

Interview with Quentin Borba

Conducted by Dean Bones and Students

April 23, 2002

Student: *Please state your name and the date.*

QB: Quentin Borba, and April the 23rd, 2002.

Student: *Please tell the name of the grade school you attended and describe, if you can, the exact location of the school.*

DB: *Now, this is going to be a little different, because Quentin went both to Brown and to Beaver, so I think, let's always answer first for Brown...*

QB: Brown School... uh, ya, it's up.... there was eight of us in eight grades... all eight grades... one teacher for uh... and I had two teachers in the four years that I went there... the first two was Miss Quinn, and the last two was Myra Costa...

And in Beav... and then I went to Beaver School, is five through eight... uh, I think, if I remember right there was about thirty-two students... uh, with one through eight... uh, I had one teacher for the four years... was Erma Gilbert.

DB: *So you were at Brown for grades one through four and you were at Beaver for five through eight.*

QB: Five through eight, uh, huh (yes)

Student: *If you have any idea when the school started and/or closed, please tell us.*

QB: The Brown School was built in 1924... uh, and they consolidated with Beaver ... had to be in 1942... uh, and then my folks bought the school and made a home out of it.

Uh, when the Beaver school was built, that I do not know.

Student: *Please describe the school building in as much detail as you can, telling us about the outside and the inside of the building.*

DB: *So, if you can, describe Brown School for us.*

QB: Brown School was... uh, we had to go up approximately about eight or nine steps to get into it... uh, just one big room... uh, the woodshed was out back, the play shed was off to the side... uh, then we had to down to the spring... uh, that I took students to last year... to get water every morning to bring up to school. Uh, no inside facilities... uh, boys' restroom was way down on one corner and the girls' was away off to the side to the other.

DB: *So they weren't close to the building?*

QB: No, no, no...

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DB: *Ooooh...*

QB: Probably, uh... at least as far as from here to the fire hall.

DB: *Hmm.. and at that time... now, Quentin, there's trees all over..*

QB: Right.

DB: *But at the time, was it cleared off?*

QB: It was all clear.. Ya, because it was all pasture... uh, except out from behind, it was... it was timber... but everything above the school and east of the school was all pasture, because cows... there was approximately... uh, I'm gonna' say... uh, a acre and a half that was fenced for the school yard.

DB: *Hmm... Ok, and then for Beaver when you came... was it the sch... it wasn't... was it the school out by the highway?*

QB: It was the old school.

DB: *OK.*

QB: It was the old school.

DB: *And it had two rooms in it?*

QB: Two rooms. Uh, Thelma Warmoth taught one through four and Erma Gilbert is five through eight.

DB: *OK, now as.. as we walk in the front door of the building... open up the front doors and you walk in, what is there?*

QB: Uh, in the old school?

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)*

QB: Uh, walked up onto the porch and just a wall that divided the two rooms.

DB: *So when you walked inside... were you in like an entryway?*

QB: Just... no... well, ya, there was a small hall in front, clear across, and then you went into each room.

DB: *Clear across the front of the school?*

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QB: Clear across, ya.

DB: *OK, and then there was... on the right side was...*

QB: Five through eight.

DB: *And then how did you get to the...*

QB: There was... well, you walked in, and you're... and you're... I'm gonna' say a deck... uh, and then you went into the room over here.. the door over on the left hand side, and go into the room one through four.

DB: *Well, wasn't one of the rooms behind the other one?*

QB: No, no...

DB: *Ooooh..*

QB: Well, uh, it's hard to explain... say we were facing that wall and that was the school, when you walked up on the deck, that yellow over there I'd go into the one room and the yellow over here I would go into the other room.

DB: *OK.. ok*

QB: And then, the woodshed was out behind in that, too.

DB: *What about bathrooms?*

QB: Ya..

DB: *Were they in the building?*

QB: No... out... outside the building.

DB: *And, you said there was a woodshed... did the kids have to bring the wood in?*

QB: No... nope. I don't know who the janitor was... and they had the.. we called them pot bellied stoves... the big, old stoves that was about so high...

DB: *In each room?*

QB: In each room.

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DB: Now, when Betty Schulmerich was here, and I don't know where she is in relation to age with you... was she older than you?

QB: Behind me.

DB: *Behind you.*

QB: Uh, huh (yes)

DB: *She mentioned that whoever got to school first, uh, built the fire, and sometime she did, so ...*

QB: Well, see they.... there was a hole in the fence out there, and they just come right from the house, and come right over to the school.

DB: *Any other questions about the building that you kids want to ask? Do you remember Beaver having a bell?*

QB: Nope.

DB: *Was there a stage in the school?*

QB: Nope.

DB: *No stage. And, running water in the building?*

QB: Uhhhh...

DB: *Somebody thought they remembered a drinking fountain or something...*

QB: Boy, you know... that's one thing I can't remem... but there must have been a drink... must... we must have had a... must have been at least one out on the deck, probably.

Student: *Was there a bell at Brown School?*

QB: Yes, and that is the same bell that's in the Beaver Church down here right now.

DB: *We should all go down and ring it at some point.*

Student: *Please tell us from where to where the students lived who went to the school.*

QB: Brown School, we all walked. Any... uh, the Rowlands lived up on my grandparents' old homestead, and they had to walk ... what is that? I think it's three miles one way,... uh, if not four...

DB: *Now, where would that have been?*

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QB: Up Battle Lake, where Battle Lake is now.

DB: *My, ok.*

QB: And the Haynes'... uh, Joe Haynes, and he had to come about a mile... uh, I and my brother went a little over a quarter of a mile, and then the Lobbs went about ... uh, three quarters of a mile. But we all walked.

DB: *Hmmm.. so the Rowlands. So that would have been ... uh, Lorraine's family or..*

QB: Yep, ya. When they were kids. Yep.

DB: *Ok. And you mentioned wha... last year, when you mentioned about Joe Haynes, that he actually had crutches...*

QB: He... Crutches, uh, huh (Yes)

DB: *All his life?*

QB: Yes, I think... I think he was born with polio... or, I mean, had polio when he was young... ya, and he had crutches until he went to high school, and then he used... usually used a cane. *(Note that Joe Haines never had polio. See Joseph Haines interview transcript for more information. db)*

DB: *Hmm.. and what... ok, so the boundaries for Brown School then were all the way up Bays Creek or Borba Road, and far down? Were they down Blaine Road at all?*

QB: Ya... well, it took in where ... uh... it took in over there by the sixth bridge, Jones' place... where used to be Jones' place, I don't know who lives there now... but Kepke lives there... in the Ma... what we call the old Magarell place, uh.... but, and the...

DB: *The Shippee place...*

QB: Uh, huh (yes)

DB: OK

QB: Uh, huh (yes)... and ... and then Jones'... Gwe.. where Gwen and them lived... and then that was the cutoff there, and... 'cause everybody else then went to Blaine and uh... then it come down to uh... about where Pieren is now. So it would be...

DB: *So not even to where you're living now.*

QB: No.

DB: *Where did they go... to Wolf Creek?*

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QB: No, they went to Beaver.

DB: Beaver.

QB: Ya...

DB: Really.

QB: Well, they went... they went to Wolf Creek years ago, and then, and then... and then, transferred to Beaver.

DB: What about Boulder Creek? Was it still in... in operation when you were going to Brown School?

QB: Uh... ya... no... ya... because just after I come to Beaver consoli... er, Brown consolidated with Beaver, then Boulder consolidated with Beaver.

DB: Oh.

QB: Because the bus they had would go up there first and come up and get me next.

DB: So that's a question then for Beaver, is how did people get to school here, at Beaver school?

QB: Uh... I think most of them walked, but then we had a... a... a bus that hauled us ever... from up there and picked the kids up all the way down...

DB: Was it an actual bus?

QB: (Chuckle) Uh, what would be a station wagon now, with a wooden bench on each side...

DB: So, we have a picture of a black panel truck that hauled people to Beaver... uh, Janelle Jones Flat sent that to us, I think... was that...

QB: Well, see the one that hauled me was uh, McPherson, and it was a... I can remember... it was a brown Dodge...

DB: Really... maybe that's ... when you see the pictures today, and I know you've some of them already, maybe you can tell if that's the one you rode in.

QB: Ya.

DB: So it wasn't an actual bus, then, at that time...

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QB: No, actually it was... (laugh) about what would be a station wagon now, but then there was no windows on the side, and just the doors in the back, you know... and you crawled in the front, by the... the front seat was out, and crawled in front...

DB: *What was that like to ride in that? Do you remember the feeling of riding in the back of that... you couldn't see out...*

QB: You couldn't see out, only out through the windshield. Ya. (Laughing)

DB: *And was it full of kids?*

QB: Uh, no, there was only, uh... well, let's see... (counting) about six of us, seven of us.

DB: *Was that only the kids from Brown School that rode in that?*

QB: No, no... because he picked up all of them then that went to Beaver.. picked them up coming down, see.

DB: *I see... interesting.*

Student: *Please tell us the time that school started each day and when it was dismissed.*

QB: Uh, school started at eight o'clock, and we didn't get out until three thirty.

DB: *And was that Brown and Beaver?*

QB: Yep... yep.

DB: *OK*

Student: What were the days during the year students didn't attend school, such as Christmas?

DB: *So, which... which days did you not come?*

QB: Uh... Christmas and... Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years.

Student: *Please tell us about a typical school day, from the moment you left home to go to school to when you arrived back at home in the afternoon.*

QB: Uh....

DB: *Let's think of Brown, first. You're stepping out of your home, and then what?*

QB: And walk to school, and at eight o'clock... uh, and.. you knew what your assignment was... uh, like it would... that, maybe the first was.. usually the first was spelling to all the classes, then it was,

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uh... arithmetic, or geography, or history, and they'd come at a certain time and you went to the teacher, uh... up to the front of the room, whatever class you was in, and, uh.. done your... your lesson. Uh, and the same way when I come to Beaver. Uh...The fifth grade would... uh, usually, uh... everybody would have... uh, writing the first... and then from then on one grade would maybe would have math for, say, a half an hour, and then the next class up would... would maybe have English, or history, and so... but you had certain times during the day that you went and sat at the teacher's desk and went through it.

DB: *Could you hear what the other people were learning?*

QB: Uh, huh (no).. very seldom... because you had your mind on your next lesson that was coming up and it'd better be done! (Laughing)

DB: *Now, Shirley Lobb Blanchard mentioned that she could... the bell rang a little bit before school started, and if you were walking, you knew that you might have to hurry or something?*

QB: Yep, yep

DB: *About how long before school started?*

QB: Seem like to me that they rang it about ten minutes before hand, and then they always rang it at noon..

DB: *Oh..*

QB: When they... For lunch, and then at... and then when they started class back up again.

DB: *So they rang it at lunch, or they rang it... then, ok, when recess was over, then they rang it.*

QB: Yep, yep.

DB: *What about at the end of the day? Did they warn parents that you were coming home?*

QB: Nope, no.. (Laughing)

DB: *OK... all right. So down here, if they didn't... if there wasn't a bell at Beaver, did the teachers have a hand bell to ring?*

QB: They... a little hand bell... uh, have a handle about so long, you know. Jingle outside... and if, uh, like this time of year, if we was outside, they'd just yell at us, you know.

DB: *OK*

QB: Yep.

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Student: *Tell us about the regular curriculum.*

DB: *Actually, he just did. He... he kinda' told you what they studied in school, so let's go on to the next one.*

Student: *Tell about any extracurricular activities, like sports, clubs, etc.*

QB: *Uh.... basketball was all we had... when I ... only when I come to Beaver, not up Brown... uh, 'cause there's never enough kids to... but in... but Beaver had... we had a... uh, basketball, and we played, uh, Hebo and Pleasant Valley. And I got the scars on my knees to prove from Pleasant Valley because what is part of the grange hall now... all of you, you go to Tillamook, you get to Pleasant Valley and see Pleasant Valley Grange... part of that was a gym at one time, and they had can lids nailed over the knot holes that was in the floor, and you'd dive for a ball...*

DB: *Oooo..*

QB: *... and the rough spot, and I've got scars on my knees to show... (laughing)...*

DB: *So that was the school, was the Pleasant Valley Grange?*

QB: *Ya, what is...*

DB: *Now, we just talked to Pearl Dawson Kiser, who didn't remember sports teams, but she was after you by quite a ways, wasn't she?*

QB: *Ya, ya...*

DB: *So, I wonder if then, if it stopped at that point... so you actually competed... wha... was it just seventh and eighth, or sixth, seventh and eighth...?*

QB: *No, it was... it was, uh... fourth... uh, or five, six, seven and eight, because, uh, it took the whole... that whole bunch to get ... to have a team, you know. And we'd only play, maybe two or three games each way, you know, and then that would be it. Ya..*

DB: *Did a lot of people go to see the games?*

QB: *Nope, nope....*

DB: *Parent or anything...?*

QB: *Nope, uh, huh (no)*

DB: *How did you get to those games?*

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QB: They... well, whoever would.. usually volunteer to haul us, the mothers or dads of some of the students, you know...

DB: *OK*

Student: *Was there much homework?*

QB: Uh... no, because usually... you usually done your... because you knew your lesson that day what you had to have done the next day... there'd be a little homework... some of the.. some of the students maybe was... uh, would, but I was a little more lucky... I very seldom every had to take any work home.

DB: *It sounds like you had time to work while the teacher was working with the other kids.*

QB: Uh... other... ya, ya..

Student: *If someone misbehaved at school, what were some of the punishments?*

QB: Hah, you stayed at your desk.. You did not leave.

DB: *Could you just get up and wander at any time?*

QB: No way!

DB: *No.*

QB: You had better raise a hand and ask permission.

DB: *So was there any, uh, punishment, like spanking, or slapping of hands, or anything...*

QB: My teacher didn't... uh, Thelma Wormoth, she'd go... she would pop the kids on the back of the hand with a ruler, you know...

DB: *OK*

QB: But, uh, you... I think then... uh, Mrs. Gilbert had a way of confronting you... you... it was never in front of the class, it was always outside, and uh, or out on the deck, you know, and probably from, I would call it a bawling out, was probably worse than what a spanking would be.

DB: *OK. Do you remember any specific incidents of people who were disciplined, or any stories you might share on that?*

QB: Boy, it's hard, because I'll tell you what...

DB: *It's been a while.*

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QB: Ya, and, and, uh, you know, you didn't say anything back to a teacher or anybody, uh, you know, uh,

DB: OK

QB: ... you might say it, uh, if, but... the difference between school then and now, ninety-eight percent of the students would be sitting in the classroom all day.

DB & QB: *(laughing)*

Student: *How were the parents involved in discipline for school behavior?*

DB: So, if.. if a student got in trouble at school, do you think the parents would have cared?

QB: *Well, yes, because when you got... usually it would be known if you got in trouble in school, it wasn't near what you was gonna' get when you got home.*

Student: *Please tell about technology in the school. In other words, was there a telephone?*

QB: No telephones. No electricity. There was electricity when it come to Beaver, but not at Brown School.

DB: *What did you do for light if it was a dark day?*

QB: The... well, there the day... they had lots of windows in it.. but you used the, uh, the old Aladdin lamp, you know....

DB: *Where would it... would it actually sit on your desk, or...*

QB: No, it sat... but... usually all... because there wasn't that many students going to, like to the Brown School, and you'd all sit the full length of the windows, clear along one side in... so you'd always... be sitting right along there, see.

DB: *Oh...*

Student: *What did the students write with?*

QB: Pencils, is all... well, and the old... you don't see 'em any more, uh... 'cause all the old desks had an inkwell and a ink bottle in it.. and it was a straight fountain pen... not a fountain pen, a straight pen, period.

DB: *Would you suck the ink up?*

QB: Nope, just dip it in there.

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DB: *Oh... and, and Quentin, I don't know... maybe you said this, but when did you start Brown School, in first grade, what year was that?*

QB: Twenty-eight and six would be, what.... thirty-four?

DB: *Ok... just to get an idea of when it was.*

Student: *What would it happen if a student was hurt at school, or if there was some other emergency?*

DB: *So, you had no phones... what would happen?*

QB: No, well the teacher... uh, I don't ever remember anybody gettin' other than a scratch or somethin'... but I 'spose that they would always make sure that.. that uh, somebody... another student or somebody would take you to their home, you know..

Student: *Please tell about any emergencies you remember.*

DB: *He said he didn't remember any.*

QB: No... any.. uh, huh (no)

Student: *Was the community involved in the school, and was there a parent support club? Tell about any programs held for the public and tell how the building was used for community functions.*

QB: No... no, uh, the only time that parents was involved was like at Christmas, at programs, you know.

DB: *Where did you have... like, at Brown, then, was there a stage at Brown?*

QB: Nope, nope... you just had it on the... 'cause they always had a curtain... they had a curtain clear across the front, you know, on wires... ya...

DB: *Really?*

QB: Ya... and see, teach... see you'd ... uh, teachers ... uh, teachers taught on warrants...

DB: *Which means...*

QB: When people paid their taxes, then the teachers got paid.

DB: *And if they didn't pay their taxes?*

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QB: Well, teacher... well, the...by the end of the year, people always had... you know, there'd be enough money that the... course, uh... I don't know what teacher's salaries were then, but they wouldn't be near what they are now.

DB: *I know. So it's possible they might not get a monthly salary.*

QB: Could be... could be... ya, ... but, see there was no... there wasn't a... the smaller schools like that, there wasn't the budget process that went into it now, because, they got ... so much money was allotted each district with... according to the taxes that was paid... well, the teacher got a certain percent of that, and the rest of it went for... uh, to hold back for, uh... I 'spose for... to hold back for repairs and stuff for the school. And all I can ever remember is anybody always talking about school clerk, you know...

DB: *So, at Beaver, when you put on a program, was it just in one of the classrooms?*

QB: No, uh, the Christmas program we always done at the church.

DB: *Oh, ya, I read... read that.*

QB: Uh, huh (yes)...

DB: *Ooooh,*

QB: Because see, uh, the old... the old gym that was out here was actually part of the wood shed. (laugh) You know... dirt out there, until they built the gym which is now part of this school, and then that gym was built, see.

DB: *How big was that wood shed? Very big, then?*

QB: No, no.

DB: *OK*

QB: But we done all the programs... was... all the programs was done at the Beaver Church.

DB: *OK*

Student: What were the games you played at recess?

QB: Uh.... uh... Hopscotch, uh... Mumblepeg, marbles, uh... base... softball, we didn't have baseball... softball... like I say, the Mumblepeg is a three-bladed knife, you know, and you take and flip your finger... you know, and hope that it would... and if it would stick up right, well, then they give you a point, you know... uh...Auntie Over the... the school, the old school...

DB: *You did that at Brown School, then?*

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QB: Yep.

DB: *And then...*

QB: Beaver's the same way...

DB: *Oh, over the upper grade section, kind of?*

QB: Ya, ya... and they... uh, and then we played Hide... like at Brown School.... most time, just enough kids, well we played Hide and Seek, you know...

DB: *Out back, in the trees?*

QB: Ya... well, see and behind the play shed, behind the wood shed, and...

DB: *Sounds fun.*

Student: *Please tell us about any stories you remember that happened at school or concerning school. We would appreciate hearing any stories you remember.*

QB: Sigh...

DB: *Any specific anything that kinda' you remember back there about... anything that happened...*

QB: Uh... I know that... which is Helen Bentley now... both of us was in the... the ... we was two first graders... uh, and when we was old enough, when we started losing our teeth, well, uh... we'd usually always eat an apple on the way home... well, uh, my uncle that lived right below the school, he got to call on this grandma and grandpa because he ate an apple off here to the side... we'd take off and go down through the back of what we called the calf pasture and go out the other way, and end up at the orchard... (laughing)

DB: *So you didn't want to be called grandma and grandpa...*

QB: You didn't want to be called grandma and grandpa.

DB: *Were you trying to lose teeth, then, with the apples, was that the point?*

QB: No, but you... you know, when you're losing your teeth when your that age, you know, in the first grade, you know, and you couldn't bite down on the front, you know... (laughing)

DB: *OK, that's a good start...*

QB: Ya.

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DB: *Any others that stand out in your mind?*

QB: Uh... hmm... probably some... I'll probably think of some after while.

DB: *Uh, I don't know if you already named the teachers up at Brown that you had, maybe you did... who were they?*

QB: That was Pat Quinn, and, and... and... Myra Costa.

DB: *Costa, or Kostic?*

QB: Costa...

DB: *Costa?*

QB: C o s t a... uh, huh (yes)

Student: *I'd like to change the subject a little and learn more about you if I could. If it's okay to ask this, when and where were you born?*

QB: I was born.... uh... May the seventh, 1928, and in a hospital in Tillamook which is now the same spot of where, uh... Tillamook Eagles building is.

DB: *Oooh..*

QB: The old Vittitoe Hospital...

DB: *The what hospital?*

QB: Vittitoe..

DB: *Vittitoe... Why'd it have that name, I wonder?*

QB: Uh... she was a nurse... Dr. Ringo was my doctor...

DB: *OK... Ringo?*

QB: Dr. Ringo...

DB: *OK*

Student: *What was... what is your ancestry?*

DB: *What's your ancestry?*

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QB: Uh... I'm half Portuguese, uh... part English, and an eighth Cherokee Indian.

DB: *Now, you shared last year that you've come to realize that maybe there was some... ummm... actually this is what he is going to ask. But, why did your family come to this area? Wasn't there some prejudice involved...*

QB: When my grandparents... when they come from... on... from Portugal... St. George Island... uh, and they come to California, all right... uh... the Portuguese that are coming around here now, that are run... that got dairies, uh... some of them are a little darker skinned than the others... uh, and when they come to California, the people down there treated the Portuguese the same as they do blacks, because they were a little darker skinned. And from some of the islands, they are darker skinned, now you take, uh... people bought Lloyd McKillip's place... his wife is real dark, and everybody thinks she is black, but she's not, she is full blood Portuguese. And different islands down there are... some of the races are... some of 'em are lighter colored than others.

DB: *So that was on your dad's side... the Portuguese?*

QB: Yep.

DB: *OK. And then why did your parents then move here... you were living in California...*

QB: They were living in Cal... but they just didn't like being treated as blacks, you know, and so they...

DB: *What is it... why did they come here, instead of the Willamette Valley or somewhere, do you know?*

QB: I don't know... probably because it was close to the coast, see, when they was from the islands over there... and see, in Portugal uh, they can tall by your name what you do. Whether you're a farmer, a carpenter, a painter... brick layer, or what...

DB: *The name...*

QB: Is by the name, uh, huh (yes). And over there, too, the more you fix your houses... keep your yards and stuff clean, the cheaper the taxes are, and if you don't keep it up, they send people out to clean it up and then charge you for it.

DB: *That's kinda' smart. What about your mom's side of the family?*

QB: My mom's side, uh... originally my... be my great-granddad come from Manchester, England. And he married... he's the one that married the full blood Cherokee gal in Kansas. Uh... but my grandfather, he also come from Manchester, England, when he was... when he was a kid. And uh, then my... they... my grandmother on my mom's side, uh... they moved a lot, and her and what would be my grandfather, were... they were also met in California, and then they come up here.

DB: Now was that... your mom was a Wilson, wasn't she?

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QB: Wilson, uh huh (yes).

DB: *Who lived in the Meda area...*

QB: My mom was born where Clem Hurliman's place is down there.

DB: *OK... And, you know.. you mention about skin color... as we look at one of the pictures that we have, I think there are two Borba boys in it, and one is darker, and one is lighter, right?*

QB: Yep.

DB: *Well, the one that is darker, is that Emanuel?*

QB: Of.. of my dad...my dad and my uncle? Ya, my uncle Emanuel was a little darker than my dad.

DB: *And that was just the Portu... Portuguese showing up...*

QB: Ya, see, that's what, uh... that's what makes me mad... I can go out in the sun, I'll get red, but it takes a lot to make me burn.... uh, and I'll tell you this... you can scrub my neck 'til it is raw, and... but I've got enough oil in my skin that I can put, uh... a white shirt on... in an hour's time, it'll be black.

DB: *Huh.*

QB: My collar.

DB: *Just the way it is...*

QB: Ya...

Student: *Please tell us about where you lived. Did your family live in one place, or did you move when you were growing up?*

DB: *Actually, he's pretty much done that... his ancestors.*

Student: *Describe any significant events that occurred during your childhood.*

DB: *So, not just to you, but any... were there any important things that happened... I know there was in your family... uh, or in... even in the world, any important things that you remember. And I know there was something with your brother....*

QB: Ya, my bro... my brother was.. was, uh... not quite two years younger than... than me, uh... and we was cutting wood... my dad was with us... and one of us would always chop the face in the tree, and the other one back it up, and for some reason, he had chopped the face in this cherry tree, and

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uh... I was cutting the back of it, and it started to fall, and he run the same way that it was going... and why, we'll never know ... and the tree just hit him length ways.

DB: *How old was he?*

QB: He was nine.

DB: *And then he died at that point.*

QB: Oh, ya... ya.

DB: *And he... I'll show the kids later this year, but he is buried up here at the Beaver Cemetery, right?*

QB: Right. Yep.

DB: *Ya, the kids found it on their own last year after hearing you talk about him. What was his name?*

QB: Loren.

DB: *OK, you guys, just to know that he named his son also Loren. Any other important events, worldwide, or local that you remember.*

QB: One that I don't remember, but there was a diphtheria epidemic when I was born, uh... and at six weeks I got a spinal shots and it is still good.

DB: *Really? To prevent you from having diphtheria.*

QB: Ya..

DB: *Huh.. I didn't know that.*

Student: *Tell about your chores or responsibilities when you were growing up.*

QB: Uh... when we got home from school... uh... usually we had to get the wood... the wood for the heating stove and the cook stove in, and the kindling, fed the chickens, and gathered the eggs, then when I got older it was to feed calves night and morning... uh... and then... graduated from that up to milking by hand night and morning.

DB: *How many cows did you milk?*

QB: Uh... well, we had twenty-eight, and there was three of us milking.

DB: *How long did it take about...*

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QB: Two hours...

DB: *Wow. Once you milked, what did you do with the milk?*

QB: Went through a strainer and into a can.

DB: *And then? Where did you take the can?*

QB: They... they come to Beaver... they come to Beaver Factory.

DB: *And at that time, what were they using to haul it?*

QB: We had a... we had an old Model... they had a touring car and cut it down and made a Model T... pickup out of it.

DB: *About what year was that... that it was, I mean?*

QB: Oh, it had to be a.... probably about a 1927-28 model then. Then gradually got up to a model A....

DB: *OK*

Student: *When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?*

QB: Veterinarian.

DB: *Really? What prevented that?*

QB: When I was ... uh, got out of high school, and I had written to three different colleges... when I got out of high school, and ... and ready to go to college, there was so many veterans returning from the service and all the schools was filled up. 'Cause each school would only take so many... and Oregon State didn't have a veterinarian school... well, they one... but, only two years. So I could have went two years at Oregon State, but maybe I'd never been able to get to go on my other two to four years at another school. So there was... you know...

DB: *And you worked with animals, actually, on your farm...*

QB: All my life... everybody's else's, too. (Laughter)

Student: *What were your favorite games, sports, books, hobbies, etc.?*

QB: Baseball, basketball, and football.

DB: *Did you like to read?*

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QB: Never have.

DB: *OK. Any other hobbies that you had through your life.... things you like to do...*

QB: Fish and hunt.

DB: *Ooh.. OK.*

Student: *What do you remember most about your mother and your father?*

QB: Uh... Strict, but not real strict... but if they told you something, uh... you better do it. They would... uh... my mom, once in a while, maybe would give me pat on the back end, but I think I probably would have rather had a licking from my dad than to have a bawling out.... he never raised his voice... but, you looked him straight in the eye...

DB: *And that was about enough...*

QB: Yep. 'Cause see, his dad found out that... he was real strict, my...be my granddad ... that he passed away before I was born, but... but he was real strict.

DB: *In what way?*

QB: Uh...

DB: *Did you hear stories about him?*

QB: Ya... I mean, he wasn't afraid to lick 'em, and it wasn't with his hand, it would be with a switch, you know.

DB: *Uh, huh (yes)*

Student: *What was the best advice your mother and/or your father ever gave you? Or what were good lessons you learned from them?*

QB: Sigh... best lessons I learned are to respect others... take 'em from what they are, not for what you think they are. You always... uh... probably when you get a little older, you will realize that soon as you see somebody or meet somebody, you will form an opinion, and they'll have to do something in that length of... certain length of time for you to change your opinion of them, or that's the way that opinion will stay. I... you know... uh... you gotta' trust people...

Student: *Tell us about any of your occupations and accomplishments throughout your life.*

QB: Occupations was a dairyman (laughing).

DB: *That's pretty much it?*

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QB: That's pretty much it. Oh, I've worked in the woods and also worked in the sawmills, but... most of... was dairyman. Yep.

DB: *What sawmills?*

QB: I worked in Boulder Sawmill, and I worked in... uh... what... Schnitzer owned the one over here for a while, then Van Handel bought... for Boggs' place at that big mill... then I worked in that one for a while.

DB: *I couldn't remember those names. I'm glad you said those.*

Student: *Please tell us about your own family.*

QB: Which.... Which part of it?

DB: *Your kids, and...*

QB: Ok... I have... I have four kids... Loren, Diane, Deb, and Dolores... Loren lives with me, Diane lives in Newberg, Deb lives in Salem, and Dolores lives in Bend.

DB: *Grandkids?*

QB: And I have six grandkids... four boys and two girls... now I have two great-grandkids. Uh... last...

DB: *(laughing) Oh, no...*

QB: Yes... last May 6th my granddaughter give birth to a great-granddaughter to me... that happened to be on my mother's birthday... yesterday morning, my grandson called from Salem, him and his wife... she just had a great-grandson to me, and it just happened to be on my deceased wife's birthday.

DB: *Oooh, that's wonderful. And your wife's name?*

QB: Helen.

DB: *And she was Helen Thomas.*

QB: Helen Thomas, ya.

DB: *And did... and the Thomas'.... where Nestucca Meadow is... they used to own that as their farm, right?*

QB: Right. Yep.

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Student: *What special skills and interests do you have?*

DB: *I don't know if we've kinda' covered that... your interests... you are involved in other things... you are on some other boards...*

QB: Yes.

DB: *And have been. What are some of the boards that you've been on for the county?*

QB: I was on... uh... well, I was on... a volunteer fireman for seventeen years, I was Soil Conservation representative for eighteen years, I started out down here as on the budget committee for one year for the Beaver School.... uh... then I was on the school board there for four years, but I was also on the ESD, which... Education Service Districts... uh, at the same time... just... I just served thirty-six years straight on that. And then, when they went to Hillsboro, then I and the president of Tillamook Bay Community College, we were both named on that board for two years.

DB: *So aren't you still on the... aren't you on a Pioneer Association Board or something?*

QB: Ya, ... I'm ... I'm president of the Pioneer Association. Ya.

DB: *Now is that actually the Museum part, or is that the people part of it?*

QB: No... the people part... ya, ya.

Student: *Are there community and/or religious activities you'd like to tell us about?*

DB: *Which, kinda' you just did... any other community activities?*

QB: Oh.....

DB: *I think I shared with you last year that I remember very distinctly you having carrots in your ears during a skit at a PTC program ...*

QB: Oh, ya ... we used to have... we always put on a play or two at the school every year.

DB: Ya.

QB: Course, then they called it PTA.

DB: *PTA, right. Ya, you were great.*

QB: Ya... ya... we had a ball... well, they... you know, they have a ... uh... a... usually a big spaghetti feed, and I forget what they would charge, now... and there would be two or three plays, you know. And that's the way we raised money for ... well, the Parent Teachers Association... Ya.

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DB: *The building would be full.*

QB: Yep. Yep. Then when we even had it in what is now the new gym, and ... it would be full, too.
(Laughing)

Student: *We're almost finished. Please share some thoughts you'd like to have... you have about what it is like living in this area.*

DB: *What's it been like living here?*

QB: Good. I wouldn't change... I wouldn't go anyplace else.

DB: *Why is that do you think?*

QB: It's a different... uh... friendly community... uh... if somebody needs help, you're always... always there... uh... we might get a lot of rain... we don't get any tornadoes, we don't get any floods, we don't get any hurricanes, and it really don't get that hot in the summertime, or really that cold in the wintertime. Once in a while, we'll maybe have a few days, you know...

DB: *But it sounds like it's mostly the people that are the...*

QB: That's ri... you know everybody here, you know.

Student: *Again, we are very interested in stories... particular incidents you remember. Pretend you are sitting here with your grandchildren. Tell us some stories you would like them to hear about your life experiences or life experiences of your parents and family.*

DB: *So... what stories do you want to make sure you tell your grandchildren?*

QB: Well, one time when I and... a kid by the name of Vern Grazer ... we went out and that was before the road to Meadow Lake, and the county commissioners was... we was walking through, and he got scared and every little noise and thought there was an animal or something after us, and he got tired and we sat down, and everybody thought we was lost, and they'd went back and was starting to come to look for us. And we come out at Rocky Bend.

DB: *Now why were you way up there?*

QB: Uh... because we went out with a bunch of 'em, looking at the way the ... at the country that the road that they was gonna' build through.

DB: *About how old were you at that time?*

QB: Nineteen.

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DB: *OK... good. Good story. Any others?*

QB: They, uh... and ... uh... it was Elmer Scheese, he said no, he says... I know... he says, Quentin will come out and... he met us... he says.. he'll come out on the other side of the creek, he says, I know he will, and .. he was walking up, and sure enough, we met head on! (Laughing)

DB: *OK... What other stories do you remember?*

QB: Boy... only be a... hunting and fishing stories, with the times that we had.

DB: We're going to be interviewing you about that at some point, too. So, we are appreciative of you coming in, especially coming in again... and I don't know if you've noticed, but the equipment's been changed, and it's much better quality tape. And we have some students who are going to type up what you said, and we'll get you a copy of that... and I think the next thing that we're going to do is ... I'm going to have Susie Bentley work with these kids.... (end of tape)

Extra conversation with Quentin Borba ---

DB: *Ok... go ahead.*

QB: That in Oct... in October, at, uh... at, uh.. a Pioneer Meeting.. and I thought it was real warm in the room... I got up and walked outside... then the next thing that I knew, that they was taking me to the hospital in an ambulance... Uhh... it was not a heart attack, although I have had a heart attack...nineteen years ago... uh, and I've got an angioplasty... uh, they not.. they... they call it a defibrillation... Now believe it or not, that your heart can beat so fast that no blood can come in to it, so no blood can be pumped out of it. I...

DB: *That's what yours was doing?*

QB: That's what mine was doing, and I didn't... couldn't tell that... you know... uh... I dropped from 143 pounds to 147 in a little over an hour when they got me to the hospital...

DB: *Wait, wait, wait... pounds, you mean, or...*

QB: Right...

DB: *You said you went from 143 to 147..?*

QB: 137...

DB: *Oh, 137... ok..*

QB: Maybe... I... ma... maybe I said... but anyhow, when my daughter come over... my shoes was full of water... my body was trying to compensate for my heart not... was beatin' so fast, it was trying to cool me down, so I was dehydratin'... I soaked ever'thing that they hauled me to the hospital on...

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DB: *But he was losing more than ...*

QB: Sssso.. can you imagine the insides of your shoes bein' wet... my socks and ever'thing... then they sent me to Portland, and now I have a defibrillator.. the defibrillator alone was \$47,700... the whole... whole total bill was \$63,000... uh, I had to go out last Friday... they check me ever' three months.. I went out in February... they put me out... and to see if it was workin'... doin' their..

DB: *Is it like a little box?*

QB: If they want to look at it and feel it, they can.. because..

DB: *And ... and it's inside you...*

QB: It's inside of me... uh, you can push on it, you're not gonna' hurt it...

DB: *And what is... and what is it doing for you?*

QB: If my heart beats too fast, it will give me a quick jolt and slow it down. I can have ahold of your hand, and it gives me a jolt... you're just gonna' get a little tiny tingle out of it... just barely feel it... but I'm gonna' get a real sharp jolt out of it, you know... uh... and now, when I was out Friday... the one that I have has got four wires to it... the new ones are five wires... it goes out... if you wanna' look at it, I'll show you... everybody likes... mu... you can hammer on it, it ain't gonna' hurt it.. it'll hurt me... it's the wires... wires that go out, and you can see 'em right there... they go out and go into my vein... you wan... go into my vein, and then they go into my heart.

DB: *See, that little bulk thing...*

QB: This right here..

DB: *(something)*

QB: If you want to feel it, go ahead...

DB: *I did yesterday... if you want to...*

Student: *No, I'm fine...*

DB: *You can... you can...*

QB: Ya...

DB: *YAHOOO!! (Everybody laughing) (When I touched Quintin where the defibrillator was under his chest I shocked him. He didn't feel it, but it freaked me out thinking I would short out the defibrillator or something!! db) I have so much static electricity...*

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QB: Well, see that's... that's titanium... now it won't...

DB: *Ok, but you can... you can feel that it's a hard... you want to, Chris?*

QB: Go ahead...

Student: *No...*

DB: *They're so shy...*

QB: Oh...Hey.. it don't make...

DB: *Nobody? You don't want to...*

Student: *I want to ...*

DB: *Ya, go do it.... so you can just feel that it's a box inside..*

QB: See, it's just a block right there...

Student: *Ya...*

QB: Go ahead and push on it... see, it ain't gonna' hurt... no... ever'body stands back.. and, you know... you know...

DB: *Like it's gonna' hurt ya...*

QB: But... ya... ninety percent of the people say hey, I like to .. you know.. what does it feel like? Uh...

DB: *Do you want to, Chris? No...*

QB: But when I was out... uh... last Friday...

DB: *Did that help your heart when I shocked you?*

QB: No... nooo..

DB: *(Laughing)*

QB: Uh... but when I was out last Friday... and she... my nurse said ... she comes in from Portland... and she says I'll ... I've got some older defibrillators and pacemakers... now pacemaker is entirely different...she's gonna' send 'em to me.. and so, when she does, I'll bring 'em down and you students can look at 'em.

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DB: Ya...

QB: A pacemaker is to make your heart beat at a certain rhythm... some of 'em are on the outside, and some are on the... implanted... uh.. these defibrillators are all implanted... and believe it or not... no pain.

DB: *You never feel it?*

QB: I've never... when they operated and put it in there...

DB: *You just need a zipper...*

QB: Ya... and see this is supposed to be good between four to five years... uh... and beings that they check me every three months, that's why they do it... uh... when it starts to gettin' weak, I suppose there's a chip or somethin' in there... they will open that up... unplug it, slide a new one in, plug it back in again, and sew it up, send me home.

DB: *So, when you people are old...*

QB: (laughing)

DB: ... he'll be 153, and pluggin' it in again! That's great. I appreciate you sharing that. So, you guys... I don't know... where the best place to go... if you should go maybe into the computer lab... and I'll get you a CD.. actually go to one of the computers that has Adobe on it so you can use the magnifying glass and make the pictures bigger... you ... you understand what I mean? Somebody?

Student: *Kind of... yeah, I know what to do...*

DB: OK... thank you very much for coming in... you guys... handshakes, thank you's....

End of tape

Transcribed by Darleen Creecy Cole!