents had my itinerary. I think one or two of my friends, or maybe one of my seminar partners in law school, and along about the end of September I really started looking. I had given them, let's say Vienna, August 15, general delivery. And, so I'd go into American Express at all the major cities and pick up my mail. But there was nothing about whether I'd passed the Bar or not. And, what had happened was that my parents, Jean Paul, my seminar partners, were sending mail along the way, and sometimes they missed the city and so I got it from about three or four sources at the same time. The mail all caught up with me in Florence, Italy. So Cathy and I went out and celebrated with some Chianti wine [*chuckling*] and a good meal.

DR How do you spell Cathy's last name?

NS C-L-A-B-B-Y.

We were so taken with travel that we had not planned on spending five months, which we did. We had planned on spending about three months, but we were having such a good time we didn't want to come back. So, we finally totally ran out of money and we had [*laughing*] no choice.

DR What countries did you visit?

NS Well, we started out in England. And, then, we – with the \$2,000 loan that I had gotten from the bank, I arranged to pick up a Volkswagen in Germany, which was, I think, \$1,100 of the \$2,000. So, we didn't have a car until we got to Wolfsburg, Germany, so we hitchhiked around Ireland, England, and Scotland, staying in the youth hostels. We crossed the channel and went over to Germany, and then we had the car. So we were in Germany and we tried to drive to Berlin, but we couldn't get through at that time. This was '55. And, so, we had to fly; then on to Austria Switzerland, Italy, France, Spain, Tangiers, back to France, Belgium, Holland, France, and home.

[Transcriber's note: Tape 3 is marked only on the first side as "A" – the obverse side is unmarked, but contains portions of the interview, which ends here abruptly, mid-sentence.]