

Transcription of Audio Oral History Interview with
SALLY S. DOW
August 11, 1998

The following oral history interview is being conducted on Tuesday, August 11, 1998, at the Riverside home of Sally Dow, a retired UCR staff member.

My name is Jan Erickson. I work in Chancellor Raymond L. Orbach's office. He is the eighth chief administrative officer of the Riverside campus.

Erickson: Sally, would you begin, please, by telling us where you were born and a little about your family?

Dow: My mother and father were both born in Korea. My father came here when he was nine years old. He escaped because the Japanese took over the country in 1910. They had to flee for their lives, because my father was living at the palace. He was, I guess you would call it royalty. His father was serving the last Emperor, the ruler of Korea.

Erickson: Is that right.

Dow: And when the Japanese took over, they didn't have any warning. The Japanese just came and took over the country, and a lot of Koreans were killed. So my father left Korea and came over here.

Erickson: Were he and your mother married at the time?

Dow: No, they weren't. No, my father was only a little boy, ...

Erickson: Oh, I see.

Dow: only eight or nine years old.

Erickson: Oh, I see. So it was his father who was serving the Emperor.

Dow: Right. So he was raised in the palace.

Erickson: Did he tell you stories about growing up in the palace?

Dow: Yes. The ruler of Korea had no heirs. He wanted my grandfather to let him have my father, but my father said no.

Erickson: He actually wanted to adopt him, huh?

Dow: Yeh.

Erickson: Gosh.

Dow: Because it was so important to have an heir.

Erickson: Sure.

Dow: And he was the only child. I guess it was a rough trip to the United States.

Erickson: By boat.

Dow: Uh huh. Must have been a terrible boat, but everybody was trying to flee. And when my father got here, his father didn't really know any trade or anything to make a living. So I guess they went into farming.

Erickson: Where did they land?

Dow: Well, in California.

Erickson: San Francisco?

Dow: Yes, San Francisco. They leased farms, they didn't really own it. They leased it and then they got workers to work the farm. My father started to go to school here, and he liked it here. And then he became a foreman of the farm group. But then he was interested in medicine and said he'd like to go to college and take up medicine.

Erickson: Oh.

Dow: And then, you know in Korea or most of the Asian countries, they pick the bride. They said, "It's time you get married." I think he was about seventeen, going on eighteen. By that time, he had become Americanized and said, "No, I will pick my own wife."

So he started. He got introduced to my mother by some mutual friend and they just wrote letters. And then she came to the States and they got married.

His parents were never very nice to my mother at all.

Erickson: But she was from Korea, right?

Dow: Yes. She was a school teacher.

Erickson: It was just that they hadn't arranged it?

Dow: Yeh, and she was a commoner. They figured he, you know, came from nobility. My father said it didn't count for anything, so they got married. They had one child in California, and then she (my mother) was pregnant with me a couple years later. And I guess she was so unhappy, so my father said, "We are going to leave."

You never leave your parents, that's the way they're brought up. You serve the males parents. You live with them.

Erickson: Oh, so they were living in the house?

Dow: Um hmm. So he told Mom to get ready, and I think he had a Model T or Model A Ford and went clear across the country, from California and they went as far as they could until I was born. That was in Denver, and my father delivered me.

Erickson: Oh my.

Dow: It was in a hotel. My Dad was kind of embarrassed to go into the hotel and then come out with a baby, so they put me in a suitcase and drilled holes so I could breathe. They prayed that I wouldn't cry. So that's where I was born.

But, see, there's no record of it, because he delivered me. There was no doctor.

Erickson: Well, what do you do for a birth certificate?

Dow: Well, do you know what? My father, after we settled in Rock Springs, Wyoming ... he met a doctor, and he asked the doctor to make a birth certificate for all of us. But some of our birth certificates are wrong. Mine's wrong. Because you see, in the Orient, they figure when you are conceived, and nine months later when you're born, they call you one year old.

Erickson: Oh, I see. They are counting that gestation period.

Dow: Yes. And then, if you have a birthday, then you are two. Well, see, when I was born, it was November. Then you know the Asian New Year is usually in January or February, and in the old days, people did not celebrate birthdays.

Everybody celebrated on the New Year, and that was their birthday. So when I was born in November, I was one—and I really wasn't, I was just born. And then in the New Year, I was just two months old, but they called me two.

Erickson: Two. Oh, my.

Dow: So my birth certificate is really wrong, but at the time that he asked my dad, "Go ahead and give me the date of birth of all

Dow: the kids.” And my Dad, instead of giving the year, gave the age. So that’s why my birth certificate shows that I was born in Superior, Wyoming. I wasn’t. I was born in Denver, Colorado. The rest of them are all ok because they show Wyoming. But that’s how we got our birth certificate—one doctor, Dr. Roe, made up the birth certificates.

Erickson: That was nice of him to do.

Dow: Yeh, and we didn’t know we’d ever need them, because in those days it didn’t matter.

Erickson: Um hmm. So you have one sister, right?

Dow: Oh, no. I have six sisters and a brother.

Erickson: Oh, no. I didn’t know that, Sally.

Dow: There are eight children in our family. Oh, yeh. We had a big family. My mother and father were pleased with all the children.

You know, in the old country a girl didn’t count for anything. It’s just a boy, and especially since he came from a family that was supposed to be royalty. Said, “Don’t you feel badly that you’ve got all girls?” And he said, “I love the girls just as much as the boy.”

Erickson: Oh.

Dow: In fact, he was harder on my brother purposely, because he said, “I want to make sure that he doesn’t think because he’s the boy that we’re going to favor him.”

And my brother was a gentleman ever since he was young. We’d walk across the street, and he’d hold my arm—even to this day.

Erickson: Is that right.

Dow: Oh, yes. We're all very close in my family. My father brought us up real well. And he told us that he came to the States to get away from this horrible situation back in Korea, and he says, "I'm not even thinking of Korea anymore. America is my country." And he told all of us, "You're all Americans. Support and defend and everything."

So that's why I don't even know how to speak Korean. I'm not even anxious to learn. I feel foreign around Koreans, you know.

In the old days when you said you were Korean, they didn't know who you were, because they had no Koreans here. And it wasn't until the Korean War that they ever heard of Koreans.

Erickson: Oh, I see.

Dow: Because before that, they'd only heard of Japan and China. And of course, all the Koreans disliked the Japanese. A lot of them still do to this day. So you are either Japanese or Chinese.

Erickson: You said the Korean language. Did your parents not speak Korean at all?

Dow: Yes, they did. But when I went to school in the first grade, I came home crying. I said, "I can't understand anybody at school." My Dad said to my Mother, "I'm not gonna speak any more Korean. I'm going to speak only English." So none of my other sisters and brother know Korean. I have forgotten all of it.

Erickson: Sure.

Dow: But I was sort of interested, because when I left home, I'd write to my Mother. I took some Korean courses, and I'd write to my Mother in Korean. She'd correct it and send it back to me, so I could see where I made my mistakes.

But I really wasn't too interested. I figured that I'm so Americanized that, you know, when most of my friends see me,

Dow: they say, “You know, I never even think that you’re different.”
I just feel that I’m American all the way through.

Erickson: Sure. Well, you were born here.

Dow: Yeh.

Erickson: Well, you said that was in Wyoming that your family landed.
Did your father do farming there?

Dow: No, he worked in the coal mine.

Erickson: Coal mines.

Dow: And when we were there, he let me take piano lessons. And my
other sister is two years younger, and she took violin lessons.

Erickson: Um hmm.

Dow: And she entered a lot of contests and won. There was a theatre
there and they had what they called Kiddie Matinee every
Saturday. You’d go and compete. And every time we went,
our family would win all the prizes.

(smile)

So the theatre manager said, “You ought to take your children
in show business on the road.” And he says, “I’ll help you
make the connections and everything.” So we left Wyoming
and traveled on the road in show business.

Erickson: Mostly you and your sister were the performers or were there
others?

Dow: Yeh, and my father. No, just our family.

Erickson: Yeh, but I mean of your brother and sisters. How many of you
were performing?

Dow: We started out five and then as the youngsters reached 2 and were able to sing and dance, they all joined in. So in the end there were eight of us performing. And my father. My mother is the only one that did not perform. She made all our costumes.

Erickson: Uh huh. What did your father do?

Dow: Well, he emceed, and he sang, and he also played the cornet. In those days, it was a cornet, not a trumpet. I think the cornet was shorter than the trumpet.

Erickson: I think it is.

Dow: He taught my sister how to play the trumpet. At that time ... oh, I can't remember his name, but ... you're probably too young to remember ... Sugar Blues was very popular. And she'd go on the stage and play Sugar Blues.

We were in show business about the time Shirley Temple was in theatre.

Erickson: In the movies.

Dow: In movies, but we were on the stage. And Ginger Rogers mother was a booking agent. She did a lot of our bookings. And the first place that we ... Oh, the theatre manager told us instead of performing separately, we should form a show with the whole group. So we all went to Denver and played our first date. From there we went to Chicago. We traveled all over.

Erickson: All over.

Dow: It was a hard life for me, I think, because I was old enough that I knew better. (chuckle)

Erickson: How old would you have been?

Dow: I was about thirteen when we started. I didn't even get to graduate from high school, because I had ordered my dress for

Dow: graduation, but we were playing in a theatre, and I thought we'd better leave, and we just traveled on the road.

We did that until about the time the war came on. It was hard to get tires and everything. We traveled as a group, just our family. By the time I was fifteen, I learned how to drive. We had to have two cars.

In those days, I didn't have to have a driver's license. I drove one car and my dad drove the other car. We traveled all over, and we played theatres.

Those days, we used to do five and six shows a day. Nobody ever does that now.

Erickson: No.

Dow: They're lucky if they have to do two shows.

Erickson: You must have been exhausted by night time.

Dow: Yeh. And then drive. Sometimes we'd have to drive to the next town and drive 3 or 400 miles. So I became a wonderful driver. (chuckle) I learned at fifteen to drive.

Erickson: Sure. My goodness.

Dow: It was a hard life, but the rest of the kids didn't mind it, because they had an easy life. They just went on the stage. They were all real good performers. Only two of us had lessons. My dad made us teach them, so I taught them all their routines. They'd do it so well, and me—I had two left feet. I wasn't meant for show business really.

Erickson: Oh, but you play the piano so well.

Dow: Well, but I mean I'm just not an entertainer.

Erickson: I see.

Dow: I'm not into that.

Erickson: Uh huh.

Dow: But the rest of them are.

Erickson: When did your father decide to give that up?

Dow: It was in 194?.

Erickson: You said about the war time, didn't you.

Dow: Yeh, before the war, because the war came on in '41. But it was hard to get tires.

Erickson: Oh, that's right. You said that.

Dow: And by that time, Dad said that he wanted to have the kids in school. See, we had a booking agent, and we also had to travel with the tutor. One tutor taught all of the children.

But they were all good in school. And when they went to public school, they all excelled there. One of my sisters became a valedictorian. See, my father and mother worked with us all the time. You know, making us study or practice. We didn't have time for any mischief.

Erickson: Right. That's true. Well, how did you get back to California then?

Dow: Oh, when we traveled. We had been living in Wyoming, and when we quit, my dad asked us to take a vote where we wanted to live. Everybody wanted to live in Portland, because when we traveled, they liked Portland. So we made our home in Portland.

Erickson: Oh, I see.

Dow: And then I decided to go to work. I went into Civil Service and got into U.S. Public Health Service and went to New York.

Erickson: You moved to New York?

Dow: Uh huh.

Erickson: New York City?

Dow: Uh huh, and I was there for twenty-some years. I worked for the U.S. Public Health Service. After a while I quit because I got tired of traveling.

Erickson: What were you doing that you were traveling so?

Dow: We surveyed. They would go and do sessions to see how many people broke down with TB, and we used the international garment workers as the experimental group. So wherever we went, I'd have to go help examine them with the two other doctors. I just did most of the secretarial and records.

Erickson: Um hmm. And was there a huge outbreak of tuberculosis then?

Dow: They wanted to see if people that worked in factories broke down. And of course, if one gets it and they're sitting next to somebody. The International Ladies Garment Workers Union—that's who we surveyed.

Then from there, I can't remember where we went, but I just didn't want to travel any more. It was hard traveling anyway, 'cause it was still sort of during the war.

Erickson: But you worked for them for about twenty years?

Dow: Yeh, in New York. But not at that job. And then I came back to Portland, and I went to work for a brain surgeon. He told me, "Since you don't know the medical terms too well, and until you learn, you won't be worth too much." "Well" I said, "I'm going on vacation for two weeks. Just give me a manual or book. I'm going to Canada."

Dow: I went up there and studied, and when I got back, they had three years of records that they didn't get typed up.

You know, most of the people that go to a brain surgeon are referrals. After they'd do the surgery, he'd call up the referring doctor and tell him this is the condition he's in or whatever.

When I got there—I was only there about three months—and I cleared up three years of records.

Erickson: You're fast.

Dow: Yeh. And I said that my boss in New York wants me back, so I'm leaving. And he said to name my price, and I'll just pay you anything you want. Do you know that brain surgeon is still living. He's 90 years old.

Erickson: What kind of money did you make, Sally? Is that too personal?

Dow: No, because in those days, the first civil service job was, I think, \$105.00 a month.

Erickson: A month?

Dow: Yeh, that show's you when that was. That's way back in the early 40s. Then I went to New York. In New York, I had been there just a short while, and I was making about \$10,000. They said no women are making that kind of money. So they said, "You're doing real well."

But the job I had there was import/export. My boss was very anxious to get letters out all the time. I typed so fast that I didn't have to take shorthand. He'd dictate a letter, and I'd take it on the typewriter ...

Erickson: Oh, my goodness.

Dow: And as soon as he'd finish that letter, Sincerely yours, you know.

Erickson: You were ready.

Dow: But I was very accurate, too, because when I went to high school, I competed with five states in typing. I do have the articles that stated, “Local girl exceeded the speed above any other contestants.”

Erickson: I’m confused on the time, though. When you’re talking about this typing experience, is that in civil service or is that ...?

Dow: No, no. That was when I was in my last years of high school in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Erickson: Right. But did you go to New York two times?

Dow: Yes. I went there two times.

Erickson: Oh, ok.

Dow: I went there once and I didn’t like New York, and I came home. Then my boss kept asking me to come back, so I went back.

Erickson: Oh, so you didn’t stay with the doctor then. That’s when you went back to New York.

Dow: Um hmm. But you know the twenty-some years I spent in New York? I hated it. I never liked New York, but I made real good money.

Erickson: Good money. What did you not like about New York?

Dow: Oh, the way they lived, you know. I’m used to living in a house and being able to go out of the house and see a yard. There you’re living in a cubby hole. They were so expensive and most of the apartments that everybody had, you cooked and slept and ate in the same room practically.

I don’t know if it’s any different today, but I moved way out on the island so that I could have a little three room apartment.

Dow: But it was so expensive, I just couldn't save any money. But I have to be happy where I'm living.

Erickson: Sure. Well, so what did you do after New York?

Dow: Oh well, while I was living in Portland, I had dated Jack. He was a policeman ...

Erickson: Umm.

Dow: I had a civil service job, and I was the chief clerk at the Draft Board. And he was on my draft board. After the war, all the registrants are supposed to get their original jobs back.

But the police department didn't want to take him back, because he gave them so much trouble. You know, if they'd tell him don't arrest that man—he's a judge, Jack would say he's no better than any other person. He was one of these righteous people, and he'd ticket him anyway.

They just wanted to get rid of him, because he made so much trouble down there. And yet, they couldn't fire him because every time that he had some conflict, he said he'd go to the newspaper. He was a good writer, too. So he said he'd go down there and tell them his story.

When he couldn't get his job back, and I was working on the draft board, I had to fight for his job. That was part of our job, too, to see that the registrants who served in the service got their original jobs back if they wanted it.

So I had to go with an attorney. I forget the attorney's name, but he said that it's too bad that you aren't a lawyer. You're very good. See, I'm very good at details, and he said, "God, I don't want to hire you as a secretary, but God, I could teach you a lot about law." I wasn't interested really.

So I got his job back and after that, I was playing in a club out in Portland. He used to come out all the time. You know, he

Dow: was on duty. Oh, he was so handsome, and he had his police uniform on. At intermission, we'd be dancing, and I just thought he was great. But you know, I was only 21.

Erickson: Um hmm. He was big and tall, too, wasn't he?

Dow: Um hmm. He's quite a bit older than I, because he was about 32. So then I left Portland and went to New York. I always thought about him, and I thought he'd probably forgotten about me. But all of a sudden, twenty years later, I get a call ...

Erickson: Oh, my goodness.

Dow: He'd called my dad to find out where I was. My dad wouldn't tell him, because he thought, "Well, I don't know if Sally still likes him or not."

But you know with a name like Sally Sinn, there's not too many S I N N in New York, so he called up. As soon as he got on the phone, the telephone operator said, "Is this Sally Sinn from Portland, Oregon?" I said, "Yes, who wants to know?" And he said, "That's her. I know her voice."

(laughter)

So then we started to correspond, and I came out on one of my vacations to see him.

Erickson: Was he in California at that time? Or still in Oregon?

Dow: Yeh, in California. When I met him ... well, I thought, he's quite a bit older. He was sort of getting arthritis, but he still was very handsome.

Then I went back and he just kept calling me all the time and writing me. He said, "Let's get married." So I don't know ...

Then I told my boss, "I'm leaving. I'm getting married." And my boss got so mad! He said, "You told me you were a career

Dow: woman. Why are you getting married?" But yet, he gave me \$1,000.00 as a wedding present.

Erickson: Oh, he did.

Dow: Yes. And I came out here and got married. Everything was going pretty good when we first got married, but then his arthritis got worse and worse, and he just got so crippled up after a while. Eighteen years of the time that I married him, he wasn't able to work. But it's just one of those things.

Erickson: He really did suffer.

Dow: Oh, yeh. I guess he had the worst kind. They had him up in the San Francisco medical school and doctors up there used him as a guinea pig.

Then he had a hip operation, and somebody from UC Irvine did it—Dr. Waugh—and he said Jack was so knowledgeable about diseases and things. Jack originally wanted to be a doctor.

Erickson: Oh, he did?

Dow: But every time he made a speech somewhere, he took Jack with him to talk. He was a very good speaker. Then he just got so crippled that he couldn't move too well. He was a very knowledgeable person about medicine. It's just too bad he couldn't pursue it.

Erickson: What was your marriage date?

Dow: August 15, 1964. August 15 is coming up pretty soon. He's the one who always remembered our wedding date. I always forgot.

(laughter)

That's how I got my job, too.

Erickson: Oh, tell us.

Dow: Yes, because when I came from New York, I didn't have a job. So I thought well, I'm in insurance, so I answered an ad, and it was a job in San Bernardino. So I went out there to work for Widmeyer.

When I went out there, he hired me, but the girls in the office didn't treat me very well. They thought, "She's from New York and she comes out here making more money than all of us." I don't know, it just was terrible. I just didn't know whether I wanted to stay there.

Oh ... at that time Jack was in real estate. We only had one car, so he had to drive me to work and then come pick me up. Well, when he's in real estate—I get off from work at 5:00, and if he's with a client, he can't come get me. Sometimes I'm there from 6 or 7, 8 o'clock.

This was terrible, so I told Mr. Widmeyer that I was afraid I'd have to quit and find something in Riverside. It's just too far for me to come work. He said, "I'll buy you a car." So he bought it. It was a company car, but he said I could use it so I didn't have to wait for a ride.

Erickson: So your employers have been really good to you.

Dow: Oh wonderful. So I got the car and drove it to work, and then Jack bumped into somebody. I can't remember his name. And he said, "I am looking for employees for UCR." He said, "Oh, I wish you'd get my wife into UCR." You know, I had my resume. He said, "Well, I think your wife is overqualified for most of these jobs." They were just clerk jobs.

Then they decided they were going to open up a public affairs office and that would handle the alumni. And they didn't call it public ceremonies, but helping the Chancellor with the events at Commencement.

Dow: So they said it's a new office. When I came out and got interviewed, Mrs. Barbara Roy was there, and she said, "Oh, Sal, that job was made for you."

When I got that job, I was so confused because everything I needed I had to order. That seems funny that every little item, I had to order it before I could do anything.

But there were so many people around there that were so wonderful. Betty Blue.

Erickson: Yes.

Dow: She was next door in Wrigglesworth's office.

Erickson: What was the name? Wrigglesworth?

Dow: He was Vice Chancellor, Wrigglesworth. I think he's passed away in the meantime. And then ... (pause) ... Dr. Oh, I can't think of his name. He worked with Lucia Meyers, and she helped me an awful lot. Was his name Metcalf?

Erickson: Oh, it could have been Robert Metcalf.

Dow: Is he the one that went to Chicago? Very famous.

Erickson: A scientist.

Dow: Yes. Entomologist.

Erickson: I believe so, yes.

Dow: Anyway, I got to know him real well. You know, sometimes when he'd lecture some place, I'd go listen. All of a sudden he'd see me and say, "Oh, hello, Sally." He was just so warm. It was just ... I just loved that university. They were so good to me.

Erickson: Uh huh. That was about what ... '65?

Dow: Yes. That's when I went to work there. I didn't know anything, but all these people helped me. And of course ...

Erickson: You had to learn university policy?

Dow: Um hmm.

Erickson: All kinds of rules, didn't you?

Dow: And then I had to write a lot of the Chancellor's letters in those days.

Erickson: And that was Ivan Hinderaker.

Dow: Yes, Ivan. One day he had seventy-some letters. Well, it was continual repetition, but it had to be original. I was writing those letters, and I got it off to him in that same day.

Erickson: Oh. You typed 70 letters?

Dow: Seventy-some letters. He was signing them and he said, "Oh, my God." I'd spelled his name H I N D E R A C K E R, 'cause I knew a Hinderacker in Wichita. He signed several of them, and then all of a sudden he realized ...

Erickson: What ...

Dow: So he said I'd have to do it over. I said it was no problem. I said to him, "Well, you didn't know you were spelling your name wrong!"

(laughter)

so that's how we got friendly. He was so nice. Then I got involved with Fran Wilcox, you heard about him?

Erickson: No.

Dow: He used to be the Manager of ... (pause) what's the name of that famous orange ... the orange company.

Erickson: Sunkist.

Dow: Sunkist. Hinderaker hired him, because they thought he'd bring a lot of big people to the campus for gifts and things like that. So I worked with him and Jim Greenfield. You've probably met Jim Greenfield.

Erickson: Yes, uh huh.

Dow: At that time Fran Wilcox was so busy giving me Sunkist business that wasn't really university stuff, but he was so well known and well liked ... so most of my work was doing his letters and keeping alumni records. I think there were 2000 alumni at that time.

Erickson: What did they hire you as, Sally. What position?

Dow: Sec Steno. Is there such a thing.

Erickson: Well, I think they've redone that whole system. But a 6 Steno?

Dow: Sec Steno. Secretary/Steno.

Erickson: Oh, sec. Oh.

Dow: I think that's what it was. Then they hired Jerold Richards as a Vice Chancellor of University Relations. Then they let Fran Wilcox go. When he came to the office, he did a lot of relations with schools for jobs. He went out and visited schools. I think he was very young. He wasn't even 40. At that time most of the vice chancellors were older.

We became very close in work, and he had to do a lot of traveling. At that time, he was going to the CUC meetings and taking minutes and planning those. But he was on the road so much, he said, "Sally, you're going to have to do the CUC minutes and meetings and program." So I said ok.

Dow: I think at that time Tim Hays was the president. I'd always have to go down and get their ok on minutes before I typed them. I had no problem because they were all such easy going, and you know originally the Citizens University Committee met at the Mission Inn.

Erickson: Oh really?

Dow: And they maybe had twelve to fifteen people for membership. Can you imagine? And then later on when we went out to the university, we had over 100.

Erickson: Oh, yeh.

Dow: But I got to know them so well. I was just a flunky, but they all had me up on a pedestal. I don't know why but ...

Erickson: Because you could do so many things.

Dow: Well, I worked so hard. You know, I'd do the minutes and then have them okayed. And then I got real close to Philip Boyd. He was our Regent. I just met some really wonderful people. And you know, my contact was with the faculty, and I worked with the students and worked with the staff.

Erickson: Now how did you work with the students? In what capacity?

Dow: Well, when I had Commencement, and then also at the beginning of the year, we had a welcome for new students. We'd put on a barbecue, and I'd always try to have a band, a rock band. I hated rock music but ...

(laughter)

Erickson: So were you given the freedom to develop all the programs that you thought were appropriate? Is that how it worked?

Dow: Yes. You know, like the freshman barbecue. Somebody had mentioned that we should welcome freshman, but no one ever

- Dow: told me what I had to do. I just went ahead and had the barbecue. It wasn't very expensive. We'd usually try to have something like hot dogs or hamburgers. Then you get a rock band, and they all come and have a great time meeting one another and getting acquainted by dancing or whatever.
- Erickson: So how would you do that? How would you actually organize it? Did you go to the Chancellor's calendar first, to his office to determine the calendar availability before you planned an event?
- Dow: Oh, yes. Because you'd have to know the dates. A lot of times the Chancellor wasn't always there.
- (telephone interruption)
- Entertain incoming freshmen. You know, I'm trying to figure out how we got their names. Probably through ...
- Erickson: The Registrar's Office?
- Dow: Yeh. I think the Registrar—who were going to come to UCR. And usually about a week before orientation, we'd have the barbecue. We'd always have a pretty good turnout. We changed locations. Sometimes we'd have it up above the Humanities, you know, up in that upper part.
- Erickson: Yes, uh huh.
- Dow: And then after while, I think I had it down in front of the administration building.
- Erickson: Before the telephone rang, you were saying something about the Chancellor wasn't always there.
- Dow: No, the Chancellor wasn't always there, but you know, if he wasn't there, a Vice Chancellor was there or somebody to greet and talk to the students.
- Erickson: Uh huh.

Dow: I don't know if they still have that today, but I did that up until the time I left. Then we used to have the alumni, we called it the Beer Bust. I don't know if they still have that. At Open House? That's how I got the alumni to come and be bartender.

Erickson: Oh.

Dow: Uh huh. Serve beer and we'd have a band. Everybody ... you know Hank Carney?

Erickson: Uh huh.

Dow: He just loved that band. There were so many people that loved that band.

Erickson: The UCR band?

Dow: No, no. It was ... (pause) Oh, gosh. I used them so many times. It was the Jazz Band. They traveled all over and they were really wonderful. I had good luck, and I always tried to use the same people, and everybody looked forward to it.

Erickson: Now was that an expensive kind of thing to put on ... this beer bust where you were hiring a jazz band?

Dow: Yeh, but the Alumni Association paid for it. Well, the only expensive thing was the band. I tried to promote some of their records. Night Blooming Jazz Men. They were wonderful, and I used them for the Beer Bust. That's how I got the Alumni to come out. I don't know if they still have that today. It was during Open House. That was always ... oh, it was just about the time daylight savings came. So we had that event.

Oh, and as far as Bill Helms and his band. You know, he won the first scholarship at UCR, musical scholarship.

Erickson: No, I didn't know that.

Dow: Yes, and our Music Department was very good, but it wasn't all that well known. And after he graduated, I don't know what he did, but he'd have occasion to play with some of his men in a quartet or octet or something. And then he got this band together, and they weren't known at all. I thought, "Gosh, they're so good."

So I decided to see if I could get him known on campus. I worked with Jack Yeager, too. They were putting on competition with the different campuses for ... Gosh, I wish I knew what they call it. Jazz Festival or something.

Erickson: How did Jack Yeager help?

Dow: Oh well, he'd tell me where they were going to have a festival, and you know, I'd send Bill Helms there. And then Bill Helms—I wanted him to compete in one. I think he didn't have money, so I went to Art Pick and said, "Have you got some money in the community to help him out?"

Erickson: And was Art the Chambers of Commerce President then?

Dow: Vice President. He said, "Fine." So he gave him money every year. And then I got thinking that he still didn't get exposure. I thought that every time I had a banquet, I'd have Bill Helms have his whole band come and play. So I did. He did get exposure that way, and I think the Music Department hired him to come and do band practice and teach band.

I notice lately I haven't seen too much of his band.

Erickson: Well, I think that he always performs at Commencement. I'm fairly sure he does.

Dow: Oh, he still does that?

Erickson: I think so.

Dow: 'Cause when I was there it was Bill Reynolds ... no Clinkscale? You see, when Town & Gown had an event, I always hired him

Dow: to play for them so that he could make some money, 'cause I was trying to help him out. He was not known, and yet he ...

Erickson: He's so good.

Dow: Yes, good musicians and everything. But I haven't seen Bill for quite a while. You know, even after I left campus, he'd have concerts there, and I'd always go to them. I don't know if he even plays any more. I know Town & Gown is no more and they used to hire him.

Erickson: Sally, you were talking about organizing the Alumni Office and all the records.

Dow: Um hmm.

Erickson: First, how did you get that responsibility and then what did you do with it once you got it?

Dow: I think somebody was there. Jim Greenfield, I think, was there with the Relations with Schools or somehow they had the records. There were about 2000 alumni, and they just had them on cards. I thought, "My goodness." Well, every year we had Commencement and we added names. Then I went back and tried to look up ... and I did a lot of it through the yearbook.

Erickson: Oh sure.

Dow: So when I got the yearbooks, I could see who graduated. And of course, my favorite class was the Class of '58, because that was the first four year group at the university. They made me honorary alumnus of their class.

Erickson: Is that right.

Dow: Yes. Because it's Ed Cowan, Bill DeWolfe, Charles Field. I just know everyone in that class. It was wonderful 'cause when they had a reunion, they always turned out in the biggest number.

Erickson: Did they?

Dow: Uh huh. To this day, I still see them. Not too long ago Bill DeWolfe came over here and had dinner with me. Ed Cowan also came. Oh, I still see a lot of the people we had on campus. Not too long ago, I met with the KUCR head ... (pause)

Erickson: Oh.

Dow: Vandenberg.

Erickson: Louis, uh huh.

Dow: I always feel sorry for him. Nobody fights for him or sticks up for him. At one time his budget was under our office.

Erickson: Oh.

Dow: And so we used to talk about his budget, and he'd say, "Well, I'll have some kind of a sale or something." No one ever knew how much work that man did, and he had so much love for the campus. You know after Hinderaker left, he just had nobody left to support him. Because Hinderaker, you know, knew how much he did. Ever since he graduated, that's the only job he's had. But every time he had trouble, he'd come and talk to me. I didn't know any thing about the radio station, but I knew how to tell him how to fight.

(laughter)

And then when he got into trouble once, he said there was a committee that Rosemary Schraer was going to put together and review everything about UCR. I found out that Hank Carney was going to be on the committee. I said, "Hank, do what you want. You're going to be fair, but you'll have to listen to some of the problems. Nobody is giving the guy any support or help or budget or anything. And everything he's done there, he's done himself." And do you know, Hank Carney's on the radio over there now.

Erickson: He does a jazz program, doesn't he?

Dow: Right, uh huh. Not too long ago, they said let's get together for lunch. There was Vandenberg, who was supposed to be there, Carney and (pause) the student services... Vince Del Pizzo.

Erickson: Umm.

Dow: I worked with those people. So I still see the campus. We were all having lunch together at that India House, and they said, "Sal, we must get together every couple of months."

Erickson: Oh, that's nice.

Dow: Yes. Vince Del Pizzo always used to say, "God, Sal. I wish I was like you. You're such a fighter." I said I think maybe it's because I've been in show business or something. You get brave. I really have had no trouble all my best years—22 years I was there. I just really love the place.

And even some of the students. You know, I don't see them that often except around Commencement time. But even they are wonderful.

One year they came to me and asked why we were not going to call their names. Really there are too many. We should have more ceremonies. "Do you want to sit for two hours with name calling? And as soon as somebody gets off the stage, they leave, and it's so rude."

So I said that we were just going to confer the degrees en masse. They said, "Can't we at least have our Pomp and Circumstances (the music)." I said sure. So I played it, and it was so nice. The students were sitting down there, and when that played, they all waved at me as if to say thank you, Sally.

Erickson: Oh.

Dow: So it just meant a lot, because with students, I don't have that much contact with them except at commencement time and the freshman barbecue.

And then we had the scholarship committee with the alumni. We gave out a lot of scholarships. We started out giving out just a few, but boy, they give out a lot of scholarships now. The alumni participated and picked the scholars, and then I formed a club so that they (alumni scholars) could be on campus.

Erickson: What do you mean? The recipients of the scholarships?

Dow: Um hmm. Grace Chan was one. In fact, she's coming here Saturday to see me. I still see them. She is now Vice President of Public Relations at Cedar Sinai Hospital.

Erickson: Isn't that great.

Dow: Isn't that wonderful.

Erickson: Yes.

Dow: And then there's Tim Ye, and his mother died right after Commencement. When they were coming to Commencement, I gave them special seating, and the family was so grateful. After he left here, he went to UCLA.

I got invited to Tim's wedding, and whenever he comes to Riverside, he comes here to have lunch with me. And now they're all big-shot doctors. Isn't that wonderful.

Erickson: It sure is.

Dow: But the nicest part is the continuity. You know, after they leave campus, they're not really lost. I still am in contact. Another one is somebody like Frank Usher. When I was working on Commencement, he stayed there sometimes until 10 or 11 o'clock at night working with me. He was the only Commencement speaker who was a student. After he graduated, he went into the Peace Corps in Peru. But we've

Dow: been friends ever since. I went to their wedding, and I met his mother and father. They used to come to campus and take me to lunch. The other day ... I can't remember ... Oh, the last event CUC had ... No, the alumni ... he was there and his son was there.

Erickson: Is he a student also?

Dow: No the son is only about maybe 10 years old.

Erickson: Oh, I see.

Dow: He said his mother and father were still living. I still see all these people so I remain in touch. It was a wonderful job. I had an envious job, I think, because I got more exposure to the campus. And the campus was small.

Erickson: When was the Alumni Association formed? Was that before you arrived or did you start that?

Dow: Well wait a minute ... The Alumni Association. They had a group. I think Jim Greenfield, because he was also the Class of '58. They sort of formed then. It was a small group.

At the time I came, Bill DeWolfe was the President. But they didn't meet that often on campus. I don't know when they started to get heavily involved. There weren't that many alumni. Outside the Class of '58, I think everybody in that class has been president.

Erickson: Really?

Dow: Uh huh. After the Class of '60, the numbers got so great that I didn't know that many students. Let's see. When we were picking the outstanding alumnus, we picked the person who was from New York ... gosh, I can't remember his name. Well you know, when they write us ... class notes and that, you can get a pretty good idea who they are.

Erickson: Um hmm. When did you start ... or during your tenure, were the alumni records on computer, were they computerized at that point?

Dow: Not in the very beginning, but ...

Erickson: But you did that.

Dow: Yeh. Um hmm.

Erickson: Well, how many staff people did you have working for you?

Dow: I never had more than two staff people, and we did Commencement, community relations and alumni. One girl was with me for nine years, and the other girl was with me for twelve years.

Erickson: Who were they?

Dow: Vicki Monahan. She's now an administrator in some hospital in Centralia, Illinois. She said, "God, you used to work us so hard. You always said everything has to be perfect." She said, "I didn't see why we had to be so exact." "But" she said, "I'm thanking you now." And Cheryl Miller worked for me for twelve years and then she married an attorney, and he's supposed to be one of the best comp attorneys—Ron Miller. So she quit to go work for him, but she worked twelve years for me. I just had those two for the first 12 years.

Then when Aldrich was there, he said, "You need more help. I don't know how you can run the office." I said, "Well, there's never any money." So he said that he understood Ruth Comly is quitting down in Relations with Schools. She had been here twenty five years, and it seemed a shame to waste talent like that. I said that I can't afford her. He asked, "What if I transferred her money into your office?"

Erickson: From another source?

Dow: Brought her pay up to my office. So I said ok. Ruth and I have been friends for over thirty years. But still, I have to favor the girls that did the work in the office with me for so many years. They were so knowledgeable. And then after one of them left, I hired Olivia. Olivia still works there.

Erickson: She's still there, right.

Dow: I really know how to pick the help.

Erickson: I'll say.

Dow: Well, sometimes they say that "you're so strict," but after a while, they say, "no, you're very fair." Lou Leo said, "I'll say one thing about you. You're very fair 'cause there's not a girl that complains about working for you. They said you're so fair that they can't complain."

I hired a girl once and told her that we started at 8 o'clock. I said that I ask everybody to be here at 8:00, but I don't keep anybody after 5:00 p.m. She was always coming in about eight or nine minutes late. So ... this is really horrible. I stood at the door one day, and when she walked in, I said "Good Afternoon" and I walked away. She was never late again.

But those are the kinds of things that I'd do ... I guess that's being tough. But rather than keep bawling them out, I'd just do it that way, and it works.

Erickson: And it solves the problem.

Dow: Yes.

Erickson: Do you remember what was the very first Commencement that you organized?

Dow: The very first Commencement ... (pause) Gee, I don't know. Originally the Commencement had faculty committees on them, and I think it was just done for two or three years after I came. After that, I just did the Commencement myself.

Erickson: Oh, the committee was assigned to do the work on the Commencement?

Dow: Well, yes, to decided where we are going to have it, and who we'd engage as a speaker.

Erickson: I see. So then you just took it over?

Dow: Yeh. But see, I always passed it by Hinderaker. I'd say, "there's a speaker we're going to get." I think he'd ok it. Or a lot of times he did. But I had a Speakers Bureau that I got from ... I don't know where I got it. It shows on there everybody who's available and how much they want. Sometimes Hinderaker had an idea who he wanted. One year he wanted Joan Didian, and then we had Maya ... what's her name?

Erickson: Angelou?

Dow: Yes.

Erickson: You said you had Bill Buckley?

Dow: Yeh, he came in the 60s. He was very good. Of course, I have a record of all this.

Erickson: Sally, how did you go about organizing something like a Commencement? Did you go to other campuses to see how they handled it?

Dow: No, because there was a person on campus—Hostetter—do you remember him?

Erickson: No.

Dow: They used to call him Mr. Campus. He was divorced while he was on campus, and a lot of people didn't like him for that, but I went to people who handled Commencement before and asked them what they did. So I got a lot of ideas from that. I didn't go to the other campuses.

Erickson: Did you go to the staff then to help you with Commencement?
To help actually put in on?

Dow: Just my own staff.

Erickson: You didn't have extra help during the actual event?

Dow: Well, I'd engage people from other offices like ...

Erickson: That's what I meant.

Dow: Marion McCarthy, remember her?

Erickson: Yes.

Dow: She'd always say, "I'll help you." So then I'd tell her what to do. Line up people. I'd have diagrams how they should be lined up and teach people how to robe the participants.

Erickson: How many months of planning would you say goes into an event such as Commencement?

Dow: Well usually I would say that I took two solid months where I'd drop everything else. See, I also wrote the Cue Book myself. But after a while it became so easy. You do one or two and they're about all the same.

Erickson: Then you also organized the Charter Days on campus?

Dow: Yes, uh huh.

Erickson: Why don't you talk about that a little?

Dow: Well, the Charter Day I didn't do myself alone. That was when I first came to the campus. They had ... that's how I met Al Page and Seymour Van Gundy, and we're still the best of friends. But see, we worked on things like that together. They were a faculty committee, so I guess I was sort of the peon worker, (chuckle)

Dow: And when I'd get working on that I'd see things and think, "Gee whiz. I don't have to bother a committee, because I could just go ahead and do that myself."

And the other thing that was so wonderful ... and to this day we're the best of friends ... the Physical Plant. My they were wonderful.

Erickson: They really are.

Dow: John Honeycutt and Sal Martino. You know, in the days that we had an event, I didn't have any funds for table decorations. I'd ask Buildings and Grounds to cut some greeneries. I'd go out and cut bottle brushes, you know, or I'd ask Ag Extension for some of their fruits and arrange that. I never paid a penny for ... we just didn't have the money.

Erickson: How did that work, Sally? Were you given an amount of money at the start of the year to handle all your events?

Dow: Yes.

Erickson: How did you do that then? How did you divide the money?

Dow: I really didn't because most of that went into salaries. It was mostly salaries. Some years, I didn't have enough to pay salaries. I went to the Alumni Association and asked them to fund one my girl's salaries.

Erickson: So those salaries were not 19900 funds?

Dow: No, none of them. Mine was the only 19900. So they were all soft monies. They were either Searles funds or Jack's funds—you know, strawberry money or whatever. I don't know why I never had anybody fight for funding. You know, we did all that, and I had just two girls. They worked so hard, and they stayed so long.

Dow: I always said, “If you transfer out, you get more money.” Because everybody knew they were good workers. But they stayed and were very loyal. To this day we’re all very close, and I’ll never forget them. (chuckle)

Do you know, today you can’t ask an employee if you’re pregnant or if you’re going to have any children or that.

Erickson: No.

Dow: But you know, when I started here Cheri came to work for me. She just came from Nebraska, and she’d been to college. I said, “I don’t mind hiring you, but are you planning to raise a family? Because you’ve got a little boy now. If you’re going to raise a family now, I don’t know that I want to risk hiring you.”

I couldn’t ask that today. When I found out later that you couldn’t, I just laughed so hard. And she said, “Oh, no. One child is all I can afford.” By gosh, it wasn’t a year that she told me she was pregnant!

Erickson: But it all worked, didn’t it?

Dow: But they worked so hard. I never asked them to stay overtime; they just did it on their own. Could never pay them.

Erickson: Did you give them comp time?

Dow: Yes.

Erickson: I wondered if you would talk about the selection for the Alumni Regent position.

Dow: Oh, well (pause) Of course, when we got our first Regent, I think we got it only ... I’m just going by memory ... every nine years.

Erickson: It’s on a rotating basis, isn’t it?

Dow: Yes. It goes by the size of the campus, and our campus was so small that we could only come into presenting a Regents every nine years. I think maybe now we get a Regent more than that.

So the first Regent, I think, it was when Bill DeWolfe was President, and he was active. Charlie Field was active—it was that Class of '58. They did a lot of work. I picked candidates with the board members. We picked who we wanted to run, and then we sent out notices to the alumni to vote. Everybody thought Bill DeWolfe was going to get it.

Erickson: Ooo. Is that right? How many names were on the ballot?

Dow: Oh, I think about three or four, because we didn't have that many. In the first place, you have to pick an alumnus who can devote that much time. And also, it requires quite a bit of out-of-pocket money, too.

Erickson: Oh, in what way?

Dow: Well, you are continually traveling. I think they paid for a good part of the traveling, but you know, they had to stay at a hotel and food.

Erickson: So that was not paid for by The Regents?

Dow: I don't think so then.

Erickson: I think today it is.

Dow: Everything is paid by them today. But anyway, there was always competition between Bill DeWolfe and Charlie Field. And of course, my choice was Bill DeWolfe, because he was more conscientious, and I thought he'd be a good Regent. So when we voted, and the alumni voted ... Charlie Field is a good speaker and a good writer. He won by a big margin.

So I called the Chancellor and said we have a Regent now. I said it's Charlie Field and he said, "Oh, my gosh!" Charlie Field was like a playboy—you know, not very serious. So I

Dow: think the Chancellor was surprised, too. Everybody thought Bill DeWolfe would get it. I said to Bill, "Maybe next time." I had nothing to do with the choice. We picked the candidates.

But, I'll tell you. Charlie Field did us proud. He went over there and put us on the map. (chuckle)

The first time he met Norton Simon ... you know how he jokes. He said, "You've sure got a lot of imitations." You know, prints or whatever. He was just kidding, but they didn't know how to take him.

After a while, they all became so close to Charlie Field. And not only that, he did his homework, because when he came back and reported to the board, he really knew every bit of the Regents material, minutes. So he really did us proud.

Erickson: Now how does that work, Sally? If we have an Alumni Regent, then he comes back to each of the campus Alumni meetings and reports?

Dow: Um hmm. And I think at the time they are the Alumni Regent, they are also the Alumni President. He came back, and I was very, very proud of Charlie Field. I've always liked him, but you know, everybody sort of looked at him as the playboy type. He did us really proud.

Then we got our next alumni. Jim Toledano won. At that time, there was Brithinee running with him and Sylvia McNeil. You know her?

Erickson: Um hmm.

Dow: We had all good candidates. Of course, I was hoping Brithinee would win, because he's very serious.

Erickson: There're two Brithinees. Do you mean Don?

Dow: Don, uh huh. I was talking to Philip Boyd. Philip Boyd came to our board and spoke and he told us the type of person we

Dow: needed. He was trying to give us a little insight of the makeup of the Regents, the permanent Regents, and who they would like or what type person they would like. He thought that Brithinee really fit the bill. And when Brithinee didn't get it, I felt so sad. Jim Toledano won.

Erickson: I'm not sure I understand the process. It's all done by voting on a ballot?

Dow: Uh huh.

Erickson: But isn't there a committee?

Dow: Well the committee picks the original candidates, because everybody wouldn't know ... Also we used to say to submit names of people that you think would be a good candidate. No one ever did, so most of the candidates were picked by the Alumni Board or board members. Then the final vote goes out to the whole alumni family.

Erickson: But these final candidates then ... do they go before the committee at some point and express their views on how they would interact with the Regents? Is that part of ...?

Dow: No they don't. Well, they do speak to the board.

Erickson: The Alumni Board.

Dow: Yes. They do. I don't know. Toledano won that year, and Toledano's a hard worker. But he's not the conservative type. He was a hard worker and I liked him, but he's very outspoken. I don't know that Riverside was that elated that we had Jim Toledano. A lot of people just didn't know him. But anyway, he was our second Regent.

Then when it came time for the third Regent ... Oh, at the time that we picked Toledano ... we wanted to have Sue Johnson, but her husband said that because the twins were at an age where they needed their mother, she couldn't put in that time,

Dow: he would rather she didn't get put into the hopper. He said some other time.

So the next time that we got our Regent, I don't know if nine years had passed. I think the time had been cut by then. But anyway, I went to her husband first. I said we'd like to have Sue in there. I also had another reason for putting Sue in, because Philip Boyd was already going out as a Regent. I think at one time they served sixteen years.

Erickson: Um hmm.

Dow: And he said after twelve, that was it.

Erickson: That's a long time.

Dow: Yes, and I thought if Sue will go in as a Regent, I just know that with her personality, they'll probably pick her as a permanent Regent. I kept saying that. When I talked to her husband, he said ok, it's all right now if Sue wants to do it. So I talked to Sue, and I said, "I'm hoping that they'll give us a permanent Regent." And, I don't know, I just sort of sensed that it would happen, and it sure did.

Erickson: It sure did.

Dow: She did us proud. She makes a good showing wherever she goes. She served as a Regent ... and I don't know how long after that she became the regular Regent, because she's still serving.

Erickson: Yes, she is as a full-fledged Regent. I think there was a little bit of a break. I don't remember exactly, maybe a year or two?

Dow: Oh, more than that.

Erickson: Was it more?

Dow: Uh huh. But I knew, because I figured that with Phil Boyd gone, we needed a Regent from this area, and she did fine. After her I don't know.

Erickson: As far as the Alumni Regents now, we have David Willmon. Do you know David?

Dow: Yes, he'll be good. He's more of a political figure, but he's good. He knows what he's doing. I don't know if he'll make a permanent Regent, but I think he's a good Alumni Regent. Do you know from the time that Sue was a Regent until now ... I don't know how many years that has been ... so the years have been reduced, right?

Erickson: It's twelve years now.

Dow: No, I mean that we get an alumni regent.

Erickson: Oh, no I don't know.

Dow: Before it was every nine years, but I'm sure that now ... well look at our enrollment. It's way up. Maybe we're getting it ever six or ...

Erickson: I don't know.

Dow: I don't know that either. But Dave Willmon will be a good Regent. He's hard working and he's very smart. So we're fine.

Erickson: Were the administrators always supportive of the programs that you were trying to put on?

Dow: Oh yes.

Erickson: You never had any problems?

Dow: Oh no. The only one was when Rosemary was there the first year. She said to me ... I think it was Commencement. "I wonder how we know where we're going to sit." (chuckle) I said your name is on the seat. (chuckle) There's a

diagram. I have the cue book. She said, “Oh, that’s wonderful.” You know, I left before she became Chancellor, but I liked her.

Erickson: Who was Chancellor when you left then?

Dow: Um...

Erickson: Was it Hullar?

Dow: Hullar wasn’t there that long. Let’s see.

Erickson: Because you talked about Hinderaker, Tomás Rivera, and Aldrich.

Dow: Aldrich was interim. And then Hullar. After Hullar it was Rosemary. Yes. But I didn’t get to serve any time with Rosemary Schraer, except that she was ... was she vice chancellor?

Erickson: She came as EVC, Executive Vice Chancellor.

Dow: Yes. But I’ve always liked her. She’s a wonderful person. I just feel so badly that she passed away just before she retired.

Erickson: Isn’t that sad?

Dow: See, that’s the thing that really bothered me, too, because I thought she was so right in her defense of the campus. But times have changed.

Erickson: Do you know this Chancellor, Raymond Orbach?

Dow: No.

Erickson: That’s since you’ve retired.

Dow: Um hmm. But personally, I don’t know. I was introduced to him. Sue (Johnson) introduced him to me.

Erickson: I wanted to capture all the programs that you were responsible for. We talked a little bit about Town & Gown, but would you go through that a little. How was that established and how did you work with them?

Dow: Town & Gown was established before I came there. They didn't have an awful lot of people in it before I was there. All the events were held at the home of Julie Walker. I think you know her, don't you?

Erickson: Um hmm.

Dow: It was wonderful. It was always held at her place. After that, we decided we'd hold it at different locations, and I think ... there aren't too many people that had a home big enough. Dr. Robinson, the vet—we had his place a couple of times. What I would do was just go to the members and ask if we could have it there.

And then this one gentleman ... he was in service. We had it out there about three times. He passed away.

Erickson: Uh huh. I know who you mean, and I was trying to think of that.

Dow: Because his widow is still there. We had it there. A lot of times we had it at the university. But see, since it's a community group, it's very easy to work with them. You just find somebody that would like to hold it at their place or ... most of the time, you just plan things, and they just go along with it.

Erickson: Hmm.

Dow: You know, the Town & Gown, I took them to museums, took them to the Romona Pageant, day at the races. It was just a social group. There was quite a big membership at one time. But I don't know why they dropped it. I'll never know why or what happened. But anyway, I was sorry to hear that.

Dow: And then always, I tried to have Town & Gown support something on campus. You know, they didn't even have records of it, because when this Chancellor came, he said something about, "They've never given anything." I said, "Every year they gave to something—scholarship or they bought at University Club, I think they bought some of the equipment. Down at the Ortega Park, they bought some picnic tables.

You know, it wasn't a fund raising group as such, but they did give something every year. I said, "There's a record of all the things they accomplished every year. I had them contribute to something." Why wasn't that brought out? I don't know where those books are. I don't know why they disbanded the group. They said they didn't give enough to the campus.

Erickson: I don't know.

Dow: It wasn't meant to be a fund raiser. The CUC is still going strong. The only thing with the CUC—there's so many people who've passed away. You can tell me one thing.

Erickson: Sure.

Dow: What's happened to Fred Jennings? I used to love that man.

Erickson: Isn't he a nice man?

Dow: Did he pass away?

Erickson: No, I don't think so, Sally.

Dow: Oh?

Erickson: As far as I know, he's at Corona Del Mar. He moved there ... I mean, I think he had a home there for a long time, didn't he. But then he actually just physically moved from Riverside to Corona, I think. I saw him, maybe it's probably been a year ago.

Dow: Oh.

Erickson: But he looked fine.

Dow: Because I haven't seen him at any of the CUC functions. And before, you know, I always used to try to sit near him 'cause I just liked him. He's such a gentleman and a wonderful person.

Erickson: Um hmm.

Dow: And I asked a lot of people, what's happened to Fred Jennings, because he's was always there. People like John Cote.

Erickson: Oh, yes. And we lost him.

Dow: Yes.

Erickson: David Goldware, too.

Dow: Yes. David Goldware. We used to have ... what do you call it? (pause) Gifts and Endowments. They'd always have an event, and he loved the old-time music, and he was very good.

You know, even Nick Goldware. Sometimes they didn't understand him. But he was a hard worker. I always liked Nick. He worked hard. Anything you asked him, he'd do.

Erickson: Now did you work with the Campus Club at all?

Dow: No, I didn't.

Erickson: But you certainly did with Affiliates.

Dow: Uh huh. Affiliates. Birk (Hinderaker) organized the group, and it was supposed to be a counterpart of CUC—only women. They weren't in that big a capacity, but they enjoyed coming to the campus.

Dow: The women that were in there were mostly older women, and they had a lot of time on their hands, so they didn't mind coming to the program and hearing about the campus. I think they were interested.

Erickson: Who came up with that idea of having the guest speaker after the luncheon? Was that your idea?

Dow: No, we always had a guest speaker.

Erickson: Whose idea was that originally?

Dow: Oh, we always had one. I always had a speaker. In any of the groups, I always had a speaker. They were easy to find. But you know, I haven't been to Affiliates for a long time. I'm still on the board. I get notices from the board.

Erickson: Yes, you're an honorary member.

Dow: Yes, but I haven't been for quite a while. Last time I went, they had Dave Warren as a speaker, because I always have been close to Warren.

Erickson: Um hmm.

Dow: So I went to that. I think that's the last one I went to.

Erickson: It hasn't been too long ago then.

Dow: No. But I haven't been to any of the board meetings, because you know, they've got so many new faces. I'm just sort of lost. And even CUC, I used to know nearly all the CUC members, but they're all gone.

Art Littleworth is still there. I was so glad he got remarried.

Erickson: Yes, he's a nice man.

Dow: Bob McCarty is there. I was so sorry to hear about Bob McCarty's father in law. He passed away. But gosh, he was

Dow: ninety years old. He was such a fine gentleman. He and Philip Boyd.

Erickson: That was his stepfather, wasn't it?

Dow: Yes. Wait a minute Yes. His mother married Philip Core, and Philip Core was a very good friend of Philip Boyd.

Erickson: Oh.

Dow: Yeh. And Philip Core was the founder of the Riverside Medical Clinic.

Erickson: Yes.

Dow: And he was such a refined gentleman. I'll tell you—some of those people you just can't replace.

Erickson: No, that's true.

Dow: Like John Gabbert. How's he doing health wise?

Erickson: He's doing great. He had an operation.

Dow: Yes, at the last CUC meeting they announced that.

Erickson: He's doing very well.

Dow: Good. You've lost some of the members, and those are people that I knew so well.

Erickson: And they thought so much ... they were just such a part of the campus, weren't they?

Dow: Yes, they were always on campus and interested in the campus. Of course, Dallas Holmes is still involved.

But, oh, the incoming president is going to be Charlie Field, right?

Erickson: I don't know that.

Dow: Yes, CUC. He's done real well.

Erickson: Sally, is there anything else that we didn't talk about that you'd like to bring up?

Dow: Hmm. I'm just trying to think. We covered public ceremonies, alumni and community groups. I think we've covered all the areas.

Erickson: Ok. Well, thank you very much. It was wonderful.

END OF INTERVIEW