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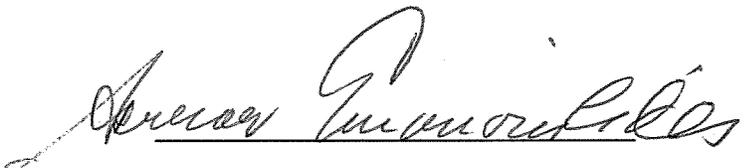
**Akrevoe Emmanouilides
Interviewed by Marcia Tucker and Erica Mosner
October 20, 2007**

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Date: 10/30/2007

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- A. Emmanouilides:* They took me in hand and they treated me like one of their own children and so you can't help but absorb everything that has been around you.
- Erica Mosner:* Absolutely. As you say if you're curious person...
- A. Emmanouilides:* Yes. And so, I'm thinking there must be young girls out there who think oh, maybe I won't, I'll go, not today but... Nevertheless, there could be immigrants' children who think oh, all I can do is work in an office but choose the office you think is safe.
- Erica Mosner:* That's absolutely right. Yes, yes. I was saying that we might need to repeat some of the things that we [are saying] – *[laughing]*
- A. Emmanouilides:* Oh, I can talk forever.
- Marcia Tucker:* I have to apologize, I thought the coffee might be black but it looks like its cream, it's very hot.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Don't worry. Don't worry, girls. Thank you. I just want what I brought for you just for, for kicks. Look.
- Erica Mosner:* Photographs from the Institute campus from your office, oh my goodness.
- A. Emmanouilides:* From outside the common room.
- Erica Mosner:* Oh, my goodness. And we recognize this lamp, these lamps are still around. Oh, these are extraordinary.
- A. Emmanouilides:* And I had red hair.
- Marcia Tucker:* If you don't mind it, we'd be –very happy to scan them, that's excellent.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Oh, yes. You can use everything.
- Maria Tucker:* You really had very red hair.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Very red.
- Erica Mosner:* I took out this photograph.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Yes, I used that in my little exhibit weeks ago. And here, I made myself look at that.
- Erica Mosner:* Where was this [exhibit] that you put on?
- A. Emmanouilides:* The Mathematical Association of America had a local Southern California meeting and previously I had met a young Greek American mathematician. And when I told her my history she said, "Akrevoe, we're going to have this meeting and I think this would be so interesting for young people who don't know about the ENIAC or the Institute computer."

So, I went through my odds and ends and you sent me those photographs and that wonderful book on the seventy-fifth anniversary¹.

Marcia Tucker: Right.

A. Emmanouilides: This is the letter I wrote to Prof. von Neumann accepting the job at the Institute. I think it was thirty dollars a week or something. I don't remember what I was paid but can you imagine coming to this place? I had this one; I took this one from the [book]².

Marcia Tucker: So you're in [it], or, no? No.

A. Emmanouilides: No, I'm not. But I know, and you've also identified, these people. This is [Richard] Melville and [Peter] Panagos, and I think his name was Frank [Fell] or maybe this is Frank here.

Erica Mosner: We would very much like you to write right on it.

Marcia Tucker: Yes. I made a copy.

A. Emmanouilides: If I can, those that I remember. And of course, back here is Goldstine.

Erica Mosner: Yes, some of them we have identified.

A. Emmanouilides: Yes, I think you do but they're in the book that you've identified them.

Marcia Tucker: In the booklet.

Erica Mosner: Okay.

A. Emmanouilides: And this is James Pomerene. This is [Julian] Bigelow.

Marcia Tucker: Which one is – how did you pronounce it, Panagos?

A. Emmanouilides: *Pan-A-Gos*. He was a Greek. Peter Panagos and he was a draftsman.

Erica Mosner: I actually think we maybe had that *misidentified*. Let me, let me look at the – I don't know, are we missing –

Marcia Tucker: Why don't we just focus on that and we'll worry about the misidentification later.

Erica Mosner: Oh, because we have it down with a question mark that this person was –

A. Emmanouilides: No, no, this is Peter.

Erica Mosner: Oh, okay.

¹ Known as the "Blue Book," this 40-page booklet was published in 2005 to mark the 75th anniversary of the Institute's founding.

² Referring to a photo of the staff of the Electronic Computer Project as shown on page 23 of the Blue Book.

- A. Emmanouilides:* Peter Panagos. He lived with his mother in Princeton.
- Erica Mosner:* I'll write that, yes, thank you.
- Marcia Tucker:* And you can erase it right here if you want. Or point it to the other guy.
[Chuckling]
- A. Emmanouilides:* Let's see if there's anybody else. I don't know these women. Oh, let's see. Oh, these two, this may be Phil and.... We don't have an employee list do we?
- Marcia Tucker:* We do.
- A. Emmanouilides:* See, this is Richard Melville.
- Erica Mosner:* It is? So that confirms it, okay.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Yes, that's Richard Melville. And you have Goldstine, you have Pomerene, this is Bigelow. This is Julian Bigelow.
- Erica Mosner:* Oh, in the corner there is Bigelow.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Yes, he was the first who was the chief engineer.
- Marcia Tucker:* Right.
- Erica Mosner:* And it was confirmed that that is Melville.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Yes. Oh, yes.
- Erica Mosner:* Do you think this is about 1953 is that the year you think this was taken?
- A. Emmanouilides:* No, I left in 1949. I was here from 1946 to 1949. So, this is very, uh, uh, first of all you have a lot of machinery here and that was something in the beginning. I was here when the meteorologists came, Jule Charney, Philip [D. Thompson³].
- I'm 79 years old how do I remember all this stuff?
- Marcia Tucker:* Here's one of the few [lists]. You know, it's kind of an underrepresented project [the Electronic Computer Project] in the directory. And not to say that but that's one of the few years where it actually shows up.
- A. Emmanouilides:* See, my name is there. Delsasso, Delsasso, Louise Delsasso was the wife of a man who was associated, I think, with Aberdeen [Proving

³ Philip Duncan Thompson worked on the Electronic Computer Project 9/1948–6/1949.

Ground]. He⁴ was the scientist or someone there and she was his secretary.

Oh, Mary Hunt. There was a Gilbert Hunt and I don't know that she may have been his wife, uh, Gilbert Hunt⁵ who was a meteorologist and who was in that group with Charney, um, Thompson, um, and course, we had many visitors who would come from other places.

Also, from Los Alamos there were, uh, there was a man named Nicholas Metropolis who was a mathematician and Stanley Frankel and they came from Los Alamos. So, of course, it was all very secret. And they would, Nicholas, especially, he must have had a girlfriend in Santa Fe because he would give me – letters would come to him and to the Institute from Post Office Box 1663. That was the atomic bomb address, Post Office Box 1663, Santa Fe, New Mexico. And then he would give me letters to mail to her. Well, or at least, I knew that correspondence was going out.

But he was this wonderfully handsome Greek man with a mustache, just –

Erica Mosner: And what his name again?

A. Emmanouilides: Nicholas, N-I-C-H-O-L-A-S Metropolis, M-E-T-R-O-P-O-L-I-S. And he died. In my documents I have his – I also collect the obituaries of the people that I knew. So, I have a lot of stuff at home that may or may not be interesting for you.

Then there was another man whose name was Stanley Frankel, F-R-A-N-K-E-L and they came together, they, they would come as a pair. So, a fellow name Robert Richtmayer, R-I-C-H-T-M-A-Y-E-R who I think also came from Los Alamos. And then, of course, they were as I say, when only the secretary you don't really, sometimes you, oh, most of the time, I think, you don't know the significance of what is going on behind the closed doors. Would you agree?

Marcia Tucker: That's true.

Erica Mosner: Sometimes you have a sense that there's something important going on but we don't necessarily know the context.

A. Emmanouilides: Exactly. I mean I was typing all these mathematical papers, I don't even know how to do algebra. *[Laughter]* But here I was typing you know, Sigma equals, uh, all those equations without understanding what it was.

⁴ Probably Lewis Delsasso, see:

<https://books.google.com/books?id=00r9waSNv1cC&pg=PA121&lpg=PA121&dq=Lewis+A.+Delsasso&source=bl&ots=zWwg00taE0&sig=56WPpmZvbUF310hBG2FNejEH2No&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwj2zoPw3LrbAhVEnIkKHRU7Be0Q6AEITjAJ#v=onepage&q=Lewis%20A.%20Delsasso&f=false>

⁵ Gilbert A. Hunt was a Member in the School of Mathematics (9/1947–6/1949 and 9/1957–6/1958) and worked on the ECP 9/1948–6/1949.

But they were proofread. And I typed that paper, "Planning and Coding of Problems for an Electronic Computing Instrument."

And Christie [Auction House] was selling for at least, \$20,000.00. Do you have that?

Marcia Tucker: Yes.

A. Emmanouilides: Good. Because I think from what I understand, very few were duplicated.

Marcia Tucker: We recently received other copies of it, some other things as well. So yes, we have, I think, working on two full sets, which is nice.

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, it's wonderful.

Marcia Tucker: If I may just go back a little.

[Crosstalk] If you wouldn't mind just describing again, you already mentioned the years, um, you mentioned that Professor von Neumann was the one who hired you so maybe you could describe a little bit more that whole process and where you came from before you came to the Institute.

A. Emmanouilides: Sure. I graduated from high school in Philadelphia in June of 1945. The war was just coming to an end and my counselor with the William Penn High School for Girls sent me to the Moore School of Electrical Engineering because they needed a secretary. And our high school trained young girls to be good secretaries.

So, uh, I barely knew where the University was. I grew up in Brewerytown in Philadelphia. Both of my parents were immigrants, my father from a Greek island and my mother from Turkey. And I was the eldest of three children and did not speak English when I went to school.

So I went out, the streetcar went out to the Moore School, climbed to the second floor where I met Captain Herman Goldstine and his wife, Adele, both were mathematicians, but I didn't know anything about that. And for some reason they hired me. Um, I, they may have been desperate or, or maybe the other applicants didn't have red hair as – whatever the reason.

Nevertheless, I, uh, went to work. We shared an office. I remember I had a yellow pine desk with an Underwood typewriter that would, you'd lift it and pull it out. And that was the beginning of a life changing experience because I was, um, exposed to a world that I had no way of knowing existed. This world of mathematics, this world of intellect, this world of engineers, and it was a world of people who were willing to take, as I say, a naïve, young girl and teach her. Because I was very curious I would ask them questions, what is a tra – no, no transistors, what is a vacuum tube, what is an oscilloscope, all the things that they were working with.

And the Goldstines, especially, were so kind to me. The first Christmas we were there, they gave me a copy of *Madame Bovary* and I still have it.

Marcia Tucker: Oh, wonderful.

A. Emmanouilides: And they would invite me to their house for dinner even though my family was in North Philadelphia. But when the ENIAC was completed and was to be handed over to the government on February the 14, 1946, they, Professor, I mean Captain, Goldstine – and that's in all the literature how he met John von Neumann on the train tracks of the train station going to Aberdeen. It's in all, all the biographies.

Um, but they invited me to go along as their secretary. And for a year I commuted 'cause I, I was 17-years old. You know a, cloistered Greek family. And every morning I took the train from North Philadelphia station and came to Princeton Junction, took the Dinky to Princeton.

And a Mr. Harris would come to meet me. Mr. Harris drove the Institute station wagon. He was a little, a white-haired man and he would drive those of us who commuted to the Institute. Of course, none of this was there it was just that white building. And we did not have a computer building either because in the beginning they put us down in the basement in the circular hallway.

Marcia Tucker: Okay.

A. Emmanouilides: Huh, isn't there a circular hallway with little offices over it?

Marcia Tucker: Absolutely. And how did the other folks feel about that because we know that there's always been space issues and –

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, I don't know and perhaps then there was more space. I wouldn't know. But, from what I have read, um, the Institute um, what's the word I'm trying to think of – establishment, for want of a better word, thought that if you built a computer it was going to make a lot of noise, it was going to be messy – who knew what was going to happen. It wasn't this idealistic, esoteric, um, um, style that the tradition had here.

So, they built us that little brick building across the way. And, uh, each of the engineers they paired, two engineers shared an office. I had an office of my own next to Herman Goldstine's office, which was a corner office.

And I had a typewriter but when it was found that it would be necessary to type all these reports and equations they bought a machine called a Varityper. And, and it's a big, heavy metal machine and it worked with two semi-circular disks and you would transfer, by hand, if you were going from say English to Greek letters. Do, do you know that machine?

Marcia Tucker: I am familiar with it.

A. Emmanouilides: You're familiar with it, yes. And you would twist all this so you can imagine how painstaking it was to type any of these reports or any of these planning and coding things. But I learned to do it.

Marcia Tucker: Mixing Roman and Greek letters continually changing the –

A. Emmanouilides: Yes, exactly. And also, I didn't know what I was typing – I recognized, I think I've written about that, I recognized the letters, obviously, I could read the Greek letters, but I didn't know what they meant in this context.

So, I stayed, um, and this was what I imagine may have been one of the peaks of the Institute. Of course, Professor Einstein was there; we would see him come to work every day. All of those mathematicians, Morse, Veblen, Deane Montgomery, and of course Professor von Neumann.

But in addition to that, uh, I'll never forget the day – the cafeteria, you know, used to be up on the fourth floor and the floor was cushioned so it wouldn't make noise. So, when you walked it didn't bother the library below. Did you know that?

Marcia Tucker: I didn't know that.

A. Emmanouilides: This is trivia.

Marcia Tucker: So was there a flooring...

A. Emmanouilides: No it was, it was like a linoleum but it was laid, I think, with some sort of cushion. So, it was very gentle to walk in the cafeteria. And the people who ran the – I can't believe I remember this – but the lady who ran it was, her name was Mrs. Steele, and she made the most wonderful rhubarb pies. And of course, it was a cafeteria and the day I was in line, it was announced that T. S. Eliot had won the Nobel Prize. He came in carrying his tray, served himself, and went to a table where his colleagues were sitting and they all in unison stood up.

Marcia Tucker: What a nice thing to witness.

A. Emmanouilides: To witness, exactly. Dirac was here and Niels Bohr, uh, would come and visit. And, uh, the names, uh, that, that are in – really, the miracles of the 20th century were right here at that time. And of course, uh, Professor Oppenheimer, Dr. Oppenheimer who came after this.

And I don't have it with me, dear; where's my little red folder. Oh, on the back on the photograph, this one.

Marcia Tucker: Yes.

A. Emmanouilides: I have an invitation to the von Neumanns.

Marcia Tucker: Oh, that's marvelous. If I may scan that as well, that's marvelous.

A. Emmanouilides: As I say, I don't know that these things are significant but they – and, uh, at that party –

Marcia Tucker: Actually, that is, because we don't have anything like that in the archives.

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, everything is very serious. And, um, this party I remember I wore, I had this most lovely black voile, off the shoulder dress. It was the only occasion I had to wear it, and I got to dance with Robert Oppenheimer.

Erica Mosner: Was he a good dancer?

A. Emmanouilides: I imagine. I don't remember. I wish I remembered more.

Marcia Tucker: Professor von Neumann had a reputation for being a very good partier as well as brilliant on every other aspect. So do you, did you go to other parties?

A. Emmanouilides: I think that was the only party that I was invited to. But one of his idiosyncrasies was – and I read this in one of his bios was that he always looked at women's ankles.

Erica Mosner: It was part of an approval process so to be –

A. Emmanouilides: I don't know. I don't know but that's where his eyes would lead. And you know, women, women noticed it.

Marcia Tucker: That's very interesting.

A. Emmanouilides: No, he always wore a tie, was always well dressed because he came from wealthy family, he came from a bankers family. And, uh, and his wife, Clary, uh, we knew here as well. And, and one time they needed a babysitter and I went and stayed with their daughter, Marina.

Erica Mosner: Oh, you did.

Marcia Tucker: She's now a board of trustee member.

A. Emmanouilides: Is she?

Marcia Tucker: Yes.

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, she won't remember me.

Marcia Tucker: She's as sharp as her dad, she might.

A. Emmanouilides: Is she? She's in economics, isn't she?

Marcia Tucker: Yes.

A. Emmanouilides: I don't know that I remember seeing her but I remember that they were going someplace and, uh, they invited or asked if I could babysit.

And I also, that house that we just passed um, that was a great experience as well because, uh, Solomon Bochner who certainly came to

the Institute a great deal, um, was going to Harvard for sabbatical and they had only one child and his wife's name was Naomi.

And, he came to Dr. Goldstine and they arranged, they asked if I would like to live there with them, live with the mother and the daughter so she would have some company and I could act as a babysitter when she needed to go out. And, fortunately, that was a great transition from commuting from Philadelphia every day because I was in a safe environment; I was going to be living in a lovely house with a responsible family.

So the ties were broken, which I think is, you know, at 18 or so today girls all leave home but we didn't, young women didn't do that so much. And so I got to live with the Bochners for possibly six months. But Mrs. Bochner was another mentor and she took me in hand and taught me about classical music and Impressionist paintings and gave me books to read, and uh, encouraged me to go to Rutgers on the bus. Take the bus and go to Rutgers. And I just took maybe an English class but, um, at least I was exposed to education.

Erica Mosner: And Bochner, spell.

A. Emmanouilides: B-O-C-H-N-E-R and his first name was Salomon, S-A-L – and he's on your, I'm sure he's on your list some place.

Marcia Tucker: This brings me to another question, the project you were involved with it was really at some point became very, uh, sort of an inter-institutional project with Princeton University. So how much did those folks coming over how much did you, were you aware of their participation?

A. Emmanouilides: I think I was not aware of it because perhaps did that, did that begin early in the project?

Marcia Tucker: I think it was toward the end when they were looking for reasons to sort of keep it running.

A. Emmanouilides: As I say, I left in 1949 and from what I have read, uh, it was in the '50s when much of this work was done so I really was not aware of that. We certainly had people from Princeton coming, I would guess. But as I said, only when you're, when you're sitting there typing you're not, maybe the names register but you're not necessarily wise or smart enough to know the intricacies of what these people were doing.

But we met, as I say, one of, one of the greatest things that happened to us was this Professor von Neumann had an assistant whose name was John Kemeny. Do you know who John was?

Marcia Tucker: I've seen the name.

A. Emmanouilides: Okay. John Kemeny was apparently one of the most brilliant graduate students Princeton had ever had and he was studying symbolic logic. And

I was living with a girl whose name was Judy Braude who was Oskar Morgenstern's assistant. And she was the smartest girl graduate from New York. Some place we met maybe at lunch at the Institute and she needed a roommate. So, we became roommates at 345 Nassau Street. We lived over a garage down there. If I can go down there, I'm going to take a picture.

But we lived over the garage down there and Judy knew a lot of the graduates and so she met John Kemeny who was Albert Einstein's assistant, who ultimately went on and became president of Dartmouth. That's how we know him. And was, um, apparently, I mean what he did for Dartmouth was he became a computer genius. But he was a genius in many ways. And he used to take me in his little Ford and we would go to New Brunswick and see European films.

Erica Mosner: That's wonderful. Was in this in the old movie theater on Albany Street.

A. Emmanouilides: I suppose. And you meet people like this and you don't know where they're – what's going to happen.

Marcia Tucker: That's right.

I have a very curious question. Around here there are still people who get nicknames and people even have nicknames for projects and can you recall any such thing for the –

A. Emmanouilides: Well, Johnny, I recall, for Professor von Neumann, I mean his peers called him Johnny. No, I don't know, no. I, I can't remember any of those.

Oh, let me tell you the eggnog story.

Marcia Tucker: I'd love to hear that.

A. Emmanouilides: One Christmas, I don't know what Christmas it was, Professor, uh, Dr. Aydelotte and Mrs. Aydelotte invited the Institute secretaries to their home for Christmas, for Christmas tea. And, I guess Mr. Harris took us up to Olden Manor and oh, that beautiful house. It was decorated for Christmas with holly and the usual trimming and we had eggnog and fruitcake and all those lovely things.

And, we were sitting around and someone knocked on the door and Professor Einstein and Mr. **Koss** came in. And he, apparently, Dr. Aydelotte invited them just as a treat and, um, Professor Einstein sat in a wingback chair by the fire.

And I don't remember a thing that he said except I'm sure the other women who were older and more sophisticated than I, you know, they may have asked him about his music or – but he, he certainly had, it was a real conversation.

But that, I think, that image, you know, of this man, the most, probably the most wonderful, most recognizable man in the world was, you know, was, uh, an awesome experience for all of us, especially for me.

Marcia Tucker: We have this image of him being very generous as well and not – some, certain people are more approachable than others even now but [we] have this image of him as being more approachable because of his generosity of spirit.

A. Emmanouilides: Well, I wrote this and, this, a friend of mine, um, this was in Greece. No, these are two Greek colleagues of my husband's sister. They were visiting California and his subject was history of science. And I told her about this and when they left, they sent me the book *Who Got Einstein's Office*, that wonderful, wonderful book and it's on my shelf.

But I wrote this: *one morning Professor von Neumann sent me on a hurried errand to the director's office at the other end of the first floor hall. I dashed out and ran directly into Professor Einstein who smiled and accepted my profuse apology.* I was writing a thank you note to them for the book.

I'm sorry that I'm sort of dragging on with all this.

Marcia Tucker: Not at all.

Erica Mosner: No, no, we're just being quiet because we want you to be the focus but, uh, no, these are all fascinating.

A. Emmanouilides: Let me see what else I can think of that might be of interest.

Marcia Tucker: I do have a question though.

A. Emmanouilides: Yes, yes.

Marcia Tucker: We also have an interesting view of the ECP staff versus, I mean they put you over there in that far building.

A. Emmanouilides: Yes.

Marcia Tucker: How were the relationships between the ECP staff and the other staff? Did, did they mingle pretty freely or?

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, for example, um, we, I think, I don't know how many of them did they probably were working very hard but I certainly walked over and had tea. And I remember the beautiful flowers that were the wildflowers and the little forget-me-nots and walking back into the Institute woods and finding violets. I was a city girl and to find this wonderful nature around here was just lovely.

I don't know, uh, how close the relationships were. My guess is somebody like Bigelow who I understand, did he become a member, yes.

And when I came in 2003 he was still here, he was still living, and I am so sorry that I didn't insist that I go see him again because apparently he died soon afterwards.

Who else stayed on do you know?

Marcia Tucker: There was at least one other and probably in that book.

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, yes.

Marcia Tucker: It seems like we're into the '60s, that's a good time to look.

A. Emmanouilides: I did an obituary board of von Neumann and Goldstine and this was Goldstine and his wife. This was, of course your grounds. And these are obituaries that I have found in, one here. And the stamps, of course, the von Neumann stamps.

Marcia Tucker: Wonderful. A beautiful display that you put together.

A. Emmanouilides: Do you think it's okay?

Marcia Tucker: Oh, yes.

Erica Mosner: Absolutely.

A. Emmanouilides: And, um, oh, see, here's the Institute for Advanced Study, so I used this photograph plus this one. And this one that you sent me. And this photograph – I took that photograph of the building. And then that's your exhibit the one you had here in 2003.

Erica Mosner: In the display cases, okay.

A. Emmanouilides: And there's the letter with my initials on it.

Marcia Tucker: That's wonderful.

Erica Mosner: I've only seen Julian Bigelow in here but I'm sure there were others.

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, yes. Maybe not, they may not have been, they were engineers and perhaps they weren't of the, uh, caliber, not *caliber*, that's the wrong word... of the –

Marcia Tucker: They were too hands on. *[Chuckling]*

A. Emmanouilides: Or pure, they weren't pure enough.

Marcia Tucker: I don't know.

Erica Mosner: That's well, that's well said, yes.

- Marcia Tucker:* Amazingly, it's one of the projects that we are best known for, you know. And when you think about the early computers, we're trying to, in terms of bringing out the fact of the von Neumann architecture and it's such an important part of the history of the Institute.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Of course. Do these, uh, do they, um, um, still have trouble acknowledging the importance of the [Electronic Computer Project] –
- Marcia Tucker:* No, not here. Oh no, not at all.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Okay. No, because you have it on the grounds.
- Marcia Tucker:* It's hard enough to get folks to understand we're not part of Princeton University is the main thing.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Oh, yes. Of course, all the time.
- Erica Mosner:* Was that even so in your time?
- A. Emmanouilides:* I think so. I think so.
- Marcia Tucker:* People don't know the place, would you say?
- A. Emmanouilides:* Well, I'm, I'm constantly describing it and, uh, uh, telling them the differentiation and also, the history. I've given them history of Mrs. Fuld and Mr. Bamberger. And that course, is a fascinating thing. And what you've done in your 75th anniversary book is, is lovely. And Flexner, the importance of Abraham Flexner who, who also, and I'm sure you're aware changed American medical schools.
- Marcia Tucker:* Yes, very much so.
- A. Emmanouilides:* My husband's a physician. He's an academic physician and so the Flexner report was very important.
- Marcia Tucker:* Erica came up with a question I think might be very useful to ask right now about the sense of urgency that they may have felt or were under sort of this deadline to try to get this computer completed for use for other purposes. Did you have any sense of them trying –
- A. Emmanouilides:* I'm afraid I didn't. My guess is that, um, and this is only based on what I have read and the books that I've collected, that there was some urgency probably about the hydrogen bomb and, and of, uh, von Neumann going back and forth to Los Alamos. But that's not firsthand knowledge by any means.
- Marcia Tucker:* Um there were some more questions. This place has always been known for international representation you've got folks from everywhere. And with your background did, did you have any sense at the time of the community and?

A. *Emmanouilides*: One thing – it also shows how naïve a, a young girl can be. Um, at the time, it must, it must have been, well someplace in there, '47 or '48, there was a Greek professor here whose name was Markellos Mitsos, that's it. What a name. Markellos Mitsos and he was in the School of Archeology⁶. Greeks are very – how can I say that? When you meet another Greek you, you should make a connection. First of all, because there are only, you know, nine million in Greece and they're scattered all over the world. But we have a common language, all of that.

Probably he was some very important professor but this young girl goes up to him, you know, [*speaking Greek*], in Greek and I invited him to our house for dinner, to my mother's house and he came.

Marcia Tucker: Oh, that's so wonderful.

A. *Emmanouilides*: So, um, I guess I was so naïve that I had no awareness of who he might be. And do you know, girls, I think that's the best way to approach people.

Marcia Tucker: Yes.

A. *Emmanouilides*: Because if we go around always in awe we maybe lose the humanity that connects people.

Marcia Tucker: But also you're alienating them with the awe. And I think he saw the charm and...

A. *Emmanouilides*: Yes, he came and it was, you know, my mother cooked a nice Greek dinner.

Let me see if there were any others that, um, I know there were a lot of Indians, from India. There was a man named Chandrasekharan⁷ and, uh, there were – let me see. Yes, I can even see them, one of them was rather small. I don't remember what his name was but [he was] small in size and delicate.

Who else was here then as far as international? I'm sure there were many. And certainly, my guess is that, um, through the School of Classical Studies you had a lot of uh, Greek visitors. I'm a book collector and I was in Athens, we go to Greece, quite often because all of my husband's family is there and I start with the Greek bookstores. And this one little bookstore, one of those minuscule, where the books go from floor to ceiling.

And um, this man had a few English books and I found a book by a man who had been here whose name was Wace and it was *Trodding*

⁶ Márkellos Th. Mitsòs was a Member in the School of Historical Studies on three occasions: (9/1946–6/1947, 9/1963–6/1964 and 9/1967–6/1969)

⁷ Komaravolu Chandrasekharan was a Member in the School of Mathematics from 1946 to 1949 and subsequently (10/1961–11/1961 Fall). He was a Visitor on two occasions (5/1955–9/1955 and 8/1950–10/1950).

*Untrodden in Greece*⁸. A lovely gem of a book about his walking through Greece but I recognized his name from here.

And, of course, Homer Thompson, I don't think he's still living, is he? No. He was at the School of Classical Studies⁹. And Paul Clement,¹⁰ that's a name I remember. Tall, elegant man.

This is like catharsis. How strange.

But I have to tell you though, you see, there are very few people you can share this kind of thing with because, as you said, they don't even know what you're talking about. They really don't. And I think it must be very difficult for them to conceive of a place like this. Has that been your experience?

Erica Mosner: Oh yes, yes. It's because of its unique character and structure. Even when you think somebody has grasped what you've described, you realize that maybe not quite registered.

A. Emmanouilides: It's all so unrealistic, I mean from our world today – where everything is so pragmatic and business-orientated.

Marcia Tucker: Purpose-oriented too, it has to have some purpose. And when you say oh, this is for research and [to] let people do what they want to do; its an alien environment.

A. Emmanouilides: And it's still done that way? Where they pay you? They give them a stipend to come –

Marcia Tucker: They're allowed to do whatever they want. But they do have to write up a report at the end. Just not so much saying I did this, that, and the other thing, but even the facilities what they, how they experienced it.

A. Emmanouilides: And is it generally a year?

Marcia Tucker: Well, it depends on the school, some schools, yes. Social Science absolutely a year, uh, Historical Studies has a lot of folks who come for the first term and then leave, and we have another group in the second term.

A. Emmanouilides: And how do they apply?

⁸ *Greece Untrodden* by Alan J.B. Wace, published by Mrs Alan Wace, Athens, 1964. Wace was a Member in the School of Historical Studies (9/1952–6/1954; 1/1951–6/1951 Spring; and 9/1948–12/1948 Fall).

⁹ Homer Thompson (1906-2000) was on the faculty of the School of Historical Studies 9/1947–6/1977 and emeritus 7/1977–5/2000.

¹⁰ Paul A. Clement was a Member in the School of Historical Studies on four occasions (9/1938–6/1949; 9/1952–12/1952 Fall; 9/1955–9/1956; and 9/1956–12/1956 Fall.)

- Marcia Tucker:* There's online application now and they still, I think, can send in applications to it.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Mm-hmm. I think at one time, and I may be wrong, but maybe in the early years it was – almost by invitation.
- Marcia Tucker:* Yes.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Is that right?
- Marcia Tucker:* They still invite people too, from my understanding, although, yes. And people still ask, who had long-standing relationships with the Institute. And they actually have rules in some schools about how often they can come back. It's a good sign, I think.
- A. Emmanouilides:* And the, the endowment continues to be...
- Marcia Tucker:* They've been building the endowment.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Do people make donations?
- Marcia Tucker:* Oh, they sure do. [*Chuckling*] Yes, they've got more staff to do that too, that's for sure.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Oh, you have development people to do that.
- Marcia Tucker:* Oh, we sure do.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Oh, I gather at one time that wasn't necessary or was it?
- Marcia Tucker:* They were a little more laid back about the endowment let's put it that way. Would you say that's an accurate way?
- Erica Mosner:* Absolutely.
- Marcia Tucker:* They realized they needed to do it for the health of the Institute, you can't just assume it's going to be there.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Sure.
- Erica Mosner:* And then, I think, there were also new and bigger projects that were undertaken, expanding on the original mission and very much in keeping with the original mission but now with biology.
- A. Emmanouilides:* That's interesting, biology, that you have here. What sort of research do they do in biology?
- Marcia Tucker:* A lot of work on cancer but again, very theoretical. It really depends on the – but they're all over the place but there, there was a little focus group on cancer that recently had a statewide symposium here or some such thing.

- A. Emmanouilides:* That's certainly, um, removed from what had been, what been before but perhaps you have to do it because so much of science is interrelated.
- Marcia Tucker:* It's they, they folded the biology folks into natural science, which makes sense in many ways.
- Erica Mosner:* I was just going to ask just to make sure that I understood. So when you first came, you had an office in the basement of Fuld and then you moved into the new building.
- A. Emmanouilides:* No, no, no. When the building, the building was built there. Oh, and then I, after they got me this Varsity the, um, these nice men who were in the shop built me a table. It's probably down in somebody's basement. It was a table. It was a kind of boomerang shaped and it looked like a gamma so that the typewriter could be on one corner and then the text would be right nearby so that I could see. And then it seems to me I had a machine that I could stamp and [*chuckle*] I haven't thought of this for a hundred years. I think so, so that I could read the manuscript because all of this was done by hand, their manuscripts. Who knows where those manuscripts are. Do we have any of these manuscripts? You know, the –
- Marcia Tucker:* There may be but I, I haven't seen them. Have you seen any?
- A. Emmanouilides:* That would be fascinating to see if you could find say the written manuscript for "Planning and Coding." Look in the basements, go down there.
- Marcia Tucker:* While we're talking about the reports, Erica also came up with a question about the famous bitmap image. Are you aware of that at all? I don't have an example of it. It, it's one of the first known bitmap representations.
- A. Emmanouilides:* What does a bitmap do?
- Marcia Tucker:* See, I'm not going to explain it so well.
- Erica Mosner:* Well, it's a computer screen, the equivalent of a computer screen so that it generates data input into, you know, something that looks like typewriter or something like that comes up you actually can see an image on the screen.
- Marcia Tucker:* And I think it was the representation was "I A S," isn't that correct?
- Erica Mosner:* I think that's right. Yes.
- Marcia Tucker:* So beyond that, I don't know very much. And we have it represented in the reports but again, looking for the original we don't know where that went.
- A. Emmanouilides:* That's, that's, um, you know, I don't even know what it means, I'm sorry.

Marcia Tucker: No, that's all right, that's all right. So, you were really in the, um, the conceptual phase.

A. Emmanouilides: Yes, we were very early. As I say, from '46 to '49 and, um, in retrospect, I realize how stupid it was of me not to stay. I don't know why I thought I ought to go back to Philadelphia, um, or whether I thought I gone as far as I could go. I don't know it, but I did, I went back to Philadelphia. I got a job there. I got married, had a baby. My husband ran off and then I re-married and we had four children in a very – I was very fortunate.

But as I say, I wish I had been smart enough just to stay there.

Erica Mosner: Well, people move on.

Marcia Tucker: That's life.

A. Emmanouilides: I'm sure you moved on too, didn't you?

Marcia Tucker: Oh, absolutely.

A. Emmanouilides: And you went up in that each time.

[Audio break 00:47:22- 00:47:34]

A. Emmanouilides: Yes, that's what it is. It's a Varitypewriter, you can see the disks. You can see it right here, you see it's circular? So, there's one on each side and, and this is my little gamma-shaped table. And this dress, oh, I loved this dress. It was dark green and it had rosebuds on it and I bought it down in Palmer's Square. There used to be a lovely dress shop.

Marcia Tucker: And what's curious is the IBM had the same kind of idea where you would pop out one, put another one in, and then go with characters.

A. Emmanouilides: Of course, you know, the Selectrics were balls.

Marcia Tucker: Yes. No, no, but there was –

[Crosstalk] Okay, you're right, the Selectric had balls, and there was another we had also with, with the disk.

A. Emmanouilides: Oh. Yes. So, this may be the predecessor.

Marcia Tucker: I'm sure they used it in their design, absolutely.

Erica Mosner: This photo would have been taken in the new ECP building.

A. Emmanouilides: Oh yes, this one uh-huh. And this is, of course, outside the common room. And this one is just wonderful because it shows the three windows that are still there.

Erica Mosner: And your beautiful red hair very much in that.

- A. Emmanouilides:* Yes, it was a navy blue dress.
- Marcia Tucker:* And it shows almost a leisure image that we don't have so much. I mean they just recently put tables out. So they really did sort of lounge around outside.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Look you can see it had an umbrella.
- Marcia Tucker:* Yes, it's wonderful.
- A. Emmanouilides:* And this was, this had to be 1949 toward the end, because I remember when I had that dress. *[Chuckling]* And the shoes.
- Marcia Tucker:* If you wouldn't mind commenting also on, on the effects of the war, post war – we have early letters having to do with the ECP and tea and sugar rationing and it's fascinating. Do you have any recollections of that?
- A. Emmanouilides:* Let's see, I was, sure, we did have, I guess, sugar ration. We didn't, in our family, we didn't have an automobile – we just used public transportation. We lived in Philadelphia we lived in a row house with porches and my father had a little restaurant, uh, within eight or nine blocks of where we lived, and he walked to his work. Yes, I'm sure we must have had sugar rationing.
- I remember when I was in high school they wanted us to do what they called Victory Gardening work to help in the war effort. And a friend and I decided that was going to be our gesture for the war and we got up at some ungodly hour and they took us to a carrot farm and we dug carrots – I'd forgotten that. We dug carrots. I still have the certificate that says we contributed to the war effort.
- Marcia Tucker:* That's useful. Great.
- Erica Mosner:* So then at the Institute though you didn't necessarily have a feeling of [deprivation] –
- A. Emmanouilides:* I didn't. No, because, I think, you see the war was over by then it was 1946; the war was over in 1945. Goldstine was out of uniform. Perhaps there may have been veterans, I really don't know.
- Marcia Tucker:* Well, according to what we have in the archives it was a great relief at the end of all that, because they were straining, definitely, with space problems. They wanted to add on but you couldn't build because of the war.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Oh here. Yes, yes.
- Marcia Tucker:* Yes. And ended up getting some surplus, um –
- A. Emmanouilides:* Quonset huts?

- Marcia Tucker:* Yes. Were you around when they bought those?
- A. Emmanouilides:* No, I don't remember them.
- Marcia Tucker:* Very funny. People were living in them until recently.
- A. Emmanouilides:* No photographs of that?
- Marcia Tucker:* I don't know why people don't photograph these things, they're so curious.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Yes. Uh, when I was here with George Dyson he took me downstairs and he showed me these long rows of filing cabinets down there. Have they all been opened up?
- Marcia Tucker:* Yes, thankfully, we've gotten most of the math, you're talking about the School of Math files,
- A. Emmanouilides:* I think so, what, what's under there, yes.
- Marcia Tucker:* They've been brought here, thankfully, for preservation purposes.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Are there any, uh, as I say, ECP files, any of that stuff?
- Marcia Tucker:* We found some over in West Building. They had, I think, when they closed the building for renovation somebody threw them all in a box. So, we did save them because they were all "well, keep these, throw these away" and they called me, we brought them over. They were full of grime.
- They even had the ledgers. We had the ledgers but we had to take them out of their binder because the leather was disintegrating. But we did keep all of that including carbons and whatnot too.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Yes. They'd be really interesting to see, what's down there. I told George, I said George, when you write your book I'll come to Philadelphia and I can come and help you. Which would be – what is he doing? Do you know?
- Marcia Tucker:* I don't know, I haven't heard anything about him but I will e-mail him and tell him we've spoken.
- A. Emmanouilides:* Oh, please do. Sure. In fact, my daughter went up – she sails and she went up to Bellingham with a friend and he would very nicely show them around, which was a nice thing to do.
- Marcia Tucker:* Nice, very nice.
- You [addressing Erica] had a question also about – and you've covered this somewhat, um, at least, your sense of Professor von Neumann's

participation in the daily routine of the project and how often was he here? I know he was dragged off to Washington and to other places.

A. Emmanouilides: I think in the beginning I remember actually, I worked in his office for a while uh, because we, I shared the little entry. Do you know where his office was?

Marcia Tucker: No.

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, we can walk over and I'll show you.

You know where that is. It was just off the entrance to the right. And there was a little office for the secretary and I think they, I had a small desk there. There was another secretary, uh, other than Louise Delsasso, whose name was Clare Gray, and she's on one of those lists. And then she met a man from Bolivia and went and married him and went off to Bolivia. She lived in Pennington.

Marcia Tucker: She met him here?

A. Emmanouilides: Well, I think in some place.

Marcia Tucker: Someone around here, okay.

A. Emmanouilides: Or maybe he was a student or something. And she then went off to Bolivia. And then, I, I, I did work in his office for a while there probably because we didn't have space in the basement. I don't know how long it was. I can't remember how long. But, I know that I would get manuscripts or letters and type those and find my initials on it. A.K.

Erica Mosner: So when you moved over to the ECP building did you see him less often then or was his main office was here?

A. Emmanouilides: No, his main office was, obviously, in Fuld Hall and I think, I'm sure Goldstine came back and forth. I think there was a lot of interchange with them together with them. My guess is that he's pretty much hands on. I'm just guessing this, so you really can't, we can't confirm all this, but my guess is that, just thinking of what we know of him, that he, uh, I would think, want to have been involved and want his influence. I'm just guessing this stuff, girls, simply because uh, and since it was his project.

Marcia Tucker: Yes, absolutely. Actually, without his voice it wouldn't have been here.

A. Emmanouilides: No, of course not. Because, first of all, of who he was and his belief in this um, this magic, these magic machines. Can you think, can you think what it's done to our world?

Erica Mosner: Huge change.

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, when I was at the ENIAC yesterday, um, this – he's the curator of this mini museum. It has a couple of panels of the ENIAC and it's in a glass

case. And then you go around the back and see a panel of vacuum tubes. And I said something to him about oh, I think I'm one of the few survivors of that era. And he said well, there may be one or two left. How did he put it, he said we're waiting for them. It was sort of macabre but it sounded as if they're waiting for these people to go so that um, some of the history, uh, can be ascertained about the ENIAC. Who was the inventor of the ENIAC. Because there was a man named [John] Atanasoff who had the idea for a computer but this fellow yesterday said it wasn't exactly a computer it was a calculator. So there seems to be some uh, conflict about those.

Marcia Tucker: It's a strange comment.

A. Emmanouilides: It was strange. I found it very strange. He said there's only one left who, who name shall be going unmentioned. It was very bizarre that he should say that to me.

Erica Mosner: And where was this?

A. Emmanouilides: Moore School, at the Moore School where the ENIAC, where the ENIAC was built, the predecessor. Okay, and you have all that too, I'm sure.

Marcia Tucker: Yes. Oh, there was one other [question]. Again, it might have been something you weren't aware of but, um, we find in the papers we have that Professor von Neumann was very strongly in favor of keeping the patents open so to speak so that the work on the computer could continue for academic intellectual purposes, scientific purposes. And he was very worried about someone getting a commercial patent on it and tying it up.

A. Emmanouilides: I don't know. I don't know and, and I've not read about that. Of course, the, uh, Eckert-Mauchly, I think that was a big tragedy because I think they did not insure their patents. There's a book called the *ENIAC Triumph and Tragedies*¹¹, because Mauchly¹² ultimately committed suicide. Eckert¹³ lived a long time but always I, as I say, from my own reading, um, always felt that they had been cheated in a sense.

Now, was this machine never patented then?

Marcia Tucker: No, I think they actually decided to, to put their stake in so that they could dictate which way it goes and then it wouldn't fall into commercial hands because you know how these things are when they get commercialized. You lose the ability to work on anything.

A. Emmanouilides: So did it just stop then here once –

¹¹ *ENIAC: The Triumphs and Tragedies of the World's First Computer* by Scott McCartney.

¹² John William Mauchly (1907-1980)

¹³ J. Presper Eckert (1919-1995)

Marcia Tucker: No, I think the people continued on with it.

A. Emmanouilides: I mean they used it to work on. They worked on it, but they didn't – no big company came in and –

Marcia Tucker: No. Actually, they, um, toward the end I think Princeton University came in they did the meteorological work and then – now when you were here were they doing the meteorological work? They were doing quite a bit.

A. Emmanouilides: Yes. As I said, there was Jule Charney and this – he was an army officer – his name was Philip Duncan Thompson, I remember. And he was very tall and slender and kind of snobbish. He came from some elegant community in New York on the Hudson, and there was a kind of an arrogance about him.

And Panofsky, Hans Panofsky¹⁴ was a part of that and then a man named **Rospey** would come who was with Scripps, I believe, Scripps Oceanographic Institute in La Jolla. And this fellow Gilbert Hunt also, they were, um, they were worked in there.

Erica Mosner: It sounds like you really look back on your experience here fondly that it was a most –

A. Emmanouilides: Not only fondly but as I said, it was a life changing experience because, uh, when, when you come from very simple, simple beginnings where your parents are, uh, my parents didn't know what I was doing. They had no concept of what I was doing and there was no point in explaining it to them, you know.

But, um, it changed my life because [*sighing*] it made me aware of a world that I never would have found any other way. And of course, when you find a world like this it makes you restless, doesn't it?

Marcia Tucker: It does.

A. Emmanouilides: It makes you restless and it makes you, not necessarily dissatisfied with what you have but, um, I always tell my children, you know they say “well, you know, we should have done this, we should have done such and such a thing.” And I kind of say to them: very often it's people who have been hungry, and I don't mean, you know, physically hungry where you don't have enough food, but maybe the environment you grew up in was less than satisfactory. I mean our kids grew up in a suburb, typical California, and maybe that keeps you from... Because you're secure you don't necessarily push as hard. Does that make sense?

Erica Mosner: That makes sense.

Marcia Tucker: Absolutely.

¹⁴ Hans A. Panofsky was an atmospheric scientist who taught at Pennsylvania State University and the son of IAS professor, Erwin Panofsky. Since he was born in 1943, perhaps Ms. Emmanouilides meant that he was part of *later* meteorological research.

A. *Emmanouilides*: They don't push as hard. And I always feel that I didn't push as hard. I did go back to college. I went to college when I, when my last – I have five children and when my youngest child went to kindergarten, I proceeded to go to the local community college. My first class was a humanities class, a history of western cultures. And then I took an English class and the first thing I wrote got published.

Erica Mosner: How exciting.

A. *Emmanouilides*: In the local newspaper but at least I got a byline.

Marcia Tucker: That's excellent.

A. *Emmanouilides*: And then I wrote some other things and then I stopped that but I, I'm thinking now, Erica, of calling it *Only the Secretary*. I'm writing from, I mean look at what we've got here is that something worth saving?

Marcia Tucker: Absolutely.

Erica Mosner: Oh my goodness, of course it is. Wonderful.

A. *Emmanouilides*: When I go home I can get my IBM Selectric and write.

Erica Mosner: And in the broader sense in your experience of the Institute are there other things, recollections, personalities, anything that really sticks that you would want to share that we didn't necessarily ask you about specifically?

A. *Emmanouilides*: As I say, that whole environment and the deep intelligence here. And even though you may be a little ant there, you're just, you're really nothing but somebody has to type those papers. That's why they've given me a sense of confidence that says somebody had to do that, von Neumann, Mrs. von Neumann wasn't going to type it, and Mrs. Goldstine wasn't going to type it. They needed me to do that, right? So that gives you some sense of accomplishment, some sense of accomplishment.

But as I say, this whole place, this whole um, aura, is something I will treasure all my days. Oh my goodness. And, you see then I can communicate [it] to my children, and I do. Sometimes it's "Oh, mom." [Laughter] This son of mine is a filmmaker and, uh, sometimes something will come up and he'll say: "Oh, my mom was there!" That's nice.

But I, I don't talk about it very much.

Marcia Tucker: Well, it's wonderful. It's a treasure for us to have an opportunity to speak with you about this and hear about your life here.

A. *Emmanouilides*: I wish I, but as I said, I, I don't know who else is around that you can find.

Marcia Tucker: Well, you mentioned Willis Ware and Jack Rosenberg.

- A. *Emmanouilides*: Yes. And you might to Willis, I'll give you his address.
- Marcia Tucker*: That would be wonderful, thank you.
- A. *Emmanouilides*: I'll give you his address and you can write to him. I'm sure, you know, he was at Rand, uh, but you really ought to get in touch with him.
- Marcia Tucker*: I'll talk to George Dyson to see if he's done [an interview].
- A. *Emmanouilides*: He has.
- Marcia Tucker*: He has.
- A. *Emmanouilides*: When George came to Los Angeles he stayed with us, actually, overnight and he did interview Willis and he did interview Jack.
- Marcia Tucker*: He might not mind depositing in the Institute archives then. Yes, I'll lean on him. He's been very generous with us in terms of his own work.
- A. *Emmanouilides*: Oh, he's dear. We just became friends right away.
- Marcia Tucker*: Are you aware of the fact that Helen Dukas used to babysit him. Did you hear that?
- A. *Emmanouilides*: I think so.
- Marcia Tucker*: He wrote a passage in *My Recollections of Einstein* or something *My Einstein* I think it's called.
- A. *Emmanouilides*: Who, George?
- Marcia Tucker*: George, yes, where he writes about how she encouraged him to basically get into building kayaks.
- A. *Emmanouilides*: Have you read, have you read this book, *Baidarka*? Oh, those are fascinating – somebody¹⁵ wrote a book about his kayaks it's called *Baidarka*. And then George, I think, wrote a book about his building these things. And do you know he doesn't have a college degree.
- Marcia Tucker*: I didn't know that. I would never have guessed it either.
- A. *Emmanouilides*: No, he doesn't have a college degree.
- Marcia Tucker*: He's too much of a free spirit maybe for that 'cause wasn't he living in a tree for a while too? Very cool.

¹⁵ Kenneth Brower wrote *The Starship & the Canoe*, about George Dyson's relationship with his father Freeman Dyson and the time he spent living in a treehouse in coastal British Columbia and his designing a giant seagoing canoe.

A. Emmanouilides: Yes, fascinating guy, he really is. Um, and as I say, I met him here and we immediately connected. And then he came to Los Angeles and I said George, come stay with us so he did one, one night. I am finding more and more that you must act on impulses and when you talk to a perfect stranger and you find – I had an experience this week that just blew me away.

I took the little train from Penn Station to go to Rose Valley where my son lives. And I took the wrong train it wasn't going to stop at his stop it was going to the next stop and he would come and get me. And the conductor told me what I would do. Listen, people were getting up to leave and this woman came up to me and she said, "I'll take you home," just out of the clear, blue sky. Where are you going? I'm going to Rose Valley. I know where that is I'll take you home. Come on, she said, get off with me, which was four or five stops prior to our stop.

What could she do to me? So, so I got off the train, she said I have a white car, I'll be right back. And the rain was pelting down. She came, we drove, on the way we had a nice chat about she works for an insurance company, and, um, uh, I don't know, she and her husband, oh, she knew where there was a little theater near Chris' house. I know just where it is except we got lost.

So, we drive up to his driveway and she says something about her sister: "my sister's a neonatologist." I said my husband's a neonatologist but he's also a pediatric cardiologist. My father in law was a pathologist at Hahnemann. My husband did his residency at Hahnemann. They were there at the same time – her father-in-law and my husband.

When my husband called that night I said George, did you know Dr. Imbrogio? Oh, I remember him. And this happens, this has happened in the last three weeks that I have been here I have had half a dozen incidents like this.

Marcia Tucker: Extraordinary.

A. Emmanouilides: Extraordinary incidents. The other day we went to a birthday party for a one-year old and Chris said oh, it's such a beautiful day let's just ride through the country. Two days before I'd been in New York visiting a cousin, whom I'm going to visit again, and we went to the Metropolitan and saw this magnificent collection of tapestries. Beautiful, just tapestry.

Whenever he goes to the Met, he meets this couple and they have coffee together and we're talking about books and what I collect, what he collects. And this man said, I went to school in Westchester and I remember there was a wonderful bookstore called The Book Barn. Okay, that's lovely conversation.

We're driving through Westchester and Chris says: "Oh, mom, look at that bookstore it's called The Book Garden." We turned the car around and here is this building that is probably from the Revolution, maybe even in

the Revolution, a five-story barn building with the most fantastic collection of books.

Erica Mosner: And as a book collector yourself this must have been. ..

A. Emmanouilides: Oh, it was fascinating. I found five books. I went to The Strand too when we bought them.

Marcia Tucker: Oh, I love The Strand.

A. Emmanouilides: I just scoured the shelves. And then, as I was going, the owner of the bookstore a big, nice, tall handsome guy with white hair well, we started to chat and, um, I said oh, if I lived in Philadelphia I'd come and apply for a job. He said if you came, I'd give you a job.

But, but these lovely incidents and that's why I said you need to be open.

Marcia Tucker: Yes, that's when that happens.

You must be starved.

Erica Mosner: Shall we say the date now and who is sitting here since we didn't do that at the beginning.

Marcia Tucker: Sounds like a good idea.

A. Emmanouilides: Is it your lunch hour?

Erica Mosner: Yes.

Marcia Tucker: But we'll take you to lunch so it will be *our* lunch hour. Um, October 30, 2007, Erica Mosner, Akrevoe and Marcia Tucker.

A. Emmanouilides: Emmanouilides. Akrevoe Kondopria Emmanouilides.

Marcia Tucker: Thank you.

[End of Transcription]