



## TRANSCRIPTION COVER SHEET

**Date of Interview:** Month: June Date: 11<sup>th</sup> Year: 2022

**Interviewee(s):** CATHERINE & ELIZABETH KLEIN

**Interviewer(s):** DONALD JOHNSON III

Place & Address of Interview:

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Recordist: [same as interviewer ] \_\_\_\_\_

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This is an oral history interview with **CATHERINE & ELIZABETH KLEIN**. It is being conducted on **JUNE 11<sup>th</sup> 2022** at **DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY** and concerns **Klein sisters' time as students at Rosary College (now Dominican University) Catherine is class of 1957 and Elizabeth is class of 1962**. The interviewer is **DONALD JOHNSON III**. This interview is a part of the **INSTITUTIONAL LEGACY PROJECT**. This interview has been **RELEASED**. Documentation of permissions is included in the **MCGREAL ZOTERO 'INSTITUTIONAL SAGA PROJECT' LIBRARY > ORAL HISTORIES** archival record.

## Catherine & Elizabeth Klein Interview

Sat, Jun 11, 2022 4:38PM • 8:39

### SUMMARY KEYWORDS

1950s, 1960s, study abroad, Fribourg (Switzerland), ocean travel, European travel, octogenarians, French language, Dominican sisters, class reunions

### SPEAKERS

Elizabeth Klein, Donald Johnson III, Catherine Klein

**Donald Johnson III** 00:00

–recording. So before we actually start the interview, can both of you just give me your name, your class year, and today's date, which would be June 11, 2022. This is just for documentation and filing.

**Catherine Klein** 00:16

[inaudible] –for the presentation – in the microphone?

**Donald Johnson III** 00:19

Yep, I need – right into it.

**Catherine Klein** 00:21

Catherine Klein, Catherine with a C, K-L-E-I-N...Should I do it again?

**Donald Johnson III** 00:32

Yes please.

**Catherine Klein 00:33**

Catherine Klein, K-L-E-I-N, Catherine with a C, class of 1957. And today's date is June 11, 2022.

**Donald Johnson III 00:46**

And can you pass that over to Elizabeth, so she can do this too?

**Elizabeth Klein 00:50**

And I'm Elizabeth Klein, but I'm in the class of 1962. And today's date is June 11. Right? And on June 12. Is someone's birthday – my sister.

**Catherine Klein 00:33**

Yes.

**Donald Johnson III 01:06**

All right, perfect. So now that that is done, really the floor is open to you. If you'd like to talk about any stories you two share – if there's anything in particular you want – or anything you want to talk about, any good memories, you can pass the back and forth, just make sure you speak right into the mic. But otherwise, the floor is yours.

**Catherine Klein 01:26**

My name is Catherine Klein, class of 1957.

**Elizabeth Klein 01:32**

And my name is Elizabeth Klein, class of 62.

**Catherine Klein 01:37**

And there were three of us. We had an older sister, who graduated from Rosary, class of 1956. And also we three—the three of us attended study abroad in Fribourg, Switzerland. We had a wonderful time studying and traveling throughout Europe. That program is no longer offered here, unfortunately, for the whole year. But all of us went and got a lot out of it.

**Elizabeth Klein 02:15**

Yeah, they traveled on the way there. Of course, we were on a ship. And not quite like a cruise ship. But it still was across the Atlantic in a ship. And—

**Catherine Klein 02:28**

It was a French line, wasn't it?

**Elizabeth Klein** 02:31

Yours was a French line. Mine was the...Holland American. But, but you met so many people there in those six or seven days. And it was a beginning of meeting new people, new experiences, new lifestyles. And then we – we started in Ireland and visited that on our way to the continent. But I think you stopped – Did you stop in Ireland, Catherine, on your way there?

**Catherine Klein** 03:02

We visited Ireland on our way home after the whole year. We started in Dade County.

**Elizabeth Klein** 03:13

And that put a nice beginning to your – to your year of study and intellectual learning. And that came when we got to S– Fribourg in Switzerland and started learning more French, more culture. More just other ones that we don't, from Illinois, used to and –

**Catherine Klein** 03:42

[inaudible] high school teachers [inaudible] So–

**Elizabeth Klein** 03:46

–it just helped right in there. I could talk – I could speak very well. So I give that benefit – that praise to my instructors from Rosary that I felt very comfortable with the language. But also, I think it helped my students that I could speak from experience of having been here or been there or just having experienced so many different cultures of Europe. And–

**Catherine Klein** 04:20

If you haven't figured it out yet, we're octogenarians. But we do still enjoy coming back to campus. The original Rosary House—it was so beautiful and riddled with the technology that has helped us into the 21st century.

**Elizabeth Klein** 04:40

And the President and – and all kinds of new things that we've heard this morning at the President's speech, but I will say it's nice always to come back and look at the Gothic buildings which we experienced also in Europe. But, you know, I would say again our professors were just so...just...teach—as—as a teacher, I appreciated how they taught us all so well. And that was my reason for coming to Rosary because my older sister had come here and told me how much she got from this school and for her year in Fribourg. And then my sister—second sister, Katherine, came and taught me—talked again about it, how good it was. And so I had to—I had to follow their—their lead.

**Catherine Klein** 05:42

And we had a wonderful day here at the reunion. Five years from now, and that's how you do—in the next decade...you know, [inaudible]. A few of our classmates came, Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters are here...so we'll have to see the rest also. Looking back, we hope you're looking at us and helping us get through the rest of our life.

**Elizabeth Klein** 06:18

Yes...they've got us on a good start towards our 80ths...centuries—decades. Thank you.

**Donald Johnson III** 06:27

Okay, all right. Yeah. Right now, we are currently at six and a half minutes. So we got a lot of good stuff. I know you did touch on this a little bit before. But do you want to just for a close up, maybe each of you go at a time or back and forth? Talk about like how it feels to be back at reunion. Like I know, you've mentioned this before, but maybe just a little tie it together sort of thing. Also, just to make sure...can you put the mic right in front of your mouth, like a couple inches away? Yeah, that's good. So whenever you're ready.

**Catherine Klein** 07:05

Unfortunately, none of our nieces or nephews have come to Rosary, but we do recommend it for anybody who wants a good foundation in their lifestyle...very...happy. And...so, here's the Dominican! We hope to start—the star stays bright.

**Elizabeth Klein** 07:38

—and bright—and brighter. Yes.

**Donald Johnson III** 07:42

Is there anything you'd like to add Elizabeth?

**Elizabeth Klein** 07:45

Well, we do have a great-nephew who is very interested in soccer in high school and loves it. So I noticed that they now have sports, Catherine. Not just girls sports but boys sports. Maybe we can send hi—get him to come here to—to play soccer and he would excel with his grade point average too, I'm sure, yes. Okay.

**Catherine Klein** 08:13

He lives in Arlington Heights. I'm sure he'd be a great asset to the Dominican soccer team and...scholastic standing out.

**Elizabeth Klein** 08:24

Oh yeah, yeah.

**Catherine Klein** 08:26

You guys, you can contribute [inaudible].

**Donald Johnson III** 08:33

That was good. Thank you.