

Collin College

DigitalCommons@Collin

John Anthony Collection Interviews

John Anthony Collection

10-11-2000

Shelley Lane

John Anthony Dr.

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/anthonys_interviews

Recommended Citation

Anthony, John Dr., "Shelley Lane" (2000). *John Anthony Collection Interviews*. 28.
https://digitalcommons.collin.edu/anthonys_interviews/28

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the John Anthony Collection at DigitalCommons@Collin. It has been accepted for inclusion in John Anthony Collection Interviews by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Collin. For more information, please contact mtomlin@collin.edu.

October 11th, 2000

Shelley Lane – Interview with Dr. Anthony

Dr. Anthony: Let me get this on.

O.K. This is one of our original ads for the full-time faculty. When I was working at SMU I desperately wanted to get back into teaching. And one day I went to the Chronicle and saw this huge ad searching for a President in a community college in Texas. I thought well Texas is a big state and I started reading cities I'd never heard of like Celina, Prosper, and Princeton but then I read McKinney, Plano, and Richardson. I thought yes this is for me so I kept looking in the Chronicle for follow-ups. I think this was the first ad that actually was asking for faculty positions. And even before this I drove up Coit which was a dirt road and took a right of 15th and went to that black building near Alma and met with Kim Russell. This was before you were hired. Every week I sent in paperwork. Every single week.

Dr. Anthony: You came on in the fall of 86?

I was one of the original 13.

Dr. Anthony: I remember interviewing you in McKinney. In Carey Cox's little

Next to Taco Delight.

Dr. Anthony: Taco Delight – that's right. I remember now. We said after you walked out, "We don't care what she teaches, she's hired".

Steve Ellis said that after I walked out that Herb wanted to hire me cause I was pretty. Well there goes the PhD and M.A.

Dr. Anthony: No, she's pretty but the kind of person we want – she's energetic and besides that she's from California.

Scared the hell out of me.

Dr. Anthony: How's that?

Well you know the interviews. Well when I first got the part-time interview I sat down and Steve was talking to me and everything was so laid back and Martha Tolleson was eating yogurt and plopped down next to me and I was trying to act so grown up and I remember asking him about a book and he said well I'll call you and let you know what the book is and I was all prepared to do the part-time faculty thing. By the time I drove back from McKinney to SMU – Steve had called and I said fine he probably called about the book so I called him back and he said how would you like to work full-time for the college? And I remember inhaling and not being able to breath and he said you've got to go thru the interview process and I said fine, fine let's do it. So I drove up to McKinney and sat down with, I guess the first person was Herb. He spoke for the entire 15 minutes.

Dr. Anthony: That was Herb.

I did not get a word in and I just sat there – year, uh huh, good idea. Great interview – not a problem. Next I went to Debbie who spoke for the entire 15 minutes. Which was great. I thought wow; I'm going to get this job. The next person I met with was President John Anthony who sat there like this – didn't crack a smile – remember this – and shot questions out – what's your philosophy of education – rah, rah, rah. Oh my God I was trying to be so enthusiastic, well I believe it's a give and take - - -

Dr. Anthony: No, you were great.

Well I left thinking I'd made a good impression on the man and woman but oh that president – then Herb Peeples called and offered me the massive salary of \$18,000 and I just said "I'll take it".

Dr. Anthony: A lot has happened since.

Oh yeah!

Dr. Anthony: I remember vividly meeting you. Afterwards we all got together and I said – do we really need a speech teacher? Herb said we probably need someone part-time maybe full-time and I said, "I think we need to hire one full-time so - - -

Bless you.

Dr. Anthony: We needed enthusiastic – we needed a nucleolus of people to hire full-time to do all the things that you all did.

That we all did – what a group. Here's my confirmation letter – the very first one from Herb. Remember the Herb Peeples – every 15 minutes you had to put down what you do? Remember that?

Dr. Anthony: That's what got him in trouble. He didn't want the birthday cakes and everything had to be counted. But you know he came out of a union environment.

That's what it was.

Dr. Anthony: Even though we weren't together – he and I remained friends up until he died.

When I was going thru my divorce he was very kind to me.

Dr. Anthony: He's a nice guy – not the kind of guy you'd be buddy, buddy with but his heart was in the right place I think.

Were you aware of our underground newspapers?

Dr. Anthony: Oh no, no, no

Yes we had an underground newspaper called the Collostrascop. Eric _____ that one!

Dr. Anthony: That doesn't surprise me that Eric would do that - - - -

Gordon Neal authored the "Year end analyst" and Eric made a "P" chart for every 15 minutes (and where this happened) and Debbie Floyd had to sign off on it and did you get an extra copy for Walter Pike. It was hysterical.

Dr. Anthony: I'm going to put that in the book.

Censor that one!!! Yeah – that was a crazy bunch!

Dr. Anthony: This was your fall 86 schedule. What was Human Development?

It was a - I think a 1 or 2 credit class offered thru the Student Development area. Dealing with self-esteem.

Dr. Anthony: That was in Debbie's area. Once you were hired you also involved yourself in interviewing other faculty members didn't you?

Oh yes - - there's three that stand out in my mind. Larry Collins, Joe Jaynes and Eric Funk. To me in Larry Collins I saw Teddie Roosevelt cause he had the mustache,

straight teeth and the glasses. He's doing a great job and will probably be very very good coming out of high school – then he started talking about presidential smut stories and he got my vote. Great great hire. Terrific presidential sex was his bit.

Dr. Anthony: He spoke at a Rotary Club about that one time and Howard Shapiro said we gotta get him back.

He's something else. You know he use to dress up and one of his characters was Teddy Roosevelt. I don't think he does that anymore. Then Mr. Joe Jaynes – Commissioner Joe Jaynes. I call him Senator. He was about 24 – 25 and looked like a very young Elvis Presley and I was very prejudiced against him because I thought he was just way too young.

Dr. Anthony: And here you were 28.

Yeah right. He was talking with me about how he was engaged which he told me later was a complete and utter lie. I thought he was way too young and actually I voted for another fellow but when he came on he was terrific. He made a lot of mistakes, I'm sure you recall.

Dr. Anthony: Oh yes we had to _____

Of course the women were lining up to get into his class. Of course the women loved him. And here's another censored story. My office was next to Martha Ewing. She and Gary had just started the Human Sexuality class and she had a survey form, very explicit that she had just outside her door that she had to put your surveys in and Joe Jaynes sauntered by my office, he never walked, he sauntered and he very nonchalantly picked up a stack of these surveys and sat down, crossed his legs and said Shelley get a load of this one – have you ever – Joe you can't do that. It's not ethical – I don't want to hear it. Then it was O.K. hey! How about this one – and it was over and over and over again. That was Mister Joe Jaynes. Then by the time Eric came along I was so sick of

interviewing people – there was so many to interview. We would literally be pulled out into the hallway to do interviews. It was either you or Steve or someone that grabbed me and Martha.

Dr. Anthony: We did – we thought we needed bodies – everybody

They said come here and interview this guy and I said no, I don't want to. They gave me the guy's resume - - I wrote this symphony - - . I thought Oh no – we're going to have some intellectual snob here. I interviewed the most funny, creative guy in the world. Craig Erickson. I'll never forget that because I was thinking this is going to be a real snob. Just the opposite.

Dr. Anthony: Of course I worked with Eric in Portland.

Right, right.

Dr. Anthony: I was very pleased when he decided to come down and very disappointed when he left.

I was too. I was very involved in the music program. I was in the very first choir.

Dr. Anthony: I remember that.

It was called the Collin County Community Choir. That was the first one and the next one was called the Jazz Choir.

Dr. Anthony: You were in that too weren't you?

Later, later

Dr. Anthony: Denise

Yes, Denise was the first faculty on the Jazz Choir. I was in the Community Choir then I remember when Eric decided to leave, I remember he brought in Mike Crawford and Mike was working part-time. Eric was the type person that was very very kind and would say your doing great, your doing wonderful. Then they made the transition and Mike would say that was great – let's try to sing in tune next time. We would say, Oh my gosh, this guy is sure different than Eric. Later we realized Mike was just that way. He would try to teach the McKinney Choir some Jazz songs or things with an unusual beat and we were just so _____ we just couldn't get it. I remember there was a song called the House on the Rock or Home on the Rock where we were to clap and snap our fingers and no one could do it – and finally with working with us he decided not to do it. When Mike learned that Eric was leaving he thought well maybe I'll go out for the full-time job. He was the Director of Turtle Creek Chorale so when everyone had gone and we were in the parking lot – Mike and I were leaving over the hood of the car talking about the plans for the college and how he'd like to work here. He said would I write him a letter of recommendation and I said sure I'll write you a letter of recommendation, which I did. He of course got the job and he thanked me. He thinks that I got him the job at the college. That was Mike's start here at the college.

Dr. Anthony: Were you involved in the “new shoes” (?) fiasco at the college?

Yes, what I remember about new shoes (?) was driving all over McKinney with Mike Crawford and Eric Funk putting up with their obscene jokes, just shaking my head and every time we made headway we'd take 2 steps backwards – there was always obstacles. Running all over McKinney and we were hot and sweaty trying to get permits for the lights. Finally we got permits but the lights didn't work so we had to drive in the cars and use car lights to spot light the group. I think we were expecting thousands and thousands.

Dr. Anthony: Oh yeah – I think I was out of town for a SACS meeting or something.

Yeah, I think we got a hundred or so – Sure I remember all of that. We were so funny. The first 13 of us.

Dr. Anthony: Loren didn't tell you to put down Linden Marks (?) did he?

No – but I remember that.

Dr. Anthony: He handled that beautifully.

What are some other things I need to tell you about? Did you ever hear about Janet Ross's move?

Dr. Anthony: I don't think so.

Did you ever hear about that? That's folklore. There are certain stories and certain folklore that continues to circulate among the old timers that still make us laugh. We were real collegial. We had people come in for team building – we didn't need it because we loved each other. Do you remember how between classes the faculty all 13 of us, we would congregate in Steve's office and crack jokes. We would try to make each other laugh. We had rather do that than go to our offices. On Friday afternoon we would stay 2 or 3 hours out in the atrium area just talking and laughing and telling jokes then afterwards all of us would go to Piñata's for more jokes and margaritas – we loved each other. When Denise Hennike was first hired she worked at the Improv so she got us all tickets to the Improv – we all went. Mary Fields was doing dance and she had a dance recital at Richland or UTD I can't remember. I remember we went to Denise's first, we had Martha her husband then George, we had Rex, we had Denise, we might have had Sherill, we had Loren, we had Shelley. All these people from different areas came to support Mary. Denise made mushroom soup and poisoned just about everybody there. In the middle of the performance, everyone was turning green. Gordon use to have these bonfires at his farm and we'd go twice a year to celebrate the solutes (?) and we'd bring our families. I remember I had this pool in my back yard and I remember every few

weeks I would have a “faculty float”. Invite everyone at the college and they’d all come then get Gordon with a few beers and get him going and he’d remember all the theme songs to the 1960’s and we’d be singing to the top of our lungs. One night I had a party and it might have been that Halloween party or it may have been a different one and the college had just opened and apparently we were getting a little bit too loud for the neighbors and someone called the cops.

Dr. Anthony: I remember that – I think it was that Halloween party.

The cop, do you remember that he said he was an algebra student at the college? Loren said come on in your professor is probably here and you can meet her. He said oh I would really love to but I can’t. We did all kind of things together. I think the things that stand out a lot in my mind are the moves. We were young and we moved a lot then. So we had the Collin County moving company. Mostly the men would come and help move the furniture and as long as we kept the beers coming everything was great. And our trademark was littering the front yard with beers and beer bottles and the neighbors would wonder what type of neighbors were moving in. So this was what – 14 years ago – Janet Ross was moving and she was very very nervous about the men who were moving her. We had Loren, Russell Kuntz, Gary, Eric and Rex and I don’t remember if we had any other men. And the only two women were Janet and me and she was over at the new house and the men were at the old house and I was sorta in between carrying small stuff and every time I was over where she was she would say Shelley I’m kind of worried. Or they O.K? I would tell Janet, you have nothing to worry about they’ll be fine but on the inside I was thinking oh my if you only knew what they were doing – you have no idea. They were so crazy – at one point they had this bookcase trying to get the bookcase out – by saying 1, 2, 3 and out came just big chunks of the wall. It was a built in bookcase and at one point they were Eric Funk came out wearing panty hose on his head with the legs coming out like this. There was a truck with a mattress standing like this, I don’t know what got into Rex but he decided to imitate a ping pong ball so here was this grown man (slapping sound) and here were the neighbors coming out to watch just to see what was going on. The neighbors came out and said what’s going on here

and the guy said “we’re the credit company” and we’re possessing Janet’s furniture. And then they said oh that’s not true, we are faculty members and we work at Richland. Poor Janet and you know the evening wore on and more and more beer. That was the type of fun that we use to have. Any excuse to get together.

Dr. Anthony: Well how did – well you and Loren were probably the first of many romances that ended in marriage. I’m looking at one right across the hall. How did that get started?

Eric Funk did it. I can blame him or give him credit. I was going through my divorce and I was having a bad time. I must say that the only way I got through this as well as I did was because of the people that I worked with. People in this college were so supportive – everyone was. Mitchell Smith took me out to lunch. Jeff Edwards would come and give me a hug every now and then. Russell Kuntz papered my lawn just to make me laugh. I got up one morning and felt like I was in high school. Everyone was just so sweet. Mary Fields brought me flowers and really it was just the people here who got me through it. And one day I remember I was sitting in my office and Eric walked in and said you know – Larry Miller is interested in you – you ought to go out with him. I said no, no I don’t want to go out with him – I don’t want to go out with anybody. He said well just go out to lunch with him or something like that. Well maybe the next day or so Loren comes into my office and he’s nervous as all heck and I’m nervous as all heck and he’s talking a mile a minute --- well I have to go over to this place – do you want to go out to lunch with me??? I said O.K. – he left, I left and said oh my what have I done? What I didn’t know was that Eric had gone to Loren and said; you know you ought to ask Shelley out. I was married for years before I knew that he’s gone to Loren – I thought I was doing Loren a favor. Eric just set us up. We got along really well after that and really tried to keep it a secret. But little bits and pieces started coming out. Loren and I were holding hands – all scrunched up in a car with a bunch of us going to lunch and I remember Rex turned around saying something to me and he did a double take at us holding hands. So I think the secret was out. Then we use to go to happy hour and I remember Dee Roessler talking about making this guy dinner that she’d been going

out with for 3 months. I said wow – Loren and I had only been going out 2 weeks and I had already made him dinner. Loren was laughing and no one else knew why – there was all these little inside jokes. But you know eventually one thing led to another.

Dr. Anthony: As you look back what do you want to make sure that we put in the book. This whole early period is something that I want to put emphasis on cause that's really the whole foundation of the college – that first 15.

I cannot express not only the extraordinarily collegiality among us – we loved each other so much and we were young enough to be extraordinarily idealistic and mature enough to know we really had something here that wouldn't last forever. If we could get the spirit of teamwork and cooperation together out in that book – that would be terrific. And as hard to separate that of how we believed so much in what we were doing. Everyone was so idealistic and so committed. We had a passion for what we were doing – we were so committed. We would get to our classes at 8 o'clock in the morning and we would stay in the afternoon for meetings – maybe leave at 7 o'clock at night. And that first year when the entire faculty would meet in your office or Herb's office – you could feel the excitement in the air. The room crackled – literally crackled – the skin would stand up on your arm. The enthusiasm was indescribable – absolutely indescribable.

Dr. Anthony: You know the 12 that are still here – they still have that same passion. I consider most of them close friends – all of them close friends. I guess if I ever said anything – any advice for anyone else it would be to make sure that that first nucleolus – the kind of dynamic people we had.

You just hired some magnificent people.

Dr. Anthony: I think a lot of it was experience and really we just had some unbelievable people.

Put in the time and effort and still after all that work going out with each other at night. It made such a different.

Dr. Anthony: Even as crazy as Debbie Floyd was she played a role and hey I got to give her credit for that. She played quite a role here for a while.

Have you talked with Gordon about his interview with Debbie Floyd?

Dr. Anthony: No I talked with Rex about his – in fact who called me the other day? The gal that's in computer science now – she use to be in counseling with Debbie.

Cindy Howry

Dr. Anthony: Yeah, Cindy. She called me the other day and said she had lots of material and even had some pictures of Debbie – and did I want those. I said I just want the ones with bows in her hair.

Talk to Loren and talk to Gordon. They have a very similar experience on their interview.

Dr. Anthony: Is that right? She didn't try to hit on Loren did she?

Yeah, sort of.

Dr. Anthony: Rex had the same sort of experience. Rex was working for her for a very short period of time and said you've got to get me out of there.

Poor Rex. Do you remember those parties we use to have at Glen Justice's ranch?

Dr. Anthony: Oh yes.

Those were hysterical. And that one party were Rex and Kim got a little to over enthusiastic?

Dr. Anthony: And Glenn got upset cause he was dancing with a chair. And they were watching the cloggers and no one wanted to watch the cloggers. They wanted to watch Rex dance with the chair.

Dr. Anthony: Well I recall being with Dick Ducote, Rex and Mary and Janice in Paris at Bastille Day and Rex had a little too much to drink and he was leading a congo line _____ Notre Dame Cathedral – he can still put it away. I think Debbie brought them together.

Oh really, I didn't know that. Well once, and this was before I met Loren – Rex and I had to go downtown McKinney to put up some signs for a speaker series. Now don't you tell Rex this but we're putting up the signs and he asked me out to dinner and he started asking me questions and I started getting date vibes and I thought what is going on here – is this a date – I felt like there was something going on – I felt like I was being tested, and by the end of the meal I could tell that I didn't pass the test. He said let me show you someone that I really like and I want you to tell me what you think of her. At that hospital on 380 there in McKinney and there was Kim and he had just started going out with her. And he had really fallen in love with her and he said well what do you think? I said she's great. And things progressed after that.

Dr. Anthony: I have to talk with all the original 13. And you're the first.

We had some funny times. Censored: There was a time when Sherrill Kappus was getting _____ and she had bought this really super duper girdle and she wasn't sure it was fitting her properly so one day all of the women went into her office - closed the door, put paper on it and here we were lifting up our dresses showing girdles and undergarments and that's just the way we were. So crazy.

Dr. Anthony: I was talking with _____ the other day she took me to lunch. She hadn't heard the story about Mary Fields backing into the emergency sprinkling system during a chemistry class and her whole backside was – in her case it was her ass was wet. She just got so enthusiastic and said we've got to change this and I said what do you want me to do about it.

I miss Mary – she still calls every now and then.

Dr. Anthony: I was just asking Denise if she ever heard from Mary and she said no but that Mary was going to be upset with her because she was suppose to send her some registration materials to vote I guess. She still wants to vote in Texas.

Well she called me about 2 months ago and I don't know what happened I didn't get back to her. We still keep up – we're still really good friends.

Dr. Anthony: I always enjoyed Mary.

She and Helene Gilbert are probably the best friends that I've ever had. And it's amazing cause when we were first hired we were all sitting in a circle and you asked us all to introduce ourselves. I was just getting over the flu and I said my name and I teach speech and I'm just getting over the flu and everyone said, urrrrr urrrrr. And the only other person that I remembered was Mary for some reason. I didn't know her then but of all people, this little gal stood out in my mind. Then a few weeks later we started talking and brought me flowers.

Dr. Anthony: I use to just sit there when the introduction was going on and think boy, we've got top quality people. Most impressive.

I remember Lillie Palmer's interview too. She came off so sweet. What a nice woman, very intelligent, very sweet. I also remember Beth Henry's interview. It did not go very well. Have you heard what happened??? Well, she was very very professional,

not a lot of warmth but that was o.k. and everything was going well until someone asked well what do you want out of the college and she came back and said well what do you want out of me and the way she said it – sorta on the defensive and you could just feel the ice form in the air. Burrrrrrh we don't want this person. But of course she was hired and was a very good hire.

Dr. Anthony: Yes and she did very well. Was Beth Payne here when you were here then the other one?

Uh huh.

Dr. Anthony: She was biology teacher and down from Portland for a while.

Yeah!

Dr. Anthony: Bob Ewing – those names keep coming back. Well what else have you got for me.

Well let me see if I have anything else on my list.

Dr. Anthony: Can I take your hard stuff too.

Oh yes – some of it you won't need it. When we opened in McKinney, the first day when we finally got the Osmond Plaza ready I remember the paint was still wet and the elevators weren't working, remember the elevators were dark and when you went in there it was really creepy and one little shaft light would come in and no door knobs and no phones and I opened up the door to go to my first class and the students were standing in the middle of the room saying what do we do. No desks, no chairs so we sat on the floor. The very first speech class at the college and I remember we didn't have bookshelves and every office just looked horrible cause books were scattered

everywhere. It took us 9 months to finally get bookcases. We got furniture from the U-Haul Salvage.

Dr. Anthony: Dr. Pike said you didn't need furniture. We got stuff that was given to us and I think some of it may still be around.

Oh what a mess. Everything magically appeared nice and clean for our first open house. We finally got our bookcases. I think it took the community to get them. I remember one time, and I think I still have the reputation of big mouth because of this. We were still in McKinney and I was having problems with the photocopy center, they wanted 24 hours notice – this didn't work for me and I would give them 2 days notice and still my work would not be done. So I had this test, a very important test and I gave them 3 days notice. The morning of the test I went there and it wasn't ready and I blew a gasket and I went to I guess it was Larry Winburn (really blew up) and he said I promise I'll have it ready by 10. So started to give the test and page 3 was missing – 7 questions out of a 50 multiple-choice test was missing. I think my blood pressure was sky high plus I was PMSing danger – I went to Mitch (yelling) I went to Steve (more yelling) then I went to Walter Pike and I think by that time my hormones overtook any rationality and I sat down and I just exploded into tears and that poor man – Dr. Pike was behind the desk and saying I'm sorry. He was literally shaking and I'm crying and saying over and over I'm sorry. I think I finally calmed down but I think I have a reputation of being aggressive.

Dr. Anthony: You do have a reputation of getting your point across.

Poor Dr. Pike. Well anyway, McKinney – McKinney was a one-horse town. I remember we only had rotary phones. No cable, no 911 and mostly fast foods, fast food row.

Dr. Anthony: They had the elephant deli, remember the elephant deli?

I remember King Cong deli.

Dr. Anthony: King Cong deli. Two guys from New York.

Rex and Walt liked the King Cong deli. Then there was that horrible Mexican restaurant called Piñata's. It was on 380 on the other side. Closer to the Taco Delight area.

Dr. Anthony: Did you ever office there at the Taco Delight area?

No, I think I was the last of the 13th. I went directly into the Osmond Plaza.

Dr. Anthony: That was an experience too. I think the mayor's brother had a travel agency there. Their lease said they could stay there for free until tenants moved in and then would have to pay. He was staying there cause we hadn't moved in yet but we couldn't remodel because of him. So I told the contractor to tear the walls down because they were not going to be able to get us in by January. So the walls were torn down and he raised hell but he didn't have a leg to stand on.

My impression of the community was that they were really excited about us.

Dr. Anthony: They were, they were. Especially the leadership of McKinney and the Chamber saying this was the best thing that happened to McKinney since T.I.

Well when we first started I was paired with Pat DeGeeter who had taught at McKinney High School, which is now the Junior High. She was enthusiastic about the college but she was also very worried. We had to do our first registration and we didn't know what we were doing and Grayson County College came down and helped us. Pat and I were sitting there and I think it was at the High School or somewhere near the High School and she was getting me so scared cause she said, well I'm going to give it a year

then if the district folds, I've got my old typing job at McKinney High back and I thought I'm really up the creek cause I have nothing to fall back on.

Dr. Anthony: Were you there at our first registration - - in the library and it was hot as Hades - it was in the fall and the air conditioning wasn't working and the fellow threw-up all over everything and Stephanie Meinhardt was a part-timer and she came in and cleaned up everything – with a snow shovel – and I said we need her on our staff so we gave Stephanie a full-time job.

Isn't that interesting? She did something like that for me. You know I was just thinking yesterday – trying to get all my memories in order – in seemed that it was hotter then.

Dr. Anthony: Yeah. Especially up there cause even when we had the air conditioning it was not designed for schools – it was designed for an office building. It was just modestly occupied.

I remember in the parking lot – it just seemed that it was very hot in that summer of 87.

Dr. Anthony: One summer we had the graduation out side.

Oh yeah – I remember. That's with the trucks zooming by – I was in that Community Choir so I was suppose to sing so I would get up in my cap and gown, go sing, sit down in my cap and gown with the faculty – I remember that. We had a lot of really good publicity; I think I gave my last copy to Mitchell. I bet he has it but there was a whole insert in the McKinney paper about the college opening and pictures of all the faculty and administration.

Dr. Anthony: I may have that somewhere in my papers.

Then somewhere in 87 when we did the forensics team, remember we took the students – I took the students Pikiptskie (?) in New York. We didn't have the money for it and in those days there was not as much bureaucracy, we were smaller and I went to Steve and I went to Debbie and I went to you and we just all pitched in and we went to - _____ well we just slaughtered everybody at the tournament we won everything as the sweepstakes. And we came back, they didn't give us trophies, they gave us cups (?) they were so cheap. I still have my cup. Winner of the Dutchess Community College.

Dr. Anthony: Winner of the Dutchess Community College.

So we came back with that, Keith and Keli Fink. Keli works for us now and I can't remember Keli's maiden name. But they were really into the publicity aspect, reminds me of something else they did, we got hold of the newspaper and they interviewed us and we were the lead story on the front page of the McKinney Courier newspaper that said Collin County Community College sweepstakes "Speech and Debate" team. So we really got a lot of encouragement. Those students were so funny. I don't know maybe we were - it seems that students were better then, faculty were better then.

Dr. Anthony: As I reflect back on those years in McKinney – they were good kids.

Yeah! There was a speech corp(?), Keith and Keli – we had _____ - from Allen we had Isaac Benpariet, an Iranian who lives in California and we had a family of real young kids who were home-schooled who came to us. Wicker _____ remember those.

Dr. Anthony: Yes, uh huh, I remember.

Nathan came back later and told me he got an engineering job primarily because of his speaking back ground in college. So we had this speech corp and we had these speech auctions and we would ask the entire faculty and all the administrators to donate

items or lunch with the president and that was our fundraiser for our club (Firo Pud??). On the back of that little green piece of paper there we used Harpo Marx. Harpo Marx was our mascot with his mouth open and he did something about how you have to come to this speech auction and in those days you could get away with a lot more than you can get away with now. We would do stuff and then if it was wrong we would apologize later. So Keith and Keli and the speech students blanketed the parking lot with these flyers. Stuck them under everyone's wipers. Then in the elevators go into the elevators and the doors would shut there would be 2 Harpo Marx's faces meeting you – boom – there it was. So you go into the restrooms – you sit down to do your business and close the door and there's Harpo's face looking at you. They were everywhere and whoever was in charge at the time – they were very good-natured about this. And I don't know whether it was Walt or whoever who said, look you really can't do that anymore. We said o.k. We won't but we got our point across. We had a huge crowd and made gobs of money for the speech team. That was a lot of fun. The students were the auctioneers, which was great. What else?? I think I've talked about everything. I'm at the bottom of my list. Oh I don't know. A lot of this stuff is probably not of interest but –

Dr. Anthony: I may want to get back with you to confirm.

This is sentimental, that first meeting with Steve Ellis when we talked about the classes I may be able to teach. I decided to keep this – it's in his own handwriting. Lord knows why I kept it. Some of the things he wanted me to do. School paper, TV Radio –

Dr. Anthony: We never did get a school paper. Thank Goodness!

I tried. Ha ha

Dr. Anthony: We got the underground!!

Yes, we had the Collestiscope.

Dr. Anthony: I'll see that you get some of this back.

Oh, sure. There's a copy of an article, an editorial that I wrote to the DMNS in there.

Dr. Anthony: _____ you and Sheryl.

Oh, I don't know her name.

Dr. Anthony: I thought that was Sheryl Kappus. No???

What they did they took some students and some faculty and some staff. There's Debbie, there's me. I remember this fellow, this fellow was huge and they primarily paired him with me and what they would do with the camera – they'd say o.k., closer and closer and so I'd lean back and they'd say, no you can't do that. This article, some fellow from SMU wrote an article _____ - university teachers do research and teaching is not rewarding/ed bla, bla, bla. And I think I had just come back from a conference where I felt slighted because after all I just taught at the "junior college" and all the faculty at the universities were looking down their nose so I wrote a rebuttal.

Dr. Anthony: I remember reading these articles and I remember I felt so proud of what you said.

I saved your card. It's in there. I said to Loren last night, what other college president would do that? I got letters from all over the state regarding that editorial. Saying they are putting it on the bulletin boards, they thought it was wonderful.

Dr. Anthony: That's great, it was a great article. That to me seems like yesterday. When you wrote that.

Doesn't it? I didn't have my children. You know right after Ethan _____ there was a reception for a photographer – who did the book?

Dr. Anthony: June VanCleaf

June VanCleaf, you know I was carrying him and I was talking to you and he said, Oh, you going to make my Mommie feel better? You know Mike has the original if you want to get it from him but early community choirs – look how young we all look here. There's Mike, he has all his hair and it's black and there's me – I look like I'm twelve.

Dr. Anthony: I wouldn't even recognize you.

I know, I wouldn't recognize me either. That's sad. I think some of these people are still in the McKinney community.

Dr. Anthony: Hum, that's 13 years ago. Where did the time go Shelley?

You know, I don't consider myself getting old. My colleagues and I don't get old, my students don't get old. I am old when I see the children of my colleagues, that's when it gets me. I see Larry Collins daughter at the bon fire at Gordon's house, she was three years old and she just got her license.

Dr. Anthony: I remember your kid Ethan, I remember Gary's children and I remember Toni Allen had a child over here in the child care center and she told me I was holding my _____.

I didn't know Toni was pregnant, we were having a meeting at McKinney and I remember she was wearing a blue dress – like it was yesterday. I'm getting old. Oh at my wedding, by the way, I had two best women – Mary Fields and Mary McRae.

Dr. Anthony: We were discussing the other night about Mary McRae showing up at the Halloween part dressed as a _____. I think it was the same night that the police showed up at the door.

Could be, could be. That was a fun party. Joe Jaynes was dressed up too. Mary borrowed a flapper dress that I had. She had a blond wig on --- oh I can't say it _____