

EDWARD LOWRY
August 16, 2000

Joan Horne, former Mayor and Chair of the Town of Paradise Valley Historical Committee, and myself, Ann Townsend, are privileged to interview today Edward Lowry, current Mayor for a second term for the Town of Paradise Valley. Thank, Mr. Lowry, for letting us speak with you today. May we have permission to quote you in part or all of our conversation today?

Ed: Certainly.

Ann: Thank you. Are you a native Arizonan?

Ed: No, I wish I was, but I was born in California. We didn't live there very long and we moved back to the mid-west, where we lived until the time I started college.

Ann: Where in the mid-west?

Ed: Michigan and then Ohio. Actually, during my conscious growing up years, I'd never been west of Omaha. I was convinced that somewhere about 30 miles west of Omaha is where you went off the edge. But my parents moved back out to California and I started my first year of college at Ohio State. Ohio State went to the Rose Bowl that Christmas, so I went out to California. Of course, I really wanted to because I had this great mystic about what it's all about. It had been snowing, raining and sleeting for about five weeks in Columbus, Ohio, and I had not seen the sun. I left in a blizzard, took the train out to California, and it was two days of cooking through Indiana, Illinois, and then the frozen steps of Nebraska and Iowa. Next to the last day, I woke up and looked out the window of the train and there was this really pretty thing in the sky that I'd never seen before. Off to the distance were the Rocky Mountains rolling off to the north, all covered with snow. This little voice said, "Ed, this looks awfully nice." We got to Los Angeles.

The train got in at 7:30 or 8:00 in the morning. My parents were there and they had bought a new Pontiac convertible. We drove up Wilshire Boulevard with the top down, 78 degrees, and went out playing golf that afternoon. That evening I announced, "I am not going back to Ohio!" Well, I lost the argument. I had to go back and finish that year, but I won the battle because I immediately transferred to Stanford the next year and went to the undergraduate in law school. When I got to Stanford, the first summer, I'd seen just the west on the train and then I drove out with my aunt, cousin and brothers and we did this two and a half week grand tour of visiting relatives until we basically got to Denver and we ran out of relatives. Then it was over the Rockies, Steamboat Springs, Salt Lake, Bryce, Zion, Grand Canyon, rode the mule to the bottom. I just couldn't wait for summer so I could get a job outdoors. I got a job working at the Orme Ranch up near Prescott as a counselor at their summer camp. So my first summer in the west, I worked up there. It was a riding camp, swimming, pack trips in the mountains, and caravan trips through the Indian country. And said, "That's it! Arizona is for me." I loved California, but I liked Arizona even better. I thought people in California were wonderful, but the Arizonans were a big notch even better. From that point it was my destiny to me here.

Ann: That was a very passionate applause for Arizona.

Ed: You got more of an answer than you thought you would.

Ann: No, whatever you want to give. You went to Stanford. Wasn't that the same school that Sandra Day O'Connor graduated from law school and her husband John, also?

Ed: Right.

Ann: Isn't that where William Rhenquist graduated?

Ed: Right. Sandra and John were a year ahead of me and Bill Rehnquist was two years ahead of me, or maybe it was reversed. But I got to know Bill quite well. When I came to Arizona to take the Bar exam, I came over and saw Bill. They told me what to do, who to talk to, and what the procedures were. He was a huge help in lending me some of his notes to study for the Bar examination. Then when I started to work, I went to work for a firm Cunningham, Carson and Messenger, where Bill had been working, and he left to go into a partnership with another fellow named Jim Powers. So I sort of followed Rehnquist along to Arizona.

Ann: When you got here and reconnected with him, was he at that time the Town Attorney for Paradise Valley? I understand he was the Town Attorney for about four years, in the early years. I've never found any document that gives me the dates.

Ed: Yes. I took the Bar exam here in 1955. So this would have been pre-'55. Then I was the president of the Stanford Law School Alumni Association. We started a Chapter down here and Bill was my vice president. We worked together for a couple of years on the law school Alumni thing since Bill went back to Washington. I accused him of going to Washington so he would avoid being president of the Alumni Association.

Joan: But the actual years would have to be in the early '60s.

Ann: Very early '60s.

Ed: I think Bill would have been Town Attorney in '61 or '62, until probably about '64 or '65. Nixon was elected in '68, I guess it was, and he was sworn in '69. Bill had been practicing in Phoenix with Jim Powers four or five years before then because he was practicing at Cunningham, Carson and Messenger in the late '50s, early '60s.

Ann: Do you still keep in contact with the Chief Justice Rehnquist?

Ed: Not very often. I have a letter I've got to send to him about your Committee's work, and I found a newspaper, miraculously, of a picture of the Stanford Club outing at the Orme Ranch somewhere in '60s. There's Bill Rehnquist and John Driggs, former Mayor of Phoenix, playing water volleyball in the pool up there.

Joan: I'm familiar with the Orme Ranch because the first year we were here in '78, I went up there with my niece as a camper. She was very much into horses in those days. So I saw that early on.

Ed: The summer program up there is just superb. I was blessed because back when I was a counselor up there through the end of the '50s, life was not as complicated, with drugs and things. The kids were just wonderful, all the counselors were from colleges all over the country, and it was just ten weeks of laughing and playing in the sunshine.

Ann: Healthy good fun.

Ed: Even though the counselors had probably as much or more fun than the kids did, and we had so many kids that would arrive at camp at the beginning of the summer sort of skinny and pale, and when they'd go home, they would have grown about five inches, and put on about 20 pounds. They'd be brown as a berry. One kid went back to his parents in New York and he claimed they didn't recognize him. He walked up and said, "Mom, Dad." They said, "Who are you?"

Ann: We will appreciate if you can get that letter to him. We'd appreciate having an opportunity to interview the Chief Justice since he was a part of the Town. I was going to ask you why you came to Arizona, but you've already told me that. The next thing is what caused you to get involved in the Town of Paradise Valley politics?

Ed: I actually was involved years ago when Phil vonAmmon asked me if I would be one of the Town magistrates. I thought about that and said, "Well, that'd be sort of fun." I never did a lot of trial work, but I did some. I thought it would be really good to sit on the other side of the bench and see how people come across. I thought it would be educational for me which turned out to be very much the case. I've always believed that you need to put back into your community something. I think in my case Arizona has given me so much in so many ways that anything I can do to give back, whether it's the Heard Museum or some of the other things that I've been involved with. I'm also on the State Uniform Laws Commission. I thought I should do it. Phil vonAmmon said, "Now Ed, one thing I want you to know is that you aren't going to believe how many excuses people have for speeding. I said, "Well, I don't know about that." I didn't know any of them. I couldn't believe it.

Ann: Just for the record or the fun of it, what were some of them can you recall?

Ed: The light on the speedometer burned out; the speedometer was broken; and they put the wrong size tires on the cars and made the speedometer read differently. One time people were speeding because they were going to an antique show and they wanted to get there before the antiques got any older. [Laughter] But it was very interesting. I had never really thought about it, of course you have the legal training, but sitting as the Judge, in most cases you could pretty much tell that somebody who was testifying was telling the truth or not by the way they answered questions. Not by their words, but if they answered them, "Yes, I was there," or "No, I wasn't," or just the way they skirted around it, "Well, I might have been there, but I can't really remember for sure."

Ann: And body language can tell you more than the words do.

Ed: Exactly. I was also surprised that you could tell that when an attorney was representing somebody, whether the attorney really believed they were innocent and the other side where they were doing it mainly because "You're not going to get away with this. I'm going to fight this." But it was a wonderful experience and I really enjoyed it.

Ann: What made you not choose to go the direction of being a judge then since you enjoyed it so much?

Ed: I thought about it and actually had the opportunity at one time to get appointed to the Superior Court bench, but I was enjoying my law practice. You have a little more freedom and I also enjoyed that. It was sort of a hard decision. I'm very pleased that I did what I've done. If I had it to do over again, I wouldn't change it.

Ann: That's a good sign.

Ed: Yeah. I didn't follow Town affairs all that much. I knew people on the Council. I was really not involved in the Town other than just as an observer, and occasionally as a critic upset about something that happened that the Town had done. But never really terribly involved. But when the sewer calamity occurred with Scottsdale, I really started following it. It just seemed to be like this whole Town was falling off of this horrible precipice into this abyss that there was no.....

Ann: Logic.

Ed: It was just awful. Just before Christmas I was out at my favorite place where I go usually every Saturday, which is the Price Club, now Costco. I ran into my old friend Oscar Butt who I got to know when he was Town Manager. I think he may have been Town Manager when I was the magistrate. We were standing out front commiserating about how things had really gotten out of hand. There just didn't seem to be any direction

except down. We were commiserating about what we could do about it. Well, we had this delightful conversation and I went home. We went off to Colorado for our annual family ski trip. I came back on the 3rd or 4th of January and there was a note to call Oscar Butt. I called and he said, "Hey Ed. I've been talking to some of the other people who are interested in the Town and we think that it might a good idea if we got a few people to run for Town Council. We were wondering if you would consider running?" I guess he meant some of the older residents. He may have been a little more tactful. I said, "Gee, that sounds like that might take a lot of time. Let me talk to Patsy about it." So, we talked about it. I felt that it really is a bad situation and if I could be of any help, I'd like to do it. I figured for two years. At that time they were talking about getting two or three people to hopefully get on the Council to get direction headed back the right way. So I told Oscar that I'd be willing to run. This was Tuesday. He said, "That's great. Oh, by the way, we have to have the petitions in by Friday." I'd just been out of town and I didn't know if I would have a lot time. He got things going, and I got a bunch of petitions. I thought this was a good thing to do because the people I did talk to said, "Gee Ed, thank you. We're so glad that you're going to run. We'll sure vote for you." That's how I got involved. Once I was running as a candidate, what do you do? Of course, our campaigns are pretty low key here, so I didn't have a lot to do. But as it got along, I sort of enjoyed it. We had meet the candidates night here at the Town Hall. That was really fun. We had the question and answer at Camelback Inn. I thought that was really challenging and really interesting. What I heard from the group, the non-incumbents, was a lot of really good ideas. We could all get elected. Miracles happen and we all got elected.

Ann: We were ready for peace and cohesiveness to put our Town back together.

Ed: What I've been looking for is that message to call Oscar.

Ann: You keep this in your billfold?

Ed: That's what got me going.

Ann: We're glad you did.

Joan: A good move.

Ann: Now that we've got you elected and you were voted the Mayor for the first term.

What are the most challenging tasks you faced that first term?

Ed: The obvious one I think with everybody was to get things straightened out with Scottsdale on the sewer issue. That was probably not the biggest challenge. The biggest challenge was getting the Town back on the right track to where people work together as a team. When you do the work as a team, you are going to accomplish much more than individuals going in opposite directions or different directions. Even before we were sworn in, as the Council-elect, we started meeting every two weeks. After a month, we realized we should meet every week. The Town set up trips so we could inspect the sewer plants; we went over the Flood Control District plans; sewer facilities and various tours put on by the Paradise Valley Water Company and APS. We tried to get up to speed because none of us had ever been on the Council before. But the one thing we all decided we would definitely do was work together, and if we didn't agree, we would disagree pleasantly and politely. I think we set the tone in that three-month interval between the primary when we all got elected and when we were sworn in. The result was that we had the beginning of a really strong team that was embryonic built. Because we had that team, we were able to jump right in and get right on the Scottsdale sewer topic.

We found out a lot more than we really wanted to know about sewers, but I also realized that there were some issues that went way back that needed to be addressed. With the building of the teamwork, we were able to take the challenge in getting the thing settled with Scottsdale. One thing that the team decided was to never let the Town ever get to a point where this could ever happen again. The agreement with Scottsdale is perpetual. It can't be changed. It can be modified to work with the times and needs with the Town, but basically, Scottsdale will never be able to come in and say, "Hey, we're going to shut things off." Legally, they might not be able to, but we can't afford to litigate that for three or four years in various levels of the Court system.

Joan: Do we have an agreement with Phoenix yet? That was being worked on all the years that I've been involved with the Town.

Ed: We are within about a quarter of an inch of an agreement with Phoenix. Basically, we have an agreement with Phoenix; the problem is the spending limitation. If we take over the Phoenix system, the revenues that that produces come in and the money we spend on that are all involved in the spending limit. It's so tight right now. That's one of the reasons that we're asking voters this November to adjust the base spending limit from 1980.

Joan: We did it somewhere between 1992 and 1996, and it was earmarked only for Capital Improvement, which is why it passed three the one, because it wasn't for the operation of the Town. It wasn't a part of the operating budget. So it's something you might want to think about.

Ed: That's the Capital Projects Accumulation Fund, for sewers, undergrounding utilities, roads and recreation paths.

Joan: Yeah.

Ed: That's sort of a separate animal. But the base-spending limit, which was set in 1980 dollars, hasn't been changed. What's happens is that we have revenues now coming into the Town that would allow the Town to take over the Phoenix sewer system and make that part of the Town. We could probably provide trash collection free because we have the revenues coming in from the tax base so we would never have to impose a property tax. Or if we didn't want to do trash collection, we could probably work up a contract with Rural/Metro where the Town contracts for fire protection and provided that as a service, just like we do the police, to the residents. That is a separate issue because the Capital Projects Accumulation Fund has all this money in it right now which we use to buy the Phoenix system, but we couldn't use that money to operate it.

Joan: That's right. But the vote was to raise it \$800,000 a year for the Capital Accumulation Fund. I'm almost positive I'm right on this. But if you want to double check it, David Hann would be the right person to talk to. That's the way my memory serves me on that.

Ann: Will Phoenix be glad to get rid of us?

Ed: Probably.

Joan: Would that involve sewer and water?

Ed: They are really two totally different animals. The sewer, Phoenix would be glad to get rid of that and it's something we could take over and would really make a lot of sense to the Town. Phoenix came in years ago and they bought the Mockingbird Water Company. With that, they got part of the Town of Paradise Valley that they really didn't want but it was buy it all or nothing. But what happened, as we have found out, in the

area of the Town served by Phoenix Water, the pressure is low. The infrastructure, the pipes, the pumping, is pretty old. If we were to buy it from them, Phoenix would want somewhere in the vicinity of \$15 million. But we would have to spend that much just to upgrade the system to today's standard. Phoenix won't. I suppose if we really got after them long enough, they might spend some money to upgrade the system. But basically, they're hoping that we'll come along and take it off their hands. But there's no point in the Town buying an antiquated system and then having to spend additional money to upgrade it. If they want to give it to the Town, maybe then we'd look at it and do a real hard study to see what it would take to bring it up to where there would be good pressure. I think the water quality is fine but it's just an old system and it doesn't benefit a very large area of the Town. Again, you have to balance. Let's say if they give it to us and it would cost \$10 million to fix it up, but it benefits maybe 10% of the residents of the Town, you have to balance that a little bit, too.

Ann: Does the Phoenix sewer system benefit more than 10%?

Joan: I think it would. For example, I'm on Phoenix sewer now. I wasn't on it the first few years I lived here; we were on septic. But now all of Mountain Shadows is on the Phoenix sewer. I don't know where the line divides whether you're on Scottsdale or Phoenix. I'm not sure of the geographical boundary.

Ed: It's the weirdest line. If you look at a map of the two areas, the one that's on Scottsdale and the one that's on Phoenix, and it doesn't make a lot of sense. Basically, there's sort of a ridge that's somewhere on Lincoln Drive between the Town Hall and Camelback Inn, and everything east of it goes to Scottsdale, and west of it goes off to

Phoenix. The Scottsdale system really doesn't go much west of probably Mountain Shadows. It may not even go quite that far.

Joan: I live on the west side of Mountain Shadows and it's Phoenix.

Ed: Scottsdale probably then just comes to Invergordon.

Joan: Actually my mother lives in the east side of the hotel, and that was on Phoenix sewer. I don't know how much further east it goes.

Ed: They really don't go much further east than that. I think that Paradise Valley Country Club has looked at building on a chunk of land in the back nine of the golf course. One of the issues would be sewer. It turns out that their connection would have to be into the Phoenix system.

Ann: I understand some people receive Phoenix water but use Scottsdale sewers.

Ed: Yeah. It's just complicated.

Joan: And very confusing.

Ed: You know we talked about challenges that we had with the new Council. One of the things that we found was that our relations with Scottsdale were really just awful. Our relations with Phoenix, though not widely publicized, were just about as bad. There was a huge morale problem with Town staff, the boards and commission were not really humming along. We spent a lot of time and started having joint meetings with the Planning Commission, with the Board of Adjustment, trying to get a new feeling of teamwork. We're all in this so let's try to do a good job. We need more interaction with the staff, not from the standpoint of micromanaging, but just to let them know that we care and that we want the Town to be something that we can all really be proud of. The day after we got sworn in, we sent a letter off to Scottsdale City Council and took them

out to dinner. It was no business, we just went out and had a very nice dinner to get to know each other.

Ann: Get acquainted.

Joan: It was a shame that that deteriorated to such a point because when I left the Council, we were in very good terms. And just two years could wreck all that work. Excuse me for saying it, but I couldn't help it.

Ed: It is very true. In fact, we learned that Scottsdale twice had invited our predecessors out for a social evening. The first time they said no and the second time they wouldn't even answer. Then in about three or four months, we had a dinner for the Phoenix City Council. These are now regular things that we're doing. Scottsdale took us out last year and we're taking them out in October. I think our relations with Scottsdale are really good again. We have a project that we will be working together as they do the widening of the west side of Scottsdale Road, the last part of that monster project that they have to deal with.

Joan: From Gold Dust down to Indian Bend?

Ed: Right. No, it's going to go further south to the Doubletree. They widened the east side of the road.

Joan: I know. But from Scottsdale Plaza south is already widened; it's just the northern portion that's involved. It's only two lanes.

Ed: That's going to come along pretty soon. They've held off doing that because they wanted to get the Pima Freeway work done at Shea and Frank Lloyd Wright.

Ann: The more cars that enter there takes the pressure off here.

Ed: Yeah. When Scottsdale Road gets torn up again, hopefully for the last time, they will be able to divert traffic there and traffic can still move.

Joan: Were you aware that, since it never got in writing, I don't remember, but we did discuss the utility poles on Scottsdale Road. There was at least a verbal agreement, if not a written one, that the poles on Scottsdale Road would be moved the east side of Scottsdale Road. Is that in writing?

Ed: I don't think so. The current plan is to put them underground now on the west side of the road.

Joan: Is that going to be part of our project?

Ed: It's not part of the current undergrounding project; on Lincoln Drive where the 69kv are undergrounded. The 69kv lines come in to Scottsdale Road at McDonald, then it runs north and south on the west side of the road. They want to bury it, which it really should be. They want to split the cost; we pay half and they pay half. I don't think that there's a lot of sentiment on the Council right now that we should split the cost. Maybe we should have some sort of cost because there's a benefit. Let me put it another way. The problem I see the right-of-way belongs to Scottsdale. Should we be spending Town money to put utilities underground in property owned by a neighboring city?

Ann: Especially if we don't benefit from it.

Joan: The homes along Camelback Golf Course do benefit from it.

Ed: Yeah. There is some benefit especially to the people who live right along there. But again, we don't know what the costs are and what the ultimate cost sharing will be. These are things that we now have a relationship that we can sit down and talk about it and work it out. The other thing that I discovered was that there is a widespread belief

that the Town was this island onto itself and really didn't care about what was going on in the rest of Maricopa County. It was not really a terribly good neighbor. We wanted all the services and all of the benefits of the big cities, but we certainly didn't in any way want to participate. In past years, Sara Moya had been the Town's representative to the Maricopa Associations of Governments, MAG. I think they always felt a little unhappy that that Council is made up of Mayors or Vice-Mayors if the Mayor can't be there. If the leader can't be there on a temporary basis, a Council Member could not on a permanent basis. I thought that because of our relations, we needed all the PR we could get, I decided then okay, Ed you'd better go ahead and plan on going to all those meetings. So I have been doing that. At the beginning I thought, "Why am I doing this?" because I didn't understand what they were talking about. The benefit of going is getting to meet the Mayors of all the other cities and towns around the Valley. That has been invaluable. I got a lot of really good friends now that are Mayors of other cities and towns. If you have a problem, you have somebody to call and to about it. What should we do? I think the big advantage to the Town is that we are now back and we are part of the Valley community. People realize that we aren't going to be building a high wall and a moat around the Town. They know that we would just assume have the traffic go someplace else. We just had a lot of bridges to rebuild. The real challenge was to get to where the Town government was working as a team again. I think we're there now. We just have a few more steps to take. I think we are back on a very good relationship with Scottsdale and Phoenix. Actually, Mayor Rimsza has been a huge friend and has helped us on several projects that there's no reason for him to but the fact that we now have a good relationship again with them. I think we have the Town staff with good morale. Tom,

we've left him alone so he can do what he does so well, and that's manage the Town.

We've all made a very conscious effort to stay out of managing day to day things. There are sometimes when you just get pulled into it. But the challenge was to get a Council that worked together. The greatest compliment was the fact we were successful to me is that two years the biggest complaint was that the Council couldn't get along with each other. The most recent election the complaint was we got along too well.

Ann: You voted too much alike. I thought that was funny.

Ed: It's been interesting. Now Ron Clarke has been on board for two months and he was sort of wondering why do they do this. The process we follow is that we try to work it through to where we get something that we can all basically support. Nobody, fortunately, has big egos to say that I'm going to have it my way or I'll...

Ann: Have a fit.

Ed: Yeah. Dan Schweiker put it really well when he first started off. He said, "We're going to work really hard but we're going to have fun doing it." And we've worked very hard and have really long meetings. But we really had fun. Last night we interviewed the last couple of candidates for the Planning Commission vacancy. I was sitting there listening to the discussion with the candidates, and also back and forth with the Council, and I thought, "You know, we all really do get along well." We like each other. We don't always agree, but it's nothing personal.

Joan: That's the important thing that it's nothing personal. I would think that one of the things facing you now is this mess with the Flood Control District. I've been praying for a heavy rain north from Doubletree, between Tatum and Invergordon, and down 56th Street, which hasn't materialized unfortunately. I think the cleaning out of the ditch is

supposed to be the homeowners' responsibility, not the Town's. This has always been a cloudy area because it hasn't been maintained by the homeowners. However, now that you've done that, I understand that the Citizens Group requested it, it would be interesting to see how much good it will even do.

Ed: The Doubletree project has probably been the thorniest thing we've had to deal with as a Council in the last two years. It was something new. It had been around but we just never were all that aware of it. The Town probably, as of today, has spent well over \$700,000 in various engineering studies. They all say that we need it. In the big rain, and it will happen, there is going to be some very serious flooding because there are so many more homes in that area, each one with their own flood control diversion project of putting the water on a neighbor's property. It could be a real catastrophe. We have a group of residents who are very much opposed to doing much of anything.

Ann: Don't they have any care or consideration for their neighbors that will be inundated by these potential floods?

Ed: They haven't demonstrated a lot of concern for anyone's interests other than their own.

Joan: But they will be affected also. I mean you can't live on Doubletree and have that water come crashing across Tatum in really bad storm and not be affected. The thing that bothers me is that the paper has said that these people as a group don't want the Town to waste money. I mean the logic escapes me, we are all paying into Maricopa County's budget. Therefore, it's our money. Why should it go to a project in southwest Phoenix? Why shouldn't it be used for the Town?

Ed: Well, the Chief Engineer and General Manager of Maricopa County Flood Control District came and testified at an open Council meeting here in May that we have a very serious problem and we must take care of it. He was urging the Council to approve the intergovernmental agreement to go ahead and build the project. The Council unanimously approved it, but the people who are opposing it have never really tried to work through the Town in a meaningful way. They have gone to the legislature. They have gone to the Board of Supervisors directly. They have not always presented a completely accurate picture of what the Town's position is or what the majority of the residents' position is and they got the Board of Supervisors wondering where the truth is. Where I see it now is that the Town has actually approved the final step, that is, the building of the Doubletree project. It was unanimously approved by the Council and that resolution and approval of this intergovernmental agreement has been sent to the Board of Supervisors so the ball is really in their court. They have to now decide whether they're going to listen to their experts who tell them that this project has to be built, and the majority of the residents that are in the affected area that have signed petitions saying they want the project built, or are they going to listen instead to a lay board that doesn't really have much interest in the Town of Paradise Valley and a few residents who apparently don't want to be inconvenienced and don't really care that much for their neighbors. I look at this like in the days of the west, if you lived out in the country and your barn burned down. Your neighbors would show up the next weekend with lumber, and they'd have a picnic and help rebuild your barn. But we seem to have a bunch of people that if they were around and that happened, they'd come over and tell you that you should never have built the barn in the first place. And you should never rebuild it

because it will just burn down again. Besides that it will destroy the rural character of the area if you put that barn there.

Ann: While we're on the topic of people, I wanted to ask you, what is happening, not only to our Town but throughout the whole nation, that people are spending so much time trying to get laws passed to keep their neighbor from doing something on their own property. It really concerns me. It's fourth amendment rights that are being challenged. You're not doing anything against your neighbor, like having a radio on too loud too late at night. They keep wanting to kick over that fence or wall and invade their neighbor's privacy and tell them what they can and can't do. I am absolutely appalled. What is happening to America? What we were just talking about is an example.

Ed: In the last two years, we've seen several instances where there is a growing number of people who feel that they have some sort of vested right in other's property. Whether it's a view or whether it's the color of their house or whether it's a fence, any number of things like that. The thing that makes Paradise Valley a really neat place to live is that we have a lot of very distinct, rugged individuals here and their homes reflect that. There's a lot of different styles of architecture, some have walls, some don't; some of them are southwest territorial, some of them are very modern. That diversity reflects the diversity of the people that live in the Town as far as their backgrounds, their education, and their occupation. I think that's a real plus. That's why people like to live here. If we had acres of red tile roofs like you see on Shea Boulevard now, beautiful tile roofs, but basically you're looking at acres of red tile roofs and houses are two feet apart. If that happened here, the value of this community and what it's all about, would disappear very, very fast. I think we have to always consider property rights as first and

foremost. Having said that, there are certain things that make the Town unique. The open space is one of them. And how do you balance open spaces against individual property rights? How do you balance the desert feel against somebody who wants to come in and plant their whole acre with oleanders and eucalyptus trees and flora dora and whatever? It's hard to do that. If the Town had started off as a master planned community, we could perhaps have put some conditions down that everybody had to live with and abide by. But that's not the way the Town started. You can't really go back and say from now on, if you rebuild this you can't put a wall around you house, you can only use certain types of plants. The view corridors between houses are really nice to maintain them, but how much restriction can you put on what basically is an existing community? I think it's very difficult and you can't really do a lot. What has evolved in the last few years, and one of the best example is what to do about these gated communities. There are a lot of people in Town who don't like them at all. But there are others who really think that it is their right to do it. If you have a gated community, you can't walk through there except now the Council is requiring that they have pedestrian access in an out of these places. I think we've looked at five or six gated communities now, and basically we haven't found a universal rule. You have to look each one on a case by case basis. What we have found is that the developers have been more agreeable to creating a development with open spaces, making the lots a little bit bigger, setting the walls back further from the road, doing more landscaping between the wall and the road and putting in rec paths around it. It means a lot more time and effort for everybody, but it may be that the case by case method is the only realistic way to do it. The question came up when we were talking to the candidates for the Planning Commission, "Do you have a right to a view of

Camelback Mountain from your property across your neighbor's property?" And most of them said, "Not really, not legally." But there were a couple who said, "Yes, you do."

One example came up where someone bought a house and they no more than moved in when the neighbors came over and said, "You know the roof in your bedroom is too high, could you please lower it about five feet." I don't think so. But it's a very interesting phenomenon where people do feel that once they're ensconced, they have some proprietary right to your property. I don't know that there is any case law that says that's right. If anything, it's the opposite.

Ann: But it certainly festers more animosity among neighbors and lack of good neighborliness that existed. One thing that impressed me with these interviews with the citizens that were here at the incorporation and during the early years, how they all worked together and had one goal. That just doesn't exist today. I think we never had the concept that people would come here and want to build a 20,000 square foot house on one acre. I don't think it ever occurred to any of us that the economy would be so good that everybody wanted to live like kings.

Ed: It's just hard to understand the rationale for homes that big. Actually, the way things are in the Town now that on a one acre lot, you really can't build much more than about 10,000 square feet, which is still a lot.

Ann: That's plenty, when it's all on one level.

Ed: The big houses you find them showing up on the five acre parcels or the two and a half acre parcels. The other thing that the Town has now is a circle that fits on each lot. Again, that's a help in controlling placement and size to some degree and making the house fit better.

Ann: That was a very ingenious solution. A one hundred and sixty-five foot diameter circle.

Ed: Yeah, and it does seem to be working. I don't think it's ever been so severely tested that I suspect it would probably hold up as it were. I think the open space criteria that the Town adopted earlier this year where if you want to build a 24-foot house, you have to set it back so that the highest part of the house is more in the center of the property so that the corridors between the homes are more open. Again, the question is how far can you go in telling people what they can or can't do?

Ann: That pretty well dictates the formation architecturally.

Ed: Yeah. The critics of that have said, "You know what's going to happen is that all the houses are going to start looking alike." They'll be further apart than some of the developments around Phoenix and Scottsdale, but there will still be a similarity.

Joan: There's some of that anyway around Town, in the newer homes but not the older homes.

Ed: There's some that look very cookie cutter. But they're beautiful homes.

Joan: I don't mean that they're not.

Ann: That's when you have a developer come in and he has a pattern with a couple of variations.

Joan: It's usually internal.

Ed: They're generic. I think the real challenge is that what's happened to the Town of Paradise Valley has been extraordinarily subtle. But somewhere in the last five years, the Town has gone from this rural, sleepy, residential, but not terribly visible or urbanized, that's not the word, but it's been laid back isn't quite the word either. But what has

happened is a couple of things. One is that we are now in the crossfire between Phoenix and Scottsdale. The traffic goes Lincoln, Invergordon, Tatum, all are arterials that we just can't have go away. So we have a traffic problem that's really just evolved in the last maybe five or seven years to where it's serious, really serious. We now have a Town that's basically all built. From here on, the rest of the history of the Town of Paradise Valley is going to be remodeling. The houses that they're building today that everybody is saying, "Oh my gosh, these are awful." In 20 years, those are going to get torn down. Most of them probably that's their life expectancy the way they're putting them up. Doubletree is an immediate challenge, we've got to get that project built if at all possible, or get some very good persuasive reasons why it shouldn't be built. But on a remodeling, we've got to really think about what sort of standards and criteria do we want? For example, do we want to require that in remodeling over a certain dollar amount, the person has to put in sprinklers, as Scottsdale and other desert communities are doing? Did you want to say that if you put in more than \$150,000 in remodeling, you have a certain amount of desert landscaping, somewhere between your house and the street? If you want to have a lawn area, it will have to be in the back and surrounded by desert landscaping? What do you want to do about walls? Do you want to say that if you tear down a wall, you can't rebuild it? If you tear it down, you have to move it back in towards the house? There are all sorts of remodeling criteria that I suspect will get aired. We've started the process in looking where do we go? If you have a house that's here today, there's a good argument, "Well, I'm grandfathered. I want to just take that house and in the same footprint, take it down except for the chimney and rebuild. Should I be able to do that without having to go through all these other groups, and things like that?"

The pressure is going to be increased because what people have understood is that we are now in the seventh largest city (Phoenix) in the country.

Joan: Something like that.

Ed: I don't know that there is any other city in the country that has this little island of really lovely residential homes nestled in these mountains that is right smack in the middle of everything. You're close to the airport. You're close to shopping. You're close to restaurants. Where can you have this Arizona desert, and a great area that is so handy? People that have money are going to be attracted to this because it's a very pleasant life style. We haven't had the big crime problems, except for the rock burglar.

Ann: Knock on wood.

Ed: Double knock on wood. Except the rock burglar. One of the Council Member said, "What are we going to do about the rock burglar?" The suggestion was to put up a reward. So we did. I think there's been one incident since that and it's been a year.

Joan: I think they thought they might have caught him, but I didn't see a follow up on it.

Ann: Didn't they think also that he was a snowbird?

Joan: Because of the time that lapsed.

Ed: We're going to have some real problems as the remodeling goes on the open space. People in election campaigns this past talked about maintaining the rural character of the Town.

Ann: It's gone.

Ed: It's gone. It's been gone a long time.

Joan: I've been listening to that for a number of years and it's really laughable. It isn't. It's suburban, but it's not rural. The realities are that when you're between two big cities,

it's no way. I still think the idea of trying to maintain open space is okay, even though I don't agree with some of the things that you've said. But everybody is entitled to an opinion.

Ed: The thing is that I believe in open spaces but I don't believe it should be at the expense of... somebody should tell me that I can't do this or that. I think, maybe it's an educational problem, that people should want to keep that open space. When I first moved into the Town, I got out of the airport in 1959 and I bought a little house on Indian School Road and 45th Street. I bought a lot off Mockingbird and Turquoise Hill. There were like two houses there and Tatum was a horrible two lane road with lots of chuck holes.

Ann: Now that's rural.

Ed: And desert tortoise walking across the road. Almost every night I'd stop and pick one and get him off the road. Occasionally, I'd take one home and let it mow the Bermuda lawn and let it go. Fattened it up a little bit. There were people who had horses where I lived when I first moved out here. One acre lots with horses. When you looked at the paper for houses in Paradise Valley, it was one of the big selling point was horse privilege. There was a trail and every Saturday and Sunday trail riders from Camelback would come right across the back of our property. They're out for their Sunday morning or Saturday morning ride. I thought that was really neat. To me when you talk about rural character, that's rural. But we can't keep that.

Joan: We came here later than you, but we had horse property on Smoketree Lane and my husband had a horse. He boarded it because where are you going to ride? Even by

then you couldn't really ride. I don't know how you hold it back. I don't think it's possible.

Ed: I think it's inevitable.

Ann: For a period of time, and then when we have an economic reversal, what are these people going to do with their 20,000 square foot houses? Then we'll worry about someone buying it and turning it into apartments or something.

Ed: Well I have the feeling that most of what's happening in the Town here is probably less susceptible to economic down turns. Most people aren't leveraged up to the hilt with monster mortgages. If you were to buy a house somewhere around Silicon Valley, and I just was with a bunch of people who live in that area, the stories they tell about housing prices...

Ann: Oh yes.

Joan: I know someone from there.

Ed: You know the incredible prices. If there are big readjustments in the economy, those people in those houses, the value is just going to plummet. You've got a resort environment here. You've got this superb location that you just don't find in very many, if any, other major metropolitan cities. You know there is a lot of big business industries here that will, good times and bad, are still going to have CEOs and executive vice presidents. Where are those people going to want to live? They're going want to live in a place that's pleasant, it's safe, close to schools and churches, and has a nice feel to it. I think we have built in some really wonderful amenities and the challenge for this Council and all others in the future is going to be to do as much as we can to keep the feeling. One of the things that's very sad is that we've lost the community spirit that was here. I

remember back when Barbara von Ammon was Mayor, and Mary Ann Brines was here. There really was a feeling. If you wanted to see your fellow residents, you went up to Smitty's. That was the great gathering spot for everybody.

Ann: That's what I was referring to earlier. What is happening to us that that spirit is gone?

Ed: Let's see, urbanization. It's hard to maintain that sense of community, especially when you have the little enclaves of the gated communities around. You may have the people within that community interact more. But the interesting thing is that most people who live in the Town of Paradise Valley, they get along just fine with their neighbors, but they aren't going out every other night and playing canasta or bridge. People like a little more room and the privacy that comes with it. Where we live over off Mockingbird, we never had a fence around the property. When we built the house where we are now, we never put a fence around it. Our neighbors have never done it, except the one that's down below us. As far as I'm concerned, it was their right to do it. I'm sorry that they did it because now I can't walk down the hill and get down to Tatum. There are a lot of desert animals, like coyotes and foxes, that used to come by the north part of our house. They were always going over to shop at the Paradise Valley Country Club Golf Course for fresh rabbits and they always got their fill. It would be nice if we could find ways to get more community spirit.

Ann: But you can't force it.

Joan: I just think it's a society problem. We've heard so many horror stories, they're afraid and they want security. I think that's more of it than anything else. I don't think

it's a question that they don't want to have friends or neighbors. I think that fear is in back of it.

Ann: I think that's one reason why there's more areas that want to have gated communities. The times have changed since back in '61 when the Town was incorporated. It's a much more fearful time and wisely to be better on guard today than 40 years ago.

Ed: The other thing that has happened is the mobility of our society has changed so dramatically. It is so easy for now to get on a plane and be in San Diego, or Colorado, or New York. If you have a home on a one-acre lot, with things growing and alive, and a swimming pool, you want to take off for four or five days, you have to get someone to come and water and take care of it for you. If you live in a gated community, you can just walk off the door and lock it and you're gone.

Joan: Very true. I know.

Ed: That's a convenience that becomes...

Ann: A necessity.

Ed: Getting away becomes a necessity.

Joan: We have another thing that Barbara von Ammon spoke of this very often and she wound up living in Mountain Shadows. You get to a point when maintaining a large property is difficult and you don't want to go live in Scottsdale. I'm not advocating that we build small places, please don't misunderstand it, I would be the last one. But we do have a few existing ones and I can tell you that the turnover in Mountain Shadows east and west, if someone puts the house on the market, it's gone. That's how fast it sells because everyone wants to be there.

Ed: I have two clients that had homes in Colonia Miramonte and they were sold before they were even thinking about moving. Now look if you ever move, you've got to tell me first. Tell me what you want.

Joan: I had to sell my mother's house last year, and I had gotten a broker who works in those developments. I didn't even have time to sign a contract with the broker; I had two offers; the house was sold the first day for full asking price, all cash.

Ann: It's an incredible time we're living in.

Joan: I gave the commission because it's a moral obligation, but the thing is I couldn't believe it. Now it's being ripped to the ground.

Ed: I think it's exciting to look ahead for the Town because this is a neat place to live and the challenge is to keep it that way and to make it even better. I think that one of the things that the Council did this year was to get the scar on Mummy Mountain sprayed.

Joan: That's wonderful.

Ed: All of a sudden it's gone, although it hasn't quite aged, it will take another...

Ann: It will take a few rains.

Ed: It will need a couple of rains. To me that's a quality of life issue. It would be really nice to have that mountain top there and not all scarred up. There may be some more houses that will appear up there, hillside permitting, but still you have these great mountains all around the Town here. We can probably do a better job with managing traffic. I think the photo radar has done a great job as far as slowing it down. The challenge is to keep it moving so it doesn't just sit there because that's when the pollution and the problems really begin. The quality of life then begins to disappear.

Joan: But if we make it too easy for people to go through, then we will have more of it.

Ed: I didn't say to make it easy.

Ann: They will have to go slower but keep moving. Are there any particular things that your Council is dealing with about the traffic at this time? Any specifics that you're either looking at or you have implemented at this time?

Ed: The two most immediate things. By the end of the year, we'll have a second red light camera at the intersection of Tatum and McDonald. We have the money set aside in this year's budget to do the engineering and we got grants. At that intersection, what would be the northwest corner, is a chunk of desert land most of which is owned by the Town. When that subdivision was put in to the west, they were given a little more density as a trade off of the triangular piece of land to the Town. We're looking at taking that road and curving it rather than having it come up to an intersection because it funnels more traffic on McDonald and it also is a very dangerous intersection the way it is. The hope is that we can figure out some way to curve that road so that it makes McDonald more of a residential street and keeps the traffic that is coming up from Phoenix at night or going into Phoenix in the morning, to keep it from backing up forever on Tatum. Where we live, we're a mile north of Lincoln on Tatum. In the wintertime, the traffic is backed up clear passed that.

Ann: Bumper to bumper.

Ed: When it's stop and go, there's a huge amount of pollution that is going into the air. If you could just keep that traffic moving at 20 mph, people will go someplace where they can go faster, they will go that way. But having traffic sit there and stagnate is really bad. Those are immediate projects.

Joan: Will that design allow traffic to go onto McDonald?

Ed: Yes.

Joan: You don't have to turn.

Ed: No.

Ann: You'll stay on the far south lane to go straight ahead.

Ed: Here's McDonald and here's Tatum. What will happen is that this curve will come around this way and there would be a signal here. Then you could come in from McDonald this way.

Joan: If you were coming up 44th Street, would it take you straight through?

Ed: No, this would be gone. What would happen is you would have a turn lane into it.

Joan: Then you'd have a decided effort to make that turn to go there?

Ed: Right. You can't put it on auto pilot.

Joan: No, I don't speed. But I now go in the extreme right lane and go straight up McDonald to 56th Street to get home. It would make it harder to do that.

Ann: It would make it harder to choose to go to that extreme right lane, so that would help reduce the traffic that wants to cut through on McDonald. It would help McDonald slow down more. They've lowered the speed limit.

Ed: I think that the goal there is to have McDonald used by the people who live off McDonald in that area. One of the interesting things is that there is traffic calming that went in a couple of years ago on McDonald because everybody was concerned that when the Pima Freeway came off McDonald exit, all these people were going to come thundering across McDonald. The traffic count after that exit opened, the traffic on McDonald dropped.

Joan: I noticed that and I believe one of the traffic engineers stated that most people turn onto another major street within a mile of the freeway exit, which would bring them maybe to Hayden. That's why we're not getting that happen.

Ann: That's what we were hoping for.

Ed: Sure. Actually, it worked out. That may have been more luck. There's a lesson that we just need to learn. Where else can we apply or predict what's happening? One of the things being on the MAG Council I found very interesting is to listen to these discussions and finally get to where I think I understand most of what they're talking on freeways, and the freeway system in the Valley was designed 20 years ago or more was scheduled to be done in about 2016. Through a lot of hard work from MAG and the State Department of Transportation, they've worked out the funding through some very creative ways, and they all are now on a big accelerated program basically by 2007, it's going to be done. MAG has just now started a process to go into the next phase of freeway planning. Basically, the roots are pretty well established. The funding is there. The money is there to buy the entire right-of-way where they don't have it.

Ann: They're nine years ahead of schedule. That's kind of exciting.

Ed: What's going to happen is that once the 101 comes around and goes over to I-17, and the Squaw Peak goes up and connects with it, that's going to funnel some traffic out of our Town.

Joan: I think so. We are progressing on the east-west freeway because I know that has to be the next thing.

Ed: In the east Valley, their hope is that the Red Mountain Freeway and the Santan Freeway which run parallel to the Superstition Freeway will pull some of the traffic.

They should be spending more time in expediting finishing the Santan and the Red Mountain which is now happening, rather than trying to add more lanes to the poor Superstition. You can add more lanes but it isn't going to solve the problem. You've got to have other freeways.

Joan: We go to Gilbert to my son's house so we're familiar with that.

Ed: You're painfully familiar. The thing that's been interesting for me is that the west Valley Mayors feel very disenfranchised because they aren't getting as much funding dollars even though they're now starting to get the grill that the east Valley experienced starting getting 10/15 years ago. There is a pull between the east and west valley. I'm getting calls and letters from our neighboring Mayors saying we need your help and support on this project and that project. But the thing that's nice is that they know we're here and that they feel that our support is important to have. Our Council when we came in, because our relationships were so tattered in virtually every direction, said we want to be good neighbors with everybody, because one of these days, we're going to need some favors. That's what we've tried to do and I think we've been successful, at least in getting a good start.

Ann: I think you have and I'm so glad you were elected Mayor again. You're just a good soul, a peacemaker. Just what this Town needed.

Joan: Yes, definitely. I would say the same thing, Ed.

Ed: Thank you.

Ann: Jack Huntress you know was Mayor for ten years.

Ed: Oh my gosh! I don't think Ed is going to do that.

Joan: Well you've got four years now.

Ed: Yeah, but the Mayorship term is only two.

Joan: That's rather interesting.

Ann: I was going to ask you about that. Did you draw a four-year straw? [Yeah] But the Mayor each time will only be two years? I wondered how that affected the straw drawing?

Ed: No, it didn't have anything to do with that. What we had to do was basically take a piece of paper out of this Indian basket that Lenore came up with. You talk about weird things. The strangest thing was that the first three people that drew, who were Bernie Barry, Ron Clarke and Jini Simpson, each rustled around in this thing and pulled out a two. There were only three two-year terms, which meant that the remaining people, Dan Schweiker, Ed Winkler, me and Council Member X, we got four-year terms. With the staggered terms, there will always be an election every two years. There will be either three or four seats. It probably makes sense for that Council, as it becomes Council, to elect the Mayor for that term.

Joan: I see what the logic is now. Now I understand. At first it didn't make sense to me.

Ann: They still could vote you back in.

Ed: Or impeach.

Ann: They won't do that.

Joan: I don't think that will happen either.

Ann: In a way it's too bad that the Council Member that has not been appointed yet wasn't drawn two, just in case whoever is appointed didn't work out as successfully. Is there anything negotiable on that.

Ed: The dilemma for the Council is that when you appoint somebody to a four-year term, basically they are not answerable to the voters for four years. And when you're appointing somebody, I've always been of the opinion that you should appoint that person until the next general election. But if you do that, it throws the four-year/two-year thing out of whack. We asked the State if we could pull out a two-year term for that absent Council Member and they said no. They said that you have to draw and whatever one is left over is for the new Council Member.

Joan: It puts you in a rather difficult position.

Ann: And terrific pressure.

Ed: Yeah. You know there's enough other pressure because there are those that feel that Dick Gordon, having gotten the second number of votes should be appointed and there are others that say he was defeated, so basically the voters said, "Well, no we don't agree with him but we did agree with his opponent."

Ann: But it was a narrow defeat.

Ed: Yeah. In the Primary Dick ended up with more votes by 20 or 30, but in the General Election, Ron ended up with 300 or 400 more. It's a hard one. I do think that one other thing we've done by going to the mail balloting has heightened public involvement in the election.

Joan: I know it's very good.

Ed: The voter turnout was doubled from what it was two years ago, and it will probably go up by maybe 25%. We'll get up where we'll probably have regularly voting somewhere between 45 and 50%, where it used to be 10 or 12%. I think that's the good news. The bad news that because more people are voting, campaigning is going to

become more expensive. I talked to Mary Manross and it's just incredible the monies that were spent for the elections on Scottsdale City Council and Mayor. The thing is now that is almost, not quite, but almost a precedent. In the future, it's going to be much more expensive to run for Council in Scottsdale.

Joan: In Scottsdale, but in PV if you stay away from signs which have always been frowned on, I don't see why it should be more. Everybody has always campaigned on a mailing and the two forums that we have for the candidates.

Ed: I think what you'll get is more postcards. You're going to see more fliers in the *Paradise Valley Independent*. You're going to see more letters. I don't think it's going to get outrageously expensive, but it's going to be more costly. For somebody who really wants the job, obviously because of the pay [laughter], they'll spend more.

Ann: Spending more to be a Council Member for nothing, monetarily speaking.

Ed: The thing that I was really thrilled about, and I think again is a sign that we're coming back to what we should be, is that when we did advertise for people for the Planning Commission, we had 13 people apply. I don't think that would have happened a few years ago. As it turns out, as we went through the suggestion of maybe we should review the resumes and pick out six that we'd like to interview, my feeling was no, if they're interested enough in the Town to apply for the job, we owe them the courtesy of an interview. Out of this process, what's happened is that we met some absolutely wonderful people who thoroughly very much care about the Town and are concerned about where these issues are. What turned out is that it was very educational for the Council because we heard all kinds of good ideas that we had never heard before about ways to approach some of the issues that are really land-use/planning issues. I think that

all of the people who were candidates thought that they were given a very polite, courteous, family, kept very casual, not trying to be formal or intimidating. I think that they all felt that it was a process that they enjoyed. The give and take was really...

Ann: Right, I felt very comfortable with all of you. I enjoyed having the opportunity to express my feelings for this dear Town and get some ideas out for whatever they were worth. At least I had my chance. I appreciated the courtesy.

Ed: Well, the thing that was great is that we now have this pool of really great people, though we may not put them on the Planning Commission, but we have a place to look to start in the future if there's a vacancy wherever it happens to be.

Ann: Would you be using any of those of this coming committee that you're forming for deciding about the hillside codes and review?

Ed: We've been talking about that and I think that clearly there are some people that would be...

Ann: And some of the people living on the hillside themselves should have some interesting input.

Ed: Oh yes. What I found in the last couple of years, again it takes too much time, but to make the process really work, you need to get the complete spectrum of people involved, and then take the time to work through the issues and get everybody's input. The only place where it didn't work is the Doubletree group. We talked about the drainage problem and the rebuilding of Doubletree Road. We came up with several different alternatives. Basically, everybody said, oh well, of these, the curvilinear design was the one that everybody, even finding it in some cases it had to be, would you please tell us whether you like it or don't, or are you neutral about it? I think I like it. Now

we're hearing that they don't like it. That process evolves what may be a good concept for future roads in the Town. Because if you have them gradually curve, again it makes them feel more residential [slows traffic], it slows traffic, it discourages cut-through traffic. It works better on the long stretch, like a Doubletree stretch. But there are other roads that the concept I think it would be great to build it because it clearly will work. The question is how well will it work, and if it works really well, then here's the prototype for something that then gives you roads that are again a quality of life road, instead of a piece of straight asphalt. You now have this beautiful road, nicely landscaped recreation path, bicycles.

Ann: And quality of life is the key to Paradise Valley.

Ed: You bet. Absolutely.

Ann: I hate to take any more of your time. You've been so fascinating. If there's anything more you want to include, please say so. But it's getting late, you've had a long day in the law office and here you are speaking so generously with us. But you're more welcome to stay but I didn't want you to feel like we're going to keep you here until midnight.

Ed: I thought this was just the first of several...

Ann: Actually it can be but I'll have to run home and get some more tape.

Ed: I was just trying to think. I suppose one could talk about a lot of specific things. I think getting the Town to have a code of ethics was long overdue. I think that of all the projects we're looking at now, we always say let's make it a long range. Let's not just be trying to fix it for today or tomorrow, but let's take the long view and see where that path should go. There again that avoids problems. One of the things that is absolutely

astounding and amazing to me is it worked out two years ago, seven people who didn't know each other - I knew Bob Williams and I think maybe Bernie Barry knew Ed Winkler - but I think basically there was no really great friendship. You basically had seven people who were just pulled by fate out of the Town and sunk into a situation as members of the Town Council, and for that group to have come together and been able to work so well and to take the time, which is a lot, and learn what the issues were and try to come up with really thoughtful, long range solutions, and be all good friends, and we all are. It just doesn't ever happen.

Ann: It's rare and you all are lucky and the whole Town is lucky.

Ed: We're the lucky ones because we have worked hard and we have had fun. We always will have a couple of really good laughs at just about every meeting. It's not at the expense of anybody. A lot of the times we're really laughing at ourselves. It's just been a wonderful experience. I tell my wife, "Patsy, I really look forward to the Council meetings and the other things that we do." She says, "What!" I do because it is fun. There's an electricity there.

Ann: You've created a good community among yourselves.

Ed: Chemistry. I think our goal is that working for our Town, we want that enthusiasm for our community to spread out. I think it has. I think the Planning Commission has a lot more esprit de corps than they used to, the Board of Adjustment, I think the Town staff has, and I think the residents are noticing now. Going back to let's be user friendly because the residents of the Town are our bosses. They are our employers. They don't pay very well, but they're still our employers.

Ann: Paying you with experience.

Ed: That's right and it's wonderful experience. I thought I had done everything I really wanted to do. Just coast along here and just do my Grand Canyon river trips every year and go skiing in the wintertime. But this has really added a dimension that I would never have imagined. Wonderful friendships have been formed that I would never have had otherwise. I've been very blessed.

Ann: So have we.

Ed: Also with a few bottles of Mylanta on occasion.

Joan: It just goes with the territory.

Ed: I know. I think that the last Council and this Council and I think probably the next one are going to be remembered as the ones that were really into this transition from the old rural Paradise Valley to the new urbanized world Paradise Valley. One of the things we've done is really looked at the quality of life issues. We're getting those ugly poles down on Lincoln Drive even though it will take almost four years before it's all over because there are a couple of underground conversion districts that have to go to make it all work. They're in line to get it done. The great thing is that this is not being done at the expense of any of the ongoing undergrounding. This is actually above and beyond that. We've been able to work it out with APS to do that. You drive down Lincoln Drive, those are the ugliest poles in the world.

Joan: I used to get complaints years before I was on Council. At that time I don't think the technology was available. The cost was \$1 million a mile.

Ed: It was probably more than that because even with today's technology, it's somewhat less. But getting APS to help with part of the cost. The other thing though

that worries me a bit is that those things are so close to Lincoln Drive, on the stretch between Tatum and 32nd Street.

Joan: There have been many accidents that involved light poles.

Ed: Very dangerous. Last year we got the County Board of Supervisors to donate 21 acres of land to the Mummy Mountain Trust, up the northwest corner of Mummy Mountain. We got the scar fixed. We got the work going on undergrounding utility lines. We are going to do the annual resurfacing of certain designated number of streets in the Town. The bids came in and they were outrageously high. We talked to staff and they said maybe we should try to do it in two-year phases and they would get a contractor to bid it that way. What happened is that the price came way down and we are able to do more this year by doing it a little differently. That's the thing again that nobody's afraid to be creative, to go out and think outside the box. I think the Council encourages that and I think that's good for the staff because they're doing it now. That's probably enough.

Ann: That is wonderful. Thank you ever so much.

Ed: It's my pleasure.

Joan: Thank you, Ed. You've made a great contribution to the archives.

Ann: Yes indeed.