Interview
with
Gregory D. Shorey

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Interviewer:
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Synopsis:
Mr. Shorey reflects on his long association with the Republican Party, including his tenure as chair of the South Carolina party and his involvement in the presidential campaigns of Barry Goldwater. Mr. Shorey remains active in politics as an Election Commissioner, he also founded the Party Heritage Committee, working to help document the early history of the Republican Party in South Carolina.
HARTSOOK: Can you just give us a real brief story of your background, where you were born, your parents . . . ?

SHOREY: Sure. In fact, I've just given you that little one page written summary. My folks were 'Mainiacs.' My dad grew up in a lovely little seaport town of Camden, Maine. Which is very famous, by the way, to this day for my great-great-great grandfather, who was Captain Gregory. They have a memorial monument in the town square commemorating a great event, with a festival every summer. He was famous, believe it or not, for inventing the hole in the donut. I thought that was one of these family “fairy tales” for a long time. We went up there and visited several years ago, and I was treated like some kind of a hero because everybody knew the family.

My dad was a Boston University law school graduate and practiced law in Boston. We grew up in a little suburb of Boston - - Belmont (“Town of Homes”). It didn't take my dad long to get involved in the town affairs. As typical of a small New England town, he was a Town Meeting member. In fact, chairman of the town Sinking Fund. A lot of people don't know what a sinking fund is, but those are funds that are not otherwise allocated and apparently somebody has to be in charge of where they are put. Much, I understood, ended up going over to the town-owned cemetery for some strange reason.

My mother was brought up in Bangor, Maine, and she was very active in our church, All Saints Episcopal. Of course, my sister and I were brought up as very active members of the
church.

I can recall at somewhere around age twelve, my dad had asked me to go out and handbill the neighborhood because Election Day was coming up. He was not a politician, but Town Meeting is a unique, very democratic form of government. I asked dad, "What in the world are you doing this for? You're too busy with other affairs." He was a Rotarian and a Mason, active in the church, and had a very active law practice in Boston. I remember his words at the time. He said, "Son, you can choose to leave government alone, but it will never leave you alone. It will affect the water you drink, the schools you attend, the roads you drive on, and it'll prove to be the most expensive single item that you got to pay for, every year, even after you die." And for some reason those words stuck with me, and from that time on, I always had a fascination getting involved with the political process.

By the time I had gotten through high school, I had been involved with the teenage Republican club in our town. . . . In fact, our town was a Republican stronghold. There was a story about the election night when the officials were counting ballots and all of a sudden there were two Democratic ballots, somebody said, “Where did this second ballot come from?” They thought it was probably an illegally cast ballot. The two Democrats in town were well known. Lo and behold after the election they still had two. And they said, "Where did the other ballot come from? Old Charlie died last year, you know." That was the kind of a town it was.

I had an opportunity to play a little baseball right out of high school in 1943 because our high school team had won the league championship for three years running. I was the only left-handed pitcher. My dad happened to be chairman of the local draft board, so I had advance knowledge of when my number was due up. It rescued me from a long career in the minor leagues, and the U.S. Navy got me, not the Red Sox.

I served throughout World War II, while on a 1944 survivor leave from Mediterranean
action and hoping I might marry the lady who is currently my bride. My dad, being an attorney, said, "Do you realize son that you've got an appointment to get your wings at Navy pre-flight school, and they won't admit married men into that program." So we had to postpone the marriage because I wanted a pair of pants with pockets and a zipper and get out of that old bosun's mate first class uniform. Betty went back to college and I did indeed go to Navy pre-flight school. I hoped to train at Athens because Betty was at college in Gainesville, Georgia. I figured that would work out just great. But no, the Navy in its infinite wisdom sent me to California to St. Mary's College pre-flight school.

HARTSOOK: Now how had you met Mrs. Shorey?

SHOREY: Met her in church. I was very active in the Episcopal Church in our town. Her grandparents, the Kingstons, were also active in that same church. I was an acolyte. Being very attentive to my duties, I happened to notice one Sunday this attractive blond sitting down front with the Kingstons. At the time, I was president of the young people's group and I felt that it was incumbent upon me to invite her to that evening's young people's meeting. We've been going together ever since. I was at the time seventeen and she was sixteen.

Once I got out of service, I had to make up for lost time and jump right back into college. On March 3, 1946, my wife and I were married and she worked for the Harvard coop. We had a little walk-up apartment right behind the Law Library at Harvard. But I didn't go to Harvard. I went to Boston University, which is the same law school my dad went to. I quickly completed my undergraduate work because I was able to get credit for the special training and the classroom time that I had gotten right near the end of the war through pre-flight school. Those credits transferred, so that helped make up for some lost time. And at the time, the only school that
offered what was called an accelerated program was Northeastern University, and I could jump in the middle of the semester. I didn't take any time off after I got back from the service. I got into college just as quick as I could. Finished up a semester at Northeastern, transferred to B.U. Business School and then went to B.U. law school. Before graduating, I decided that I didn't want to practice law with my dad. It was frankly a little boring, and I wasn't doing very well with it anyhow.

I had some G.I. Bill time left, and being of old New England stock, frugality was one of our watch words. I wasn't going to waste that unused G.I. Bill time, so I enrolled at the School of Communications at B.U., which was one of the first to offer degrees in that field in the country. I was one of only six grads. What was fortunate for me was that the teaching hospital facilities of the Medical School of the University needed a public relations officer. I held down a full time job, seven days a week by the way, and got full classroom credits. All I had to do was attend a couple of lectures a week. The lecturers were all gurus in that field which were most informative. They always liked to have a student with field experience and that kind of an exchange, so I'd often invite them over to the hospital where they could meet a lot of famous doctors.

It was interesting time with the wife working and with no mid-semester interruptions trying to get these degrees tucked under my belt just as quickly as I could. Of course I've forgotten more than I ever learned, I'm sure.

But all during that time I'd gotten involved in college Young Republicans. And interestingly, the college YRs at Harvard, and at B.U. right across the river, functioned together. By the way, strangely enough, MIT didn't have a Young Republican chapter. We teased them of being so intellectually warped that they got too involved with their slide rules instead of what was going on in the outside world. Young Republicans is where I met guys like Bill Rusher and Bill Buckley of Yale and John Ashbrook, and this whole group, called the “young Turks,” that books
allude to as having taken over the GOP Party's reins back in the late '50's. And these are all post-WWII grads.

I remember one of my more interesting assignments. . . . The perennial presidential candidate, Harold Stasson, was coming to Boston to campaign. I was his personal driver whenever he came to town. Also while I was in college, I somehow or other, had gotten introduced to Senator Leverett Saltonstall. I guess my dad knew him. The state GOP headquarters was right down the street from my law school. When I finished class I'd get down to the Republican state party headquarters. My assignment there was to go through the contributor list, and everybody that had contributed a four-figure donation to the Party or more, I had the job of instructing the Department of Motor Vehicles to assign them a low three and four digit license plate. Which was a way of giving them some kind of VIP i.d. That was always an interesting experience.

When I was working out of that office, many of the old-line Massachusetts Republicans would roam in and out of there. They'd come in for meetings and the like, and I got to meet a lot of them. Which included, of course, Congressman Joe Martin, Henry Cabot Lodge [Jr.], and Bob Bradford, etc. What was interesting, Charles Coolidge, which is Calvin's cousin, got to know me, and I ended up working on his first campaign for governor. A classmate of mine at law school was Republican Senator Ed[ward] Brooke. Ed was the editor of our law review. Very bright; black man; and I always was very disappointed that his career was not highlighted. He was the first black elected to the U.S. Senate. [Brooke served from 1967 to 1979, and was unsuccessful in his 1978 Senate reelection campaign.] He went on, of course, to become a well-known attorney.

That, in brief, is how I got involved in the political process. I found out that if you wanted to, you could have some rather considerable influence. It's just like my dad was saying, you could choose to leave government alone, but it won't leave you alone; but you can do something about
it. One of your questions is, ‘What attracted you to the Party?’ Obviously, I was really born one [a Republican]. My family had a great disdain for Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and felt that he was leading the nation into complete socialism. Having been convinced of that early on, I continued to feel that way about Democrats generally.

When I finished college, I had a job with Newcome and Co., a public relations firm in Boston who wanted to use my, "political connections" knowledge and background. The fact that I'd worked for the hospital, affiliates of B.U. medical school helped, because one of their clients was the famous Red Sox-sponsored Jimmy Fund in Boston dealing with children's leukemia and Dr. Kinsey at the Children's Medical Center. Having had a Red Sox exposure, it was just a very logical tie in.

I worked in that PR office for about two years. It was an interesting job. Met a lot of interesting people including Hal Clancy, who went on later to be a senior editor of Reader's Digest. He and I shared an office together in those days.

Near year end 1949, I got a phone call from the chairman of the board of a company that my father-in-law had helped to establish in Greenville, South Carolina, just before the start of World War II, to make Carlyle/Battle surgical dressings for the Army per the Surgeon General's Office. But now the war was over and so were all their contracts. This company was in trouble. This chairman of the board, it turns out, knew my dad, and therefore knew something of my background. I was persuaded to come down to Greenville, South Carolina to take a look at the situation. Here comes this brash, young, green-behind-the-ears, grad from this fancy school in the field of public relations and marketing.

The net of it was that that business was so far gone there wasn't any way to save it. It was really in big trouble. But I could see some opportunities, so I went to the board of directors of the company. I said, "If we can work out some kind of a deal, I'll be responsible for buying a few of
the assets of the company, and if you could lease me one of your buildings, I'd like to start a business right here on my own." They said, "What are you going to use for operating capital." I said, "Well I don't have any." They said, "We'll give you deferred payment on the equipment and on your rent, but you better go find some money somewhere young man."

So I went to First National Bank, and it so happens that there was a new president that had worked with my wife's uncle years before. I said, "I need some money to get this business going." Mr. "Mac" McEachern said, "Well what kind of collateral do you have?" "Well, I own a 1942 two-door Plymouth, that's paid for." And he said, "What do you think that car's worth?" I said, "I don't know, not much." So he replied, "I'll tell you what we'll do. We'll loan you three thousand dollars on that car, even though it's not worth three hundred bucks, and we'll just see how long that lasts." Several years later, we had made it work, and we'd built about an eighty-five thousand square foot new manufacturing plant employing over two hundred people.

In fact, that was, in reality, the state Republican Party headquarters for a long time. I remember my secretary coming to me and saying, "Mr. Shorey, who do I really work for, you and this company, or the GOP?" And I said, "Well, one of them pays you, the other one doesn't." It was a wonderful lady by the name of Jean Williams, sweet gal, matronly, and never married. She looked a little like a drill sergeant, but a very bright and loyal lady. She worked for me for about fourteen years. Later, she died of cancer. Obviously, she had become totally brainwashed having handled all this GOP stuff for me. At one election, she said, "Mr. Shorey, I've got bad news for you. This election coming up next week, my sister and I are going to vote for Fritz." I said, "What? You're going to vote for Fritz Hollings?" She said, "Yes, we were down at the beach last week and he was there. And he's got the prettiest legs." [laughter] I said, "Well, that's as good a reason as I can think of to vote for him." But I think she was just kidding me, but I'll never know of course.
HARTSOOK: In coming down to South Carolina, how soon did you get active in Party affairs? It seems like you wouldn't have had any time.

SHOREY: You'd think so. We arrived in Greenville on January 1, 1950. It probably took me a year or so before we got our business going. It was sometime in early 1952. One day, I was downtown and looked up above one of the storefronts where there was a little office. There was a sign in the window that read, “Ike for President.” I went up there and met an elderly gentleman. As I recall it was Colonel Avant. He was a retired Army colonel. The next thing I knew, we were calling meetings for the Eisenhower for President Committee.

I gave you, at an earlier time, some newspaper clippings; one was a photograph of a group that was taken at that time of some of the more prominent Greenville people. I can recall very vividly who some of them were, Mr. Vardry Ramsaur, Sr., who had a heating and air-conditioning business. His grandson is currently one of the water commissioners in Greenville. Doug Smith, who [later] was WFBC general manager at NBC’s Channel Four. Dan Wallace, who was Greenville Steel president. Later Dan was our county chairman, and we ran him for Congress against Fourth District Democrat Bob Ashmore. The Smith family. Katherine and Lester Smith. He was an accountant there in town. I can recall that group quite clearly. Of course, it didn't take them long to know my background; this brash, young Yankee that had come to town establishing this new business. Many joined us, George and John Norwood, Col. and Mrs. C. Browning Smith, etc. That's how I first got involved. The next thing I knew I ended up co-chairing that activity statewide, South Carolina’s Ike for President, with Bill Kimberall of Murrells Inlet, S.C., even though we couldn't get him on the ballot as a Republican because the legislature wouldn't let us. The legislature had all kinds of barriers to our doing that, simply
because the so-called regular Republican Party took great exception to our rump group that was getting all of this notoriety and included a lot of prominent ex-Democrats.

We operated as South Carolinians for Eisenhower. I never thought that the day would ever occur when I would support a third-party ticket. In fact, my recall is, and I'm subject to some correction here,. . . . A friend, former legislative aid to congressman Albert Watson, that we're going to have lunch with, Al Cook, can probably straighten me out on this because he has got this fantastic recall of historic facts, and he's straightened me out on several occasions. But I think we garnered more Eisenhower votes in that ticket than the regular Republican vote. And we tried to pool them, but the legislature wouldn't let us do that. I think if we'd been able to pool them, he might have carried the state. Anyhow, that was my introduction to real South Carolina politics. A lot of the folks that I worked with at that time were the same people that got involved in helping to take over the state Republican Party just two years later.

**HARTSOOK:** Can you talk a little bit about that, and talk about the organization of the Party when you came into the state and how you and the others did take it over.

**SHOREY:** The old GOP gang which was known as the 'Post Office Bunch,' they had no inclination of trying to grow or build a party. They were there for their own selfish purposes and were there hopefully to get some kind of patronage out of it. But there was no effort to party building. They would go off to the conventions, deceptively as the legitimate Party. So by the time, I think it's the '54 county convention, and my dates may not always be exactly right, we sent a contesting delegation. Beforehand, the old crowd was to hold a convention of the old Republicans in the City Council chambers on Main Street, Greenville. So we had assembled our forces next door at the old Poinsett Hotel. We had a couple of runners that were observing when
they were about to get underway, and at the appropriate moment we left with our gathering at the Poinsett and invaded that convention with greater numbers than they had. We voted them out, right there in that county convention. They just didn't know what had hit them. We took them by complete surprise. They had this small handful, and here we came with probably fifty or so folks that all of a sudden descended. And we just took it over. One of their leaders was a Mrs. Lena Belotte, and we never heard from her again.

HARTSOOK: And how did you get all those people?

SHOREY: Telephoning. And we made sure we went through the proper legal procedures to establish precinct meetings at the proper times. I think I gave you a picture of one of those early Greenville precinct meetings at the Augusta Road Fire Station. Of course, by the time I'd gotten the brother-in-law and his wife, my wife, and we'd recruited more of the neighbors, and other sympathizers, hey, we'd put together a pretty fair group of folks who agreed to serve as delegates. We had enough forces for this and the other precincts to go in and take over the Greenville county party.

HARTSOOK: And who is we? Who are the other people that are really working the phones and doing the strategizing?

SHOREY: I remember Bill Hiott, Jane Hipp, Grace and Charles Withington, Marion and Archie Stubbs, Tom Roe, who later served as Party Treasurer and South Carolina Policy Council founder, Lester and Katherine Smith, Mrs. and Colonel and Mrs. C. Browning and Marge Smith, the Avants, Doug Smith, the Ramsaurs, etc.. In fact, remember I told you that I unearthed that
file? I think that a lot of those names are in that file.  [Additional papers being added to the Shorey Collection.] Wanda Forbes was a neighbor.

**HARTSOOK:** A fairly small group?

**SHOREY:** Yes. The numbers were not in the hundreds, of course not. But we had enough to get the job done. Of course we were generally regarded as a rump group, still without appropriate state-wide sanctions and legal recognition. What occurred in Greenville had not yet occurred in many other counties to my knowledge. There were rumblings and communication with the outgrowth of the statewide contacts we had made in that Eisenhower for President effort in '52. New precincts soon followed so at the '56 Republican National Convention, we sent, and the old group sent, contesting delegations that appeared before the national credentials committee. The old group was not seated or recognized. We came in with the credentials that were the bona fide and it was finally revealed that this old group was really the illegitimate organization.

The convention was in San Francisco. The unseated delegation returned cross-country, got back to Columbia, and the news media interviewed them. There was an admission at that point that they were Democrats, really, in sheep's clothing, that they had been induced by the Democrats to hold the certification of the South Carolina Republican Party to prevent anything by way of a bona fide Republican Party being able to grow, as long as they held the certification. Remember, these were the days when you took a loyalty oath, when you voted in a party primary, to support the winners of that primary in the following general election. Remember, those were the days when you couldn't vote in this state until you had been a resident for two years. These were among the early stumbling blocks there to prevent a second viable political entity to arise.
HARTSOOK: Would you characterize your element as better educated, younger, more diverse, . . .?

SHOREY: To some degree perhaps. But there were a lot of older, native born South Carolinians, that could see that this was like something they always wanted to do, but just somehow or other never got to it, or had the courage to do it. There were some old families like the Norwood family in Greenville, very highly respected, well known, well-to-do. George Norwood had been involved in trying to do something with the Party early on. I remember they finally came out from the shadows. I was told, “we're sure glad you folks are doing what you're doing because you know we've tried. . . .”

For example we began meeting in Columbia with others from around the state, mainly some of the old-timers. I'm thinking of John Scholfield, Jack Folger, Pickens, the Jim Hambrights, Rock Hill; Joe Hines, Spartanburg; Red Wilson, Holly Hill; Al Bauman, Sumter; Tate Baggett from Barnwell County, Malcolm Haven, Arthur Ravenel, Henry T. Gaud, Charleston; the Wannamakers and W.T.C. Bates out of Orangeburg, and Cordes and Bill Seabrook of Anderson. We're going to meet Dr. Charles Aimar from Beaufort [for lunch]. Many others didn't come on until what I call the ‘Goldwater Era,’ after 1960. The activists up to that point, were what I call solid, philosophical Republicans. I'm thinking of the Morris’, Edgar Morris and Welch Morrisette, both attorneys of Columbia, whom we mentioned earlier, meeting with us in those days. I’m sure I’ve overlooked many others.

We held biannual conventions and the 1960 RNC national convention in Columbia at the old Jefferson Hotel. . . . I recall on one early occasion where the old Richland County
Republicans, I think they were behind it, had gotten a restraining order. And the law enforcement people were there at that hotel and forbid us to meet as Republicans, or we were going to get arrested. We scattered, understanding that we would all go down Main Street, [in] Columbia, and we ended up meeting in Edgar Morris's law office, in secret. I remember making the comment that I felt a little like the early Christians meeting in the sewers.

I'd have to go back and do a lot of refreshing. I remember at this last Republican state convention, several people came up to me and said, "Hey, Mr. Shorey, [do] you remember my mother, Mrs. So and So?" One I remember, from Bamberg, was Mrs. Clara Palmer. Her son, Chet, Jr., is now actively involved in Orangeburg. Of course, it makes me feel pretty old. I wish more of those names would come back.

So we had these multiplying cells in counties around the state. They started to grow and they'd attract more and more people as we got some legitimacy, which was after that national convention in '56 where we had the official certification, as a [political] party. That that's when we began to really attract the folks that had been hiding in the corners, old line South Carolinians that were really Republicans at heart. They began to come out and join us along with increasing numbers of new citizens migrating here from elsewhere.

We had that big rally in Columbia for Eisenhower, and that was a real eye-opener for people in this state. I mean, they had never seen an assemblage of people like that in their life. There were just literally thousands and thousands, motorcades coming in from all over the state into Columbia to see this Republican candidate for president. I remember some of the newspaper comments at the time, and I wish now that I had saved them. You know, "where in the world, what's going on here." I think it scared the socks off the Democrats at that point. And I think that they could just see us coming.

I know that I talked with good Democrat friends of mine like Senator P. Bradley Morrah
of Greenville, Rex Carter, John Bolt Culbertson, about what's going on. That's when we went to work to try to get this crazy two-year residency requirement outlawed, because that was just plain unconstitutional. Even one who'd moved into the state within the last year or two, in a federal election, was forbidden to vote. It was disenfranchisement, pure and simple.

I remember taking an Eisenhower ad to the Greenville News. Back in those days it was a repro mat that you furnished. I'd gone around and gotten a lot of the local merchants to cough up the money to pay for that full page ad to run in the Greenville News. They didn't give a full page ad away, particularly if you wanted to run it for a week including Sunday. I laid that ad on Wayne Freeman, the editor's, desk, who I had known because I had been in a little theater play with him. He said, "Greg, I've been told I can't accept any ads for Republicans." I said, "You got to be kidding Wayne. Here's the ad, ready to plate. Here's the money." He said, "Well, you're going to have to go down to speak to Mr. Peace, the publisher."

Wayne Freeman and I went down to Mr. Peace's office placing that ad in front of him with the money, and he said, "Young fellow, we don't run Republican ads; not in this newspaper. Furthermore, I'm not going to run the risk of alienating my advertisers." And I said, "You know Mr. Peace, I anticipated you might say something like this, so I thought you might like to see a list of the people who have paid for this ad. And believe it or not, most of them were among his major advertisers, including William Henry Belk Simpson that owned the Belk Simpson stores, who was the most generous contributor; the manager of the Sears Roebuck Store was another; Jim Watson, who owned the chain of Firestone tire stores and service stations in the town, and other major merchants were paying for the ad. That was the only way I forced him to run that ad.

HARTSOOK: And he did run the ad?
SHOREY: He reluctantly ran it, because I told him, "I don't think you'd want me to take this to the Attorney General or to some higher authority. There's supposed to be something like freedom of the press and freedom of information. And even though you own this newspaper, Mr. Peace, I don't think you want that embarrassment." And he never liked me. He later got appointed to the U.S. Senate temporarily on the death of Olin D. Johnston. Roger C. Peace owned WFBC, the number one radio station, at the same time owned NBC Channel 4, the television station, and the only one in the market at the time. And that was about the time this two-year residency question was under fire. Earlier, he and I had another confrontation over that issue when I confronted him with a news release against the two-year residency requirement. I remember his words to me then, he said, "Listen son, the reason for that two-year residency requirement is that I own this newspaper. Morning and afternoon editions, there is no other paper in this town. I own the principle radio station in this town. I also own the only television station. By the time you've read my paper and listened to my stations [for two years], I figure I've got you thinking our way."

That voting requirement was changed and the loyalty oath was dropped. Even though today I'd almost be an advocate of the oath in Party primaries because I don't like our open registration and nominating primaries. Political parties will not survive without registration by party, as required in twenty-nine other states and confirmed by a United States Supreme Court decision. Some want to build from the top, national, down, rather from precinct up and have at least county-wide elections, non-partisan. This will kill party structure as we’ve known it, in time.

HARTSOOK: Am I right about that? Was there a great debate over how . . . ?
SHOREY: There was. I won't say a great debate, but there were two points of view. And I probably would've, at first, fallen in the top down category. Realizing that we had, and this exists even to this day, huge numbers of people, particularly in our rural counties, still have many that say, “I am a local Democrat and a national Republican.” I call them two-headed mermaids. I never really quite figured out how you could be both, but they seem to think that's perfectly OK, and they do indeed vote that way. That's why we have open voter registration to this day.

A matter of practicality, these people were not near as reluctant to voting for a Republican president, but they still wanted to retain the right to vote for local Democrats. Maybe we Republicans fostered that because it was difficult for us in the early years to find well-regarded citizens to run as Republicans for local office. A lot of good people were afraid to run, afraid of the repercussions, afraid of the criticism, afraid of being blackballed or worse.

It was almost impossible for us to get attorneys involved in the party in those days. That's why I embraced an Edgar Morris, a Welch Morrisette, a Bob Clay, in the early days, or as we'll talk later, a Bob Chapman, lawyers who were early brave souls that publicly got into the party. Because all of the judges were appointed by Democrats. They all told me they were very fearful of taking a case before one of those Democrat-appointed judges if they were known to be a Republican. They were afraid that the decision would've been prejudiced. They may write us a check, but we had to keep it quiet. They were just scared to death to be involved, and I think a lot of other people at local levels felt that same way.

We found that it was a whole lot easier to get people excited about a Republican president, and then gradually we would take cracks at congressional races, as did Clemson mayor Leon P. Crawford in the 2nd District, and Dan Wallace did in the Fourth District against Bob Ashmore, or with Senate candidates early on like Bill Workman [who challenged incumbent Senator Olin Johnston in 1962]. Who ran in lieu of Bob Chapman, by the way, which a lot of people didn't
realize.

So, at first, I was probably a top down guy because I felt that was an easier way to get the job done. I remember appearing on a Bill Workman, Jr., WIS Columbia Sunday evening TV talk show, which he hosted. He berated me for not running more candidates at the local level. "Where are your candidates for county clerk, and sheriff, and mayor, and county council, and city councils?" I replied that we just didn't have the willing candidates, manpower, nor did the courage exist, not until the Goldwater [presidential campaign]. That was the big breakthrough point in my view.

HARTSOOK: Now, when you were party chair, what portion of your day is devoted to business and what portion of your day is devoted to party activities?

SHOREY: Well, that's hard to reflect on. That's fifty years ago. My wife said that it was a very expensive undertaking for the family - evenings and weekends. The business was pretty demanding plus I had to do a lot of traveling. But I found ways to interject, obviously, through the workday, some time to devote to correspondence and/or meetings and/or phone conversations. And I'm sure my business associates didn't appreciate that because they were not sympathetic to my political philosophy anyway. As a matter of necessity, I had to have it interfere as little as possible because, in fact, as my business grew and demands on my time grew, it became increasingly evident to me as I went into my second term as state party chairman that I best not continue.

I was thrilled when Bob Chapman indicated he was willing to run for U.S. Senate against Olin Johnston. I said, "Wow, what a great opportunity to get a new chairman because now as a candidate we'll get you statewide notoriety, and I can get relieved of the chairmanship because I
just don't have the time to devote to it." The Party was growing at such a rate at that point, that I couldn't have kept up with it. It became increasingly difficult for me to do that. As a result I was probably not as near as effective a state chairman as I should've been.

We had local candidates running, such as Jim Threadgill, a pharmacist, for mayor of Greenville, against entrenched Democrats like Greenville Mayor Kenneth Cass. Jim was not altogether an adept candidate, but he was a merchant in the community willing to take a stand. We ran Leon P. Crawford, mayor of Clemson, for Congress. Dan Wallace, our early Greenville County chairman, ran for Congress against Bob Ashmore there in the Fourth District. They were the pacesetters up state. Greenville became the Party hotbed, generally regarded as having the more aggressive, more active Republican effort, with little cells around the rest of the state. What's interesting is that over the last half century, I'm the only one (despite Greenville being early recognized as a Republican stronghold) that has been state party chairman from Greenville County. Other early local victories were significant. John Nave, mayor in Greenwood. John Bourne, Jr., mayor of North Charleston. Others.

Spartanburg, on the other hand, was slow to develop as a Republican stronghold, which it is certainly today, has produced three state party chairmen. But as someone once explained, that's understandable because a lot of Party dollars came out of Spartanburg County. The net result was, of course, strong and effective chairmen in the more recent years.

HARTSOOK: Talk a little bit about candidate recruitment while you were chair. How much of that did you personally do?

SHOREY: As much I could, but not near as much as I perhaps should have. Just trying to encourage people, trying to help them to gather the courage to run, knowing they're probably
going to lose. Which was the toughest thing to do because, who wants to lose? And then there was always the money issue. Where was the money coming from to run anything resembling a responsible campaign?

In those days, we would have active consolidated campaign headquarters, every candidate worked out of the same location, and you'd load it up with volunteers. There was a lot of telephoning and a lot of envelope-licking. You didn't have all of the electronic assists that you do today. Back in those days had the old stump meetings. Flag bedecked backs of flatbed trucks were wonderful moving platforms around the county and/or district.

I probably was not the best recruiter in the world because I didn't have the time to do it. However, I didn't miss an opportunity to travel around the state and often did have a chance to speak, because I was an oddity, particularly at civic club meetings, all of whom were hard up for speakers of some sort. My friend Ted Riley was the Democrat party chairman during the same period of time that I was the Republican chairman. The Riley's were near neighbors of mine in Greenville. I recall on several occasions Ted would call me up, as we really got along pretty well, and said, "Greg did you get an invite to speak at the Rotary Club in Florence next week?" "Yeah Ted." "Who's turn is it to drive?" And we'd ride over and back together.

I don't remember what presidential election it was, but WSPA-TV, channel seven in Spartanburg, had asked us to come in election eve and speak on behalf of our respected party candidates, [a] live on statewide TV hookup. They had us in two chairs with a lectern in front of us. We were outfitted with lavaliere mics around our necks. I was the first to speak at the lectern, making an impassioned plea for everybody to get out and vote on Tuesday for my Republican candidates. When I sat down, my foot, somehow or another, tangled in Ted Riley's mic cord. So when he got up to speak, and he's live on camera, the lavaliere caught him right around the neck and it hauled him up short. And he turned around without thinking, he's live on camera, and used
a couple of expletives, and said, "Get off my G.D. mic cord." He suddenly realized what he'd done, and he was so flustered. At the peak of his remarks, he said, "And I want to urge every voter listening to me tonight, to get out and vote straight Republican. Ah, I mean, no. . . ." And he just turned beet red and years later he swore that I stepped on his mic cord intentionally.

I can remember several other instances with him. We always used to get called down to Charles Daniel's office at Daniel’s Construction Co. on North Main Street in the middle of each campaign to pick up an envelope. Inevitably, we were both asked to come at the same time. And either I had gone in first and met him out in the lobby as I was leaving with my envelope or vice versa. One day as we both got out to the parking lot, Ted said, "You know, why don't we just open these envelopes and see what's in them?" We both had the identical thousand dollars made out to our respective parties. The Rileys, we get along just fine and I, of course, knew Dick and his brothers and considered them friends even though obviously we're of the opposite political persuasion.

You had asked about candidate recruitment. What support did the party offer potential candidates? We didn't have much support that we could offer them other than volunteer manpower. We didn't have any money. We didn't have a regular Party headquarters. I operated out of my own pocket and my own office. In fact my wife kept track of what, over the years, I may have spent. She figured over time that I had spent about ninety-thousand dollars. She said, "I hope you really believe in what you're doing." Finding candidates included people like Charles Boineau, our first elected representative to the General Assembly. I keynoted the Lexington County Convention in which Charles Boineau was first nominated. And my friend Floyd Spence was the first to switch parties while serving in the General Assembly. Are we ready to get to that?
HARTSOOK: Let's talk first about Bill Workman. People have told me that the Workman campaign created the skeleton of a statewide Republican network. Do you think that's fair, or do you think that's an exaggeration?

SHOREY: I think there's considerable truth to that. Here was a bona fide candidate with a lot of statewide name recognition. You've now awakened many newfound Republicans in and around Columbia, which was a news center. Bill having been an editor of The State newspaper and having a WIS radio and TV show, here's a candidate that was now going to be taken seriously. It may've been one of the first conscious efforts to go out and really begin organizing from the precinct level up, statewide. This campaign produced much new leadership, like Drake Edens, soon to become state party chairman and was an effective organizer.

I think there may be other factors that came into play, not the least of which was the logical sequence of events, whether it had been Bill Workman or some other viable candidate that might've been running at that time. But, Bill's campaign was a significant breakout. Probably up to that point in time, we had to be pretty well satisfied with what came our way. Given the fact that we had very little by way of resource to work with. It was hard for us to go out and identify people. They had to identify themselves to us; the backward way to play the game. But, circumstances worked in our favor.

The Workman candidacy came as quite a surprise to me because my encounters with Bill as a newsman were rather adversarial at that point. I never suspected personally that he had Republican tendencies. I wasn't aware that many newsmen did back then, and I have the same feeling even today. So when he got recruited, and I think Drake Edens was one of the principal factors in persuading Bill, along with other people there in Columbia, pioneers like Welch Morrisette, Edgar Morris, and others in and around the Richland/Lexington County area no doubt
helped, like Dr. Tucker Weston, who became effective party leaders.

I've never [been] quite clear in my mind, had Bob Chapman remained in the race and pursued that senate candidacy, rather than drop out because of stomach ulcers, at his doctor's insistence, would Workman have revealed himself and come forward and what role might he have played at that point? Would Bob Chapman have beaten Olin D. Johnston? In all probability, no, any more than Workman did. Was Workman a stronger candidate than Chapman? Yes, because people knew Workman. They didn't know Chapman, though they knew the family in the upstate, but not statewide. And that's one of the reasons for my resigning and having him serve as [party] chairman, because he could travel around, get some local press, and, in effect, campaign while wearing the Party chairman's hat. That was the plan at any rate.

So I always wonder at what point Workman may have entered the fray. Thank God he did when he did; the effort helped the process big time. No question about that. I think it probably brought people into the party earlier and in more active roles than they might have otherwise.

[Tape 2 begins]

HARTSOOK: Do you think Workman ran a good campaign, an effective campaign?

SHOREY: Yes, but again my memories are somewhat vague, because at that point having been relieved of the chairmanship, I probably shifted gears and tried to make up for lost time and get totally absorbed in my business. I became a good deal less involved in the day-to-day details of the Party. I felt relieved that the job had been relinquished to others that were native sons. I was not as close to things at that point, and paid less attention to Party affairs. Not that my interest was any less. I know that I consciously revved down in the succeeding years. In fact, in
1971, I'd sold my manufacturing business and spent a year in New York with the new parent company; I was totally out of the loop during that time.

A year later, when I came back and served as president of Riegel Textile's apparel division, James Edwards' 1974 gubernatorial campaign was underway. I remember people coming to me at the time and asking if I would get involved. I said, "I'm not sure I'm going to have any time to do so." I was running several textile mills at that point with a thousand employees, and commuting ninety miles to Ware Shoals. And if anybody [that] knows anything about the textile business knows that that's a Sunday to Sunday week, and a fourteen-hour day.

Plus, I wasn't working for myself anymore; I'm working for a New York Stock Exchange corporate entity. Bob Coleman was then the president of the company and I didn't know what Bob Coleman's sympathies were. I found out later, he was a pretty good Republican. But the chairman of the board was Bill Reid, who was later president of the American Cotton Council, and influential in the industry. I had been told that he was an ardent Democrat and that he had been very critical of Republicans and took a rather dim view of officer involvement [in politics]. I am in a top executive position with one of the largest textile organizations in the country. I'm new on the job. I'd best watch what I'm doing.

I did get somewhat involved early in the Westmoreland consideration [in 1974, retired general William C. Westmoreland was favored to be elected governor but lost the Republican primary to Dr. James B. Edwards]. I went to several meetings with the General because I had good friends that had asked me if I would participate in the Westmoreland effort. From the Workman effort on, my involvement became much less. I continued to attend meetings however. I was still a member of the Greenville County Executive Committee. Was I concerned with what was going on? You bet.
HARTSOOK: One more question about the Workman campaign. I've heard it said that there were suspicions that Republicans had encouraged Hollings to run against Olin [Johnston] to soften him up for the Workman campaign, and that they were very two-faced. You know, gone to Hollings and encouraged him when really they were just trying to make Johnston a weaker opponent for Workman. . . .

SHOREY: Well that could've been. I had a couple of earlier, unrelated, meetings with Fritz myself. From my manufacturing days, very good friends, the Dougherty’s, Fran and Julia, in Charleston. Fran was a distributor of my products. Julia was active in the Edwards campaign and a state GOP vice chair. We visited on occasion. I recall we were down there one weekend and, at his request, met with Fritz at his law office. We spent a half a day together. He dug out old files showing me back in his cadet days at the Citadel that he had worked for Herbert Hoover. He loved to talk to me about that. Trying to, I guess, impress me with the fact that he really wasn't that ardent a Democrat. Even though I was one of his most vociferous, frequent critics. I'd take him on quite often because at that point we didn't have any elected officials to counter him, so as G.O.P. chairman it was incumbent upon me to do so. In fact, some say I had something to do with revealing the Doughty bird situation [after leaving the Governor's Mansion, charges were made that Hollings took away items belonging to the Mansion, in addition to his personal property, among which were ceramic birds modeled by Dorothy Doughty and created by the Worcester Royal Porcelain Company].

When he [Hollings] comes to Beaufort for the Water Festival, he has stayed at Dataw Island. On one evening, I got a phone call at the house by some folks up at the club. "There's some very prominent guy and, we assume it's his wife, have just come into the dining room, and nobody up here really knows who it is. We know he's some prominent person. And we figure
that you probably know who he is, but the concern is nobody's spoken to him." So I got in my car and ran up to our club. Fritz saw me and he [said], "Come on over here, boy." I don't know how long we chatted, but I remember him telling his wife. He said, "You remember Greg. He was after me every time I ran for governor, every time I ran for senator, then his son who was going to the university was working for the campaigns against me on at least two different occasions. Greg, what did I ever do to you?" I said, "I know this will make you feel a whole lot better Fritz, but I've got a grandson coming along." [laughter] And he said, "You mean I have to put up with three Shorey generations?" I said, "Well, until you retire." But anyhow it was always in good fun, in a very respectable sort of way. I'm unaware that there was an effort made to use Fritz to weaken Olin D.'s campaign, or that there were overtures made. There may have been some reasons such as you suggest for doing so. But if that did take place, I'm not conscious of it.

HARTSOOK: I think it unlikely, but I had just heard that, so I'm bringing it up with people that I think might have some knowledge of the situation.

SHOREY: I think it could be highly unlikely that Republicans were involved because we considered Fritz the enemy, if you will. In every political operation, you have somebody to kick around. Fritz was a convenient target. Along with Olin D. of course. I relished taking the Johnstons on, including his brother [Bill] who was editor of the Anderson Independent paper. I once offered to debate Bill on the steps of the Anderson County Courthouse, any time, any day, that he would chose. But he wasn't going to do that because he wasn't going to demean himself to this young upstart over there in Greenville. I'd earlier keynoted the original county convention in Anderson at Cordes Seabrook’s request. Dr. Bill Hunter of Clemson and the Janzen’s of Anderson, among others, provided a strong Republican beginning.
HARTSOOK: Let me ask you one more Fritz question. The night of the primary, Olin against Hollings, The State newspaper called it [the Democratic primary] a toss-up, too close to predict. And of course, Olin D. wins [by a] two-to-one [margin]. The night of the primary, I'm sure you were an interested bystander. Did you think it was close?

SHOREY: I have little recall of that primary. I rather suspect that I'd hoped that maybe Olin D. might make it because I felt he was the more likely target for us. Hollings was handsome, young, and appealing. I guess in my mind I thought him to be a tougher candidate than Olin D. Olin D. had a record. I guess I was hoping for Olin. But a judgment on how close it might've been, [my memory is] too vague.

HARTSOOK: OK. Well, let's talk about Floyd Spence now. Did that surprise you when he announced his change of party or had you been working with him?

SHOREY: I had little direct involvement there. The Columbia folks had been. I think more of Boineau’s candidacy, and Party growth provided pressure and encouragement.

Now we're progressing to where we're running candidates at more local levels. Through them and some of the old timers, like Welch [Morrisette] and Edgar [Morris] and those that had been involved in the Party in the earlier years, I know they had been working on Floyd. And I was tickled to death of course that he was going to switch. He was the first... It was significant. I got to know Floyd a whole lot better after that, because we went to our national conventions thereafter together. I remember trying to keep he and the then Greenville Mayor Cooper White at our hotel at the San Francisco convention. Those guys liked to go out and party
a little. As chair of the delegation at that time, I felt a little like a scout master, or the guy at the fraternity house making sure all were in by curfew time. So I got to know Floyd much better after his conversion than beforehand. Probably, much encouragement came from some of his old USC classmate friends. . . . And I don't know that it took a lot of persuasion.

HARTSOOK: I don't think that either. I think it was truly a moral conviction. He tells a real interesting story that the next day, he walked down to the courthouse as he always did and there was a little group in front of the front steps talking. And he said as he came up, he could tell they were talking about, you know, somebody died, somebody that they were all real close to. Got a little closer he realized they were talking about him. You know to this day you can hear the hurt in his voice that people would change friendships and shun him based on a political decision. Just interesting.

How about Strom? Did you play a role in that?

SHOREY: Strom's conversion, I was more involved there. There were many, many forces at work at that point. Now we're into the Goldwater era, where I was more involved. The books [written on Goldwater and his presidential campaign] all attest to that. At the time Strom ran as a write-in for the Senate, I was involved. Because as the aftermath of his '48 Dixiecrat movement, he had shunned his Democrat Party. I began occasional communications with him during my terms as Party chairman. On a couple of occasions, I remember getting one of these kid's baseball uniforms, and I'd have the front of it embroidered with GOP, then put his name on the back, and send it to him as a present.

There were other occasions, in fact there's a picture that you have, I'm not sure whether it was he giving me an award or I giving him one at a dinner affair in the Memorial Auditorium in
Greenville. Another was when I had him come as a speaker at one of my sales meetings. We had a group that met his plane, and I always had at my sales meetings some rather shapely, attractive gal that was ‘Miss Aquafloat.’ You have a picture of him getting bussed [kissed] on his arrival by ‘Miss Aquafloat.’ I remember him asking me soon after that, "Would you please send me that negative?" Which I never found by the way, either conveniently or it just never appeared, because Joe Jordan, our mayor pro-tem and pro photographer, took the photo.

HARTSOOK: They used that picture in the Jack Bass ‘Ol Strom book.

SHOREY: Did they really?

HARTSOOK: Yes. His eyes are closed. [laughter]

SHOREY: In subsequent elections our plant was a regular stop-off. Strom said often, “I get this itch in my right hand every six years. Shaking lots of hands cures this.” I was one among many who worked on Strom’s conversion. I worked on Congressman Bryan Dorn too. One occasion was an Erskine College inaugural of a new president. I was representing my university and Secretary of State Dean Rusk was the speaker. At the reception, Bryan introduced me to Secretary Rusk and he said, "By the way Mr. Secretary, this guy is like a Jiminy Cricket sitting on my shoulder whispering in my ear about becoming a Republican."

I had Strom as a speaker when I dedicated my new manufacturing plant in Greenville. You have a picture of him standing on a platform out in our parking lot that had bunting all around it. It was on that occasion that he told me privately that it was his plan to switch parties. I don't think he'd formally announced it at that moment.
HARTSOOK: He announces it [publicly] the day before a Goldwater appearance . . . [in South Carolina].

SHOREY: Right. It was Goldwater that was singularly, in my view, responsible for prompting Strom to switch. I think he felt it was safe at that point.

HARTSOOK: OK, that was my question because he says at the time, "I fully realize the political risk involved in this step and that my chances for reelection might because of this step go down to oblivion." That's not true though is it?

SHOREY: In my honest judgment, I think that's just a good political, heroic crusader kind of a statement. In my own view, bless his heart, I think he is too shrewd a politician not to seize upon appropriate moments. I think his whole career speaks to that point. My son worked for him as an intern. And I remember he said, "Dad, I really don’t like that old SOB, but I want to tell you something. You taxpayers really get your money's worth out of that guy. He really is working for his constituents." And he did. There's no question about that. I don't know that that's altogether the case today because his staff is not what it used to be. His constituent service is nowhere near what it used to be. A friend I work with every week owns a company called Athena Corporation. His son was legal counsel on Strom's staff for four years. I've gotten updates on what's happening. What was a very highly-regarded, smooth-functioning, strong constituent service just isn't what it used to be.

HARTSOOK: Now why did your son dislike him?
SHOREY: Not really dislike, just demanding. He got these kids up at six o'clock in the morning. When he was jogging they would have to run alongside him with a steno book and he'd bark out orders, "Son, I want you to go to the Congressional Library. I need this report and I want it on my desk before nine o'clock. Son, you go over and get this report. . . . I want this brought over to the Senate committee on da, da, da." "Dad, I was there until eleven o'clock some nights running the signature machine." He was a taskmaster. But that's why he was good at constituent service. That staff performed. And I've heard that from Harry Dent per his book *Right is Wrong* and a lot of people that have worked for him. That's to his credit. But you think of a young kid in one of their early work experiences, they thought Strom too tough. And he was, but I think these youngsters all had a very high regard and respect for him. And of course, many of them went on to be quite successful in whatever endeavor, including several of them that ended up in judgeships or in key business or government positions. Thanks to Strom's influence and his regard for those young men that had worked for him. He'd found out who the good ones were pretty quick. He was a good judge of talent.

I don't know that it [the decision to switch] was so much a matter of philosophical commitment as it was opportune. Did the Party welcome that conversion? You bet. Did it help my Party more quickly come into maturity? You bet. Would they want it any other way? No. Has he been instrumental in helping a lot of state or county level Republicans get elected? Only indirectly, because he never actively "campaigned for" lower level Republican candidates. I think trying to protect the “two-headed mermaids” in the small, rural counties that still says, “I'm a local Democrat and a national Republican.” Warren Abernathy, his administrative assistant in Spartanburg, carefully protected Strom’s dual appeal.

I've observed back over the years, if you looked at Strom's campaign stationary, it always
listed those type supporters. Numbers of them were the local Democrat sheriffs, county clerks, mayors, still Democrats, but still supporting Strom. And Strom very successfully always managed to keep those people in his camp, even though they weren't dedicated Republicans, by any means. John Courson and I have had many discussions about this. John, of course, is a strong, strong Thurman devotee. John, despite his obvious very active involvement in a Party leadership role in recent years, he's one of what I call the Goldwater Era Republicans. I mean that whole flood tide of people that came into the Party at the '64 Goldwater breakthrough. Strom had great name recall. At a Broad River Seafood reception in Beaufort, where he feasted on plates of Buford Estes’ raw oysters, he remembered my son and most others including former Beaufort County Chair Frank Gibson’s father from Allendale.

HARTSOOK: Should we move on to Albert Watson?

SHOREY: Yes, let's talk about Albert. You know, Albert, again like Floyd and Strom, came into the Party at a very opportune moment. Again, I had very little to do with that. I think that probably had a lot of Midlands influence, amongst his own constituents. Now interestingly, Al Cook, with whom we we're going to have lunch, is going to be a wonderful source to talk all about this. Because he was his administrative assistant throughout that entire time frame. Interestingly, Al converted right along with his boss, and Al has been an active party participant ever since.

Again, I had not very much involvement, even in Albert's campaign, other than the fact that a close personal friend of mine, Jim Henderson, Jim DeMint’s father in law, who was in part a [business] competitor via the Henderson Advertising Agency, ran with Albert for lieutenant governor. Jim had gotten involved during the late Eisenhower period, and was appointed as an
assistant postmaster general. Some wondered if because of Jim's ad agency experience, perhaps maybe bulk mail somehow influenced [laughing] that appointment or perhaps visions of a political career for himself. I remember [him] talking [about that] with me about it at the time. And then when Albert chose to run, I think Jim seized on that as an opportunity to have a candidate from the Midlands and one from the Upstate, to balance the ticket. Regrettably, neither one of them made it. By the way, the governor and lieutenant governor should run as a team.

But Jim was anything but a politician in my view. He was good at the ad agency business, and he was quite successful. Texize Chemicals is great testimony to how good he was because he took that little business and just grew it and grew it and grew it until it was acquired by Dow Chemical. Texize was owned and started by my friend Jack Grier. His son, Dick Grier, was Carroll Campbell's big supporter, using his dad's money. Dicky had some personal problems later on, as we all know.

Watson's switch and his candidacy was another big boost. And again, at a level of government where we hadn't had serious contenders at that point. I, of course, knew Albert. But, I never took a very active role in either [his] conversion or in his candidacy.

HARTSOOK: So legislation such as that requiring that ballots be marked for a full slate of candidates and the '64 act requiring the Republicans to nominate their candidates no later than the date of the primaries. What impact did those laws have?

SHOREY: Serious limits, along with the Democrat’s loyalty oath in primaries. As we noted a moment ago, some of those same things are plaguing us today. Further, the split ballot, in presidential years where we have to vote for president and vice-president separately from all the rest of the candidates on the ballot. It all ties back into this same thing as with registration by
party. We're trying to get these impediments changed. I'm not sure how successful we're going to be because these small more rural counties again are standing in our way. These were indeed obstacles. And it made it tough on us to grow and win elections. We often couldn't run a full slate, or it would force us, in certain areas, to run full slates, but we'd have some real weak sisters in there which made the ticket less appealing. The democrats know how to impede our challengers, but, “We have overcome.”

[Tape 2, Side 2 begins]

SHOREY: I'm glad we got that [full slate rule] changed. There's a lot more that we need to work on to get us up where we are a real challenge and can be a party of true believers. The whole process of how a candidate can file and be nominated needs attention. I'm not convinced that open primaries are a good thing. I think open primaries are going to prove to be the death knell of both political parties, in my view. Because the parties are not now in command of their own destiny. Parties can't pick their own candidates. They can't be assured of getting the brightest and the best to represent their respective parties because these [open primaries] have become nothing but mini-general elections and they turn the primaries into just popularity contests; voters cross over at will. Party platforms and philosophy don't play a role. In the same way that this proved to be a detriment to party-building, I think that some of these obstacles are going to prove to be Party-killers. I serve on a task force promoting party registration legislation, a tough sell. The case of filing as an ‘independent’ also needs requirements consistent with becoming a party nominee.

HARTSOOK: I'm going to go back and focus in just a little bit more on your [two] terms
as [party] chair. Was that something that you actively sought, or did people come to you and twist your arm?

**SHOREY:** No, I didn't actively seek it, that's for certain. When we get into some of these other people things, I'll talk about how I think I came to be [chairman]. Sometime in 1955, I was technically an acting chairman because Frank Faux, of Laurens, who was then the state party chairman, came to me on a number of occasions and asked me to help him and to work with him, and to be a stand in for him if you will. Then in 1956, he was appointed as a United States Marshall. And that's when I think David Dows' chairmanship came to be, and I'm not even sure how David got to be the chairman. I'm not sure it was by the conventional method of election in a state convention. He was a very close friend of Leonard Hall of Long Island, New York, who was then the national Republican Party chairman, and we'll talk about that when we get to David. But I remember on several occasions meeting with him, and he had a farm down in Bradley, South Carolina [in Greenwood County]. I was functioning in part as chairman during those periods and the point in time in the transition from Faux to Dows to me is a little vague. How that chairmanship came to me, I think, was more on the part of the Greenville advocates, because of my activity there as a county chairman, as a state executive committeeman, and as Fourth District chairman. Greenville was known as the birthplace of the modern Party, and, at least then, the Party's backbone. I guess they just said, here's this young guy and he's had all the jobs, and he was the Eisenhower co-chairman. . . . I'm not sure there was anybody else that was interested in taking the job anyhow to be honest. There it was. I think it just landed in my lap. I really did not seek it.

**HARTSOOK:** And what do you set for yourself as goals [at that time]? Do you set the
short term and long term goals, or is it just such a struggle that having . . . ?

SHOREY: I think I was just trying to develop a sense of legitimacy, recognition, and some respect for the new Party. You know, "Republicans," after Reconstruction, was a dirty word in South Carolina. We were deemed the ‘carpetbaggers,’ and here I was a Yankee, after all. The old line Republicans, other than the blacks, [were] known simply for those that were trying to get a federal appointment of some sort. So, I focused on just trying to gain some recognition, responsibility, respectability, and some legitimacy for the Party. Our activists were decent, honorable, upright, concerned citizens. Our theme was, 'The South needs a two-party system,' that we would provide much better and more responsive government by reason of the fact that you had two active parties.

Some remarks that are in those news clippings I gave you. . . . [referring to a clipping] I addressed that point several times. Some people feared us. We were not trusted, I don't think. Because for a century, the blacks were the Republicans. In fact, interestingly, [Dr.] Larry [Rowland of USC-Beaufort] will point out that the birthplace, in his research on the original South Carolina Republican Party, was organized by blacks right here in Beaufort County, specifically by Robert Smalls, a much heralded hero. Under his leadership, South Carolina Republicans were largely made up of blacks or opportunists.

HARTSOOK: And were people suspicious of you because you were a Yankee?

SHOREY: Oh yes, and we were often threatened. In the early ‘50s, a cross was burned on our lawn. My wife came home very distressed on one occasion. She'd gone out to the store and apparently some redneck guys, threatened to overturn the car with she in it. Our children were
harassed in and out of school.

**HARTSOOK:** Did your goals change at all as you enjoyed success?

**SHOREY:** I think as we began to mature as a political entity, we gained some recognition and some sense of legitimacy. The goals then changed to getting people involved to help man campaign headquarters and organize the precincts so that we could have a big turnout convention. I recall when we met in the ballroom of the old Jefferson Hotel. I’m going to guess it was probably the '58 convention. The hotel actually didn't have enough chairs for everybody. Two hundred and fifty plus delegates filled the ballroom. Just seeing that number of people willing to publicly come out and show themselves as bona fide active Republicans was a sense of some achievement.

**HARTSOOK:** You obviously have a very broad number of people that you've become associated with, but was there a small inner circle of people that you would go to for counsel, if you had some perplexing . . . ?

**SHOREY:** Yes. One of my most “brilliant” moves, you can call it an achievement, was persuading Roger Milliken of Spartanburg to be our party finance chairman. And there's a story behind that. I'd talked with him earlier about it and he absolutely refused. Of course, he was a terribly busy man. So I figured I had to sit down and talk one-on-one somehow. I found out that one of his daughters was going to Camp Pinnacle up in North Carolina, just above Greenville. Our daughters had considered going to Pinnacle. I knew what day the girls were due to arrive at camp. I got in my car, went up and sat on a rock by the entrance of this building where the kids
were going to register. Here came Roger and his wife, Mita, and daughter. He didn't get involved in registering his daughter, Mita did that. He knew then, I really needed his help. That's when I persuaded him to take on the finance chairman's job. And of course from that point on money worries were not a major concern.

HARTSOOK: Now how did you convince him? What was your telling argument?

SHOREY: He was an obvious Party sympathizer and contributor to the NRC. He was already helping and involved by writing checks to our candidates. This book [Suite 3505] talks about the Greenville dinner that we had in 1958. Goldwater was the speaker. The [author] made a mistake. He called it a convention. It was a fund-raising dinner we had at the Greenville Hotel in 1958. I went to Roger and asked, "How about buying a table?" Tickets were a 'hundred dollar a plate' with ten per table. We hadn't put on a hundred dollar a plate dinner at that point, kind of a scary undertaking. Mrs. Dabney [Pat] Barnes, who was the national committeewoman and a dear friend, was among the insiders that I would consult frequently. I can't tell you how many hours she and I had spent over a lunch table at her house. Her husband, Dabney, was also very actively involved, and was a confidant of mine. We cooked up this fund raising dinner and Pat said, "I'll sell half the tickets, if you'll sell the other half."

Roger took a whole table. I put him right down front. I knew I had him right then, especially when I announced that I was going to support Goldwater for president in '60. That was a statewide broadcast, thanks to Jesse Helms, later to become Greenville mayor. I just told Roger, "You know what we're trying to do. We're trying to build a second party. We're going to need money." And, I needed his help. I knew he was philosophically on board, and vitally interested in what we're trying to do. I spent a lot of time with him. He made his Gulfstream plane
available to me on several occasions. I flew with him to a number of meetings, particularly up in Washington and Chicago, to a couple of big Republican dinners. Thankfully, he picked up the tab on the tickets. I remember one night they had asked him to speak in Greenwood at a Republican affair. I drove him down there and he was very uneasy. He said, "How about you delivering this speech?" I said, "Roger you're the one that's been asked to make the speech, not me." "Well now I just don't like to get up in front of a crowd." I said, "Look, you'll do all right." And, he did.

On one or two occasions, on a trip out of town, he borrowed money from me. He never had to travel with any. I remember one occasion, we were having breakfast in Chicago and he borrowed fifty bucks. It was the only extra money I had, following, I was repaid by check. Even if he forgot, it would be worth it, because he was of invaluable assistance in those party-building years, particularly to me.

Remember Hal Bird? He was Milliken’s chief of purchasing. We put on many hundred-dollar-a-plate fund-raising dinners in later years. I remember we had Governor Bricker of Ohio down for one at the Poinsett Hotel in Greenville. We had the great speaker from Minnesota, Congressman Walter Judd, down for another occasion. We'd fill ballrooms at a hundred dollars a plate. This built up the Party treasury because Hal Bird could get on the phone. He didn't have to say anything. He just said, "I've got a table of ten for you Mr. ----- and I'll send you your tickets." Mr. ----- was a supplier Hal knew. Few would say no. Hal was a workhorse for the party. [The Party now has an award in his name.]

One of the great events was in 1960 in Chicago at that national convention when we drumming up support for Goldwater. Roger had Bob Chapman and I over at the Cow Palace convention hall. We were getting ready and planning for this big Goldwater demonstration. Roger says, "Now I've called Arizona and am flying up this Indian band to enter at the right moment at the start of the demonstration." When they got there at the hall they were drunk as
skunks. They marched them into the hall, opened up the back door, and marched them right back out onto the parking lot again. In advance, Roger turned to Bob and I, and said, "Now, pack the galleries or whatever you do in a situation like this." Bob looked at me, ‘pack the galleries?’ [laughing] We're in Chicago. So we got a hold of the Young Republicans, and they cut loose. Remember there was a guy that had been, gosh I wish I could remember the fellow's name. Roger paid his way to Chicago. He'd been press secretary in Governor Byrnes at one time and really knew how to pull a lot of strings. He helped and sure enough we packed the galleries. How that happened, I don't know. I remember that night we had a big party at one of the fancy hotels in town. I was designated to go up to the Goldwater suite and bring him down into the ballroom and the gathered throng that Roger was footing the bill for. I remember going up the elevator out of the back of the kitchen to get Barry to come into the ballroom through the kitchen. Before we entered, Barry grabbed me by my coat lapels and said, "Now look what you got me into you SOB."

Because you know, he never wanted to be nominated for President. This book [Suite 3505] even talks about it, as do some of the other Goldwater books. He did not want us to nominate him in that convention. Barry was absolutely dead against it. Earlier, we locked him up in my bathroom, and wouldn't let him out until he agreed. We had the Arizona delegation with us, persuading them reluctantly, because they didn't want to nominate their own. Roger was there, and I remember he said, "Just lock him up in the bathroom and don't let him out until he says it's OK."

So Roger was a huge help to me and a great confidant. [Suite 3505] talks about the influence he had along with other outside party leaders. Roger served on platform committees at each of the conventions I went to, and I think at least one or two thereafter, until the George Bush candidacy, when Bush supported NAFTA free trade. Roger disagreed with NAFTA and never
has forgiven him. [Milliken] put a lot of money into the Buchanan effort because of his opposition to NAFTA.

HARTSOOK: Now besides Milliken and Mrs. Barnes, any others that you were particularly close to or valued? I'm thinking about people you'd call in the middle of the night and say, I can't sleep. I'm worried about this decision. . . .

SHOREY: I conferred with Earl’s uncle, Edgar Morris, Jr., often. Dan Wallace, Welch Morrisette, I know I talked to Welch a number of times. Dabney Barnes was my most frequent. There were others, of course. Party leaders.

HARTSOOK: How about Mrs. Shorey?

SHOREY: She went along more in self-defense. Betty belonged to every Republican women’s club. She’d go to all the meetings. Betty was on the board of the one here [Beaufort] until it got to be a bore. She's been a poll manager in every Party primary and general election that I can think of from 1952 to 2004. She still is a poll manager at elections right here. I'm still on the Election Commission and Board of Voter Registration [as of 2004]. But she's done all this more out of self-defense, not out of any keen political interest. She went with me to the 1960 national convention because of our Goldwater involvement. We never got to go to a single party. She bought a brand new evening gown and I had a new tuxedo. And do you know what? That is still in the same bag in which I bought it originally. Never got to go to any of these receptions or any social events because I was up to my neck in this whole Goldwater effort. That was probably a terrible disappointment to her. Betty has been a good foot soldier and very understanding.
She's probably not as politically naive as people might suspect. But she's never taken an active participating role, other than supporting me, bless her patient heart.

[Tape stopped for lunch, then resumes]

HARTSOOK: What were the main obstacles that you faced and how did you attempt to overcome those obstacles? We're talking about your period as party chair.

SHOREY: In trying to get the party built and organized.

HARTSOOK: And funded and recruitment. . . . Obviously when you stepped in you must have or two or three things that you think are key to your success.

SHOREY: Obstacles to overcome? It started with all of the historic prejudices. We talked about some of those at lunch today. We had to overcome the fact that Republicans were deemed to be carpetbaggers, nigger-lovers, intruders. And particularly as the New South was developing in the postwar years, made up of all things you read about so often. The servicemen that had married girls from other parts of the country came back home bringing the Michiganite, and the Pennsylvanians, and the New Englanders back with them. Now the provincialisms that had existed before the war were beginning to break down. Then, we had this massive migration of new industries coming into the state, textiles in particular, out of New England. Which I guess was indirectly one of the reasons I got here and these transplants helped accelerate party building.

The native South Carolinians resented, in part, this invasion. And with it, we probably would change the political setup they'd grown accustomed to for a hundred years, and we did. All
of those obstacles were there. All of those prejudices were there, all of the things that would cause South Carolina parents and grandparents to turn over in their graves if a child even thought about voting for a Republican, let alone become actively involved. As I mentioned earlier, people were almost fearful of associating with us for fear of retribution on the part of their employer, neighbors, friends. Lawyers were absolutely petrified. So there were all of these obstacles.

The blacks were effectively disenfranchised up to World War II. The racial issue during my term was not a consideration because it really manifested itself a little later on, as voting rights became an issue. Integration was gracefully handled in South Carolina. But by then, books reference them frequently, blacks thought, or at least superficially felt, that it was the Democrat Party that was more sympathetic to their cause. Which I find rather strange because they'd completely forgotten that the Republicans were the liberation party of Lincoln. We were the party of emancipation. Republicans were the ones, in effect, that freed them. All of that just seemed to be forgotten about for whatever the social handouts and emotions were of the moment, influenced by the Democrat welfareism introduced by the New Deal in the ‘30s.

The Democrats were probably a whole lot smarter than we [were] because they played on this perception. Where blacks might've normally been considered to be more inclined toward republicanism, the minority population was gravitating rapidly into the Democrat Party for a lot of very understandable reasons because they were not economically self-sufficient. The Democrats were continuing to hold out the promise of, not self-sufficiency, but for all kinds of dependency freebies - aid, welfare - that gave blacks a greater sense of security. That was going on while at the same time all the old prejudice existed.

Those were perhaps the main obstacles, plus what has grown regrettably since then, is increasing apathy. Not enough people really care. Not enough people remembering what my dad told me at age twelve, reflecting that you can choose to leave government alone, but it won't ever
leave you alone. For most people, they don't realize that or really don't care.

Our central theme was the South needs a two-party system. If you have a competing political entity you will make the dominant Democrat Party more responsive, more responsible, to the voter. I preach that over and over and over again. So I was trying to sell the need for our existence as a viable, competing alternative that benefits everyone.

Addressing the development of our organization, the focus of getting precincts organized and raising money was always a challenge, but how could you even get to that point if you couldn't sell the concept in the first place, i.e., the need for a two-party system? Once you get that basic concept sold, then you can get into the bricks and the mortar of fundamental party-building. [From] that 1960 news clip from the Beaufort paper, you could see that we were at least trying to get at least six precincts organized back then. Was it as massive an effort as took place four or five years later? No, because we didn't have the resources. We didn't have the manpower. But we were trying to do everything all at once. Tough job. And remember, none of us were involved in this on a full-time basis. We were all volunteers. We're all having to do it on our own time. There wasn't such a thing as paid staff. We didn't have a headquarters, except my office. We'd temporarily open up a campaign headquarters in a vacant store front, particularly if we could get somebody to give it to us. The minute the campaign was over we'd close the storefront. I remember I stored many a party record and donated equipment in our garage to save it until the next campaign came around when we could find a headquarters building, somewhere, to put it in.

By the way, I was one of those who jumped up and down about it because half the time when others were storing this party stuff, when the next campaign came around, they couldn't find the records and those file cabinets we bought, or the typewriters that we owned. They just disappeared. We often had to go back and start all over again. So I was one of these that early on said we need to find permanent headquarters, some place where we can house this stuff, keep it
there under lock and key, and have a place to meet between campaigns.

[Tape 3 begins]

HARTSOOK: So am I right, when the time came for you to step down as chair, you were eager to do it, to devote more time to your business? Is that a fair recap of what you said earlier?

SHOREY: Yes. I didn't need to be persuaded. It just made a whole lot of sense. My successor, Bob Chapman, was a bright, young attorney of a very prominent, upstate, textile family who had recently gotten involved with the Party. The Chapman family owned Inman Mills. The family was very prominent socially. The textile industry was the dominant industry in those days. I believe more than half the employment in our state was textile related. The Textile Manufacturers Association was probably the most powerful influence in the state. If you get their support, endorsement and any of their money, Fritz Hollings can tell you, that's what assured his elections.

It was not necessarily my idea to recruit Bob Chapman. Roger Milliken was the one who worked on persuading him. He was willing to make this race for United States Senate which would have been one of our first serious statewide races. I just thought that was a great idea for me to resign in his favor. "Bob, how else are you going to get any kind statewide recognition? How else are people going to get to know you? The state chairmanship provides a vehicle by which you can do that. One of the best ways I know how is for me to resign before my term is up, and for you to be the new state chairman. That won't be a problem because the executive committee could be easily sold. As the new state chairman, you have a year and a half to go out there and run the rubber chicken circuit all over the state.” You saw the write-up in The State
newspaper when that event occurred. We got good exposure in the Charleston papers, and of course the Greenville, Spartanburg papers and others.

**HARTSOOK:** What was the least pleasant aspect of serving as chair? [pause while Shorey considers his answer] We talked about the financial drain and the time away from family.

**SHOREY:** I did not like time taken from the family. That probably was the least pleasant but it was also costing me serious personal money, increasingly. And no way to recover it. Quite candidly, I was probably not in a very good position at that point to cough it up. I was not well off. I told you I started my business on three thousand dollars that I borrowed on a 1942 two door Plymouth which was about the only real asset that I had at the time. The demands of the business were such that I didn't draw a big salary. Because of the financial burden, I probably had to pass up a lot of things that a chairman should have done because I couldn't afford it.

Bob Chapman was from a prominent family. He had a very lucrative law practice. One of his clients was Mr. Milliken. That's, I think, how he got drawn into the Party, was through Roger's influence. Being a Chapman, he wasn't too concerned about what a judge might think. He later went on, as you know, and was named a federal district judge himself.

I guess my financial drain was as much a concern. . . . Subconsciously, not being a native, I realized that the Party's leadership now really needed to be in the hands of South Carolinians. That the Party would be far better off with true natives in leadership roles rather than outsiders, this would kill that constant observation and accusation -- "Oh well, the Republicans after all are just a bunch of Yankee carpetbaggers down here. Look at this guy Shorey." Well, now they couldn't say that anymore. Now the leadership was in the hands of true-blue South Carolinians. This gave the Party more credibility.
I can remember in the ‘50s I was a surrogate speaker for Dan Wallace when he was running for Congress in the Fourth District. My friend Dabney Barnes, a cotton broker who did business all over that area, took me to Gaffney in Cherokee County to make a speech on behalf of Dan Wallace in the county courthouse. Dabney said to me, "Now Greg, if you ever could turn on a bona fide southern accent, you're going to need it tonight." When we got there, I found out what he meant because I never saw such a band of redneck, tobacco-chewing guys in my life. Pretty crude looking lot that had turned out, I guess out of morbid curiosity if nothing else, to find out who this Republican was. I tried my damndest to sound true blue native. Of course, you got to be careful because if it comes off false and phoney, boy you're even in deeper trouble.

This was evidence of a problem that troubled me because here I was the spokesperson for the Party and even for some of our candidates. . . . Dan Wallace was a true-blue South Carolinian. His grandfather rode with General Wade Hampton. And I don't need to tell you, General Wade Hampton's still a South Carolina hero. Dan used to love to tell stories about the Reconstruction Era when his grandfather was in the state legislature. There was a black legislator [who] got out of line and somebody pulled a pistol out and shot him. "That was my grandfather."

Well, here I was, a Yankee transplant in Cherokee County speaking for a true native son. The reason for that, by the way, is that Dan was petrified to appear in public. He could not go out and speak on his own behalf. And we're glad he didn't, because he was not very coherent or persuasive. He told me that if he won, I'd have to go to Washington with him.

HARTSOOK: Was that the least pleasant aspect about being chairman of the Party and being active? Going out to groups where you knew you were going to get a harsh. . . ?

SHOREY: No. I relished that. I guess I'm kind of a frustrated thespian in some respects, and
crowds never bothered me. I always felt very comfortable on my feet. I never felt that I had any problem expressing myself. But what I felt was that I might be presenting a misrepresentation of what the real Republican Party was all about, that I might enhance the misconception that we were made up of a whole bunch of transplants like me. When in fact, we were made up of a whole bunch of people like the Dan Wallaces and the Charles Aimars, many honest true blue, patriotic South Carolinians. I couldn't pass myself off as one and didn't want to even try. But if I encouraged them, as I felt I did, that was an accomplishment. Perhaps I have a sense that maybe I helped in some way to motivate and provide some courage of conviction to people like a Charles Aimar, Arthur Ravenel, or a Dan Wallace. Maybe we could come up with a long list, who may have subconsciously said, "Hey, why leave it up to this young Yankee to go out there and do our bidding for us. We think like he does. Why can't we speak for ourselves? Why don't we get involved?" I guess I used that line of reasoning with a lot of them. Saying, "Hey, why is it up to me? I happen to know that you think just like I do. Why don't you get involved? Why don't you speak up? Why don't you become active? Join in the battle." Maybe I helped to encourage a lot of people to do that. Because of their own sense of duty and self-respect, and the fact that I think most South Carolinians have a lot of pride and didn't want somebody else speaking for them, they got involved. You kick the door open then step aside. "Hey, we'll take over from now on."

I guess there was some of that thinking going on, behind the Chapman effort too. "Hey man, your turn now. It's your state. It's your party. It's your job. Go to it. I'll be there. Let me try to help you when I can, but it's better that you be out front, that you hold the office, that you be the one quoted in the papers. You be the voice giving Fritz [Hollings] the dickens for whatever he's doing or not doing in the governor's office. It'll have a whole lot more meaning and a lot more credibility coming from you than from me."
HARTSOOK: That's an interesting answer. In hindsight, do you think the shift of the Republican Party as the majority party in South Carolina, was that an inevitability, or can you point to key instances in our state's history and say but for that we might still be...?

SHOREY: Let me answer that two ways. I think in time it was inevitable. It would be pretty hard to argue against that. Having said that, some of us may have accelerated the process. There were events, there were landmarks, that kick-started the movement. That gave it a jet assist and compressed the time frame. There were events that were occurring at different times, perhaps even simultaneously, some on a localized basis, in the upper part of the state that moved us forward. It was Leon P. Crawford's mayoralty success and his congressional race. It was the Dan Wallace race against [Democratic congressman Robert] Ashmore. It was some things that occurred with my good friend John Nave, the mayor in Greenwood. There were some efforts up in the Rock Hill area by the Hambrights. There was what was occurring in Charleston with Arthur Ravenel and his group. There was the Charlie Boineau legislative race in Columbia. These were the bursts.

On a statewide basis the big, big breakthrough was the Goldwater campaign. I think everything else aside, despite everything anybody wants to say, that effort beginning in 1960 was the seminal moment, because even though we got started in '52 and did a lot of things, really it was in 1960 when our state convention unanimously endorsed Goldwater. Our delegation was instructed to go to the national convention to vote en masse for Barry Goldwater until such time as the candidate himself released us. That's the only way we could cast a vote. That was the pledge we took. Even if Goldwater didn't want to run. Of course, we fixed that by making sure he got nominated, even with his reluctance. We were pledged to continue to vote for him until he himself released us by dropping out of the race. So that was, to me, the critical event. Followed
then immediately by the Floyd Spence conversion, the Strom Thurmond conversion... Now the ball's really beginning to roll. Then came the Workman race. Have I got the right sequence? Now we're off and running. I mean the flood gate had opened. There was no stopping us at that point. Goldwater, was the breakthrough. But it was helped by these other key things that occurred up to that point. Then, of course, these other things that occurred thereafter were all reaffirming, reconfirming, and all the pretenses got dropped.

Those that had been cowering in the corners and hiding in the closets that were really Republicans at heart, some of the old old timers that had been quietly Republican. Now they could come out boldly, brazenly, openly. And, following of course, here come converts and the northern migration.

Never to my knowledge, during my active years at least, was there any overt attempt to play toward white supremacists. Nobody fought harder against the American Party, the George Wallace effort, than I and my compatriots. We considered those candidacies to be more of a threat to the Republican Party building effort than anything the Democrats were doing. By innuendo, certainly editorial plants by somewhat liberal newspapers, the slant was otherwise. Read some of the comments and newspaper interviews. Obviously, some of the Democrats were trying to indicate that racism was what was building our Party. That we were going to be the party of white supremacists. We were the party of segregation. Did the Party attract those that thought like that? Perhaps, but not because that was our position or our focus. There later began to develop some arguments within the Party that held a strong segregationist point of view. But the leadership and I were for an open party. I met with [black Republican leader] I. S. Leevy many a time. I met with other black leaders frequently to try to win their active participation. We'd meet with some of the black preachers in a lot of communities and [ask], "What is it going to take to get your people involved in our effort. We are the party of Lincoln. We are the party of
emancipation. Historically, if you go back in our state's history, you were the Republicans. You were the Republicans before we were, really. A different kind of Republican perhaps, but hey, we welcome you. Democrats are taking advantage of you. They are using you. You think you have a voice, but they're leading you around taking you for granted. Come be part of what we're doing and we'll hear you."

Among the blacks I had working for me was a Carl Williams. You may have noticed, out in front of the house, that metal cast elephant. Well, Mr. Carl Williams gave me that one Christmas probably forty-five years ago. His wife was a black school teacher in the Greenville school system that taught several of my kids. Carl would come in to my office after five o'clock very often to talk. We'd have great chats. He was a very bright man. I had a lot of respect for him. He used to explain what the blacks' attitudes were about different things and why they were reluctant to take active political positions; because they were afraid. They really were. He would explain the difference between how a black in the South felt against how a black up north felt. He had an interesting explanation. He said, "You know, down here we are loved as individuals and hated as a race. Up north, it's just the other way around. Up north, we're respected as a race and hated as individuals, and you don't know where in the world you stand. The black is far more comfortable in the South than in the North for that reason."

I happened to know he'd vote Republican because he'd come in and tell me about it. I said, "Well, why don't you and your wife get involved?" "Oh, no." He wouldn't. That's when I learned the influence of black church preachers and how they would dictate to their flock how to vote. Then the voting rights effort was well underway along with the desegregation of the schools. The Party never played an active role or took open positions there. I don't recall the Party exploited the issue, is what I'm trying to say, because we were always hopeful that we could find a way to attract some of the black leadership. You probably know that the state Party has
made massive efforts to try to attract [blacks]. The vice-chairman of the Party is a Greenville black whom I've talked with many times.

I remember getting a Mr. Henderson in Greenville to run for city council, he's from one of the big black areas in Greenville, Nicholtown. He lost as a Republican. He came to me and said, "I am never going to do that again. Boy they made my life miserable." He lost his job with the city as a result of his candidacy. They wanted to make sure he understood that he wasn't supposed to be disloyal.

A later obstacle was that we were tainted as the lily white party on the one hand, when we're attempting to controvert all of that. I don't know even to this day that we had any success in that regard. Obviously because ninety-five per cent of the black vote is just automatically cast for Democrats. Yet we're still trying. We've got a young man right here on St. Helena Island named Stanley Mack who we ran for county council. He's a county employee, very bright, articulate young black man. Got whipped. His own people have let him know that that was a bad thing for him to do. But he's got guts, because he shows up at most of our Party meetings. We're trying everything we can to try to support that young man because we hope he might help break through that barrier. I don't know that'll ever occur. Not in my lifetime.

HARTSOOK: That's OK. Can you give me a real brief analysis, your impressions of the character, contributions and importance of the following people? And we've talked about some of them. David Dows. He preceded you as state party chair.

SHOREY: I got to know him but he was often not here. His farm at Bradley was a part time home. In fact, there was a point at which I wasn't even sure he was a registered voter in the state because he was here so seldom. As I think I mentioned, he was a great friend of the then RNC
national chairman, Len Hall. In fact, he was from the same town in Long Island in Suffolk County. I think it was Len Hall, in those years, knowing that David had this farm down here; that encouraged David to get involved and see if he couldn't do something to help this struggling, fledgling party in the state. David had some money and he put some money into the effort. I'm trying to think of the circumstances under which how he became chairman. It's very vague in my mind. I do know that Frank Faux of Laurens, I mentioned him earlier, followed as the elected chairman. And Frank was one of the holdover old time Republicans. There were a half a dozen others as mentioned earlier. Tate Baggert from Barnwell, I mentioned him earlier. Red Wilson from Holly Hill. Mrs. Clara Palmer from Aiken County, etc. These were some folks that were some of the old line South Carolina Republicans that got their courage rejuvenated when we got things going. When Frank Faux got this appointment to U.S. Marshal, I was functioning in many ways as the acting chairman. I was formally elected early in March of '58 in convention.

[Tape 3, Side 2 begins]

SHOREY: David gave us some needed credibility because of his being a big land owner and having some stature and wealth. But again, he had a carpetbagger image. Because he was not around much, I'm not sure just how actively he may have been involved in the process. When I became chairman, I remember seeing very little of him or having little occasion to ever be with him. I think he went back up to Long Island. He was not young; he was well on in years. I'm going to guess well into his seventies.

[Scanning the questions prepared for this interview] We covered past goals and assistance. We've talked about obstacles. I've talked about the law, restraining orders, attitude and the prejudices. We talked about how I came to step down as chairman. I talked about Bob
Chapman and why he finished out my term. He didn't stand for reelection at that point because by then the Midlands had become the center of Party leadership. It's interesting how the center of leadership has tended to shift. It [the Republican leadership] came out of the Piedmont to start with and that's where it was for about ten years. Then it moved into the Midlands for about ten years. Then it shifted back up into the Piedmont again with three successive Spartanburg people as state chairman. And now it's back into the Midlands area. But for some strange reason, even though some of our leadership and some of our best elected people, like Jim Edwards, have come out of the Low Country, that's not been true of Party chairmen. Very strange. Maybe they should consider it about their time.

Now, leadership transferred into the Midlands. We had Dr. Tucker Weston. You know he's on our [Heritage] Committee. And Charlie Boineau. And Drake Edens emerged as a leader. Gayle Averyt was among the Goldwater entry folks as I recall. His family owned Colonial Life Insurance Company in Columbia. Five or six years ago, that was sold that to Unum Provident, where he's on the board of directors. I suspect he probably got quite a nice deal out that because that was a pretty significant acquisition, by Unum out of Portland, Maine. Gayle was active in that he came in at about the same time that the Bill Workman effort got underway. Gayle was a relatively young man and a very generous contributor to the Party. What active participation he may have had beyond that, I'm not that certain. I think it was in large measure focused on the Richland/Lexington counties. He's been a loyal and faithful supporter of the Party ever since. I see him at the Silver Elephant banquets and he usually has an up-front table where the major donors are usually seated. I've been trying to get him to serve in my Committee’s Finance subcommittee.

HARTSOOK: OK. How about Drake Edens?
SHOREY: Certainly. Drake had a major impact on the Party and its growth. He was an enthusiast. He devoted a lot of time and energy to the effort. He and I had some serious disagreements at times. I think he, being part of the new breed, had some resentment about the 'old guard.'

HARTSOOK: He would have considered you old guard?

SHOREY: Oh absolutely, yes.

HARTSOOK: Would part of that be the Yankee background?

SHOREY: I think that had something to do with it. Perhaps some underlying resentment that I came in in the preceding ten years or so and did what a native South Carolinian should've done. I'm just second guessing here. Workman was, of course, his vehicle. He was among those instrumental in persuading Workman to make that Senate race that first time [in 1962]. It was Workman's level of credibility and stature that helped secure leadership for Drake. Now the Edens family had some prominence in and around Columbia, some in the real estate business and...

HARTSOOK: Edens Food Stores.

SHOREY: . . . Edens Food Stores. So the name was known. That certainly went a long way to assist him. I had to begin to curtail some of my efforts at that point and recommit to my
business after the Goldwater nomination in '64, in the interests of my own health situation. Drake is the only one of my successors who is no longer with us. I was pleased to be an honorary pallbearer at his funeral. His sister, Martha, later became our national committeewoman and a state election commissioner and continued Edens’ leadership.

You know the state's three parts. The Upstate folks were always considered to be the moneyed, run things kind of folks. There's always been some of that little conflict. The Sandhill or Midlands folks never particularly liked the influence from the Piedmont. The Low Country always felt that they never should've rejoined the Union anyhow. I remember going years and years ago to Henry's Restaurant [in Charleston], a great place.

HARTSOOK: Wonderful.

SHOREY: When you couldn't buy or serve liquor in South Carolina, you could go to Henry’s and get a drink. I remember asking the proprietor one time, "How in the world do you get away with this?" He said, "Sir, we never rejoined the Union. Those folks in Columbia know that. They don't bother us down here."

But I wouldn't take anything away from Drake because he certainly put a lot of heart and soul into the Workman campaign and his chairmanship. The Workman campaign enabled a lot of party building to take place. But the groundwork had been laid. The acceptability was there. We'd shucked a lot of the bad reputation. We were now considered to be a perfectly acceptable, viable political entity. The Goldwater candidacy certainly added tremendous credibility to all of that. They were beginning to see that there really was not a whole lot of difference between a South Carolina Democrat and a national Republican. We sang out of the same song book. Drake made significant contributions. No question.
W.W. "Duck" Wannamaker, he's on your list. Again Duck and I had some disagreements, even though he was my national committeeman, along with National Committeewoman Pat Barnes, who also needs to be noted. I think Duck has been overlooked in a lot of ways. He was a very effective national committeeman. Worked very hard at the job. And I can tell you that Wannamaker name was of tremendous assistance to what we were trying to do. The Wannamakers of Orangeburg were very highly regarded. There was another gentleman; his name needs to be noted, from Orangeburg, that worked hand in glove with Duck. A fellow by the name of W. T. C. Bates. Lovable guy. He was an older gentleman, but again one of the kind of little unsung party heroes.

I think Pat Barnes was another unsung party hero. There's an interesting segment in this new book about how she and New York’s Senator Jacob Javitz locked horns at a national convention. And she got the better of him by quoting out of a Nixon book. It was an amusing and interesting little sidelight. She was a tough, tough lady. She had gone to Ashley Hall School in Charleston, but she was a Yankee. Pat married a southern gentleman by the name of Dabney Barnes and a real gentleman. He ought to be down as an unsung hero. He never ran for anything. He never really held a party office, but he was always there with his pocketbook, his car, and help. Pat was a sharp national committeewoman. She didn't step aside for anybody. She had a lot of spunk. She was very articulate. She was a short, very attractive lady.

HARTSOOK: I was going to bring this up with Martha Edens, but it does seem like the Republican Party was much more open to women in leadership positions.

SHOREY: Oh and we had some outstanding women leaders, still do.
HARTSOOK: But do you agree though? That there was a distinct difference in the ability of women to have an impact.

SHOREY: I would not think so. Well not only that, but my gosh, look at the leadership we produced amongst the ladies. You can start with a Pat Barnes. You can start with . . .

HARTSOOK: Connie Armitage?

SHOREY: Yes, I want to talk about Connie Armitage. There's a real leader. A lot of people don't understand who Connie Armitage really is. You know she was in the OSS in World War II? Was captured behind enemy lines? Do you know that she was an Olympic fencing champion? That's she's a real academic? She's a Professor Emeritus at both Converse College and Wofford. She was our national committeewoman once we got into the Goldwater era. Of course encouraged, because [her husband] Dr. Norman C. Armitage worked for Milliken. In fact there's an Armitage Plant up in Spartanburg named after Connie's husband. They met on the U.S. Olympic fencing team. He died, unfortunately, early on. She remarried here some years back and now Connie's not in good health at all. But she went on to be president of the National Federation of Republican Women. She’s a great buddy of mine and I have worked very closely with Connie. I can't tell you the high regard I had for her.

But we produced some other leaders. Ann Morris, national committeewoman out of Richland. Edgar's wife. She was national committeewoman right after Pat Barnes, before Martha Edens. Edgar, Sr. lived in Washington, D.C. He was director of protocol during the Eisenhower years. Fascinating, debonair, worldly kind of a gentleman. Typical kind of a striped pants diplomat type. Suave as he could be. He would come down to some of our early meetings and
conventions on occasion. That was Edgar, Jr.’s dad. Probably met every world leader during the postwar years. He had wonderful stories. That was Earle Morris’ uncle. Earle is the only Democrat serving on the Heritage Committee [which is helping gather materials documenting the rise of the Republican Party for South Carolina Political Collections.]

After Ann, I believe then Martha followed in her footsteps. So there are four women in the early years of the Party. Four pretty powerful influential women and others have followed.

HARTSOOK: The spokes of the wheel. We've got two of those [collections]. [Martha Edens and the family of Ann and Edgar Morris have donated their papers to SCPC.]

SHOREY: We were going through some names and one of those was Dr. Ivey Eddings. I think she had a Ph.D. Brilliant woman, attractive, articulate. Talk about bearing. Ran her for state superintendent of education. I wish the heck she made it. She had credentials like you would not believe.

Yes, we produced some pretty powerful folks. You've got some pictures of some of these people. I gave you one group picture of some of the early party officers. That was quite an impressive group of people. I was awfully proud of all of them. This Party had really solid credentials in terms of active leadership.

An important point I should've made earlier, the one most impressive thing, Herb, was all through those years, I cannot think of a single one of those Party leaders that was in this effort for any personal gain. They weren't looking for anything. They weren't planning to run for an office. They weren't looking for any kind of an appointment. They were in it because they believed in the cause, willing to give their name, their time, their money and a heck of a lot of effort. Because we met quite frequently. I mean we didn't have many troops, but we could meet, and we
could encourage each other and reach out and get names and get counties organized. Time was necessary because we didn't have any paid staff like we have now. We didn't have any of the resources we now have. It’s difficult to reach out to forty-six counties around this state and do it on a part time, voluntary, basis. That’s a tough undertaking, the state - - yes, the nation owes a big debt to each of these earlier activists.

HARTSOOK: Give me one or two sentences on these other party chairs.

SHOREY: Harry Dent. Good friend, bright man. One of Strom's boys, as one of his favorite sons. Harry was devoted to Strom. He was a post-Goldwater entry. Jumped in as we now had momentum. Now I think he had some involvement back in his college days. At least he tells me he did, as did Lee Atwater. Lee was a post-Goldwater guy, as Harry was. He was part of this new breed that was now in command. I, of course, had now moved more to the background. I was a backbencher at this point. Unfortunately, Harry is in a retirement home, not well but I’ve read his personally inscribed book, written with his wife, Betty, Right vs. Wrong, on their religious commitment.

HARTSOOK: Different philosophies between the people that Goldwater brought into the Party and that people that came after?

SHOREY: I don't notice there any particular distinction. Because I think they still came in, in large measure, because of that influence, directly or indirectly. But we were still old guard to them. The power had shifted from the Upstate now and Dent was followed by leaders like Ray Harris of Darlington, who I think was an effective chairman. Ray did a good job organizationally.
And he's right there in the middle of the state. After Edens, we had Dent, Harris, and Ken Powell, young, Columbia attorney. Clearly representing almost a whole new generation of Republicans. I shouldn't make these judgments, but my impression is Ken was not quite as accomplished as was Ray Harris.

HARTSOOK: This is what we want. Because you, in a lot better way than most, can evaluate . . .

SHOREY: Well, maybe yes and maybe no, but you remember now that I'm less involved after 1964.

HARTSOOK: I understand.

SHOREY: I'm not perhaps quite as savvy or as observant. My impressions are that Dent made a lot of significant contributions. Of course [he], soon thereafter, got a White House post, because of his party efforts, but more importantly because he'd been so long associated with Strom, out of Strom's office.

And then Ray Harris came aboard and my impression there is that Ray did a lot to focus on building organization. Ray to this day is still actively involved. I think he's head of the economic development office In Darlington County. Ken has not been that active since his days as chairman unless he's done so locally. But he's communicated with me. When I was trying to get the past state chairman's association more active, Ken was helpful, but was not quite as eager as some of the others. Harris made the stronger impression of those three that followed Edens out the Midlands leadership. And, of course, as I mentioned then Dent went to the Nixon White
House. Unfortunately, we’ve lost contact with Van Hipp in Washington, who became assistant undersecretary of the Army.

Then I think we came to another era where the Party got another big bounce, and that's with the Edwards governorship. Another landmark event in the growth of the Party. And this brought a whole new level of participation. This is where Dan Ross came into the picture. Dan effectively led to Edwards’ effort. In the course of all this, kind of interestingly, here's Jim Edwards out of Charleston. His victory had a lot to do with the Party coming of age. The leadership leading up to that [came] out of the Midlands. But now the leadership shifts back to the Piedmont because, successively, you have Jess Cooksey then Dr. George Graham as chairman, both from Spartanburg, and later Barry Wynn, an effective chairman and fund raiser still active today.

HARTSOOK: Was Cooksey an effective chair?

SHOREY: Yes. All three Spartans were very effective, particularly in fund raising. They were good friends.

HARTSOOK: Cooksey was particularly warm and outgoing [at a meeting of the Heritage Committee which included a number of former party chairs].

SHOREY: Yes. Very friendly and, of course, in the insurance business you might imagine it because the salesman in him comes out. He was such a likable guy. It's hard for me to judge. George [Graham was], more aloof, but a good money raiser. Of course, a fellow dental surgeon, to Edwards, and very effective over Jim’s years as governor. But I can't draw a significant
comparison between the effectiveness of Cooksey and Graham. But you know there’s another
that came out in the middle of all of that that we ought not to be discounting. While not what I
would call a local party activist, he was very generous in terms of financial assistance, that was
Fred Dent of Spartanburg.

[Tape 4 begins]

SHOREY: Fred was a good friend of Roger’s. He was president of Mayfair Mills in
Spartanburg. Now, we had Chapman Mills and Milliken Mills and Mayfair Mills and the reason
these are of so much significance is that most of the other textile execs were all Democrats and
big supporters of the Democratic Party, particularly of Fritz Hollings. And here were these few
breakaways. They represented independent mills and individually family owned, i.e., Inman,
Chapman, Milliken obvious[ly], and Mayfair, Dent. . . . Dent went to Yale with George Bush
[Sr]. And it didn’t take long before Fred got involved, was writing checks, and ended up as
Secretary of Commerce under [presidents] Nixon and Ford. One of the few, by the way, members
of the Cabinet that served two presidents. The McKissicks of Alice Mills and Walter
Montgomery of Spartan Mills followed later.

When you put all of that together, I guess you can understand why leadership tended [to
be drawn from] Spartanburg. Even though Spartanburg, historically, was a Democrat stronghold,
because it was always considered to be a “redneck” town, heavily textile oriented. Only in the
last dozen to fifteen years has it become a Republican stronghold. But, historically, to think that
we’d get any votes out of Spartanburg was not where we thought we had much strength. But there
was lots of leadership there. The Selfs of Greenwood and other textile leaders were not evident.
Some of this is pointed out in the book, Uncommon Victory by Clyde Shirley of Anderson
[detailing James Edwards' gubernatorial campaign of 1974]. That's going to be a great source and there's a lot of names in that book, even though some of those folks aren't around anymore. I think that book addresses this next jump off stage of party growth. The Edwards campaign began to really solidify more local party activity, strengthening us at the county and precinct levels. Dan Ross and the party leadership really helped us to come of age. We've gotten a full time headquarters. We had some paid executive directors that we could now afford to bring and help run the party mechanism. And you've got a lot of those names. I have several of them on my [Heritage] committee. Gay Suber was one of the earliest and good at it among others. They'll be a huge resource for information and material. They helped to accelerate the party building because now you've got people devoting full time to communicating, writing letters, setting up meetings, and going around from county to county, going out and raising money, and doing the kind of things that you got to do to build a party.

I was not amongst the early Edwards supporters. Two reasons. I had just sold my manufacturing business. I had spent one year in New York. I never changed my South Carolina voting registration by the way. Came back, and I ended up as president of the apparel division of Riegel Textile Corporation. That's when the initial Edwards move was going on, but I had favored the Westmoreland group [General William C. Westmoreland was courted by both parties when he returned to South Carolina on his retirement. He sought the Republican nomination for governor in 1974 but lost to James B. Edwards]. There was a lot of Westmoreland involvement by old Citadel grads who were friends of mine that induced me to become a ‘Westy’ supporter.

HARTSOOK: Westmoreland’s father had been a textile man.

SHOREY: Not only that, but I'm figuring, at the time, here's another Eisenhower almost. I
mean he's a former commanding general, Vietnam hero, big, handsome, square-jawed, Goldwater-type. I figured he's going to be tough to beat. Jim [Edwards was] a dental surgeon from Charleston, was, after all, just a legislator. But as I got to know Jim, and had known Jim's brother, who was a dentist in Greenville, I was soon on Edward's bandwagon. But at that point, I know I had to play a very low key role because I had great uncertainty of what my position politically was within the Riegel Textile organization. I knew that the chairman of the board, Bill Reid, who'd really hired me, would take a very dim view of any Republican activity. He was thought to be a Democrat. I wasn't sure where Bob Coleman stood. I later found that Bob was a good Republican and was often given a bad time by the chairman of the board because of it. But Bob Coleman, a long time Riegel executive, was in a lot more secure position in that company than I was. I was a newcomer. And by the way, didn't know one end of a textile loom from another, but they hired me as a marketing man primarily. The Edwards period is well chronicled in the book *Uncommon Victory*.

HARTSOOK: Let me add one more name to that list. What do you think Jimmy Byrnes did to help the Republican Party in the earliest days?

SHOREY: When he came out for Nixon, it gave us a huge boost. I was mighty impressed to have Byrnes now endorsing my candidate. I gave you a picture of me on the reviewing platform in front the state capital in the 1960 Nixon rally with Miss Maude and Jimmy Byrnes on that platform along with Bobby Richardson of New York Yankee fame, all-star ballplayer from Sumter. The Roger Millikens, W.W. Wannamaker, Pat Barnes, the Nixons, Billy Graham and Mrs. Graham, you know that's pretty heavy support. On another occasion, I remember going to the Sumter at the Air Force Base on an occasion when Nixon came through on Air Force One.
Byrnes went down to greet him. On another occasion, Nixon was on his way over to the Kentucky Derby, but he wanted to stop off in Columbia to pay his respects to Mr. and Mrs. Byrnes. Aboard were cabinet officials, senators, etc. To remember Byrnes’ birthday and wedding anniversary occurred simultaneously, Nixon flew into Columbia. It was supposed to be a surprise. People really went to work, got out a couple of high school bands that were hidden on back streets in the neighborhood where the Byrnes hopefully wouldn't see or hear them. Nixon had Air Force One loaded with many senators and congressmen and VIP's land at the Columbia airport. With security a big thing and the Secret Service in full force. There were designated drivers, and I happened to be one of them. My son was at USC at the time and he and a bunch of college guys came to the airport as part of the crowd.

I remember I was assigned Illinois Senator Everett Dirksen and his wife, to follow the Nixon motorcade with state and city police escort, to go to Byrnes’ home and pay their respects to Jimmy Byrnes. The band appeared as we appeared. But what was funny, Dirksen always wanted marigolds as the national flower. The motorcade went right by the front of the state capital, and at about that point Nixon stopped the motorcade [and] jumped out of the car to shake hands. And of course the Secret Service went nuts. But as we sat there, Dirksen and his wife were in the back seat, he looks at the plantings around the state house grounds, and he makes some comment, "By God, there's no marigolds." When we got to Byrnes' house, I ushered them in the front door. And instead of greeting Byrnes and wishing him a happy birthday, he said, "Governor, there are no marigolds on your state house grounds." So Byrnes said to me, [in a whisper] "Get on the phone to the Capitol building. Get the groundskeeper to get some of those flowers. Plant them out in front of the state house, right now." [laughter] I said, "Yes sir." So while this reception's going on in the rest of the house, I'm in Byrnes’ kitchen on the phone. And I said, "I'm calling for Governor Byrnes." "Who are you sir?" "I'm telling you, I'm calling for Governor Byrnes." I am
in his home as we speak, da da da da da da." The reception's breaking up and the bands are playing, and I'm getting the Dirksens back on my assigned car. Back by the state capital building, I almost slowed to a stop. I said, "Senator I think you may have been looking at the wrong side of the Capitol building, sir. Are those . . . ?" He said, "By God, I overlooked my flowers."[laughter] And, sure enough, they had put a quick bed of these flowers out front. They were still in the pots.

But I remember on that occasion when we were loading up to leave the airport, the Secret Service, and state police were everywhere. I spotted my son right at the edge of the crowd, and he's waving. Dirksen says, "Who is that young man?" I said, "That's my son. He goes to college here." He said, "Wait a minute." Old Dirksen goes over and shakes his hand and talks to him. He said, "Would you like to ride with us." He said, "No sir, I can't because I'm with a bunch of college guys." "It should be all right if you want to just jump in the car here with us." The secret service interceded, but my son always remembered that occasion.

I consider Byrnes probably one of the great statesmen. How many have served as congressman, senator, governor, Supreme Court justice, Secretary of State? And assistant to the president?

HARTSOOK: Well, now you get to answer the question I always end up with. Are there any questions I should've asked you and didn't know enough to [ask]? Anything that we didn't cover that you want to be in this record?

SHOREY: I don't know. What possessed me to do what I did when I did? What was I doing on the rostrum of the 1960 Republican National Convention in San Francisco on national television delivering the seconding address right behind Congressman John Rhodes and Arizona Governor Paul Fanan's nomination of Goldwater? Me, seconding the nomination of a United
States senator running for president of the United States? A New England boy at thirty-six years of age as chairman of the South Carolina delegation standing up there seconding a presidential nomination; not a man of means or influence, just a plain guy. A bosun's mate first class in the United States Navy for three years. Though I did manage to get through pre-flight school near the end of the war.

But what I think this says is that any person who wants to get involved can have influence, probably of some significance. . . . There's an inscription in front of one of those Goldwater biographies, he says [inscribed], "Greg you made it all happen. Your friend, Barry." I didn't make it all happen, but I feel that I played an instrumental part in helping to make it happen. And it just happened that a Goldwater came along. The right voice, the right thinking, the right personality, at the right time, which history often allows to have happen. I probably view with both some pride and amazement the books claiming that I was the “poster boy for the New South.” I didn't know about that, but maybe I was, for whatever reason.

The second part of that is- -what in the world possesses me here, fifty years later, to still be involved? Still with some of the same concerns and enthusiasm, i.e., as a member the county executive committee, etc. I go back to the time we began organized Republican efforts back in '52. I've been a member of an executive committee in two different counties and at the state level, without exception, for more than fifty years. I'm saying to myself, and Betty reminds me now and again, who else do you know that's done all that you have done for so long. I don't know of anybody. There're some still active colleagues that contribute, but perhaps not on an uninterrupted basis for a half a century.

Now why do I do it? I'm now a Beaufort County election commissioner. [Mrs. Shorey] figured out, she's officiated as pole manager in every election in this state, primaries or general elections or special elections, since 1954.
So what's our motivation? Good night, we don't need any of this. I could be out there playing golf. If I really think about that Herb, there's two things. I must be getting some personal satisfaction out of it. I feel maybe that something is getting accomplished or I contributed to something getting accomplished. I go back to what I told you early on. It was probably that statement that my dad made when I was twelve. Regarding government, you can leave it alone, but it won't leave you alone. I just feel that my involvement, quite indirectly, made government just a little bit more responsive, just a little more responsible, just a little better in serving the communities in which I have lived, including my country. Maybe I've helped to save a few tax dollars somewhere; maybe we indirectly influenced a piece of legislation that may not have been considered in quite the same way, or with the same outcome.

I have to believe that some that have run for office and succeeded, that I had something to do with what they contributed. I can go back through a whole series of persons that have served and are now serving. . . . I can talk about Carroll Campbell, who was in my Sunday school class for years at our church. He was an acolyte and I was the acolyte warden. Carroll may have even gotten into politics without my encouragement. I got him into the Charlie Bradshaw race for the Fourth District congressional seat when he was a sophomore in high school. I think this experience had something to do with the fact that he thought politics was something he would like to pursue. Terry Haskins knew that I was not a big fan of the fundamentalists out of Bob Jones University, because I thought that their halo slips quite often. But Terry came to me when he first thought about going to run for city council in Greenville. And I told him I thought he was going to make a mistake. How wrong I was. He became House Speaker Pro Tem, right?

David Wilkins’ dad, "Bum" Wilkins, was my attorney when I was in business. His brother, Billy, is a federal judge and David is Speaker of the House. Pretty effective Speaker, I think.
David Thomas. Now a state senator and going to run for lieutenant governor. He was in the printing business and I gave him a lot of business. He came to me when he first thought about running for office.

Bob Inglis came to me when he first thought about running for Congress. I said, "Bob you haven't run for anything." Next thing I knew I was his first finance chairman. He's going to run again by the way. He's going to swap off with Congressman Jim DeMint, who for a time was my oldest daughter's next door neighbor. I know Jim Miles probably wouldn't acknowledge that I had anything to do with him running for office, but I was a friend of Jim's and encouraged Jim's active participation in the Greenville County Republican Party before his divorce and move to Columbia. I helped him run his first campaign.

I can run off a whole long list of people that have run or perhaps would have run even without even having known me, but ran never the less. Maybe I had some indirect influence. I have been in touch with some who are legislators to get some things fixed in this election process, the ballot style and registration by party. I don't know whether I'm going to succeed at it. Charlestonian John Graham Altman, of the South Carolina House (my granddaughter was married to his stepson for a while) is a helpful contact. I got a call the other night from our county administrator, to consult with me. We've got a payroll problem in our county where there's a lot of nepotism going on, and he wanted to find out what we could do to deal with that. He wanted me to make a few calls. We will have a meeting in the next few days to deal with this.

Billy Keyserling served in the legislature. Ran as a Democrat. Ran the next time as an independent because he knew otherwise what the Republicans were going to do to him. When he left Remax to start his own agency, he came to me and said, "Greg, I want your help to get my business up and running. Help me with my Caldwell Banker relationship." In fact Billy's mom [Harriet Keyserling], whom you're going to be with shortly, has said to me, "I don't know how
you and Billy get along so well.” But we do. I have a lot of respect for him because he's a bright fellow. He's a good marketer. But we're of complete opposite persuasions politically. At the early stages of business he probably called me two or three nights a week. Plus, I'd meet with him regularly. I've debated his mother a time or two. Well, maybe not debate. We appeared on the same platform to talk about our respective political points of view and obviously they're dramatically different. But I respect her as a very bright lady. She's a regular op ed letter to the editor contributor.

HARTSOOK: She writes beautifully.

SHOREY: Oh, yes, and very persuasively. There aren't many issues on which she and I agree. But I respect the fact that she speaks up.

HARTSOOK: I think she has a rare ability to talk about really complex issues and make them understandable without making them black and white. She still shows all the gray.

SHOREY: My political interest continues and probably always will as long as I feel that there's something to be contributed. Did I ever think about running for office? I was asked a number of times. But never, never had the inclination. Glad to help the other guy. Glad to make sure there was a party there that was financed and organized, and able to be of some help to them. Even though it is a grave concern of mine whether political parties are going to survive. I honestly have a real concern that either one of the two parties will survive given all the apathy and the way things are going.

The only accolades I've ever got were a few plaques. And that's fine. I haven't looked for
anything. Has it cost me a whole lot? Yes, probably a lot of business. A lot of money. But, I still give. There's a check that goes to the state Republican Party every year. I helped get the silver elephant program going years ago. I feel honor bound to continue to support it. So they get that check, and so does the Congressional Campaign Committee, Senatorial Campaign Committee, presidential task force, and the RNC every year. I just contributed a family membership to our county party. And the young lady that took my check the other night she said, "Mr. Shorey this is for ten dollars more than needs to be." I said, "That's how I want it." And she said, "I haven't been on this job long, but somehow or other I see your name pretty consistently on this list, year after year. And I said, "Well, that's because I believe in what we're trying to do." And, by the way, believe just as fervently in what the Democrats are trying to do. Disagree, yes. But God forbid that we don't have a viable, functioning second party. I am absolutely dead set against third, fourth, fifth, and sixth parties, because a multiple party system will absolutely spell our death knell. Multi-party systems won't work in this free republic as government only by compromise.

[Tape 4, Side 2 begins]

SHOREY: I don't think the average citizen understands the difference between a democracy and a republic, most don't realize that we are indeed a representative republic. We are a republican form of government. Often, legislators don't have the courage or the guts to make their own decisions, which is what they're supposed to do. They too often revert to referenda to let the people speak. That's nonsense. That is not the way the system's designed to work. They are there as our representatives to represent their constituency and to act as they believe that constituency would want them to act and in conjunction with what is in the best interest of society
constitutionally. This is not an open pure democracy. That is not what the Founding Fathers had in mind.

This lottery question is somewhat of an example of that abdication and I think one day we're going to rue the day we rely on gambling to finance schools. I'm not speaking from a moralistic standpoint at all. Now, I'm going to sound a little cynical. I don't have frankly a lot of confidence in the voting public because of their inbred apathy. The fact that they can be easily induced to support particular candidates or causes because they’ve been sold just like one does cornflakes and beer. Having been a marketeer all of my life, I happen to know that given enough money and enough imagination, the public can get sold on most anything. Politically, voters are so apathetic and incomprehensible, I fear what they can be sold. We have a very gullible electorate. I can tell you from half a century of intimate experience including my service as an election commissioner, that the average voter, when they walk into that polling place, does not have a clue of what they're about to do or consider the consequences of their vote.

HARTSOOK: Don't they say something like fifty percent make up their mind in the booth?

SHOREY: It may be higher than that and only one third of those eligible are even registered to vote and even a smaller percentage bothers to vote. Perhaps that’s a relief.

HARTSOOK: It's some just astounding percentage.

SHOREY: And worse, voters generally don't have the remotest conception of the consequences of what they have just done. I don't care if it's a referenda question or someone
they just voted for. That's frightening.

The move toward making the registration process more lenient, and making the voting process more lenient is a dangerous, dangerous move. My view is that an uninformed voter is far more dangerous than any subversion that we might face. An uninformed electorate poses all manner of danger.

The Motor Voter Act is proving to be a major disaster. The voting records in this state are in deplorable condition. You know it takes over three years to get a dead person off the rolls. The opportunities for voter fraud are frightening.

The idea of providing the opportunity to vote by picking up your telephone as I've seen demonstrated and punching in some numbers on a ballot that you'll see on your TV screen or by Internet is absolutely frightening to me. This mail in ballot concept like the state of Oregon has, is equally frightening to me. You talk about uninformed voters; you talk about opportunity for fraud. My word.

Someone said, well what's the answer? In the extreme, I think that the voter ought to have to go through some very stringent requirements. It's a huge responsibility. It's not a right--it's a privilege. There's a difference there. And that privilege is being subverted by the innocent as well as for planned reasons.

I’ve been asked, “Well, how would you want it?” I said, "Not only should voter qualifications be stiffened, but in addition to that, what you have to go through to cast a vote should be somewhat painful.” Someone said, "What do you want them to do? Crawl on their hands and knees for at least three miles to get to the polling place." I said, "You know, that may not be a bad idea." Because when they got there, by George, they'd take that ballot with a lot more seriousness that they do now. A lot more seriousness. They would be going there with an avowed, predetermined purpose. And that ain't happening and that's got me scared. The
gullibility and ignorance of voters is a concern.

I just think we've got to start facing up to some of this or we could have some real anarchy. We could have some very serious outcomes. And I think that we're beginning to see signs of it. I don't want to go back and look at the Clinton situation again. Thank God it's behind us. But I think there are some things that are happening that the public simply does not know what they have just done to themselves. And that's a concern. Involvement is the answer.

[Interview Ends]