

Port Washington Public Library Oral History Collection

LIBRARY HISTORY *

Ayres, Carey (1938 -). Children's Librarian.

Childhood memories of books; Port Washington Public Library, 1970; training in story-telling by Spencer Shaw and Betty Wood; joys of story-telling; Kindergarten story hour; film selection for children; graduate work in Library Science; Children's Room staff, duties; Summer Reading Club; meetings with school librarians; Children's Favorite Book Contest; book collection standards; interaction with Reference Room.

41 pages. Open. Interviewer - Amy Bass. 1990.

Beslity, Helen (19 -). Principal Library Clerk.

Early exposure to Queens Borough Public Library; move to Port Washington, 1965; library staff, 1967: overdues clerk, circulation department, collection management, principal library clerk; early computer systems; "Sorry Seven" Nassau County libraries; changes resulting from computerization; future expansion of library.

24 pages. Open. Interviewer - David Keegan. 1990.

Blumlein, Frederick (1943 -). Chairman, Art Advisory Council.

Port Washington Library as cultural center of community; Art Advisory Council: role as advisor to Board of Trustees, structure of, qualification of members, record-keeping, tenor of meetings; shows: selection, role of preview committee, variety, chairperson; controversy re lobby painting; acquisition policy.

28 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1991.

Camarata, Corinne (1948 -). Children's Librarian.

Education at Rutgers University; library career: school library, public library work, Port Washington Public Library, 1972; first impressions; staff; story-telling program; influence of Betty Wood; collection characteristics; philosophy as department head; book ordering and reviewing; relationship with public schools: Children's Favorite Author Contest, Parents as Research Partners program; professional organizations; introduction of computers.

50 pages. Open. Interviewer - Amy Bass. 1991.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Catchi (1920 -). Art Advisory Council.

Childhood in Florida; education: privately tutored to age 13, study with Leon Kroll, Commercial Illustration School, (N.Y.C.), Institute of Photography, Paul Wood classes; personal life: house in Tuscany, Italy, marriage to sculptor Mel Fowler; Art Advisory Council: founding, operation, role in community, membership, meetings; art shows: costs, limitations; possible library improvements.

85 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1991.

Christ, Donald C. (1935 -). Former President, Board of Trustees.

Education and career: graduate of Yale College, Yale Law School, attorney with Sullivan and Cromwell, Village Justice, Mill Neck; early association with the library: bond issue campaign, election as Trustee; tenure on the Board: allocation of resources, Richard Nixon controversy, Averill Harriman program, separation of school and library vote, President of the Board, 1971-75; association with Ed de Sciora; relationship with Board and staff, Board of Education; orientation of new Trustees; family history.

16 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1990.

Christ, Dorothea (1935 - 2009). Former Board member, Friends of the Library.

Lifelong resident of Port Washington; early use of Belleview Avenue library; portrait of Wilhelmina Mitchell; comparison of library facilities then and now; Friends of the Library: involvement as Board member, role of Friends; library as community center.

Reminiscences of: Betty Wood.

28 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1990.

Ciccariello, Priscilla (1925 -). Director, Information Services, Retired.

Education and career: Walden School, (N.Y.C.); overdues clerk, Belleview Avenue library; ACE program, Queens College; Jewish Federation for the Education of Girls, 1974; Queens graduate program for Library Science; library trainee, International Youth Library (Munich); doctoral program, Columbia University, certificate, 1981; Reference and Adult Services Dept, Director of Information Services. Professional associations; founding of/work with National Marfan Foundation; Belleview Avenue library; overdues system; expansion of services at new library; interaction with school libraries; duties as Director of Information Services.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

43 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1990.

Coffey, Lina (1935 -). Former Adult Services Librarian.

Port Washington resident since 1969; early volunteer involvement: Friends of the Library Newsletter, Book and Author Luncheon, Books Sandwiched In, videotape replay project; M.L.S. training after joining professional staff, 1983; circulation, reference, adult services.

19 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1991.

Coggeshall, Pleasance (1943 - 1993). Program Coordinator.

Educational background: Youth Center, Sea Cliff (N.Y.); programming work at Port Washington Public Library since 1975: resources, performances, Sandwiched In series, guidance by Virginia Parker, audience profiles, inter-generational workshop; work with Health Advisory Council; Library Centennial plans; teaching writing groups for senior citizens.

Reminiscences of: Virginia Parker.

37 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1991.

Coleman, Pat (1933 -). Inter-Library Loan and Reserve Clerk.

Childhood use of library in Brooklyn; career: part-time page, full-time clerk, inter-library loan and reserve clerk, Port Washington Public Library; details of page work; layout of library before remodeling; appeal of library atmosphere; rearing children; impact of automation; workings of inter-loan system; role of library in community and importance to young people; growth of services; value of Sunday openings; future expansion plans of library; cultural activities.

27 pages. Open. Interviewer - Amy Bass. 1990.

de Sciora, Edward (Part 1) (1928 -). Director, Retired.

Library science, early interest in and background: Bethany College (W.Va.), influence of Hugh Behymer, Frank St. John; graduate study at Columbia; work at Brooklyn Public Library: page, intern, Director, 1951-58; Director, Port Washington Public Library, 1958-94; personal life; responsibilities as Director; role of Board of Trustees; relationship of community to library; limitations of Belleview Avenue library; expanded programs; Art

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Advisory Council: relation to library, early exhibits; origin of Friends of the Library; planning for new building: role of Pat Lubar, Thomas Lapham, public relations, bond issue, role of School Board, state, federal funding; design of building; construction problems; dedication of new building; move from Bellevue Avenue library.

42 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1990.

de Sciora, Edward (Part 2) (1928 -). Director, Retired.

Early interest in books; childhood in Brooklyn; interest in jazz; new library building: Music Advisory Council, concert hall, gallery space; library as cultural center; expanded programming; Health Advisory Council; Nautical Center/Advisory Council; Oral History Program; cable project; library expansion; role of Board of Trustees, orientation for new Board members, interaction with other Boards; professional affiliations.

26 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1992.

de Sciora, Edward (Part 3) (1928 -). Director, Retired.

Staff, Civil Service requirements; controversial health program, Right-to-Life group; acceptance of materials; censorship; selection of books; relationship with community organizations; rewarding/unhappy experiences as Director; staff association, evaluation of salaries/benefits; self-assessment; community support for library; community involvement; future of the library; parking needs; fund-raising campaign.

31 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1992.

Dumont, Normand (1924 -). Assistant to the Director, Retired.

Early library work: page, Haverhill (Mass.), 1941-43; education: B.A. Economics, University of New Hampshire, 1948, M.L.S., SUNY Albany; professional experience: Brooklyn Public Library 1955-65, University of Hawaii Administrative Officer, Assistant Prof. of Library Studies 1965-68; upstate New York, District Director of library system, 1968-69; Port Washington Public Library, Assistant to the Director, 1969-86; construction of library, drainage problems; services to the community; image of librarians; future needs of library.

51 pages. Open. Interviewer - David Keegan. 1990.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Feingold, Ruth Wallace (1924 -). Music Advisory Council.

Thirty-one year resident of Port Washington; upbringing in southwest Virginia; introduction to the clarinet; Music Advisory Council: origins, community orchestras, piano fund, formation of, 1971, founding members; role of Ed de Sciora, Virginia Parker, Joan Kent, Henry Salomon; attracting ethnic audiences; choice of music for concerts: jazz, classical; performance criteria; peak of 28 concerts per year; demise of local, MAC-sponsored competitions; costs; funding for and donations of benefit concerts; survey results; acoustics of Lapham Meeting Room; anecdotes of particular concerts and artists; description of "Monitor" program; organizational set-up: selection committee, program committee; need to attract young people to concerts.

Reminiscences of: Seymour Benson, the Bond family.

103 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1990.

Fieldsteel, Joyce (1924 -). Charter member, Friends of the Library.

Port Washington resident since 1957; formation of Friends of the Library; bond issue; conflict over location of new library; speakers at library; community outreach; Art Advisory Council; Music Advisory Council; election of Henry Salomon as Trustee; future needs of library.

Reminiscences of: Margaret and Ben Haller, Susanna Heinz, Diana Freed, Esther Margolius, Enid Bernstein, Pat Lubar, Richard Whittemore, Thomas Lapham.

33 pages. Open. Interviewer - Amy Bass. 1990.

Freed, Diana (1931 -). Charter members, Friends of the Library.

Freed, Norman (1929 -).

Friends of the Library: founding and original goals; need for community education, fund-raising for new building; architecture of new building; library as community center; evolving purposes and uses of library; art collection; Art Advisory Council; Music Advisory Council; Books Sandwiched In; Book and Author Luncheon; library budget; foundations to aid libraries; Bellevue Avenue library; library addition. Diana: original President, Friends of the Library. Norman: President, Port Washington Community Chest. Joint involvement: Non-Partisan Citizen's Nominating Committee.

43 pages. Open. Interviewer - Amy Bass. 1990.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Halasz, Laszlo (1905 - 2001). Conductor.

Born in Hungary, 1905; professional background: studies in piano with Bela Bartok, Oldrich Korte; Hungarian State Opera; assistant to George Szell at Prague Opera, 1929; Associate Conductor, Vienna State Opera, Rome Opera; return to Vienna as assistant to Arturo Toscanini, Bruno Walter; NBC Symphony; San Francisco Opera; debut as conductor in USA, December 12, 1936; St. Louis Opera; founder, New York City Opera, 1943; musical director, Remington Records; move to Port Washington; early association with Music Advisory Council; comparison of Baldwin and Steinway pianos; state of the arts in Europe and the United States; association with well-known musicians.

75 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1991.

Halasz, Suzette Forgues (1918 - 2004). Cellist/teacher, Music Advisory Council.

Founding of Music Advisory Council; purchase of Baldwin piano; benefit recital; library concerts as practice grounds for young musicians; first cellist with New York City Opera; international background; influence on young students; love of horseback riding; progression as cellist from seven-year-old student to professional; social life in New York; being "on tour" during World War II, skiing; ice hockey; family's social prominence; riding in horse shows; introduction to Laszlo Halasz; conducting opera compared to symphony; anecdotes of various performances.

Reminiscences of: Emanuel Feuermann, Arturo Toscanini, Jean Morel, Sir Thomas Beecham, Leopold Stokowski, Leonard Bernstein.

83 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1993.

Haller, Benjamin (1917 -). Former member, Board of Trustees.

Education and career: Amherst College, (Mass.), 1938; Columbia Law School, admission to New York State Bar, 1941; military service; Port Washington resident, 1951-69; Board of Trustees, c.1959-69: controversy re: Young Americans for Freedom, censorship, book selection; campaign for new building: location, role of library, referendum; participation in Nassau County Library System; computerization; relationship with Ed de Sciora; comparison of Port Washington library with hometown library.

16 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1992.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Haller, Margaret (1917 -). Charter member, Friends of the Library.

Education and career: Smith College, 1938; Director of Public Relations, Queens College Alumni Association; early involvement with library: story hour; Friends of the Library: bond issue campaign, building model, Memorial Day Parade; living on houseboat; small-town library, (Mass.); author/publisher Libraries in New England, photo essay depicting various architectural styles of libraries.

25 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1992.

Harrison, Lucretia (1921 - 2009). Music Advisory Council. *With Harrison, Paul.*

Childhood memories of Port Washington; local music scene, Music Study Club history, 1919-present; library work to 1970s; development/operations of Music Advisory Council: role of Ed de Sciora, high performance standards, choosing artists, contracts, Music Advisory Council membership; George Shearing Benefit Concerts; Benny Goodman; Il-Soo Chay; Jean Ritchie; piano fund; Haydn Festival, 1982; formation of Community Orchestra under auspices of Adult Education; description of conductor Victoria Bond and others; discontinuation of competitions; organizing and enjoying Metropolitan Opera trips over 17 years; Music Advisory Council-sponsored programs, concert series, "United Nations Concert."

Reminiscences of: George Shimmerlik, Ruth Feingold, Laszlo Halasz, LuEsther Mertz, Harriet Littig, Connie Vos, Emily Ullman.

121 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1990.

Haussler, William E. C. (1911 -). Photographer, Art Advisory Council.

Manhasset resident since 1940; role in formation of Manhasset Art Association, 1950s; memories of Belleview Avenue library; composition of Art Advisory Council, 1968-present; knowledge of artists; early personal watercolor works; transition of shows from representational to abstract art; variety; service on preview committee; objectives; role in community; tenure; responses of public; photography career, education; work in radio, film and television; photographing art for artists: challenges; skills needed; influence of wife, Ginni; post-retirement career; past juried art shows; Art Lending Service.

40 pages. Open. Interviewer - Elly Shodell. 1993.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Hewitt, Mildred (19 -). Former President, Friends of the Library.

Involvement in Friends of the Port Washington Public Library, 1970s-present; PTA background; Friends Board: membership and functions, President, 1980-81; overview of programs, fund-raising activities, responsibilities; book sales; Book and Author Luncheon; joint project with Music Advisory Council; the Owl publication; relationship between library and Friends; importance of the Port Washington Public Library.

Reminiscences of: Margaret Lucha.

34 pages. Open. Interviewer - Amy Bass. 1991.

Hickson, Eileen Hassett (1916 -1994). Secretary, Board of Trustees.

Born in the Bronx; move to Port Washington, 9th grade; High School graduation, 1933; impact of Depression; recollections of library on Belleview Avenue; early dramatic training and experiences; first job at Port Washington Public Library, 1959; Director, Ed de Sciora's "vision"; passing Civil Service test; progress from clerk-typist to principal library clerk; move to new library, 1970; election to Library Board, 1984; the computer revolution; plans for future of library.

Reminiscences of: Bonnie Hawthorne, Kingsley Poynter, Priscilla Ciccariello, Cedric Crowell.

53 pages. Open. Interviewer - David Keegan. 1990.

Jones, Farrell (1926 -2005). Vice-President, Board of Trustees.

Education: Chicago, Illinois; graduate, George Washington High School, Manhattan (N.Y.), 1944; B.A., Lincoln University, (Penn.), 1950; New York University Law School, 1957; work in defense plant during World War II, Korean War service; career: Long Island Regional Director, New York State Commission Against Discrimination, Director, Nassau County Commission on Human Rights, Administrative Law Judge, New York State Worker's Compensation Board; move to Port Washington, 1964; observations on influence and use of library: favorite author, Books on Tape; helpfulness of staff; Black Oral History Project; Amos Fortune; service on Board of Trustees.

55 pages. Open. Interviewer - David Keegan. 1992.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Katz, Lillian (1925 -). Director, Media Division.

Education and career: Long Island Coordinator, Liberal Arts Extension Program, New York University, 1960-68; Cultural Program Specialist, Port Washington Public Library, 1970-74; Library degree, Queens College, 1976; Joan Clark Award from New York State Council on the Arts as Media Librarian, 1988; Director of Media Division, Port Washington Public Library, 1976-present; New York State Council on the Arts as funding source; Independent Film Makers Program, 1976; Film Board of Canada; archiving video tapes; Reagan Administration's influence on funding; social issues in film; attracting audiences and projectionists.

Reminiscences of: Deborah Goodstein, Jonathan Guildroy.

71 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1990.

Kent, Joan (1924 -). President, Board of Trustees.

Education: Plandome Road Elementary School, Manhasset High School, Colby College (Me.); early intellectual influences; reading preferences; roots of interest in history; married Stephen R. Kent, 1959; public relations consultant for various non-profit organizations on Long Island; Port Washington Public Library: impression of librarians, collections, service on Board of Trustees and as President, 1975- : reasons for involvement, contributions and opportunities, time involved, participation in various library programs; library Board's status as a cultural influence; needs for future; other community associations.

24 pages. Open. Interviewer - Dr. George Williams. 1990.

Klein, Marion (1928 -). Art Advisory Council.

Resident of Port Washington since 1958; earliest juried art shows; art education at Queens College; oil and watercolor work; teaching art at Whedon Art School; Ed de Sciora's interest in the arts; gallery space in new library; Margaret Lucha and public relations; Art Advisory Council: educational goals and purposes; art lending service; responsibilities as Chairperson; exhibitions: process, choosing artists, role of preview committee, criteria, theme shows, one-person shows, members' personal collections, fund-raising, group spirit; relationship between Art Advisory Council and Board of Trustees; comments on art scene of the 1980s.

Reminiscences of: Frank Kleinholz, Paul Wood, the Nydorfs, Betty Holliday, P. Schenck, Aida Whedon.

71 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1991,

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Kurshan, Daniel L. (1913 - 2007). Treasurer, Board of Trustees.

Education and career: Boys High School, (Brooklyn); B.A. and LLB., Cornell University; Master's degree, Public Administration, New York University; Executive Director, Citizens Budget Commission, New York City; Port Authority, Director of Administration; association with the library: elected to the Board of Trustees, 1982; tenure on the Board: long-range planning, new technologies, increasing demands on library's facilities; staff compensation; responsibilities as Treasurer; relationship with Ed de Sciora; interaction with other library associations; orientation of new Trustees; Dinnerstein controversy; role of the Art Advisory Council; future of the library: feasibility study, new technology, possible expansion.

29 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1990.

Lubar, Patricia Raney (1923 - 2000). Former Public Relations Consultant.

Background in journalism at Newsweek: Port Washington resident since 1958; raising children; Belleview Avenue library: need for larger book collection, overcrowding and need for expansion, community involvement, gender issues; Betty Wood; School Board consultant for public relations, 1960; library public relations consultant: structure of job; work on League of Women Voters manual; bond issue for new library; early outreach efforts.

31 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1990.

Lyons, Nelson (1910 -1995). Former District Treasurer.

Educational background: C.P.A. Degree, City College of New York; employment: Air Reduction Corp.; move to Port Washington, 1951; Treasurer, Port Washington School District, 1968-88; legal relationship between school district and library; current needs of library; personal use of library.

25 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1991.

Madsen, Viggo Holm (1925 -1998). Art Advisory Council.

Merchant Marine, World War II; education and career: Anderson College and Theological Seminary (Ind.), B.F.A. (cum laude); M.F.A., Syracuse University (N.Y.); art teacher, Marathon High School (N.Y.), Rockville Centre Junior High School (N.Y.), Roslyn High School (N.Y.); member, Adjunct Faculty, Nassau Community College; professional associations: past president, New York State Art Teachers Association, Long Island Art Teachers Association, Long Island Crafts Guild, member, Graphic Eye Gallery, Port

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Washington; Port Washington as artist's community; role of library as teaching facility; changing role of library because of design of new building, 1970; respect of artists for library gallery; Art Advisory Council.

67 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1991.

Margolius, Esther (19 - 1997). Former Vice-President, Board of Trustees; Former President, Friends of the Library.

Childhood library experience, New York City; education and career: Hunter College, coursework at NYU Graduate School of Business Administration, New York State and United States Employment Service; Community Action Council; Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington; bond issue to purchase present library property from Methodist Church; Belleview Avenue library; founding of Friends of the Library; start of film program, 1969; founding of two Senior Citizen Centers; library expansion needs; possible unionization of staff; status of Port Washington Library.

Reminiscences of: Sidney Margolius, Georgette Zwerlein, Lienhard Bergel, Solomon Papert (father).

63 pages. Open. Interviewer - David Keegan. 1990.

Mitsos, Stella (1939 -). Secretary, Media Division.

Resident of Port Washington since 1943; early education and career: clerk-typist, personnel assistant, bank teller, Finance Department, St. Francis Hospital, Roslyn, New York, 1971-89; first work at Port Washington Library, 1963-64; memories of Belleview Avenue library; secretarial responsibilities and learning opportunities; Media Department, Port Washington Public Library, 1989-present; impressions of library; changes in library over past 30 years; personal writing successes: short stories, poetry.

28 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1991.

Neville, Muriel (1911 - 1999) Former Secretary, Board of Trustees.

Arrival in Port Washington, 1950s; friendship with Margaret and Ben Haller; election as Trustee, 1960s; designation as Secretary of the Board; political climate in Port Washington, 1950s; Mal Vendig case; work for expansion to new library in 1970; Main Street School building future; involvement with Music Study Club, League of Women Voters; changes in Port Washington: ethnic, economic, social.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Reminiscences of: Ed de Sciora, Ted Lapham, the Mailers, Virginia Parker.

44 pages. Open. Interviewer - Amy Bass. 1991.

Parker, Virginia (1928 -). Assistant Director, Retired.

Childhood schooling in Missouri; education and Library Science training: B.S., American History and Political Science, 1949, M.L.S., University of Illinois, 1951; career: Bookmobile Librarian, Jackson County (Mo.), 1949; branch librarian, Milwaukee (Wis.), 1951-52; teenage specialist, Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library, 1952-54; University of Oklahoma faculty, 1954-57; research librarian, Government Affairs Foundation, 1957-60; regional supervisor, Queens Borough Public Library, 1960-63; Assistant Director, Port Washington Public Library, 1963-90: book selection, supervision of staff, programming, gift books; outreach: Art Advisory Council, Music Advisory Council, Friends of the Library; growth of library; budget and tax concerns; career highlights: children's services, services for senior citizens; censorship; professional associations; interchange with Nassau Library System.

44 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1990.

Pellaton, Ann (1921 -). Art Advisory Council.

Art training; early years in Port Washington; pre-Belleview Avenue library; Belleview Avenue and library today; early art shows; involvement of children; function of Art Advisory Council; selection criteria for exhibits; reviewers and censorship of shows; design and function of library art gallery; relationship with Board of Trustees; National Association of Women Artists; Graphic Eye Gallery; teaching experience.

46 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1991.

Ripton, Margaret (1939 -). Former Young Adult and Children's Librarian.

Education and career: B.A., Brown University (R.I.). 1960; Library school, Rutgers University (N.J.); Brooklyn Public Library, 1960-64; Port Washington Public Library, 1964-81; planning for new building; Belleview Avenue Library; work as young adult librarian, children's librarian; special programs; staff; volunteer work, St. Mary's Hospital for Children (N.Y.C.); professional associations.

16 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1991.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Ritchie, Jean (1922 -). Music Advisory Council.

Early childhood in Kentucky; introduction to music; social work at Henry Street Settlement; early musical career; living in Greenwich Village (N.Y.); move to Port Washington, 1957; early use of library; involvement with Music Advisory Council; folk music concerts; qualifications of musicians; centennial performance, costume ball; importance of the library; broad appeal of the library and concerts.

24 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1992.

Salomon, Henry (1912 - 2007). Former President, Board of Trustees.

Education and career: Woodmere High School (N.Y.); B.S. in Economics, University of Pennsylvania, 1934; retirement in 1986; community involvement: Vice-President, Community Concerts, c. 1960; early association with the library: Art Advisory Council, planning for gallery in new library; election as Trustee, 1972; tenure on the Board, 1972-84: expansion of library, purchase of Baker property, use of meeting room by Right-to-Life group; organizations: stamp club, chess club, Music Advisory Council, Youth Advisory Council; President of the Board of Trustees, 1979-84; consensus decisions; Nassau Library System Board of Trustees, 1982-92; responsibilities: preparation of budget, personnel questions, improvement of services; area Trustee; problems with young adults; comparison of Port Washington and Nassau Library Boards; association with Ed de Sciora, staff; complaints/criticisms: service, budget, Sunday openings, art exhibit; orientation of new Trustees.

28 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1990.

Sandy, Catherine (Part 1) (1908 - 2003). Reference Librarian, Retired.

Resident of Port Washington since age 3; father, Italian immigrant who worked on Payne and Whitney estates; graduated from Port Washington High School, 1926; began work in Port Washington Public Library, July 17, 1926; Rosary College degree in Library Science, 1938; Columbia School of General Studies degree, 1953; early use of library; working conditions and staff of Belleview Avenue library; comparison of library budget in 1920s and today; 1955 expansion; formal closing of Belleview Avenue Library; beginning of Art Advisory Council, 1959.

82 pages. Open. Interviewer - David Keegan. 1991.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Sandy, Catherine (Part 2) (1908 - 2003). Reference Librarian, Retired.

World War II years including duties as air-raid warden; graduate work at Columbia School of General Studies (N.Y.); interview of Jack Sheridan, illustrator; working conditions, salaries of staff, pensions, early attempts of staff to organize; beginnings of Art Advisory Council, early shows; Music Advisory Council, organization of concerts; affiliation with Advisory Council for Adult Continuing Education, Cow Neck Historical Society; comparison of Port Washington Public Library to other public libraries; observations on current use of library; future needs: handicap access, outreach services for shut-ins.

Reminiscences of: Medley Donovan, Wood family, Thomas Lapham, Richard Whittemore, Beslity, Priscilla Ciccariello, Pleasance Coggeshall, Normand Dumont, Eileen Hickson, Dorothea Loiseaux.

84 pages. Open. Interviewer - David Keegan. 1991.

Scrofani, Joseph (1949 -). Former Chief of Building Services.

Growing up in Port Washington; service in Vietnam, 1970-71; start at P. W. Public Library, 1973; maintenance, mechanical, cleaning work; changes in library plant over past 20 years; 1976 flood; increases in programming; space constraints; robotic retrieval system; interest in books and writing; influence of Pleasance Coggeshall, poetry contests; experiences as President of Staff Association.

Reminiscences of: Henry Larsen, Catherine Sandy.

43 pages. Open. Interviewer - David Keegan. 1991.

Turtletaub, Sheldon (1933 -). Attorney for Library.

Education and career: Syracuse University (N.Y.), 1950-53; graduate, Columbia Law School (N.Y.), 1956; Army service; law practice, N. Y. C., 1956-60; Port Washington, 1960-present; library involvement: patron, Belleview Avenue library; attorney, Port Washington Public Library, 1969-present; legal aspects: construction of new library, trustee elections, access for meetings; attendance at Board meetings; advisor to Director; acquisition of Baker property, 1989; changes in library over the years; mechanization and computerization; overcrowding/need for further expansion; attitudes of community and Board of Trustees; feelings regarding role as attorney; role of library in community.

38 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1990.

LIBRARY HISTORY (contd.)

Ullman, Emily (1913 - 2000). Music Advisory Council.

World War II years hidden in Amsterdam; arrival in U.S., 1947 with two sons and husband; founded Nassau Stores; piano lessons to help support family; membership in Music Study Club of Port Washington; origin of Music Advisory Council; early fund-raiser to purchase piano; high standards of performers; library as educational facility; music as religion.

69 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1991.

Whedon, Aida (1915 -1994). Art Advisory Council.

Education and career: beginnings of Graphic Eye print cooperative; Manhasset Art Association; art school degree, trained teachers at New York University and Bank Street College, private instructor of art, 55 years; early use of library; formation of Art Advisory Council; role of Ed de Sciora; relationship of Art Advisory Council to library Board and administration; choice and background of members; details of process of selection and hanging of art shows in library gallery; highlights of shows; competitions.

Reminiscences of: Dan Whedon, Frank Kleinholz, Robert Ball.

74 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1990.

Whittemore, Richard (Part 1) (1918 - 1999). Former President, Friends of the Library;
Former President, Board of Trustees.

Education and career: Phillips Academy Exeter (N.H.); B.A. Harvard University (Mass.), 1941; head of Doubleday Book Club; editor, World Book Encyclopedia; resident of Port Washington since 1949; Belleview Avenue library; Cedric R. Crowell Theater Collection; work with Friends of the Library; fund-raising and promotion for new library building; president, Friends of the Library; Book and Author Luncheons; problems: entrance sign, traffic light, sex-education film; separation of school and library elections; Sunday openings; Art Lending Service; dedication of Thomas Lapham Meeting Room; Adelphi M.B.A. program at library.

38 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1990.

Whittemore, Richard (Part 2) (1918 - 1999). Former President, Friends of the Library;
Former President, Board of Trustees.

Evolution of book about history of Port Washington Library: minutes of Board meetings, newspaper articles, Plain Talk magazine, books about famous residents, long-time

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residents, interviews; format of book; illustrations; role of Woman's Club in starting library, philanthropy, women's exchange; attraction of literary personalities to Port Washington; meeting deadlines; division of book; people who helped; selecting title; interesting discoveries during research; editing; feelings about community.

Reminiscences of: Burgess Johnson.

30 pages. Open. Interviewer - Don Parker. 1991.

Wood, Betty (1913 - 2008). Children's Librarian, Retired. *With Wood, Moyer.*

First impressions of Port Washington, 1936; student at Columbia University School of Library Science; Belleview Avenue library: architecture, staff; children's librarian: work structure, hours, daily routine, story hours, book club, exhibits; marriage to Moyer Wood, 1938; tradition of library work in family; favorite books; World War II years; influence of Miss Curtice; plans for new building, 1960s: story hour circle, design controversies, Ed de Sciora's leadership, community outreach, expanded programs; retirement in 1973.

Reminiscences of: Helen Curtice, Catherine Sandy, Spencer Shaw, Carey Ayres, Ed de Sciora, Thomas Lapham.

30 pages. Open. Interviewer - Richard Whittemore. 1989.

Wood, Jacqueline (1931 - 2006). Music Advisory Council.

Education: French governess, Great Neck High School (N.Y.), Oberlin College (Oh.); marriage to Paul Wood; five sons; formation of Music Advisory Council; years as Program Chairperson; scouting for performers at concerts; recordings; organization of selection committee; source of funding; objectives; monitoring concerts; audiences; personal enrichment through involvement with Music Advisory Council; piano teaching and performance; reminiscences of key MAC members; long-time membership in Music Study Club.

52 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1991.

Wood, Paul (1922 - 2003). Art Advisory Council.

Arrival in Port Washington from Kingsville, Ontario, 1930; Depression years; formation of Albert Wood & Five Sons; education: Main Street School, Port Washington High School, Art Students League; marriage to Jackie Wood; early use of Belleview Avenue library;

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formation of Art Advisory Council; early shows and programs; selection process; future expansion of the library.

60 pages. Open. Interviewer - Alan Jackson. 1991.