

BROTHER JOSEPH BELANG R
Marist College
Poughkeepsie, NY
For the Marist College Archives and Special Collections
Index – Brother Joseph Belang r

Project Name: Marist Heritage Project

Transcript: Yes

Summary: Yes

Photograph(s): Yes

CD#: 025

Name of Interviewee: Brother Joseph Belang r

Main Topics: Brother Belang r talks about his life at Marist College. He focuses primarily on what it was like to be a Marist Brother living at Marist College, their lifestyle, daily routine, and on his days working for Marist College as a Professor.

Others present?: No

Interviewed by: John Ansley

Interview Date: 25 March 2002

Location of Interview: Archives and Special Collections Reading Room at Marist College

Recorder model and type: Marantz PMD 690

Length of interview: 1 hour, 8 minutes, 17 seconds

Number of disks: 1

Recording medium/format: Microdrive

Brand of disks: IBM 1GB Microdrive

Archival copy made: Burned to a gold alloy CD (MAM) and is held in the Marist College Archives and Special Collections. Saved as a .wav file at the highest resolution possible. CD copy is available for researchers.

Quality of original recording: Good

Restrictions on interview access or use: None

Transcribed or summarized by: Nancy Decker

Brief summary of interview context and recording contents: This interview was held in the Cannavino Library on the Marist College campus.

TAPE INDEX:

<u>Time (00:00.00 ~ in hrs./mins./seconds)</u>	<u>Summary</u>
00:00.01 – 00:05.20	Brother Joseph Belang�r gives a brief history of the Marist Brothers starting with their creation to the present. Their main purpose in life was to provide an education to the marginalized country students who didn't have a lot of money, which is why Marist College has scholarships, so not only the rich can attend.
00:05.21 – 00:12.56	Brother Belang�r talks about when he first came to Marist College. He very quickly runs through his years at Marist, the work that he did there, when he graduated, and what he did after graduation. He taught several summer courses at Marist College in English and French before he came back to work at Marist full-time. During the course of this discussion he also reminisces on how Marist got its name and how he became certified and proficient in French.
00:12.57 – 00:35.47	Brother Belang�r goes into more detail about his time spent at Marist as a student, the schedule they had, the classes they took, and what graduation was like back then. He reflects on several of the early teachers that he had, and on the difference between the credit hours and the grading system of Marist College both then and now. He discusses some of the differences and tensions between the student Brothers and lay students, and his own involvement in theater production. He also describes the success of Marist through those early years, and the success they had when they introduced women to the campus and became a co-ed college.
00:35.48 – 00:52.10	Brother Belang�r discusses what the Marist Brothers "keys" were and how they got that name. He also goes into more detail about the lifestyle of the Brothers living on campus, the gardens, the livestock, the singing, Christmas, etc. He talks about the construction of some of the buildings on campus, especially the ones that he had a hand in building, such as the theater.
00:52.11 – 01:00.44	Brother Belang�r reflects on his days at Marist as a professor. He talks about some of the courses he taught, what his favorite courses to teach were, and his strategy for teaching. In his opinion, the job of a teacher is to teach students how to think, and he spent his career doing just that.

01:00.45 – 01:08.18 Brother Belang r talks about some of the controversial decisions that have been made in Marist history, such as the decision to bury the McCann Cemetery and the effect that it had on some of the Brothers. He also discusses the decision to transfer control of the college from the Marist Brothers to the Board of Trustees. He wraps up the interview by advising future Marist students to use the education that they get at Marist to help make the world a better place.