

Transcript for Centennial Conversations

Podcast #8

1

00:00:03,850 --> 00:00:06,340

Doug Achterman (DA): Welcome back to Centennial Conversations, a series

2

00:00:06,340 --> 00:00:08,740

of podcasts about the first 100 years of Gavilan

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00:00:08,740 --> 00:00:10,960

College. I'm Doug Achterman, head librarian at

4

00:00:10,960 --> 00:00:12,970

Gavilan, and we're here with history professor

5

00:00:12,970 --> 00:00:16,040

Leah Halper, author of: To Dream On Your Behalf,

6

00:00:16,360 --> 00:00:19,540

a History of Gavilan College. So in our last

7

00:00:19,540 --> 00:00:24,490

podcast, you took us up through the- up until the

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00:00:24,490 --> 00:00:29,950

2000s. We looked at the 1980s and 90s, and the, the

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00:00:29,950 --> 00:00:32,380

the series of challenges and struggles that

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00:00:32,380 --> 00:00:35,650

Gavilan went through at that time, and that really

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00:00:35,650 --> 00:00:41,920

brings us to the end of our podcast, and, umm, but, but I

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00:00:41,920 --> 00:00:44,920

have all these questions about how you did your

13

00:00:44,920 --> 00:00:47,890

history, and working with you in the last several

14

00:00:47,890 --> 00:00:51,460

years I know that you have a methodology around

15

00:00:51,460 --> 00:00:57,820

doing oral histories, and that is phenomenal, and

16

00:00:57,820 --> 00:01:02,380

you that, that practice is part of your

17

00:01:02,380 --> 00:01:05,740

instructional practice. You, umm you help students

18

00:01:05,740 --> 00:01:09,250

become young historians, not young historians. You

19

00:01:09,250 --> 00:01:12,940

help them become historians. They do real history,

20

00:01:13,930 --> 00:01:16,360

and so I was really hoping that we can have a

21

00:01:16,360 --> 00:01:19,420

chance to unpack the methodologies that you

22

00:01:19,420 --> 00:01:22,510

created to do this history. Leah Halper (LH): I would love to talk

23

00:01:22,510 --> 00:01:26,530

about that. DA: Where did you get the idea of doing a

24

00:01:26,530 --> 00:01:29,410

book and a website on Gavilan history? Where did

25

00:01:29,410 --> 00:01:32,680

that come from? LH: Oh my. OK, so I'll try not to have

26

00:01:32,680 --> 00:01:34,420

a really, really long answer, but there are a lot

27

00:01:34,420 --> 00:01:36,130

of threads that come together here. First of all,

28

00:01:36,130 --> 00:01:38,500

I'm a curious person, which is why I'm a historian.

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00:01:38,500 --> 00:01:41,380

So I'm always asking questions and asking those

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00:01:41,380 --> 00:01:44,200

questions. In my first 20 years at Gavilan, I

31

00:01:44,200 --> 00:01:46,390

heard a lot of really interesting stories from the

32

00:01:46,390 --> 00:01:48,340

old timers. I mean, it kind of piques your

33

00:01:48,340 --> 00:01:50,050

interest to kind of hear some of the things that

34

00:01:50,050 --> 00:01:54,280

went on, and then some faculty, and particularly

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00:01:54,280 --> 00:01:58,990

our Dean Kent Child, were retiring, and, you know,

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00:01:59,020 --> 00:02:03,250

you don't want to lose these stories, and a lot

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00:02:03,250 --> 00:02:05,650

kind of comes from my own experience, the story of

38

00:02:05,680 --> 00:02:09,640

the layoffs of 1994 that changed my whole concept

39

00:02:09,640 --> 00:02:12,490

of the college, and I started to kind of

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00:02:12,490 --> 00:02:14,710

understand shared governance, mostly because it

41

00:02:14,710 --> 00:02:18,070

had not been used in that situation, and, you know,

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00:02:18,070 --> 00:02:20,200

everything it stands for everything that a college

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00:02:20,200 --> 00:02:22,780

stands for, critical thinking, collaboration,

44

00:02:22,780 --> 00:02:26,050

inquiry, reason. Those things were mortally

45

00:02:26,050 --> 00:02:28,540

wounded in that situation, and yet the college

46

00:02:28,540 --> 00:02:30,820

recovered, and I was really interested in that.

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00:02:30,820 --> 00:02:34,150

There was this vitality that couldn't be killed,

48

00:02:34,150 --> 00:02:36,130

and the college kind of righted itself, and that

49

00:02:36,130 --> 00:02:40,540

process interested me. I'm also my experience is

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00:02:40,540 --> 00:02:43,180

I'm very connected to this area, and I knew the

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00:02:43,180 --> 00:02:46,480

college was founded in 1919, and I need to say

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00:02:46,480 --> 00:02:49,630

that my grandfather, Peter Bogeadie, who at that

53

00:02:49,630 --> 00:02:52,360

time was living on a ranch in San Martin that his

54

00:02:52,360 --> 00:02:56,620

family owned, was a World War I veteran. He was

55

00:02:56,620 --> 00:02:59,230

one of the guys who was coming back from World War

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00:02:59,230 --> 00:03:02,380

I, who this college was founded to serve. I mean,

57

00:03:02,680 --> 00:03:06,220

the geographical distance, and his own kind of life

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00:03:06,220 --> 00:03:08,890

trajectory ensured that he was not one of the

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00:03:08,890 --> 00:03:10,990

early students, but he could have been. He was an

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00:03:10,990 --> 00:03:15,070

Italian American young man, really bright, without

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00:03:15,070 --> 00:03:18,520

other opportunities, and so going back to that

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00:03:18,520 --> 00:03:21,370

period took me back to my own family history in a

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00:03:21,370 --> 00:03:26,290

way that was just so nourishing. I learned so much

64

00:03:26,290 --> 00:03:28,870

about what was going on in this area during the

65

00:03:28,870 --> 00:03:32,620

war, and when Hollister was welcoming back 500 guys,

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00:03:33,040 --> 00:03:35,770

you know, he was one of the guys who was being

67

00:03:35,770 --> 00:03:38,680

welcomed back in San Martin. DA: I did not know that. LH: Yeah, so and,

68

00:03:38,680 --> 00:03:41,110

you know, he- I know a lot more about my

69

00:03:41,110 --> 00:03:43,510

grandmother. She was a lot more talkative. So- I

70

00:03:43,510 --> 00:03:45,460

was very close to my grandfather, though. We spent

71

00:03:45,460 --> 00:03:49,630

hours and hours quietly in the garden working, and

72

00:03:49,990 --> 00:03:53,650

it brought me some kind of intimacy with him, and

73

00:03:53,650 --> 00:03:55,840

with his life experience. So that, that's a reason,

74

00:03:56,350 --> 00:04:00,940

and then another reason is that I went to Stanford,

75

00:04:01,480 --> 00:04:03,790

and I had this experience of being a scholarship

76

00:04:03,790 --> 00:04:07,180

student at an incredibly wealthy university where

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00:04:07,180 --> 00:04:09,820

anything you wanted to do, somebody would fund you.

78

00:04:10,030 --> 00:04:13,300

There was always a yes, you always got what you

79

00:04:13,300 --> 00:04:15,250

wanted, and so there's this flowering of

80

00:04:15,250 --> 00:04:17,710

creativity and scholarship. It's just wonderful,

81

00:04:17,950 --> 00:04:21,730

and it's so not real, and Stanford is well

82

00:04:21,730 --> 00:04:24,490

documented. You know, there are people paid to do

83

00:04:24,490 --> 00:04:27,490

very good oral history and, you know,

84

00:04:27,490 --> 00:04:30,730

documentation of Stanford, and somewhere along the

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00:04:30,730 --> 00:04:34,780

way, you know, I'm from kind of middle class. My

86

00:04:34,780 --> 00:04:38,570

grandparents were working class. I want to work at

87

00:04:38,570 --> 00:04:41,450

an institution that serves working class people,

88

00:04:41,450 --> 00:04:46,310

which is why I'm at Gavilan and I want to do as

89

00:04:46,310 --> 00:04:50,120

deep, as meaningful, as rich, as beautiful a

90

00:04:50,120 --> 00:04:53,870

history of my institution at Stanford House,- DA: mm, hmm.

91

00:04:54,410 --> 00:04:57,230

LH: -because this institution does something just as

92

00:04:57,230 --> 00:04:59,990

important and maybe more important. It serves

93

00:05:00,200 --> 00:05:04,970

working class people, and so that is a big motive

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00:05:04,970 --> 00:05:08,300

to capture this history. You know, we already know

95

00:05:08,300 --> 00:05:14,180

all about Stanford, but semirural agricultural

96

00:05:14,180 --> 00:05:17,540

area college that today is a hispanic serving

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00:05:17,540 --> 00:05:20,600

institution who takes the time to do a really deep

98

00:05:20,600 --> 00:05:24,920

history of that institution, and yet it changed so

99

00:05:24,920 --> 00:05:27,950

many lives, and then those lives, those people

100

00:05:27,950 --> 00:05:32,030

went out and changed their world. So that, that's a

101

00:05:32,030 --> 00:05:35,710

pretty important motivation for me. DA: And, and, it's more than-

102

00:05:35,720 --> 00:05:41,630

to me as, as the beneficiary of this history. It's

103

00:05:41,630 --> 00:05:43,670

more than capturing the history. It's really

104

00:05:43,670 --> 00:05:46,910

honoring the history, and honoring the legacy of

105

00:05:46,910 --> 00:05:51,060

the people, and, and the, the, the college itself.

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00:05:51,800 --> 00:05:54,290

LH: Well, it's an effort so so that, you know, the

107

00:05:54,290 --> 00:05:55,850

simple answer to your question, I've giving you

108

00:05:55,850 --> 00:05:58,430

all this philosophical- the simple answer is I

109

00:05:58,440 --> 00:06:01,070

proposed- in 2003. I did a little bit of history,

110

00:06:01,070 --> 00:06:02,750

and then I looked at it later and it was really

111

00:06:02,750 --> 00:06:05,360

bad. I- you know, it didn't do a good job, and I

112

00:06:05,360 --> 00:06:08,480

was- so I wanted a second chance because I don't

113

00:06:08,480 --> 00:06:11,690

like to leave anything in bad shape. So I asked

114

00:06:11,690 --> 00:06:14,780

the college if during the centennial would be

115

00:06:14,780 --> 00:06:17,390

helpful to have had, you know, a history that I

116

00:06:17,390 --> 00:06:20,240

could gather of the college to kind of draw upon,

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00:06:20,390 --> 00:06:22,880

and the college said yes, and then I'm an oral

118

00:06:22,880 --> 00:06:25,850

historian. I have been teaching oral history

119

00:06:25,850 --> 00:06:28,520

techniques to my history 2 students for many

120

00:06:28,520 --> 00:06:31,100

years, and there's a pile of oral histories that

121

00:06:31,760 --> 00:06:34,760

previous librarians were not interested in having

122

00:06:34,760 --> 00:06:36,590

to be part of an archive, but I just held on to

123

00:06:36,590 --> 00:06:38,750

them because I figured that sooner or later we'd

124

00:06:38,750 --> 00:06:41,240

get a librarian who understood that this kind of

125

00:06:41,240 --> 00:06:43,460

an archive is a really valuable thing, and here

126

00:06:43,460 --> 00:06:46,940

you are. Isn't that wonderful? So, so. So those

127

00:06:46,940 --> 00:06:50,150

things kind of came together in that way. DA: So what

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00:06:50,150 --> 00:06:52,580

insights did you get for teaching oral history,

129

00:06:52,580 --> 00:06:58,070

gathering techniques to students? LH: It's not easy to

130

00:06:58,070 --> 00:07:01,010

do good oral history, and my students have said

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00:07:01,010 --> 00:07:02,870

that, and I you know, I kind of knew it

132

00:07:02,870 --> 00:07:06,230

theoretically, but it's hard to do a good job, and

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00:07:06,260 --> 00:07:08,930

it's easy to be unprepared, and to ask silly

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00:07:08,930 --> 00:07:12,170

questions. It's kind of kind of realized that, and

135

00:07:12,860 --> 00:07:17,580

the other thing is, you know. Oral historians for

136

00:07:18,420 --> 00:07:21,450

oral history projects are very proper, and they,

137

00:07:21,450 --> 00:07:25,290

you know, and Bobby Garcia was up on his feet

138

00:07:25,290 --> 00:07:29,310

yelling, and I was up on my feet yelling, and when

139

00:07:29,310 --> 00:07:32,700

he told me that he accepted a work study job, and

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00:07:32,700 --> 00:07:34,770

didn't even ask for a raise, even though he could

141

00:07:34,770 --> 00:07:36,690

have, you know, he had them around his little

142

00:07:36,690 --> 00:07:39,150

finger, they needed him so desperately, and he

143

00:07:39,150 --> 00:07:40,920

didn't- that he'd got the same pay. I said, you

144

00:07:40,920 --> 00:07:45,570

idiot. You know, I, I, I just I had to be myself. DA: Mm hmm?

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00:07:46,170 --> 00:07:49,920

LH: And that actually turned out to be just what was

146

00:07:49,920 --> 00:07:53,550

needed because people responded to authenticity. I

147

00:07:53,550 --> 00:07:56,100

mean, when you're present, and you're reacting

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00:07:56,100 --> 00:08:00,120

honestly, people told me their life stories.

149

00:08:00,120 --> 00:08:01,770

People told me stuff they really shouldn't have

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00:08:01,770 --> 00:08:05,250

told me. I- one guy actually I couldn't believe the

151

00:08:05,250 --> 00:08:06,900

stuff he was telling me. This is the only

152

00:08:06,900 --> 00:08:09,600

interview that the person did not give permission,

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00:08:09,600 --> 00:08:11,790

and he was right not to give permission. He should

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00:08:11,790 --> 00:08:13,530

not have told me some of the things he told me,

155

00:08:15,300 --> 00:08:17,820

but he didn't- he talked really freely, enjoyed

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00:08:17,820 --> 00:08:20,070

talking, and then the next week he called me and

157

00:08:20,070 --> 00:08:21,900

he said, you know, I've been thinking about this.

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00:08:21,900 --> 00:08:24,030

I don't think I'm going to be able to donate this

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00:08:24,030 --> 00:08:28,860

oral history. DA: Mm hmm. LH: People opened up. DA: Mm hmm. So let's

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00:08:28,890 --> 00:08:33,690

let's let's go back a step. So, so what actually is

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00:08:33,690 --> 00:08:36,960

involved in doing an oral history? It's, it's a lot

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00:08:36,960 --> 00:08:38,640

more than just sitting down and having a

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00:08:38,640 --> 00:08:40,950

conversation with somebody. LH: Well, the first and

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00:08:40,950 --> 00:08:42,900

really in some ways the hardest thing is to find

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00:08:42,900 --> 00:08:45,690

people because, again, you're asking them to open

166

00:08:45,690 --> 00:08:49,560

up their lives, and so, interestingly, I did send

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00:08:49,560 --> 00:08:53,280

out press releases, and I only got one person that

168

00:08:53,280 --> 00:08:57,870

way, two maybe, I think I got two, and what really

169

00:08:57,870 --> 00:09:00,180

helped- two things really helped. One is college

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00:09:00,180 --> 00:09:03,660

employees. I've got Nikki De Quinn's mother and

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00:09:03,660 --> 00:09:06,000

Gilbert Ramirez's mother, and I've got Neal Andrattis

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00:09:06,000 --> 00:09:09,630

father, and so people are really connected

173

00:09:09,630 --> 00:09:12,060

to this college. You'd be amazed how many people

174

00:09:12,270 --> 00:09:16,410

went here and had a parent or an uncle or- who also

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00:09:16,410 --> 00:09:19,140

went here. I mean, this is deeply rooted in this

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00:09:19,140 --> 00:09:21,510

community, and I knew that theoretically, but then

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00:09:21,510 --> 00:09:24,330

to see this web of connections come to life was

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00:09:24,660 --> 00:09:27,420

was astonishing in some ways, and then the other

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00:09:27,420 --> 00:09:30,720

thing is that the San Benito Historical Society is

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00:09:30,720 --> 00:09:34,470

really ground zero, and those, those women,

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00:09:36,780 --> 00:09:39,210

it's a little hit and miss, but the second time I

182

00:09:39,210 --> 00:09:40,920

was there, they were talking to each other about

183

00:09:40,920 --> 00:09:43,230

my project and one of them said, "don't we have a

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00:09:43,230 --> 00:09:45,210

file box somewhere?" And the other one said, "Yeah,

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00:09:45,210 --> 00:09:48,510

where is that file box?" So a search ensued for the

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00:09:48,510 --> 00:09:51,360

file box, and the file box turned out to be

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00:09:51,360 --> 00:09:53,730

something that somebody had started in the 80s or

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00:09:53,730 --> 00:09:58,230

the 90s, and there was a card for every alumni of

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00:09:58,710 --> 00:10:00,810

San Benito Junior College because they had an

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00:10:00,810 --> 00:10:04,230

alumni association, and so that was really

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00:10:04,230 --> 00:10:05,970

valuable. They found the file box. They were going

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00:10:05,970 --> 00:10:08,880

through it, but it's not valuable to me without

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00:10:08,880 --> 00:10:12,390

Varona Flint, whose family settled in San

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00:10:12,410 --> 00:10:14,790

Benito County, I think in the 1860. She knows

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00:10:14,790 --> 00:10:17,700

everybody. She went through the file box and told

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00:10:17,700 --> 00:10:21,750

me who was still alive,- DA: Mm hmm? LH: -Very important information,

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00:10:22,260 --> 00:10:26,100

and then she went home and sat by her address book,

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00:10:26,100 --> 00:10:28,440

and I called her, and she gave me phone numbers.

199

00:10:28,590 --> 00:10:32,130

DA: Wow. LH: And I mean, it was priceless. There's nothing

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00:10:32,130 --> 00:10:33,900

that could have helped more than that. That was at

201

00:10:33,900 --> 00:10:37,650

least half of the informants that I ended up using

202

00:10:37,650 --> 00:10:42,270

came from that list,- DA: Mm hmm. LH: And my oldest informants. DA: So,

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00:10:42,270 --> 00:10:46,530

so obviously, the more networked you are, the

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00:10:46,530 --> 00:10:48,720

better you're going to be at gathering oral

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00:10:48,720 --> 00:10:52,650

histories, so, and how did, how did you, how did you

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00:10:52,680 --> 00:10:56,760

end up preparing for this? Because it's again, you

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00:10:56,760 --> 00:10:59,820

can, you can go into that cold, but what, what, what

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00:10:59,820 --> 00:11:02,400

did you, what did you do to prepare yourself for

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00:11:02,400 --> 00:11:05,790

those interviews? LH: Well, the fact that I'm

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00:11:05,790 --> 00:11:08,250

a historian was really the best preparation. I

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00:11:08,250 --> 00:11:10,950

mean, I knew something about the period generally

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00:11:10,950 --> 00:11:12,540

that we were talking about. I've also taught

213

00:11:12,540 --> 00:11:15,030

California history, and I've paid attention to

214

00:11:15,030 --> 00:11:17,940

local history. I'm not a specialist by any means.

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00:11:18,240 --> 00:11:21,660

I'm also an oral historian. I was a journalist. I

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00:11:21,660 --> 00:11:24,000

like asking questions, and I can usually shut up

217

00:11:24,000 --> 00:11:26,370

and listen despite having strong opinions, which

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00:11:26,370 --> 00:11:31,110

everyone knows me for, but so, so you really- the

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00:11:31,110 --> 00:11:33,390

right answer from an oral historians viewpoint is

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00:11:33,390 --> 00:11:35,490

that you do a preliminary interview so that you

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00:11:35,490 --> 00:11:38,220

find out what you're going to find out. Actually,

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00:11:38,220 --> 00:11:40,320

honestly, I make my students do that and it's a

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00:11:40,320 --> 00:11:42,570

really important part of their process. DA: Mm hmm. LH: Mine were

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00:11:42,570 --> 00:11:45,600

pretty perfunctory. DA: Mm hmm. LH: I asked some really general

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00:11:45,600 --> 00:11:48,480

questions and after five or ten minutes I said, OK,

226

00:11:48,480 --> 00:11:50,370

I'm ready, you know? And then I just kind of went

227

00:11:50,370 --> 00:11:54,180

from there. DA: OK. LH: So questions come pretty naturally. We

228

00:11:54,180 --> 00:11:56,820

also, in the preliminary discussion, talked about

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00:11:56,820 --> 00:12:00,690

anything people didn't want to discuss, the child

230

00:12:00,690 --> 00:12:03,840

who had died, the divorce that somebody still

231

00:12:03,840 --> 00:12:07,740

finds painful so that, you know, it's it's easier

232

00:12:07,740 --> 00:12:10,080

to know that up front than it is to try to go back,

233

00:12:10,080 --> 00:12:12,870

and root it out of an interview that's already

234

00:12:12,870 --> 00:12:14,670

recorded. DA: Yeah. You don't want to land mine in the

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00:12:14,670 --> 00:12:17,040

middle of- LH: No, you really don't. Yeah, and

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00:12:17,040 --> 00:12:19,470

emotionally, that's. Yeah, and in terms of the

237

00:12:19,470 --> 00:12:23,940

trust that you've built up. So, you know, I just

238

00:12:23,940 --> 00:12:26,310

teach my students to ask big general questions, and

239

00:12:26,310 --> 00:12:28,560

to to ask follow up questions,- DA: Mm hmm? LH: -and not, you know,

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00:12:28,560 --> 00:12:32,340

that's what I do, but it isn't that easy, and, you

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00:12:32,340 --> 00:12:34,440

know, everybody's got a different style. One

242

00:12:34,620 --> 00:12:37,710

interviewee has a lot of information about who

243

00:12:37,710 --> 00:12:41,970

married who and what the genealogy is, and probably

244

00:12:41,970 --> 00:12:44,820

not the focus that I wanted to kind of foreground,

245

00:12:45,120 --> 00:12:48,270

but we got it all- DA: Mm hmm. LH: -because that's what that person

246

00:12:48,270 --> 00:12:51,030

wanted to talk about. DA: Yeah. LH: So you have to let people

247

00:12:51,300 --> 00:12:54,750

put out what they think is important. DA: Mm hmm. So

248

00:12:55,920 --> 00:12:59,700

the oral histories are a sort of backbone of your

249

00:12:59,700 --> 00:13:03,510

research, but there's also lots of other kinds of

250

00:13:03,510 --> 00:13:05,910

information that you pulled in. What were you

251

00:13:05,910 --> 00:13:09,600

looking for in, in, in the sort of book related

252

00:13:09,900 --> 00:13:12,720

information that found its way into your history?

253

00:13:13,110 --> 00:13:16,110

LH: Well, this was really the miracle of the project

254

00:13:16,110 --> 00:13:18,630

because there was a fire in 1955, which we had

255

00:13:18,630 --> 00:13:21,420

talked about in a previous interview, and all of

256

00:13:21,420 --> 00:13:23,940

the early records, the enrollment records, the

257

00:13:23,940 --> 00:13:27,330

memos, the justifications for various decisions

258

00:13:27,630 --> 00:13:30,720

all burned up. There's one box somewhere in the

259

00:13:30,720 --> 00:13:33,000

San Benito County school system or a closet

260

00:13:33,000 --> 00:13:35,100

with a couple of boxes that I didn't make it to

261

00:13:35,370 --> 00:13:37,200

that they rescued from the fire, and I am very

262

00:13:37,200 --> 00:13:40,560

curious before I, before I and this whole project,

263

00:13:40,560 --> 00:13:42,480

I do want to go and try and look at that box, but

264

00:13:43,140 --> 00:13:46,350

that meant that there was very little written

265

00:13:46,470 --> 00:13:48,930

documentation, which is really bad because the

266

00:13:48,930 --> 00:13:52,590

people who were there are gone now. I interviewed

267

00:13:52,590 --> 00:13:57,420

somebody who is 98 and somebody else who was 96,

268

00:13:57,750 --> 00:14:01,110

and they could remember back to the late 30s, but

269

00:14:01,110 --> 00:14:03,930

that whole period before that completely wiped out.

270

00:14:03,940 --> 00:14:06,840

So what do you do? Well, the only sources that

271

00:14:06,840 --> 00:14:10,170

really exist are the newspapers, the yearbooks and

272

00:14:10,170 --> 00:14:12,150

any kind of written stuff that somebody might have

273

00:14:12,150 --> 00:14:15,300

in an attic. So we put out a press release asking

274

00:14:15,300 --> 00:14:18,060

people who had written stuff. We got nothing- DA: Mm hmm?

275

00:14:18,060 --> 00:14:21,780

LH: -except Donna Avina, who's a former public

276

00:14:21,780 --> 00:14:24,390

information officer from Gavilan, who now lives in

277

00:14:24,390 --> 00:14:28,230

Oregon, is still getting local newspapers. She's

278

00:14:28,230 --> 00:14:31,500

very active mind, and she somebody had given her

279

00:14:31,500 --> 00:14:34,920

something that George Champion had had, but he's

280

00:14:34,920 --> 00:14:37,500

not the one who put it together. It's got a- it's

281

00:14:37,500 --> 00:14:39,960

huge. It's about two feet by three feet and it's

282

00:14:39,960 --> 00:14:43,800

got big wooden covers- DA: I've seen that, Mm hmm. LH: -and it's a scrapbook, and it

283

00:14:43,800 --> 00:14:45,570

was an awful shape. I mean, there were little

284

00:14:45,570 --> 00:14:48,060

animals kind of coming out of it when I- but she

285

00:14:48,060 --> 00:14:50,100

brought it when she came down from Oregon and she

286

00:14:50,100 --> 00:14:52,950

brought it all the way in her car and, you know,

287

00:14:53,100 --> 00:14:57,420

had her son put it in my arms, and it had undated

288

00:14:57,420 --> 00:15:00,750

newspaper clippings from the early fifties and so

289

00:15:00,750 --> 00:15:04,230

on. So anyway, you know, you take whatever you can,

290

00:15:04,230 --> 00:15:07,020

and that's the value of the San Benito Historical

291

00:15:07,020 --> 00:15:10,500

Society. They're the only ones who have this stuff.

292

00:15:11,070 --> 00:15:15,570

DA: Mm hmm. LH: Nobody else did. DA: Yeah. So there are a lot of

293

00:15:15,720 --> 00:15:17,880

different ways you could have done this. You could

294

00:15:17,880 --> 00:15:20,970

follow, you could follow sort of webs of

295

00:15:20,970 --> 00:15:23,880

information from, you know, an oral history could

296

00:15:23,880 --> 00:15:26,190

lead you from one person, to another person, to

297

00:15:26,190 --> 00:15:28,800

another person, and you could hopscotch, you could

298

00:15:28,800 --> 00:15:32,400

do it thematically. How did you wind up doing your

299

00:15:32,400 --> 00:15:36,330

research. LH: Well, you go to the older people first,

300

00:15:36,390 --> 00:15:41,210

DA: OK? LH: Umm, and that's always wise, and in fact. The two

301

00:15:41,210 --> 00:15:44,330

oldest are having pretty severe health problems

302

00:15:44,330 --> 00:15:47,420

now and- DA: Yeah, there's some really practical

303

00:15:47,420 --> 00:15:50,330

reasons for that. LH: You know, that's that's like the

304

00:15:50,360 --> 00:15:52,760

first rule for oral history. DA: Yeah. LH: You go to the oldest

305

00:15:52,760 --> 00:15:59,220

or the most ill people. DA: Right. LH: And you, well- what

306

00:15:59,220 --> 00:16:01,560

was the question? DA: How do you, how did you wind up

307

00:16:01,560 --> 00:16:06,210

doing your research? LH: OK, so. I wanted a more

308

00:16:06,210 --> 00:16:10,140

representative, I wanted students. I wanted their

309

00:16:10,140 --> 00:16:12,780

stories, because we had kind of the European

310

00:16:12,780 --> 00:16:15,300

American males and one female who founded the

311

00:16:15,300 --> 00:16:18,540

college, I had gotten those interviews in 2003

312

00:16:18,540 --> 00:16:20,760

when I kind of started dabbling in this project,

313

00:16:21,180 --> 00:16:24,450

and I left out all the students, and there were not

314

00:16:24,450 --> 00:16:26,640

very many people of color, and not even very many

315

00:16:26,640 --> 00:16:29,400

women, and a lot of stories didn't get told. So I

316

00:16:29,400 --> 00:16:33,570

wanted to tell those stories, and after that, I

317

00:16:33,570 --> 00:16:36,390

just I basically I thought I was going to do eight

318

00:16:36,390 --> 00:16:39,780

to 10 interviews. I ended up doing 20. I couldn't-

319

00:16:39,780 --> 00:16:41,500

I was the girl who couldn't say no. I mean,

320

00:16:41,520 --> 00:16:44,130

everybody sounded so good. I had to at some point,

321

00:16:44,490 --> 00:16:47,220

and I pretty much had it all set, and I was

322

00:16:47,220 --> 00:16:49,320

feeling like I had a pretty good representative

323

00:16:49,320 --> 00:16:52,230

group, and that was towards the last month of my

324

00:16:52,230 --> 00:16:54,420

sabbatical, and then I thought, well, let me send

325

00:16:54,420 --> 00:16:57,150

out one more. I had sent out some notes to faculty

326

00:16:57,150 --> 00:16:59,100

and staff saying, you know, if you know anybody-

327

00:16:59,100 --> 00:17:02,340

and had a few people who responded. So I sent it

328

00:17:02,340 --> 00:17:06,420

out, and it said last call, and I was so mad

329

00:17:06,600 --> 00:17:10,650

because now I got 25 to 30 responses. All of them

330

00:17:10,650 --> 00:17:14,040

really good leads, several of them that I followed

331

00:17:14,040 --> 00:17:16,050

up, but I didn't get to follow up all of them. I

332

00:17:16,050 --> 00:17:17,760

mean, there were some people who I just had to

333

00:17:17,760 --> 00:17:20,400

call and say, I'm really sorry, I, I can't do it

334

00:17:20,400 --> 00:17:24,510

now. I have to write this. DA: Mm hmm. LH: So it was, it was a

335

00:17:24,510 --> 00:17:26,850

process. It was it-

336

00:17:29,400 --> 00:17:31,710

Doing the interviews, doing the research, those

337

00:17:31,710 --> 00:17:34,080

two things, what I teach my students is you do the

338

00:17:34,080 --> 00:17:36,060

research so that you have more intelligent

339

00:17:36,060 --> 00:17:38,610

questions to ask, and then after you do an

340

00:17:38,610 --> 00:17:40,830

interview that raises more questions for research.

341

00:17:40,860 --> 00:17:43,410

So it's a very kind of symbiotic process. You're

342

00:17:43,410 --> 00:17:47,490

kind of doing both. DA: And I think the question of

343

00:17:47,490 --> 00:17:50,520

what to include is probably an easier question to

344

00:17:50,520 --> 00:17:53,430

answer than the one, than the one about what to

345

00:17:53,430 --> 00:17:56,340

exclude, but at some point, you have to cut it off

346

00:17:56,340 --> 00:17:59,610

and you have to decide not to leave that in, and in

347

00:17:59,610 --> 00:18:02,100

the story that you tell. So how do you wind up

348

00:18:02,100 --> 00:18:06,150

making those decisions? LH: I had such a luxury in

349

00:18:06,150 --> 00:18:08,880

doing the research. I just included everything. I

350

00:18:08,880 --> 00:18:10,530

mean, I wrote down stuff like there was something

351

00:18:10,530 --> 00:18:12,450

in a yearbook that was kind of funny and I laughed.

352

00:18:12,450 --> 00:18:15,000

It was about Mr. Chu. Somebody had written an

353

00:18:15,000 --> 00:18:17,460

essay about why I chew gum and he signed it, Mr.

354

00:18:17,460 --> 00:18:20,070

Chu. (DA: Laughs) LH: And it was hilarious. It was cute. It was

355

00:18:20,070 --> 00:18:22,830

minor, but I thought, you know, I wrote everything

356

00:18:22,830 --> 00:18:25,590

down. DA: Yeah. LH: I used it. DA: Mm hmm. LH: It was a really good illustration

357

00:18:25,590 --> 00:18:27,630

of the kind of lightheartedness- DA: Yeah, Yeah. LH: -that these

358

00:18:27,630 --> 00:18:29,760

students had. DA: That's something that I really liked

359

00:18:29,760 --> 00:18:31,950

about your history is that there's a lot of whimsy

360

00:18:31,950 --> 00:18:34,950

in it. LH: Oh, it was just- they had a lot of whimsy.

361

00:18:34,960 --> 00:18:37,020

So, you know, who knew that I would use that? It

362

00:18:37,020 --> 00:18:40,470

was just silly, but I used it so. So I wrote

363

00:18:40,470 --> 00:18:42,600

everything down, and I didn't have anybody telling

364

00:18:42,600 --> 00:18:45,060

me you can only do 50,000 words. I could write

365

00:18:45,060 --> 00:18:47,850

whatever I wanted. DA: Mm hmm? LH: So I erred on the side of

366

00:18:47,850 --> 00:18:50,610

including stuff, and I'm, you know, historians are

367

00:18:50,610 --> 00:18:54,210

very contextual. You can't understand 1919 unless

368

00:18:54,210 --> 00:18:56,160

we talk a little bit about World War I, and a

369

00:18:56,160 --> 00:18:59,550

little bit about the flu epidemic, and so, and how

370

00:18:59,550 --> 00:19:02,520

those things affected the local. I knew kind of

371

00:19:02,550 --> 00:19:04,500

the big picture, but then to look down at

372

00:19:04,500 --> 00:19:07,500

Hollister, and to see what that looked like here

373

00:19:07,680 --> 00:19:11,250

was fascinating. So put it in and nobody's telling

374

00:19:11,250 --> 00:19:13,050

me not to. I didn't have an editor except my

375

00:19:13,050 --> 00:19:16,200

sister, and she, you know, she, she loves history,

376

00:19:16,200 --> 00:19:18,090

too. She didn't tell me to cut anything. She just

377

00:19:18,330 --> 00:19:22,710

made some suggestions about comma splices. (Laughter) So it's

378

00:19:22,710 --> 00:19:26,190

in there. DA: Yeah. There was a college documents

379

00:19:26,190 --> 00:19:28,350

component to your project. Can you talk about that

380

00:19:28,350 --> 00:19:30,780

a little bit? LH: Yeah, that was in some ways the less

381

00:19:30,780 --> 00:19:33,450

successful piece of the project. The idea was I

382

00:19:33,450 --> 00:19:36,240

was going to find all these seminal documents that

383

00:19:36,240 --> 00:19:37,770

were really important, and we were going to

384

00:19:38,040 --> 00:19:40,860

digitize them. You were, you were in on the scheme,

385

00:19:40,860 --> 00:19:42,960

and then we were going to have a digital archive

386

00:19:42,960 --> 00:19:45,630

of, you know, important documents, and also kind of

387

00:19:45,630 --> 00:19:47,400

meaningful documents or documents that were

388

00:19:47,400 --> 00:19:50,700

representative in some way. That came to almost

389

00:19:50,700 --> 00:19:55,020

nothing. The documents were not accessible to me

390

00:19:55,020 --> 00:19:57,930

while the early ones burned up, and then the later

391

00:19:57,930 --> 00:20:00,300

ones, you know, people have kept accreditation

392

00:20:00,300 --> 00:20:03,150

reports, but some of the things I thought I would

393

00:20:03,150 --> 00:20:05,730

find, like, you know, the deed of sale for the

394

00:20:05,730 --> 00:20:08,310

land and things like that, nobody could put their

395

00:20:08,310 --> 00:20:11,040

hands on. DA: Mm hmm. LH: Nobody knew where they were. So instead,

396

00:20:12,150 --> 00:20:14,850

Dr. Luna and I had talked about, you know,

397

00:20:15,150 --> 00:20:16,920

teaching with primary source documents is

398

00:20:16,920 --> 00:20:19,740

important in history, and we talked about well, so

399

00:20:19,740 --> 00:20:22,560

let's do a few document collections, and show

400

00:20:22,560 --> 00:20:25,830

students how to write a historical essay based on

401

00:20:25,980 --> 00:20:29,340

some document collections. So, so I did. I said I

402

00:20:29,340 --> 00:20:31,920

would do, two. Of course, I overdid it. I did four,

403

00:20:32,550 --> 00:20:35,640

and all of them were fun, and all of them may or

404

00:20:35,640 --> 00:20:38,190

may not be useful to students as models of using

405

00:20:38,190 --> 00:20:41,040

primary sources, but the first one was my favorite.

406

00:20:41,040 --> 00:20:44,730

It was a comparison of the 1936 yearbook with the

407

00:20:44,730 --> 00:20:49,470

1951 yearbook. Five years before World War II, and

408

00:20:49,470 --> 00:20:53,190

five years after. DA: Great. LH: And it- I mean, the more

409

00:20:53,190 --> 00:20:55,680

time I spent, the deeper I went. I feel I know

410

00:20:55,680 --> 00:20:58,680

those kids from 1936. I mean, I think of them, I

411

00:20:58,680 --> 00:21:01,680

call them by name, you know, May and Fulton, and

412

00:21:02,370 --> 00:21:04,770

so that was, that was fascinating to write that

413

00:21:04,770 --> 00:21:08,250

essay, and then the new college wanted to have a

414

00:21:08,250 --> 00:21:11,070

dedication day, and there were a surprising number

415

00:21:11,070 --> 00:21:13,260

of obstacles, and decisions, and kind of

416

00:21:13,260 --> 00:21:15,780

complexities, and then the dedication day they

417

00:21:15,780 --> 00:21:19,020

finally had it two years after the college on this

418

00:21:19,020 --> 00:21:23,280

site opened. They had it in 1969. It was such an

419

00:21:23,280 --> 00:21:27,570

example of the world that was no longer to be. It

420

00:21:27,570 --> 00:21:32,070

was a bunch of European American males. They had a

421

00:21:32,070 --> 00:21:36,930

prayer. You know, a lot of men stood up and talked,

422

00:21:37,200 --> 00:21:40,440

and students were completely sidelined. There were

423

00:21:40,440 --> 00:21:44,070

no Hispanic names except the bandleader- DA: Mm hmm? LH: -on the

424

00:21:44,070 --> 00:21:47,640

program. It was a world that was on the brink of

425

00:21:47,640 --> 00:21:51,810

vanishing forever, and it's such a period piece to

426

00:21:51,810 --> 00:21:54,530

look at what they did to dedicate the college. So

427

00:21:54,540 --> 00:21:58,860

I found that interesting, and then the nineteen- I

428

00:21:58,860 --> 00:22:00,840

mean, you can't write about the history of Gavilan

429

00:22:00,840 --> 00:22:03,660

College without spending some serious attention on

430

00:22:03,660 --> 00:22:06,810

the 1973 football team, which was the number one

431

00:22:07,290 --> 00:22:10,200

junior college- community college football team in

432

00:22:10,200 --> 00:22:13,170

the nation, and which is the most remarkable

433

00:22:13,170 --> 00:22:15,990

underdog story in sports that I've ever seen. DA: Mm hmm. LH: I

434

00:22:15,990 --> 00:22:17,610

mean, I know a lot of people make movies, and in

435

00:22:17,610 --> 00:22:20,340

fact, a couple of guys really want to turn it into

436

00:22:20,340 --> 00:22:22,680

a screenplay. DA: Yeah. LH: They called them Coach Bobby's

437

00:22:22,680 --> 00:22:26,010

Outlaws, and these guys were one step away from,

438

00:22:26,190 --> 00:22:28,920

you know, knifing people in the streets. They just

439

00:22:29,130 --> 00:22:32,700

did it with a football, and uniform stuff,- DA: Yeah. LH: -and, and

440

00:22:32,700 --> 00:22:38,460

the way that wind transformed their lives is just

441

00:22:38,460 --> 00:22:41,400

inspiring. DA: Yeah, yeah. LH: So I pulled together a bunch of

442

00:22:41,400 --> 00:22:44,370

documents around that, and also the rings that we

443

00:22:44,370 --> 00:22:47,430

talked about. DA: Right. LH: That Coach Bobby had to go to

444

00:22:47,430 --> 00:22:49,320

the community in order to be able to afford.

445

00:22:49,590 --> 00:22:52,230

That's one of the- it's an artifact. DA: Yeah. LH: It's not a

446

00:22:52,230 --> 00:22:54,030

document, but there's a picture of that ring,

447

00:22:54,030 --> 00:22:57,990

beautiful ring, and then the last one I thought we

448

00:22:57,990 --> 00:23:00,420

should talk a little bit about faculty, and how you

449

00:23:00,420 --> 00:23:04,470

get a job here, and the person I picked is both a

450

00:23:04,470 --> 00:23:08,160

friend and a wonderful repository of historical

451

00:23:08,160 --> 00:23:11,820

information about the disabled program at Gavilan,

452

00:23:12,120 --> 00:23:14,670

and she was with it almost from the beginning.

453

00:23:14,670 --> 00:23:18,930

It's Karen Sadow, and I mean, her history is

454

00:23:19,020 --> 00:23:21,450

valuable and important for so many reasons. Her

455

00:23:21,450 --> 00:23:24,060

her parents were interned as Japanese Americans

456

00:23:24,060 --> 00:23:27,000

during World War II, and have deep roots in this

457

00:23:27,000 --> 00:23:30,390

area, and she, she was at the first garlic festival,

458

00:23:30,390 --> 00:23:34,200

and she- so it, it's, it talks about all those things,

459

00:23:34,200 --> 00:23:38,040

but it's also about how a 17 year old student went

460

00:23:38,040 --> 00:23:41,730

from being in a class here to having a work study

461

00:23:41,730 --> 00:23:44,490

job, to getting a part time job, to getting a more

462

00:23:44,490 --> 00:23:47,100

serious part time job, to being hired as a full

463

00:23:47,100 --> 00:23:50,430

time faculty person, and it's kind of a nice

464

00:23:50,430 --> 00:23:53,520

example of how much Gavilan has grown its own. DA: It

465

00:23:53,520 --> 00:23:55,830

really is. It's really there's that's, that's

466

00:23:55,830 --> 00:23:57,900

representative. I think there's lots of those

467

00:23:57,900 --> 00:24:00,510

stories. LH: Yeah, and hers is you know, she tells it

468

00:24:00,510 --> 00:24:02,520

with particular verve, and humor, and she's

469

00:24:02,530 --> 00:24:06,180

extremely fun. So, so it was a fun story to kind of

470

00:24:06,180 --> 00:24:08,370

gather. DA: So

471

00:24:10,710 --> 00:24:12,840

bringing all this together, and thinking about

472

00:24:12,840 --> 00:24:16,860

creating an archive that we had, I was part of

473

00:24:16,860 --> 00:24:19,920

several conversations around this. Why the

474

00:24:19,920 --> 00:24:23,580

decision to do an online archive? LH: Well, I think

475

00:24:23,580 --> 00:24:25,380

you could probably answer this better than I. I

476

00:24:25,380 --> 00:24:27,360

mean, I'll, I'll take a crack, and then you can add

477

00:24:27,360 --> 00:24:30,390

whatever- it's accessible, and that's important.

478

00:24:30,720 --> 00:24:34,170

It's scalable. We don't have unlimited room in our

479

00:24:34,170 --> 00:24:36,420

library. Even if we're building a new library that

480

00:24:36,420 --> 00:24:38,970

won't have unlimited room either. It's as

481

00:24:38,970 --> 00:24:41,880

permanent as you can get in this very

482

00:24:41,880 --> 00:24:45,510

unpredictable world. DA: Mm hmm. LH: You know, you can easily back

483

00:24:45,510 --> 00:24:48,960

it up and transfer it somewhere else, and we can

484

00:24:48,960 --> 00:24:51,150

share it with the community. DA: Mm hmm. LH: And so those are

485

00:24:51,150 --> 00:24:52,860

those are the reasons that I know of. I don't know.

486

00:24:52,860 --> 00:24:54,540

Do you have any others you want to add? DA: Well, it's

487

00:24:54,540 --> 00:24:56,700

related to sharing to the community all of those

488

00:24:56,700 --> 00:25:00,180

reasons, and I really think that local histories

489

00:25:00,480 --> 00:25:04,020

have the potential to become much bigger than just

490

00:25:04,020 --> 00:25:06,570

the communities that they serve, and that, you

491

00:25:06,570 --> 00:25:09,720

know, I've read some of my favorite histories pull

492

00:25:09,720 --> 00:25:13,950

on local history that are much broader in scope

493

00:25:13,950 --> 00:25:19,260

and scale than that, those individual stories, but

494

00:25:19,620 --> 00:25:23,610

they become of a potential resource for the world,

495

00:25:23,610 --> 00:25:26,550

not just for, not just for our community. LH: I

496

00:25:26,550 --> 00:25:28,530

appreciate that you're saying that, in fact, this

497

00:25:28,530 --> 00:25:30,930

principle is embedded so deeply that I don't even

498

00:25:30,930 --> 00:25:32,880

think to talk about it, but what I teach my

499

00:25:32,880 --> 00:25:36,060

students is that helping a community understand

500

00:25:36,060 --> 00:25:39,420

its history is an enormous public service. You

501

00:25:39,420 --> 00:25:41,850

know, if you have no historical memory, you know

502

00:25:41,850 --> 00:25:44,520

nothing about where your community's been, what

503

00:25:44,520 --> 00:25:47,310

it's done, and, you know, in some ways, I'm really

504

00:25:47,310 --> 00:25:49,440

committed to the faculty at Gavilan, and I want to

505

00:25:49,440 --> 00:25:52,410

try to communicate what things were like in the

506

00:25:52,410 --> 00:25:55,550

past so that we can meet with equanimity. Whatever

507

00:25:55,620 --> 00:25:57,870

is happening now, because I'm telling you, things

508

00:25:57,870 --> 00:26:02,700

were a lot worse. DA: Mm hmm. LH: A lot worse. DA: Yeah. I want to, I

509

00:26:02,700 --> 00:26:06,000

want to make sure to that as we're talking

510

00:26:06,000 --> 00:26:08,670

about the online archive that we give some props

511

00:26:08,670 --> 00:26:12,780

to Dana Young, who's really put in a significant

512

00:26:12,780 --> 00:26:15,600

amount of work to get that online archive up and

513

00:26:15,600 --> 00:26:18,510

running, and I want to thank her for her good

514

00:26:18,510 --> 00:26:21,150

work on that. LH: Dana did everything. She found

515

00:26:21,150 --> 00:26:23,760

photographs that are historically appropriate, one

516

00:26:23,760 --> 00:26:26,820

from each community. So she's being very fair. She

517

00:26:26,820 --> 00:26:29,550

did all of the work to get the technical part

518

00:26:29,580 --> 00:26:32,760

working, and that was a lot. She's put the oral

519

00:26:32,760 --> 00:26:34,890

histories up. We've got a lot of back and forth

520

00:26:34,890 --> 00:26:37,380

about how should we organize it. She's really

521

00:26:37,380 --> 00:26:39,420

she's put in hours and hours and hours of work

522

00:26:39,420 --> 00:26:43,080

because she cares-, DA: Yeah. LH: -and she's such a professional

523

00:26:43,080 --> 00:26:46,860

librarian that she understands the value, and I

524

00:26:46,860 --> 00:26:48,870

really understand the value of what she's done

525

00:26:48,870 --> 00:26:52,350

because it's been a lot. DA: So thanks to Dana for for

526

00:26:52,350 --> 00:26:56,040

all of her good work, and so what, what, what, did

527

00:26:56,040 --> 00:26:59,700

you not get to in in this project? LH: Well, there's

528

00:26:59,700 --> 00:27:01,950

always something isn't there? DA: Yeah, of course. LH: Yeah.

529

00:27:03,060 --> 00:27:05,580

Well, the three things that come to my mind, I

530

00:27:05,580 --> 00:27:10,380

didn't get to explore LGBTQ history at Gavilan a lot of

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00:27:10,380 --> 00:27:13,410

that is kind of towards the later end, and I, I

532

00:27:13,440 --> 00:27:15,570

certainly remember it was in one of my classes

533

00:27:15,570 --> 00:27:18,870

that the first coming out day panel was held with

534

00:27:18,870 --> 00:27:21,630

Greg Rivera from San Benito County. Coming out

535

00:27:21,630 --> 00:27:27,930

that day in class. I feel that that's a

536

00:27:27,930 --> 00:27:30,870

real oversight, and that needed more, but there

537

00:27:30,870 --> 00:27:33,180

hasn't been that much that's public really until

538

00:27:33,180 --> 00:27:35,730

my own tenure here. DA: Yeah. LH: Although I think it

539

00:27:35,730 --> 00:27:37,380

would have been really important to try to find

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00:27:37,380 --> 00:27:40,560

some students who were in the closet, you know, 50s,

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00:27:40,560 --> 00:27:43,290

60s, 70s,- DA: Yeah. Mm hmm? LH: Didn't manage to do that, although I

542

00:27:43,290 --> 00:27:46,650

looked. So that's one thing. Another thing that I

543

00:27:46,650 --> 00:27:50,100

think a future historian really would find

544

00:27:50,100 --> 00:27:52,650

fruitful to explore is the relationship between

545

00:27:52,650 --> 00:27:56,310

Gavilan and Silicon Valley. I am astonished how

546

00:27:56,310 --> 00:27:59,490

many of my former students are now executives at

547

00:27:59,490 --> 00:28:02,520

Google or they're working, you know, at YouTube or

548

00:28:02,820 --> 00:28:04,860

there's really a relationship, and I think it

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00:28:04,860 --> 00:28:06,750

would be good to document it, and I think we

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00:28:06,750 --> 00:28:08,910

should be in touch with these people. DA: Yes. LH: You

551

00:28:08,910 --> 00:28:11,310

know, as part of our alumni network, and then the

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00:28:11,310 --> 00:28:15,240

last thing from the 90s forward, I mean, even just

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00:28:15,240 --> 00:28:18,480

talking about the layoffs, you know, I'm very

554

00:28:18,480 --> 00:28:21,600

involved in some of the history. I was a college

555

00:28:21,600 --> 00:28:24,900

leader. I was the union president, and, you know,

556

00:28:24,900 --> 00:28:27,690

I think the story of how part time faculty came to

557

00:28:27,690 --> 00:28:32,070

be part of the GCFA is epic, and I think it really

558

00:28:32,070 --> 00:28:33,930

needs to be told that I was right in the middle of

559

00:28:33,930 --> 00:28:37,410

it, and I definitely could be accused of having a

560

00:28:37,410 --> 00:28:41,160

bias and how that story gets told. So it's it on

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00:28:41,160 --> 00:28:42,990

the one hand, it's important to tell it. On the

562

00:28:42,990 --> 00:28:46,680

other hand, there's no way that I can be anything

563

00:28:46,680 --> 00:28:48,990

except who I am and tell the story that I

564

00:28:48,990 --> 00:28:53,010

experienced. So, so maybe that's for a different

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00:28:53,010 --> 00:28:56,520

podcast or, you know, an interview with Ken Wagman

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00:28:56,520 --> 00:28:59,130

and myself or whatever, but yeah, I mean, there

567

00:28:59,130 --> 00:29:01,620

were things that were left out for sure. DA: Well,

568

00:29:01,620 --> 00:29:06,180

you've created a resource for our community that

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00:29:06,180 --> 00:29:10,110

is, will be extremely valuable. It will be. I think

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00:29:10,110 --> 00:29:13,710

it's a, it's a start for what I hope will be a

571

00:29:13,710 --> 00:29:17,520

continuing history of the college, and speaking

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00:29:17,520 --> 00:29:21,300

for myself, not only do I feel I appreciate the

573

00:29:21,300 --> 00:29:25,140

value of it, I just found this whole experience so

574

00:29:25,140 --> 00:29:30,090

highly entertaining,- LH: Good! DA: -and so much fun to learn about

575

00:29:30,090 --> 00:29:32,370

and participate in, to have these conversations

576

00:29:32,370 --> 00:29:36,960

with you, and to- and the way it has informed my

577

00:29:36,960 --> 00:29:40,260

understanding of the college. That is a gift that

578

00:29:40,260 --> 00:29:44,760

you're giving us that is deeply appreciated. LH: Well,

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00:29:44,760 --> 00:29:47,970

it's a deeply given. DA: So thank you very much.

580

00:29:47,970 --> 00:29:51,150

Thanks to Grant Richards for all of his work in

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00:29:51,420 --> 00:29:53,940

putting these podcasts together, and thank you,

582

00:29:53,940 --> 00:29:57,180

Leah, for all of your fantastic work. LH: You know, I

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00:29:57,180 --> 00:30:00,060

have to say without a librarian, and a library

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00:30:00,060 --> 00:30:02,160

staff that were supportive, none of this would

585

00:30:02,160 --> 00:30:04,770

have happened, and so there's vision and

586

00:30:04,770 --> 00:30:07,890

congruence there that I really appreciate. DA: Thank you.