Kay Dorrance: The California University of Pennsylvania Women’s center is implementing a new initiative entitled Cal U Women’s of Accomplishments an Oral History Project. In order to preserve their legacies, share their stories, and inspire other women to pursue worthy and noble goals, we are compiling oral histories of women who have achieved notable accomplishments at Cal U. We are focusing on areas of the Women’s education, work, politics, and community involvement and other topics. We want to focus today on your experiences as the founding members of the Delta Zeta sorority which was established on November 15, 1958. Today is March 23, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. at California University of Pennsylvania and my name is Kay Dorrance. We will start by listening to Dena first.

0:52

Dena Morris Shultz: Hello, my name is Dena Morris Shultz. I graduated from California in 1958. I taught school for 35 years and I am very happy to be back at my alma mater.

Jane Starkey Long: And I am Jane Starkey Long. I graduated in 1961 with a degree in elementary education and began my career at Upper St. Clair teaching 5th grade.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I’m Patricia McClellan Krotzer and I graduated in 58’. I only taught a year, had a family but I turned into a Librarian. So I was really happy, I was 18 years at that.

Kay: We are going to start the interview off with what lead or motivated you to initiate the whole process of even starting a sorority on campus, since Delta Zeta was the first social sorority on our Campus.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I just feel…We were talking about this and we felt there was just a group of girls who were very close, very good friends and since there were other social sororities on the campus that didn’t include other groups, I think we just all got together and decided we were just going to try to get a sorority. There were none in any of the state teachers college as they were called at the time. So, we had to break the ice and I think um Mrs. Duda, Dr. Duda’s wife, he was the president at the time, was I think a moving factor in helping us either decide on Delta Zeta. We’re having memory lapses here so.

Dena Morris Shultz: And I would like to add to that, that this group of friends that first lived in the South Hall dorm, we became so close we called ourselves sisters then we called ourselves the South Hall Sisters which later turned into the Delta Zeta Sisters.

Kay: So it just naturally became organized? And then you said you weren’t exactly sure why Delta Zeta was the chosen sorority, it was just a suggestion?
Patricia McClellan Krotzer: That’s.. We’ve talked about this, we can’t remember. This is really troubling. Maybe it was one of the sororities that would, was actually looking to start on campuses where there weren’t any national sororities. The state teacher colleges didn’t have any.

Kay: Ok, do you recall any kind of struggles you faced trying to get started or off the ground?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Hmm, we didn’t have any problems finding people who would like to join but, but I don’t know with Mrs. Duda running, I don’t want to say quarterback, excuse me, for us, I think she helped us overcome some hurdles that we didn’t even know that were out there.

Jane Starkey Long: And I think being the first national sorority on a campus there’s no protocol to follow. So you have to learn step by step what to do and these women really did that. I was in the first pledge class so I wasn’t a part of the founding but I can imagine the struggles they had and thank goodness there was someone like Mrs. Duda who really I think connected with national and walked you through a lot of the process.

Patricia McClellen Krotzer: Yes she did.

Kay: So that was the hardest part? Understanding how to operate and things like that?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Yes, we had no clue. We just, I don’t know it’s kind of like; I don’t even think it was on a whim. I think we thought about it seriously but I don’t remember us ever seeing what pitfalls there was going to be in doing something like this.

Kay: You mentioned before about it wasn’t hard to recruit people, can you recall what your recruitment efforts were like?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: We were just talking about this in the hall, basically the assumption is, we are doing this on a lot of assumption maybe we just had a list of people that we knew, that from the South Hall Sisters, that we liked. And then I guess as they do it now, you go down and grade them 1 to 5, 1 to 10, whatever.

Kay: So were there certain qualities you were looking for? Or was it just basically based on friendship?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I think most of them were based on friendship because we didn’t know anything about the qualities that were in until I am reading in the year book right now.
Dena Morris Shultz: Yes, in the yearbook it says scholarship, maybe service, I don’t know. But of course we were looking for good people.

Kay: Other than Mrs. Duda, can you recall anyone that helped you, or really supported you getting this effort off the ground?

Dena Morris Shultz: Well, we would have to say Mrs. Louise Davis because we had to have someone to say they were our sponsor in the very, very beginning and she was our sponsor, Mrs. Louise Davis.

Kay: Ok, was there any resistance that you felt?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: There probably was but I don’t think we can remember it. I think the thing is being as young as we were and not knowing what we were getting into or even having the slightest idea of what a national sorority was about.

Kay: Is it safe to say that you were naïve in a way?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Very much so.

6:00

Kay: Was Greek life viewed on campus because I know there were some fraternities in place before you came on campus, but what was Greek life like as a whole on campus?

Dena Morris Shultz: It was not a big thing I’d say. There were honorary fraternities like Alpha Si Mega and some others that people you know were invited to and that but we had no Greek Week or big Greek thing.

Kay: What was it about Delta Zeta that attracted you to join?

Jane Starkey Long: Probably the people that were in it. And also the idea of being a part of a national sorority. That was kind of exciting at the time. I pledged when I was a sophomore and I became president when I was a junior, yeah I was attracted to the people that were in it, I think we had common goals; common ideas and those are the kind of people that would have been my friends.

Kay: So you’re just naturally drawn together?

Jane Starkey Long: Right
Kay: Do you remember what your philanthropic focus was?

Jane Starkey Long: I remember a Gallaudet college near Washington D.C, a school for the blind. That was a national philanthropy and then we also did things on campus I guess you call them service projects. We tried to do things like that.

Kay: Ok, Can you talk in detail about the initiation process? Or how you selected officers, like executive board positions? Do you remember?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: No clue. As we go back and look through the yearbook you think, I had an office, I was an officer in this organization? Which I don’t remember at all.

Dena Morris Shultz: We probably, common sense would say that we all got together and nominated and voted and that was it. You know a starting slate of officers.

Jane Starkey Long: I remember that you would vote for officers like you would for anything else. But I remember, there were I guess you call them chairmanships, that the president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer would choose; for instance my first position in the sorority was scholarship chairman, I don’t think I was voted on to be scholarship chairman, I think I was appointed, I was appointed. Then when I became president I had been voted on for that. So the major offices were voted then there were chairmanships that were appointed.

Kay: Do you remember any type of rituals that took place or any kind of things that were specifically to Delta Zeta a tradition?

Jane Starkey Long: I thought we had quite a few, I remember lighting candles a lot, I don’t know and wearing roses a lot. We had a secret handshake, I think we had a password or something, you know that kind of thing. So there were I guess you can call them rituals, things. I think all the sororities had those.

Kay: Is this something you initiated yourselves or was this passed down from the national chapter?

Jane Starkey Long: Yes, that was from the national, that was from national

Kay: So did someone come from the national headquarters to come teach you these things or how did you learn?

Jane Starkey Long: You know I found them to be very supportive from national. They sent what I think at the time, they called them at the time traveling secretaries and they came from national
and I believe they came and helped us with our first pledge. After we were initially initiated, we were the charter members and we had our first pledge class and I remember them coming and showing us how to set it up and this was something more formal than we had done before. They were very helpful, very, very helpful. They actually came on campus and helped us.

Kay: When they came on campus, did you have a house that was specifically for Delta Zeta sisters or how did you organize on that fashion?

Jane Starkey Long: Well, we used to meet I guess in a classroom but very shortly after becoming Delta Zeta, I would say by the end of the first year, we were so excited we were able to get a house on campus. Our first sorority house on campus, it was about a block from the school and I think it’s where the library is now. I think that street was torn down and the library put up and we rented the house because I remember seeing it had a lease. So it must have been a rental rather than us purchasing it. It wasn’t a large house and I think there were 4 of us that lived there and I was fortunate enough to be one of them that lived there. Uh, with my roommate and I know that there were two other girls that lived there. So I think that there were four that lived there. We didn’t cook there; we still ate in the dining hall. But we slept there and we had our meetings there in the dining room of this home and we were so excited to have it, it was like a really big deal.

Kay: Did you guys ever have the opportunity to live there or anything?

10:46

Dena Morris Shultz: No

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: No

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: If we even had a meeting it would have been taken place in the colonial room.

Jane Starkey Long: I think that’s where we met too, the colonial room.

Kay: Where was that located on campus?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: It was under the towers, it was in Main Hall and it was just a formal living room and, not used very much.

Jane Starkey Long: It was used for like receptions and I, for parent’s weekend and anything like that, or photos for your prom.
Kay: So kind of similar to the alumni house today in a way?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Not as nice

Jane Starkey Long: It was just one room. They have come a long way.

11:32

Kay: Can you share any memories you have of special events on campus? Things like homecoming or special football game or anything like that, special memories.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Well, Dena was the homecoming queen.

Jane Starkey Long: Yes she was, I remember that.

Dena Morris Shultz: Well, it is a very special bit of memory because as the float came down and turned the corner, I don’t know what corner, all my Delta Zeta sisters or many of them all gathered in a group and they had their off white jackets, their green hats and they were all standing there smiling and cheering me and that was very special. And then one other time I represented Delta Zeta in a spring carnival contest or something, to have a queen.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Yeah, Miss Spring Carnival or something.

Dena Morris Shultz: Yeah and I represented Delta Zeta and I was lucky enough to be the attendant.

Kay: Can you guys recall the homecoming she is talking about?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I have photos, without photos I knew she was the homecoming queen, but without the photos, it brought back some really, really great memories.

Dena Morris Shultz: But Pat does have a picture of the first DZ float. At first, we couldn’t remember that we had a float and then we did have a float.

Kay: After you saw the picture, do you remember constructing it?

Dena Morris Shultz: Not I

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Not I

Jane Starkey Long: Oh, I remember that, that was lots of fun and I remember Dena being homecoming queen and I was a freshman at the time and just thought she was the coolest thing
ever. And she was, she was a beautiful homecoming queen. It was really neat to have her be a part of Delta Zeta. But homecoming was huge, it seemed to be and usually you would pair with a fraternity, we always paired with TKE and they would help us. You would rent a garage or be in a garage somewhere, I can remember, and the fellows would help us build the floats because at that time it was a big industrial arts department on campus, the fellows were really good. And they would build the floats and we would stay up sometime, almost all night stuffing I think it was toilet paper, and chicken wire? Chicken wire, wasn’t it? Or Kleenex, or toilet paper and chicken wire and that’s how we decorated our floats and it was just huge, it was so much fun! And then the spring carnival you talked about that was also a big occasion. So we had a lot of fun, a lot of activities. Oh, and the Greek sing was always fun; I remember Delta Zeta won it one year, we did Happy Talk and, just a lot of fun. We really had a lot of fun on campus.

Kay: So do you think that Greek life grew on campus? Like Greek affiliated events become a bigger deal on campus?

Jane Starkey Long: The what?

Kay: Did the Greek affiliated events on campus become a larger part of campus life?

Jane Starkey Long: Oh, I think so. Oh, absolutely.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I think they needed here, don’t you?

Jane Starkey Long: We did and you have to realize when we went here it was so small you knew everybody on campus. I can’t tell you what the number was but, you knew everyone. Everybody knew everybody. So it was wonderful.

14:44

Kay: What makes you say that they needed Greek life on campus?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I think they needed something more; it wasn’t a true college because you just came here. We had two groups of students here, we had what we called the traveling students and the students who stayed in the dorm and once the traveling students were gone, when they left for home, they never came back for any events. Maybe some of the dances.

Jane: Not very often, you’re right.

Patricia McClellen Krotzer: Maybe some of the games, but those of us who stayed on campus were the nucleus of the social life here.
Kay: But in a sense you were kind of segregated from commuters?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I think they segregated themselves because they traveled. Most of them probably had a job and, we had when Dena and I were here we had some veterans come and, go to school here and I mean, they were all business. We are getting our education and getting out of here and a lot of them were the traveling students. But we knew a lot of the traveling students too.

Kay: So do you think Greek life helped create a campus community, like a sense of community?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I think after, we didn’t get to experience it but the girls after us did.

Kay: Did you feel more connected to the University being involved in Delta Zeta?

Jane Starkey Long: Hm, that’s a good question. I felt so connected with the school. I think with or without Delta Zeta, I loved the school. I loved the people here. It enhanced my experience; I would say that it enhanced it.

Kay: You mentioned collaborating with TKE and making a homecoming float. Can you describe your relationship with the fraternity further or was that pretty much the extent of it?

Jane Starkey Long: It just seemed like maybe a lot of Delta Zeta’s dated TKE’s, I don’t know, I think so. I think that’s what it was. We just were all really good friends.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I think that was it. I don’t think that you were a part of the Greek society that was the reason you were friends with these people. You were friends with the people because they were who they were.

Jane Starkey Long: Right, right.

Kay: What was the campus climate like at that time, pursuing higher education, especially as a woman?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: You had to work for it. Just like everybody else, if you did the work, you got the grades, you got your education.

Dena Morris Shultz: For me, it was just like a wonderful, friendly world. And a lot of us worked at jobs to help, and as she said, we knew most everyone and it was just after we graduated that the big expansion started, not the expansion now, but the beginning of the expansion many years ago. But it was just a wonderful small college, and I just felt so blessed to be here.
Kay: Did you ever feel resistance as a women on a college campus?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: During the times I don’t think we knew what resistance was.

Dena Morris Shultz: Well, we didn’t feel resistance but Pat pointed out that we did not have women’s teams..

Kay: Athletics

Dena Morris Schultz: Athletics, I mean Pat was something of an athlete.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Well I played basketball, but we had intramurals and we were lucky to get a gym if the guys weren’t using it.

Kay: So you didn’t have priority?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: So, we were low on the totem pole. But, it was just a sign of the times, this is the way it was, we weren’t out to change the world; we were just out there to maybe even try to find ourselves.

Jane Starkey Long: That’s interesting how that’s changed though. Because the women athletics at California now is so strong, volleyball and the other teams, they really are very strong, and, but like you said that was just the way it was at the time.

Kay: When you introduced yourselves, you said you have careers in education and within the library. Did you see anything else as a career option? Or was that what you were confident you wanted to do with your lives?

Jane Starkey Long: Oh that’s funny, I thought I had 3 choices, I don’t know if you agree? You could be a nurse, secretary, or teacher and that was it. And I didn’t like blood, that eliminated nursing and I can’t type very well and I love to write with chalk so I became a teacher.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I think we all have had different experiences. My mother was a teacher and she graduated from here when it was the normal school and, one day around graduation from high school she said you are going to California, PA and I said “Oh”, so she packs me up and brings me down here and I was enrolled,
Kay: And that was that,

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: and that was it, so we had not have many choices.

Dena Morris Shultz: In my case I did choose to be a secretary because I did take business
courses, but my mother had a higher goal for me and she wanted to come to California since it
was a close college to us, that would not be as expensive as my hometown college and to see if a
scholarship was available and it was not but then I ended up enrolling and I didn’t really plan to
be a teacher but I do feel that God lead me to be a teacher because I became one as I said for 35
years and I really enjoyed teaching.

Jane Starkey Long: And you know of course when we went it was California State Teachers
College, everybody was in education, everybody, but they just so well prepared us to be teachers.
I think they just turned out good teachers, don’t you?

Dena Morris Shultz: Yes

Jane: I really do, I felt so capable when I got my first job and ready to teach. It was a good place
to get an education that’s for sure.

Kay: Once you graduated and got your degree, how did you balance your different priorities and
responsibilities and the roles that you had in your life?

Dena Morris Shultz: Well, I had to work as I had my family. I have three daughters, but it
worked out well being a teacher. So I taught and raised 3 children, and then I retired.

Kay: At what age did you get married?

Dena Morris Shultz: 23- In that day that was considered to be rather late. My first child at 28, in
that day that was very old, very different today.

Jane Starkey Long: I had my first child when I was 30, and that was really old!

Kay: What difficulties did you have balancing your work life family?

Jane Starkey Long: Well I taught up until I became pregnant with my first child and at that time
if you were pregnant, and had a child you had to quit. So I had to quit teaching. I did not go back
into it for 10 years until my youngest children went to first grade and I started subbing, in the
mean time, I had got a Masters degree in Library Science so I went back as a school librarian
that’s how I ended my career.
Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Well, as these two had done, I only taught for a year and had the family and I was lucky enough to stay at home and be a stay at home mom but my husband was a school teacher, taught for 40 years at the same school and on a teacher salary you can’t do too much so he worked 2 or 3 jobs to enable us to have some extra things and have a home. I liked being a stay at home mom, it was nice. It was kind of like a teaching thing at home. So after our third child was born I went to work at the local library and stayed there for 18 years.

22:44

Kay: Can you describe any sacrifices you made along the way, either personally or professionally?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I’ve been happy with my life, maybe I did not have high expectations, I don’t know, but I was happy with what I had.

Dena Morris Shultz: Well, I think I sacrificed time with my children. But I’m proud of my children and how they turned out and actually two of them became teachers and they are really good teachers. So, I sometimes look back on that but they seem to turn out alright.

Jane Starkey Long: That’s interesting, I guess I was blessed and very fortunate because I didn’t feel I had to sacrifice to go to college. My parents paid for it and I didn’t have to take out loans and I think a lot of students today, probably very few go through without having the burden of loans to graduate with and so I didn’t feel I had to sacrifice it was like life came kind of easy to me to get my education. I was able to stay home with my children and I was fortunate I could go back when they were in school and teaching just works well with being a mom better than a lot of professions, I think.

Kay: How do you think Greek life or Cal U shaped your life?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: You had the experience.

Jane Starkey Long: Can you ask the question again?

Kay: Can you share how Greek life or Cal U shaped your life?

Jane Starkey Long: How it shaped my life? Well it made lifelong friends, that’s for sure. Looking back on, I think being president, the year I was President because there were not other presidents to fall back on because I was only the second one; I developed tremendous organizational skills that I’ve kept till this day because it was a lot of work, a lot of paperwork. I
had to juggle a lot of balls to keep up my grades and be president of this really active, growing sorority. It really helped me a lot, it really did.

Dena Morris Shultz: Well, what president did you say you were?

Jane Starkey Long: Second

Dena Morris Shultz: Well if you count us, the starters, I was the first and Janet Richard was the second.

Jane Starkey Long: Then I would have been the third; right, ok, I would have been the third.

Dena Morris Shultz: Sorry

Kay: Do you feel like Cal U or your involvement in Greek Life shaped your lives in any special way?

Dena Morris Shultz: Well for me, you know, we started the sorority and it was a group of friends and of course those are friends for life in a way and it is just a good feeling to know we laid the ground work and I feel very honored to be here and to be thought of as the foundation.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: I agree with her, I feel honored in being here. I think that Cal U for most of us, well for myself, coming from a very small town, moving into a college situation in which I had no clue what was going on because most people would get to visit a school and see what college life is like and it gave me a chance to become another person, the person I thought I was, not the person that my relatives or old friends think you should be, you got to develop your own personality and I really liked that.

26:28

Kay: Based on your life experiences, what advice would you give to women of today and of future generations?

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Follow your dreams, do what you want to do. Don’t let anybody tell you that you can’t do something. And that’s an old cliché, I know, but it just stands on its own.

Jane Starkey Long: Yea, I agree with that, absolutely, I think women have so many opportunities today and the hard thing is just choosing.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: As you said before, we had 4 choices, you could have gotten married. There wasn’t a whole lot there, unless you were a very, very outgoing, really
determined person and who could find unusual things to do. Look at what woman do today, I was watching a TV program and these ladies were out in the outback studying animals and being scientists and astronauts and people that we never ever thought that women would be able to do.

Jane Starkey Long: But you know, I think if I had to go back and had all those choices laid out in front of me, I would do exactly what I did. I loved teaching, I just loved teaching. It was just perfect for me. It was a wonderful career, never regretted my choice.

Dena Morris Shultz: And I would just say have a goal, have a goal

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: And don’t let anyone tell you that…

Dena Morris Shultz: Just believe in yourself. Be strong!

Kay: And finally, what do you believe your legacy is?

Dena Morris Shultz: Do you mean here?

Kay: Either at Cal or within your family or community?

Dena Morris Shultz: Well our legacy here I guess, is the establishment of the sorority and then all of the good things that have followed that. As a mother, you think your legacy is your children and I’m very proud that two of my daughters are teachers and you know as a teacher you do influence many lives, you don’t even realize and when you think about that, you look back on all the years and you are very blessed to know that you did some good, we hope, in a lot of lives.

Kay: Do you have anything else to contribute?

Jane Starkey Long: I’d say exactly what Dena said, no really, you just said it beautifully, I think when you are a teacher you do leave a legacy, you really do, and when you have children, it’s a legacy.

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Ditto on that!

Kay: Do you have anything else you want to add?

Jane Starkey Long: Well thank you for the opportunity of having us down.
Dena Morris Shultz: Thank you and as I already said, I am honored to be asked to share. Because you know sometimes as older people, you’re not important, you’re old now, you’ve done your thing. But we’re not done.

Jane Starkey Long: We’re just getting better.

Dena Morris Shultz: Thank you.

Kay: We really appreciate your time, Thank you!

Patricia McClellan Krotzer: Thank you!

29:40

Kay: This continues our oral history project with the Delta Zeta Sorority Zeta Epsilon Chapter. We will start by introducing ourselves again.

DZ: I’m Theresa Liveratti Hickman, graduate in 1960. I was a teacher for 37 years, elementary education.

DZ: Hi, I’m Judy McIlvaine Salvatore and I had 33 years in the classroom in Upper St. Clair.

DZ: I’m Midge Warman Kennedy and I graduated in 1960 as an elementary teacher. I taught one year in Perryopolis kindergarten and 2 ½ years in Peters Township and the rest of the time I was a homemaker.

Kay: Can you describe your involvement with Delta Zeta Sorority?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: In 1958, for some reason, Mrs. Duda and I traveled to Chicago and became the first members of a National social sorority and I have little memory of that other than it was a train ride and we were initiated in a big hall and then when we came back there was a representative from Delta Zeta that came and initiated the other girls and that was in the colonial room of the North Hall Dorm.

Kay: Can you remember what prompted you to start that whole process?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I believe it was the National Sorority that undoubtedly had some contact here at California and encouraged the college to accept national sororities. That’s my recollection.

Kay: And then why did you go with Mrs. Duda?
Theresa Liveratti Hickman: That I don’t remember.

Kay: How did you become involved with Delta Zeta?

Mildred Warman Kennedy: Theresa, Theresa was in there first and we were all good friends from South Hall. South Hall was really small, but you would think everybody lived there that was involved. But anyway, Theresa was in first and we were all close friends and she then invited through Theresa we were invited to join the sorority.

Kay: So you were responsible for the recruitment efforts?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: That’s what they tell me.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: I don’t know if it was everybody, but I know that Judy and I, being her friend, that’s how we got in.

32:22

Kay: What was it about Delta Zeta that was attractive for you, for membership?

Judy McLlvaine Salvatore: I think it was probably the fact that we were such a close knit group to begin with and I think we felt if Theresa and Mrs. Duda felt that this was a good thing for the college to take it to the National Level, then we were just going to get on board.

Kay: Ok, did you ever have any reservations about joining or were you very enthusiastic?

Judy McLlvaine Salvatore: No, I think we were very enthusiastic about it because it was new and we were kinda like pioneers in the field.

Kay: Do you remember any struggles or resistance you faced by trying to get organized on campus, with initially starting up?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: No, I don’t remember any. I think it was just accepted and then there were other sororities, local sororities that followed suit.

Kay: Were you instrumental in helping them get started?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I don’t think so.

Kay: They were kind of on their own?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Yes
Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: I think Mrs. Duda had such a strong influence on getting this group going, that she ran a whole lot of interference for us, like Jane was saying, we had no idea what national sorority entailed and she really was able to get on the phone and get to national headquarters. And I think she did a whole lot of the ground work that the girls did not have to do.

Kay: What do you believe made Mrs. Duda so passionate about starting sororities on our campus?

Mildred Warman Kennedy: Maybe a time in her life she needed something to do and we were all very close to her, because as I mentioned at lunch, we all worked in the dining hall and everybody went and had lunch at the same time and dinner at the same time and sat at the same assigned tables with the same people. Dr. and Mrs. Duda ate their meals in the dining hall with us and students would take turns, they would invite students to have lunch or dinner with them as their guests, they at the same thing we did, I guess, but they were the guest. She, they knew us very well. I mean I remember there was a time when the dietician, Arlene Curstedder, she was very flamboyant and an interesting person. When she left, Mr. Far came and when Mr. Far came, everyone resented him just because Ms. Curstedder wasn’t there any longer, so we really gave him a hard time and I remember one time we went to complain about the food that he was serving us and Dr. Duda was such an easy going, compassionate person, he listened to our complaints and he even formed a committee where he would meet with us, I don’t know how often, but we would sit at this big, long conference table and tell him all of our complaints about Mr. Far and one time I remember one of the complaints was, and they cooked the food right there in the kitchen, there was a stone in the chili- that was one of our complaints, and anyway, everything was kind of family-oriented and everybody knew everyone and Mrs. Duda knew us, from, was her apartment, she lived right by South Hall, right?

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: Yes, I think we became her extended family.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: Yeah, we were right there above her room and she could hear everything we were doing when we weren’t living by Mrs. Hamilton.

Kay: So you had strong ties and strong relationships with the university?

Mildred Warman Kennedy: Then? Yes, yes. I would say so.

Kay: Once you were brought into this sorority, can you remember what your recruitment efforts were like beyond your membership?
Kay: No? Just word of mouth sort of thing?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Yes, and there were many different organizations that we were involved in and one just led to another. One group was part of one social group and then that carried over to another and another.

Kay: Do you recall what the pledge process was like?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: It was very…

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: It was very informal.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: It wasn’t anything like it would have been later on.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: I think the fact that it was the first national, we really didn’t have to recruit. The gals were just interested in being a part of a national sorority.

Kay: The novelty of the whole…

Judy McIlvaine: I think

Kay: Did it cost money to maintain a membership?

37:53

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: You have the original form

Mildred Warman Kennedy: The fee for the semester was $2.50, 2 dollars and 50 cents, and the total on that page was $55.00 and that included a lifetime membership of $25.00 and a Life of Lamp Magazine

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: A life magazine of

Mildred Warman Kennedy: And the pin was $13.50, something like that. There were a couple little fees like that, but the big thing was the dues for the semester was $2.50.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: And they said our pin was real gold and had a diamond in it, so for $13.00, that was a deal.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: And one of the selling points was that you were going to get this magazine, this Lamp magazine for life and it was true.
Kay: Do you still get the magazine?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I do

Kay: Did financial obligations ever prevent anyone from joining, was that a deterrent?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Not in our time, but I’m sure there were times when it became a hardship.

Kay: How did racial makeups play a part in membership?

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: I think we had to speak to a story that Jane told us while we were having lunch. Because basically the campus was a majority of white students and Jane told us a story when we were first recruiting that there was one girl that we truly loved, wanted her to be a part of the sorority but because she was black, we were not allowed to pledge her.

Kay: Who said that you were not allowed to pledge her?

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: That was National, wasn’t it, I believe that was a National stipulation.

Kay: What was that experience like?

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: Our president almost quit the sorority over it.

Kay: It was upsetting

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: It was really, tore at your heart strings because this girl was such a lovely girl so that’s one thing that they don’t have to worry about today.

Kay: Do you remember any philanthropic efforts that you focused on?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: We were associated with the School of the Deaf, and I can remember donating, I don’t remember donating time, but there were financial donations that we gave.

Kay: How did you raise money to donate to that philanthropy?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I think just from the sorority sisters.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: I think from the dues and things, we made our donation

Kay: Were you expected to donate a certain amount every year?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I think it was voluntary.
Kay: Did anyone hold any leadership positions in the sorority?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I don’t remember.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: We think Theresa, you were sergeant of arms. I don’t know what that meant, but you were something.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: We know you were important.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: We know she was important…

Kay: She did something

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: We don’t know what the title was?

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: We still don’t know what she does.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I must have done a good job

Kay: Do you remember what the process was to like choose your president/vice president or anything like that?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: It was just a general election.

Kay: Pretty informal?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Yes, I would say so.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: Secret ballot.

Kay: Did you have a sorority house or did everyone remain in South Hall throughout their whole undergrad experience?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: We just met in probably the Colonial room.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: I think.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: I think the first house that Jane spoke about was our senior year, when we were leaving so we really would not have been involved in a house at all.

Kay: Was that one of your long term goals to secure housing as a sorority, or did it just…

Mildred Warman Kennedy: I don’t think we had long term goals.
Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: We just lived for the minute.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: We lived in the dormitory and that’s where we were and that’s where we were satisfied to stay.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: That’s basically where our parents wanted us to be too, so that was a big influence.

Kay: What was on-campus housing like at that time? Can you describe what your dorm room was like?

Mildred Warman Kennedy: It was very small. We had a bed, a chest, and a desk. We shared a shower with everyone on the floor. There were, in South Hall, we think maybe there were about ten rooms on each floor and we shared a bathroom.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: that had maybe 3 shower stalls for 20 girls.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Yes, but it was fun.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: We had one telephone at the end of the hall where the desk was where they watched you when you came in at night. When we were freshman we were allowed to stay out till 9, when we were sophomores it was 9:30, juniors 10:00, seniors you were allowed to stay out until 10:30 and you got an extra 12:00 during the week. On Friday and Saturday you could stay out till 11:00 on one night and 12:00 on the other and if you stayed out till one minute after 11:00 on Friday, that was your 12:00. They were very strict on time.

Kay: Was the same thing expected out of for men on campus, or just women?

43:50

Mildred Warman Kennedy: No, they were allowed to stay out all night. But they had that tower that had that chime, you couldn’t lie because if you were at the front gate you had to run before that last chime to get in there or you missed your 11:00 that was your 12:00.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: She was our mover and our shaker.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: We had hall monitors and I don’t think they were paid. It was just an honor to be a hall monitor and they took their jobs very seriously.

Kay: Was that their number one responsibility to monitor curfew?
Mildred Warman Kennedy: They just sat there to see or, and also if you were campused for any number of reasons, you got in trouble you had to stay in your room. You were not allowed, other than to go to the bathroom. You couldn’t take phone calls, you couldn’t socialize. You had to stay in your room and they also monitored that. What else did they do?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: That’s about it.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: They were like guards.

Kay: You were grounded

Mildred Warman Kennedy: Well you could be grounded for different things, if you were, if you happen to get caught with Bermuda shorts under your rain coat. We weren’t allowed to wear slacks or shorts or anything, we had to wear dresses and skirts and you could get campused for that. I don’t know, I don’t even remember the things we could get campused for? Nothing like that would even make sense now.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Grades

Mildred Warman Kennedy: Grades, but that was different, that was academic probation.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Yes

Kay: Can you paint a picture of what the campus was like at that time?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: It was probably smaller than some of the high schools today. And as the girls said before, there were two groups: those that stayed on campus and the commuters. But everyone that stayed on campus was very friendly and socialized and just became very good friends.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: The part of when you go out of South Hall and Dixon now and you look over toward Noss, it still looks the same. The trees and walkways and everything and those buildings have been maintained. Herron looks a little bit different now, but when you just stand back at South Hall as we used to do, where we used to hang out on the steps behind South Hall and it’s just kind of neat because that part still looks the same. All this progress has happened, but that is still just like it was then.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: There were a lot of trains that went past.

Kay: That is still the same.
Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: That’s still the same? A lot of boats on the river. Some people called them ships.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: They still had the paddle wheels, some of them, when we were here.

47:16

Kay: What was popular music or fashion or things like that at that time? Do you remember favorite movies or artists or anything like that.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: We had favorite outfits that were shared, they were like, somebody wore, be like a a couple outfits that someone wore every day.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: It was called vintage.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: It was called poor.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: That was it too, yeah.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: We didn’t have that many choices

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: Everybody wore saddle shoes

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Socks. We were very easily satisfied.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: Saddle shoes don’t look good without socks. And crew necks and Bermuda shorts

Kay: How did it feel to be a woman at that time on a college campus?

48:11

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I don’t think there was any distinction between being a woman and someone being a man. We were just accepted as girls, I don’t think we ever thought of being anything less or anything more than. It just wasn’t important.

Kay: So you didn’t see it unfair of the men having different privileges?

Mildred Warman Kennedy: No, we could sit in South Hall, guys lived in Dixon.

Theresa: Yes
Mildred Warman Kennedy: And we could sit in South Hall and watch all the guys out running around, we knew what time they got in because we were in.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: But I don’t think it really mattered.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: No it didn’t.

Theresa: Do you?

Mildred Warman Kennedy: There was no distinction. No one even thought about it, that’s just the way it was. I mean it’s the same as today, you couldn’t tell someone they have to be in their room at 8:00 and not allowed to leave. You wouldn’t be able to get away with that, but that’s the way it was. We were told what to do and we did it.

Kay: Do you remember any racial tension on campus, just in general?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: No, although there were very few minorities at that time, very few.

Kay: Was it considered a privilege to get a college degree at that time?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I would say yes.

Kay: What did you see as your career options or your goals?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Well, like we said before, there were certain things that a woman was expected to do if she wanted a career and I can remember being in 4th grade and knowing that I wanted to be a teacher.

50:15

Kay: When did you realize what you wanted to do career wise?

Judy Mcllvaine Salvatore: My mother was a teacher, her mother was a teacher, my daughter is a teacher, and, but no I always wanted to be a teacher and being a teacher was the best thing I could have ever done; it was a job that I got up for everyday and truly wanted to go to school.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: I enjoyed teaching, but my goal was to be become a home-ec teacher and they didn’t offer that here and I came here and I thought I would go here for a year and then
I would transfer, but then I made such good friends I stayed. I ended up with elementary, but I am basically a homemaker.

51:04

Kay: What was it like balancing your family, your career, and your relationships later on in life?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I’ve worked all my life and enjoyed every minute of it. I say since I’m retired that I had a better work ethic when I was working because I was on a schedule where you worked, then you did your chores at home and your family. I was able to juggle everything very nicely.

Kay: Do you guys have anything to add to that?

Judy McIvaine Salvatore: I think the balancing part of the job and raising a family was in the evening when you are extremely tired and you have children and they need some more attention from mom and that’s when you really do have to push, get that little extra, dig a little deeper and give to your own child what you have already given to 30 children.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: I was home most of the time with my children.

Kay: Do you feel like you had to make any sacrifices to get the life that you had?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: No, I was very fortunate. Everything I think fell into place and I’ve been very fortunate all my life.

Judy McIvaine Salvatore: I didn’t have to make any sacrifices, but I know when I was here seeing a lot of kids who came from blue-collar families, you could see that they were going to be washing dishes in the kitchen and things like that, just to get their education.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: I feel the same, I just have been real fortunate with my life. I actually met my husband my senior year here. He was a resident of California and also a graduate and then later became a professor here. So I came and never left. I was the one that was gonna leave after a year and I never left.

Kay: Based on your life experiences, what advice would you give to woman of today and of future generations?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Maybe not to, well, I think a lot of women are expected to make something special out of themselves and maybe they set their goals too high, which I shouldn’t
be saying, but be satisfied with what you can do. Work hard at it, but be satisfied with what you can do.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: I think we all feel the same from what we talked about. We are all fortunate that we came here, made good friends we made a life for ourselves. It may not be as extravagant as some people, but it was what we were happy with and it was enough for us.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I feel a lot of young people have a lot of pressure.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: Expect too much

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: Yeah, whether it’s expecting their own expectations or others expectations, I just think that they have very difficult life sometimes.

55:20

Kay: What are your hopes for the next generation of women to come to Cal U?

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: I think that Dr. Armenti has made such a marvelous impact on the university in the past I don’t know how many years he has been here.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: It’s about 18, I think.

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: There are so many more opportunities on this campus now than when we were here and I think the way he has gone about it has been admirable and anyone that would ask me “What I thought of Cal State?” they would definitely get a big thumbs up and a “yes” you can get a great education there.

Kay: So you are saying to take advantage of the opportunities here?

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: Yes

Kay: Would you like to add anything else to your hopes for the next generation of Cal U women?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: I think they will be a very successful generation and I think the college is helping them in all aspects of life.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: We have an endowed scholarship at the University and before we had that, we did school district scholarships every year. We had a lot of nice kids. We go to the
scholarship dinner every year and we meet a new student every year, well, we had one student we kept for two years and it’s nice to have that relationship that we still have with the university.

57:04

Kay: Finally, what do you believe your legacy is?

Judy McIlvaine Salvatore: I would have to say that of course my daughter is my legacy. She’s a teacher and she’s going to keep it going. I also think like the former group said when you are in that classroom you have the opportunity to influence a whole lot of lives and I think if you are a devoted and patient teacher, you definitely leave a good legacy.

Mildred Warman Kennedy: Both of our children graduated from here, well, my husband and I both graduated from here, and both of our children graduated from here. Our daughter’s a teacher and her oldest daughter right now is planning to be a teacher, so I guess we are carrying on.

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: And I hope that I have touched a few students and that they will be very successful in their life as I know I have.

Kay: Would you like to add anything else?

Theresa Liveratti Hickman: We thank you very much for your time today. We’ve certainly enjoyed talking with you and we certainly are very proud of California and the DZ’s.

Kay: Thank you so much for helping with this project.