

<b>Code</b>	517036
<b>Subject</b>	Louise Nahas
<b>Date</b>	6/24/2008
<b>Interviewer</b>	Steve Testa
<b>Special Notes</b>	25 years of volunteering with the Cuyahoga Valley National Park

minutes:

- 0 complete interview was 59 minutes
- 1 testing equipment
- 2 preliminary preparation
- 3 Louise signing paperwork
- 4 explaining process
- 5 February 1, 1931 Greenwich CT, VIP other positions
- 6 college, marriage, family
- 7 worked on adoptions in NYC  
experience at Bellview Hospital, polio victims, dealt with
- 8 mentally handicapped young women  
being able to deal with different kinds of people has helped with
- 9 position in the park  
mother loved nature, took walks in the woods, lived near Long
- 10 Island Sound, worked with Audobon Society
- 11 first husband got a job in the Cleveland area
- 12 just went to park one day to see if they needed help
- 13 second husband was a teacher and counselor with CCC
- 14 75th birthday at Bryce Canon
- 15 passion for nature, friends on the trail, beautiful area
- 16 beauty of area keeps me here
- 17 like the change of seasons, cross country skiing, river
  
- 18 ledges trail is a favorite place, looking toward the setting sun
- 19 remembering Canada Geese, poems of the view
- 20 Happy Days Visitor Center, signed up, went in every Thursday
- 21 already familiar with Brandywine Falls
- 22 had to get familiar with the trails and government procedures  
mostly local people came in the early days, some people on 303
- 23 stumbled in  
common activities were hikes with rangers, tobogganning, walks
- 24 around the lake  
*now people come from far away, some see as many national parks as they can, Blue*
- 25 *Heron, Eagles*
  
- 26 ride the train, points of interest, favorite places - Beaver marsh  
try to match the people up with a ranger led activity, many
- 27 bicyclists  
Towpath was a wonderful addition, most popular, walkers,
- 28 strollers, children, handicapped accessible  
favorite merchandise - trail guide books, tee shirts, water
- 29 bottles, children's materials  
topography maps, buckeye trail, refrigerator magnets, passports to
- 30 the National Parks
- 31 stamps for the post cards

32 children's programs at Christmas and Easter, concerts in the park  
puppet shows were joy from the past, underground RR program was  
33 meaningful  
34 not as familiar with school programs  
Happy Days was more nature focussed, Boston Store is more  
35 historical, trapezoid in shape  
Boston meets a lot of different needs - history, rest, culture,  
36 food  
favorite places for nature walks - Ledges, Beaver Marsh,  
37 Brandywine Falls, Blue Hen Falls  
38 exciting to see the Ohio and Erie Corridor coming together  
want to see it finished and learning about the new places, want to  
39 see the Akron parts complete, Lake Erie too  
decision to stay with the visitor center, learning more about  
40 Boston Store  
41 help out with CUVA crew  
always learning from the visitors, ask particular questions about  
42 other parks  
most visitors ask for restrooms and drinks, different approaches  
43 for different guests  
some people ask for directions, try to match peoples interests to  
44 opportunities

45 hiking, Beaver marsh, Ledges appeals to people who love nature  
top attractions on the list outside the park - Stan Hywet, Hale  
46 Farm, Rock-n-Roll Hall of Fame, CVSR

47 love the Tudor and midieval, Shakespeare in the garden, costumes

48 loose yourself in the century of Hale Farm, remembers family visit  
happy doing the job as at the visitor center, experience but also  
49 many new events  
budgetting problems costs the park rangers and forces them to use  
50 more volunteers  
51 less staff and more visitor centers - Hunt Farm, Depot, Boston Store, etc.  
build up volunteer staff, trail blazer program is wonderful, positives about volunteerism,  
52 CVNPA  
53 nice to see all the visitors, the many changes to the park  
54 more to do in the job, more challenging, growth in answering people's questions  
55 moving from files to computer, giving a tangible item is a personal touch  
56 stay around because the park is a part of me, the personell is like family  
husband was connected to the park through Louise, enjoyed serving as a parking  
57 attendant, story about John Debo and husband  
58 other parks don't have the great personal warmth we have at the CVNP  
so much to offer, hopes everyone can experience it, privelege to be connect to the parks  
59 service all these years  
note: after tape was stopped Louise shared that she had recently been given a presidential  
60 award acknowledging 4000 hours logged as a volunteer