

Thanks to the extraordinary commitment and expertise of AHLA leaders, the American Health Lawyers Association continues to thrive and serve as the essential health law resource in the nation. The Association's strong foundation reflects a history that is vibrant, meaningful and worth sharing. Finding a way to preserve AHLA's history was especially relevant in light of the Association's 50th Anniversary, which was celebrated throughout 2017.

This transcript reflects a conversation between AHLA leaders that was conducted via audio interview as part of the Association's History Project. More than 60 of AHLA's Fellows and Past Presidents were interviewed. A video documentary was also prepared and debuted on June 26 during AHLA's 2017 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA.

February 27, 2017

Joel Hamme interviewing Arthur Bernstein:

Joel: Today is February 27th, 2017. My name is Joel Hamme and I have the honor of interviewing

Arthur H. Bernstein who was the President of the American Academy of Healthcare Attorneys in 1980 and '81. Arthur was instrumental in the creation of that organization as we're going to hear. This interview and many others of past AHLA Leaders are being done as part of a history project celebrating AHLA's 50th anniversary this year. Arthur, thank you very much for

volunteering to share your thoughts and observations with us.

Arthur: Well, I'm glad I lived long enough to do this for you.

Joel: We are too. You are truly one of the founding Principals and let's talk about that. How and when

did you first become involved in healthcare law, or what later became identified as healthcare

law?

Arthur: I became the House Counsel of the American Hospital Association in 1957 and that was at their

headquarters in Chicago and I am a native Chicagoan, and I am a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School. One of the jobs I had initially was to do a health law article in every issue of hospitals magazine. It was a publication of American Hospital Association. Then I learned that my job was to run one or two educational programs on hospital law for lawyers and anybody else interested in that subject. I did those all around the country. Well, it turned out that the people who showed up at those programs were mostly lawyers from firms representing hospitals. We got to know each other after a few years and started talking about creating an

organization that would serve our needs.

We realized that it would have to be sponsored by the American Hospital Association and so I was designated to work on Dr. Crosby, the Chief Executive of the American Hospital Association. Two of my cohorts, Don Bierle of Yankton, South Dakota and Karl Holderle of St. Louis, were going to work from the outside on Dr. Crosby. For a few years we kept nudging him, and it was not an easy task because Dr. Crosby was opposed to lawyers and lawyering. He said that his cohorts over at the American Medical Association had half a dozen lawyers on their staff, and they kept getting sued, and we had only one lawyer, and we don't get sued.

He said, "That's one reason for not getting involved too much with the lawyers," but the real fear he had was that if he allowed lawyers into the American Hospital Association by creating

their own organization, just like the Nurse Anesthetists, the Hospital Pharmacists. There were many such groups, and we would be one of those. However, the lawyers might be able to influence American Hospital Association policy and that's what he didn't want. Well, these years of trying to influence him began to wear him down apparently. One day he came to visit the new offices of the American Hospital Association on Farragut Square. The building had just opened and wasn't all that in good repair. As he walked down the corridor, he got hit in the head by a falling ceiling tile. Somehow he decided, that very day, to allow us to have a hospital lawyers group at the American Hospital Association.

Joel:

He decided he needed a lawyer, I guess.

Arthur:

It was my job to get things going and the instruction was that whatever you do, you are not going to be in charge of running it. You have other things to do. We had to hire somebody to be the administrator. I interviewed a few people. I got the impression that most of them were just looking for a transitional job, moving on to something else, but then I interviewed David Greenburg. He wanted to leave the Department of Labor where he had a job as a lawyer and he was, of course, a polio victim. He had an awkward gait, he had lots of metalwork in his legs, but he was able to walk. I thought, "This guy will stay. He's not just job hopping," and so I engaged him and we created the basis for the organization and started contacting people on the list of those who attended the previous educational sessions.

Very quickly we got about 200 members. Their membership rights gave them a subscription to Hospitals Magazine and so they were reading my articles as one of the few benefits of belonging to the organization. That was 50 years ago, 1967. The first annual meeting was in the pring of 1968. That was at the Palmer House in Chicago. I had just left the American Hospital Association and moved to Oakland, California to join the legal staff of Kaiser Permanente Health Plan and Hospitals. I was their hospital lawyer. I came to that first meeting and we had about 100 people out of our 200 members showed up. Of course, the members were from all over the country.

Joel:

Was that considered your annual meetings in 1968?

Arthur:

Yes. That was our first meeting and we decided that's the annual meeting and that's why it was always, thereafter in the spring.

Joel:

Arthur, you mentioned that there were offices near Farragut Square. That's here in Washington DC, so at some point did you move from Chicago to Washington?

Arthur:

I did. Let's see, early 1962 I moved to the Washington office, yes.

Joel:

Then, when the organization was founded, it was pretty much run out of DC rather than Chicago?

Arthur:

Yes, right.

Joel:

Because David was here in DC?

Arthur:

Right.

Joel:

David Greenburg.

Arthur:

Right. David Greenburg, of course, as I said, was a polio victim and I didn't realize what a polio victim he was as compared with President Roosevelt who couldn't walk even though he had lots of metalwork trying to support him. David could walk. Of course, I wondered when did he incur the polio? Well, it turns out that he was living in Palestine, what is now Israel. His parents were ardent Zionists and they lived in New Jersey. They decided, before World War II started, that if they were that dedicated to Zionism, they should move to Palestine, and so they did. Then, the war broke out, and of course, they were stuck there. There were American troops in Egypt and in Palestine, and so Mrs. Greenburg used to entertain them and served them American and Jewish food and they enjoyed that very much. David incurred polio and he was in his teens, and he was severely paralyzed and these troops used to see him and feel sorry for him. There wasn't much that could be done for him in Palestine at that time.

One of the visitors was a Medical Captain in the US Army and he came there and had the meal. He saw David and he was shocked. He had, had no contact with polio in his medical training in Cincinnati. He thought, "When I get out of the army, I'm going to work on somehow making things better for polio victims, or eliminating polio altogether." That doctor, Albert Sabin went back to Cincinnati and ultimately developed the live virus vaccine, which didn't have to be refrigerated, and is the reason why we have virtually no polio in the world since then.

Joel:

David Greenburg was a key factor in terms of Dr. Sabin developing his vaccine, or deciding that was what he wanted to do?

Arthur:

Yes, that stimulated him.

Joel:

That's very interesting to hear and I've never heard that story before. Then, at what point did David move to the United States?

Arthur:

Well, right after the war they came back. He was then ... Well, maybe 20. He'd had no high school education. He was paralyzed at, I don't know, 13 or 14. They had to figure out how to educate him and have him catch up. They found a place in Massachusetts, I think Milton Academy, as I recall, where they gave him a personalized year intensive high school training. All of his high school was obtained in that one quick program, and eventually he went to law school, I forget where, and got a job with the Federal Government and then finally, with me. Of course, when the AHA decided they should move the lawyers group back to Chicago, where all the other groups were located, David didn't think he could survive in Chicago's winters and he left.

He got the idea that what was then called the American Society of Hospital Attorneys was too narrow in its scope of membership, that there were people interested in health law, not just necessarily just hospital law. A lot of them weren't even lawyers, but there should be an organization that accepts them all. That's when he got involved with people mostly affiliated with proprietary hospitals and there was a risk they would create their own organization. With their assistance he created ... What did they call it? The National Health Lawyers Association.

Joel:

Correct. David decided not to go back to Chicago and as a result of that, he left the academy or the society and then later founded a similar group but one that was, perhaps, maybe a little bit more expansive in terms of going beyond hospital attorneys?

Arthur:

Right. One other advantage, it could act quickly. It didn't have to deal with the bureaucracy of the American Hospital Association. As a particular health law topic came up that was of interest

and that people wanted to learn about and talk about, he could create a program very quickly, whereas it might take a year at the American Hospital Association to go through all of the required planning.

Joel:

Arthur, you mentioned that by the Spring of 1968 you had moved to Oakland and joined Kaiser Permanente. Obviously, you continued to be involved in the organization. Talk a little bit with us about that. You're now no longer with the American Hospital Association, but the academy or the society is still, I guess, joined at the hip with them, or an integral part of AHA. How did that evolve and what was your continuing participation in the organization?

Arthur:

Well, of course I continued as a member. I guess I was on board right from the start, apparently. I occupied every position there ever was. I had eight different positions, ending up in being past President. Yes, I was a very active member at that time. At Kaiser, they weren't all that keen on us because Kaiser was the persona non grata of the hospital world. The medical societies thought they were socialized medicine, or a bunch of communists. There was very little cooperation with Kaiser. I was the only one at Kaiser who dealt with the outside world, at least in the health law field. They permitted it but they were always really doubtful as to where my loyalties were. Were they really with the, then called Society or with Kaiser? I stuck with my work at the Society and so I was involved in determining what kind of education programs we had. First, with the annual meeting, deciding where to have these annual meetings.

We decided we would alternate, a big city one year and a resort the next year. We had meetings in Colorado Springs, Tarrytown, New York, Tampa, Florida resort areas in those places. That seemed to satisfy people, especially since they could bring their families to the resort areas in late May, early June. That meant that people began to know their families. This create a conviviality that was most surprising and satisfying. People watched their kids grow up. We watched people get divorced and remarried and we followed the event progress. That part worked very well. The surprising thing was, because we had people from all over the country, we had different political affiliations, hardly ever did people talk about politics. If they ever did it was in a very civil way because it was like meeting with family. You don't have arguments with them, if you can avoid it. The charter members, the first 200, so many of them really knew each other very well and made a very great effort to attend every single annual meeting. There were contests to see who attended the most. If somebody couldn't they were so apologetic that he couldn't come.

Joel:

Were there educational programs, Arthur, other than the annual meeting?

Arthur:

Oh, yes. There were programs all over the country on various subjects. The annual meeting had many, many different education programs, whereas the other meetings were confined, perhaps, to one topic. They were one day whereas the annual meeting began to be stabilized as a four day event. Sunday for newcomers and after a while there were enough past Presidents to have a past Presidents dinner. Then Monday was a full day, even in the evening, I think, of educational and gatherings. I think Tuesday there was an afternoon off, or it was Wednesday. There was always one afternoon off.

Joel:

That persisted for a very long ... and it still exists. Tuesday afternoon, there's technically the afternoons off. They do offer some things, but that custom, or that tradition has persisted.

Arthur:

That Tuesday afternoon off sometimes caused problems for some people. In the city they'd go to museums, at the resorts they'd play golf but there was one very disastrous event when I was

a past President and the fellow who followed me, John Devine was past President and we were meeting in San Diego at the Columbine ... it begins with a C. At any rate-

Joel:

The Del Coronado?

Arthur:

Del Coronado, that's it. John was a great athlete and somebody told him, "We're very close to Mexico, you can probably swim there." He got in the water and decided to swim to Mexico. I had not played tennis for ten years because I'd torn various bones in my knee and had surgery and I just couldn't put enough weight on it. I waited 10 years but then I was invited to play there and they had nice courts. I went to play, and sure enough, within 10 minutes I pulled something else and then went to the hospital and ended up in a cast on my ankle. I had to go to the evening dinner dance and had a wheelchair. Next thing I knew, John Devine was walking around with his head completely bandaged in white.

I said, "What is going on there?" He says, "Well ..." He decided to swim to Mexico but he got caught up in some underwater coral, perhaps, and scratched up his head so badly that he had to go to the emergency room and get various stitches and all sewn up. There was he, looking like a Sikh with his complete white bandage on him and there I was with a wet cast on my ankle. He said, "Well I can walk and you can't, I'll push you in the wheelchair." He pushed me through the dinner dance. People were laughing hysterically all over the place and getting out their cameras to take the picture of what happens when you have been President of this organization.

Joel:

Well, it became unhealthy health lawyers, I guess at some point.

Arthur:

There were romances that developed. There was our Canadian member Loren [Risoffsky 00:23:29] who had been the attorney for the National Health Service in Canada, I was with him when we met the young lady who was with the hospital attorney and was getting a divorce. That was fine. They got together and married and had a nice, long life thereafter. With regard to politics, we did have one member, important in Maine who was very active in the Republican party there and even got the nomination to run for governor, but he lost.

Joel:

Arthur you've mentioned some of the ... You had a long description of David Greenburg who was the chief staff person. You mentioned Don Beirle and Karl Hoderle and John Devine, all of whom were Presidents of the Society. Were there other founding fathers or mothers in the association? Tell us a little bit about them?

Arthur:

Well, I haven't really told you about the other three but I'll go back to them. Yeah, Ed McEachen from Omaha was the most persistent lawyer I've ever met in my life. He would not give in to anything, whatever the subject, whatever the objective was. He used to own race horses on the side and lived down the street from Warren Buffet. Ross Stromber was very young but very bright and in the early presidents, I think he ... I don't know whether he'll come to this meeting, he lives about 50, 60 miles from San Francisco.

Joel:

That's right. When I became President of AHLA, the annual meeting was in San Francisco and Ross was very helpful to me in terms of putting together a program. At least, at that point, he was involved in winery.

Arthur:

He owned, not a winery, but the grape vines, which he sold to the nearby winery. That was his hobby from the very start. I guess he's probably still at it.

Joel:

I would assume so. I haven't talked to Ross recently, but I would suspect that if he's able, he will come to the annual meeting this year, which is back in San Francisco. Were there-

Arthur:

[crosstalk 00:26:09]

Joel:

Go ahead.

Arthur:

I should mention Jim Ludlar who was the absolute leader and mentor of hospital attorneys. Los Angeles attorney, and he, of course, had to be the President as soon as the founders were out of the way. In those days, unlike the President, many lawyers from the South had Southern accents and so we used to have fun. Larry McLeod of Athens, Georgia and Alvin Moore of Chattanooga. Alvin Moore had the strongest accent and he was a long term member of the board, but he pronounced board as the bowed. [inaudible 00:26:56] just loved hearing him talk about being on the bowed and how he loved being on the bowed.

Let me tell you quickly about Bierle. Don Bierle, from Yankton, South Dakota, was a short fellow with a strong voice who, at age 12, had a bicycle accident and was paralyzed from the waist down for the rest of his life. He became the most adept user of ... What do you call the things you use?

Joel:

Of his wheelchair?

Arthur:

No, no the things that you use ...

Joel:

Oh, crutches?

Arthur:

Yeah, crutches. Crutches that he used had rubber tips and he would wear out the rubber tips in a month. He was extremely active. He had become a judge, but he couldn't support his seven kids on a judge's salary so he went back to private practice and it was mostly representing hospitals. He represented most of the hospitals in the state of South Dakota. Now, because he came from Yankton, people might say, "Well, did he know Tom Brokaw?" Of course, yes. Brokaw's wife, who had been a beauty queen, also taught swimming. She taught swimming to the Bierle children. Holderle brought his 13 year old son to the meeting, to begin with and then, thereafter whenever we had the right kind of meeting, he brought his son every single year. We watched the kid grow up, and he grew up and went to law school.

Joel:

This was Karl Junior, I think?

Arthur:

Karl Holderle. He grew up and he became a hospital lawyer. Is he still active?

Joel:

Last I heard, he still was. Somebody had tried to get ahold of his dad, I think around ... but, his dad had passed away. I saw some correspondence or emails that related to that. I don't know if he's still active or not though.

Arthur:

Well, his father, Karl, the co-founder, had a heart attack at Colorado Springs and he died some months later. It was a very long time ago, unfortunately. Of course, Nat Hershey, who, even before all of this, I used to use him on the programs when I was running those educational events for the American Hospital Association. His buddy, Eric Springer who was a black attorney, and just about the only one we had, they were very active in the beginning on the educational portions of our programs.

I should tell you about John Devine. He was an attorney in Ann Arbor, Michigan and when I was still in Chicago, somebody said, "There's an attorney in Ann Arbor, Michigan who's just become the attorney for a local hospital and he doesn't know anything about hospital law and he wants somebody to tell him about it. Will you talk to him?" I said, "Fine." He came, we had a long conversation and got to be very friendly. He was a charter member of the organization, hardly ever missed a meeting. Of course, he always brought his wife whenever there were social events. His wife was Marnee Kennedy. Marnee was the daughter of the sister of Joseph Kennedy, Joseph Kennedy, father of-

Joel:

JFK.

Arthur:

- and all the others. She lived in Boston. Of course, they were all her cousins, and she grew up with them. She would spend her summers with them at Hyannis Port and parts of her winters in Palm Beach, Florida. She looked exactly like all the other Kennedy women, and she talked exactly like them. She decided that this organization needed help with their social events. That's how things got to be so well organized, with not only the dinner dance but anything that was not strictly health law education. She and John were a surprisingly dedicated couple. They had five children. He was a Republican and he never, never ceased being a Republican in spite of the fact that he was part of the Kennedy family. I remember once saying to him when Ted was contemplating running for the Democratic nomination. I guess he would be facing Jimmy Carter.

Joel:

Yeah, 1980.

Arthur:

I asked, I said, "John, is your cousin Teddy really going to run?" John says, "I sure hope not." "Really, why not?" "I cannot stand to go to another one of those funerals."

Joel:

Amazing.

Arthur:

That set me back a bit. Especially, we had James Roosevelt Junior. He may still be active, is he?

Joel:

Jim Roosevelt is still active. Jim was President when I was on the Board, and I thought Jim had retired, but he's still active in the organization. He's participated in some phone calls recently of the Past Presidents group. There were some fundraising issues that were discussed. Jim's still involved. I don't know if he still has his hand in work issues or not, but we seem to have a political pedigree here between the Roosevelts and the Kennedys.

Arthur:

Right. Well, when I first met Jim, I said, "Oh, you're the son of FDR's oldest son. Do you have any memory of your grandfather?" He says, "No, I was born long after he died." All he's got is the name.

Joel:

I think he's had some involvement with Hyde Park because I talked to him about that at one point, but he said that he had no recollection of his grandfather whatsoever. I think Jim was probably born about '46 or something like that. It would've been after FDR died. Were there any women who were ... I realize John Devine's wife. Were there women lawyers who were involved early on in the academy?

Arthur:

Yes, I was just about to tell you. A long time board member was Kay Felt from Detroit. Then we had Sister Selestine. Sister Selestine was a nun and a lawyer. She was with the Daughters of Charity and she was a long term member of the board. One of our board members. Ed Hollowell from Raleigh, North Carolina, had one of the most gorgeous wives you've ever seen. Her name

was Sunshine. Sunshine Hollowell was gorgeous but she was Hollowell's second wife. Now, Sister Selestine liked these people, but she had a problem. She didn't believe in divorce, and so she came to me and whispered, "Did Ed Hollowell's first wife die?" I said, "No, I'm afraid not. No, she did not die."

Oh, poor Sister Selestine was so disappointed that Ed Hollowell's first wife did not die because she wanted to marriage between Sunshine and Ed Hollowell to not violate any Catholic restrictions even though they weren't Catholic. Sister Selestine was so dedicated to us that when she retired she went to a retirement home for nuns and priests near the Gettysburg battlefield, and she invited me and Ross Stromberg and Ed McEachan to come and visit, and we did. That was a rare opportunity. Who gets a chance to see where nuns and priests live in their retirement?

Joel: This was up near Gettysburg?

Arthur: Yes, I think it's the town just across the state line in Maryland.

Joel: It's probably Emmitsburg, where Mount St. Mary University is. That's very close to the line and I think they do have some ... I'm not positive about that, but I think it's in that area.

Let me tell you one more thing. Oh, right at the beginning, when we had that first meeting in Chicago, Don Bierle presided. Well, Jack Wood, I don't know if you ever met Jack Wood.

Yes. I didn't really know Jack but I know a lot of people who worked with Jack.

Jack Wood was another uptight guy, stickler for detail. We get the going and he immediately stands up and wants to know by what right Don Bierle is presiding. We should have bylaws and rules and regulations about how things are conducted. I suggested we take a recess and I invited Jack Wood to come to the bathroom with me, and I said, "Jack, we've been working for years to get this thing going, please let us get it started," so he backed off and we got it going. Let me tell you one more thing about annual meetings. I was in charge of the annual meeting in San Francisco in 1980, I guess. That was at the other Hyatt, the first Hyatt. I had to arrange for everything, all the speakers including the band for the dinner dance. I wanted a good band and I interviewed a number of band leaders and they played me their disks and their tapes. I said, "Well, I probably really should hear the whole band." One of them who I was thinking of hiring said, "We're playing at the St. Francis hotel in San Francisco at the movie industry convention, you can come and hear us there."

Sure enough, I went over there to hear the band, which I eventually did hire. They were great; 12 piece band. The movie convention was on and the hotel was full, and I was walking down the corridor, and OJ Simpson comes up and grabs my hand and shakes it vigorously. He had a strong hand. He thought I was a movie executive. He was at the end of his playing career and he wanted to convince me that he should be hired to play in whatever movies I was involved in. I said I'd keep him in mind and extracted my hand and went on to hear the band.

Well, it sounds like you rubbed elbows with a lot of people over the years. Would you comment a little bit, if you would Arthur, on the evolution and growth of the Society? Obviously you've done a really terrific job here of mentioning a lot of people and describing them in the early days of the academy. Did you stay involved after the time that you were president?

Arthur:

Joel:

Arthur:

Joel:

Arthur:

Only a few years because I, I guess you would call it, retired. I quit full-time work in 1985 and no longer really was a hospital attorney. I let my membership expire and, let me think ... I may have gone to one or two thereafter, but no. Of course, the merger took place. There was such a large membership, it really wasn't the chummy, that it was in the beginning.

Joel:

All right, there's about 15,000 members now. Now, obviously the annual meeting doesn't draw any place close to that number but it's a very large organization.

Arthur:

We used to get about 500 members in the annual meeting at the ...

Joel:

It varies from year to year, it depends on where they're having it. San Francisco tends to be a very good draw. My suspicion is there will be over 1,000 people at that annual meeting. New York tends to draw the largest crowds of all. I think a couple years ago they may have had about 1200 or something like that. Still trying to get some statistics on that for the 50th anniversary in terms of what was the largest meeting ever. The annual meeting is now into the over the thousand mark. Well, Arthur, thank you very much-

Arthur:

Let me tell you one more thing.

Joel:

Sure.

Arthur:

When I ran that San Francisco meeting about 1980, we had an experience that I hope you won't have this June. We had two earthquakes. They weren't very strong but from most of the people present, had never experienced one. To see the chandeliers waving like pendulums and the ground rumbling below them was frightening The fact that we had two was beginning to get disturbing for them. If you've not experienced an earthquake, it only lasts a couple of seconds. There's no warning, it's sudden, and then it's all over, but things keep shaking and moving for quite a while.

Joel:

We had one here in Washington a few years ago and I was at lunch, a small cafeteria deli shop. When that happened it was very disorienting, you were wondering what was going on.

Arthur:

We know it, because we have experience, but I never had that pleasure in Washington. I lived there about six and a half year during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, a block from the White House there in Farragut Square. [crosstalk 00:43:31] question-

Joel:

Arthur, do you have any sort of advice for younger people thinking of becoming attorneys, perhaps working in healthcare?

Arthur:

I've been so far removed that I really can't have any advice except ... There was a time when I thought that there wasn't any great difference between lawyers in the health field and any other field. They were just taking care of their clients, trying to keep them from losing money, trying to help them make money, litigating, following the rules, but then with the Affordable Care Act, that really must have created a lot of work for health lawyers. As far as getting into the field, it's as good as any because the healthcare industry is going to be growing. It's one of our biggest already. Maybe it is the biggest non-governmental activity. Therefore, it offers opportunities. That ignores the economic problem of the legal profession during the recession. As you know, large law firms are firing lawyers. Right now a lot of people are not going to law school because they're informed that the opportunities are not too great. Things are cyclical and

so that may change. I'm the last person to give any advice because I've been away for so long and I really never had a good job in the field myself.

Joel:

Well, you went to work for one of the early HMOs, which actually that's a very big development in terms of what's happening in health care law.

Arthur:

They've kept me very healthy. I no longer have anything to do with Kaiser except as a member of the health plan. When I quit full-time work in 1985, which is approaching 32 years now, it was primarily for health reasons. I'd been diagnosed with heart disease, which had decimated most of the males in my family and I said, "Well, I'm never going to enjoy the pleasures of retirement, I better do it right away," and so I did. Somehow I've had heart disease for 32 years and I'm still waiting for my first heart attack. I also have leukemia the last 15 years, but I chose one, which allows people to live long and as much as 20 years without necessarily any harmful effects. Maybe we can accredit Kaiser for keeping me alive.

Joel:

It sounds like they've done a pretty good job. If you have any ... I want to say thank you very much and appreciate your taking the time to do this interview. If you have any final or concluding thoughts, we'd be glad to hear them. I would also like to say, we hope we will see you at the annual meeting. Not so much for the educational sessions, but at the board dinner on the Saturday night before the annual meeting begins. I will send you details about that, where it's going to be and the times.

Arthur:

How many people attend? You get a lot of ex-presidents.

Joel:

Well, not all of the ex-presidents attend, but my guess would be there's 150 people or so in the room. They now have to be very careful about the venues they have to be sure that they're big enough because it's all of the current board members. There's about 20 or so board members, a lot of the staff, and not only the past presidents are eligible to attend without charge. Some Past Presidents come and their spouses, and then you also have what is called the Fellows. The Fellows are people who have been former leaders of the Association, a number of them are past presidents. Many are people who didn't become presidents for whatever reason. There's a fairly large group of them as well. When all is said and done, I suppose you could have upwards of 150 or 200 people. It's a fairly large gathering. I know, as one of our senior people, you would be very welcome to come to that and I'm hopeful that you will feel healthy enough and good enough to come to us that Saturday night.

Arthur:

We'll see. When you're 92 years of age, sometimes you don't even buy green bananas.

Joel:

Well, I think it sounds like you're doing quite well. Certainly, your memory is very keen. I don't know that we'll have had any other interview that really gets into the early days of the association and all of the people who were so involved. Certainly, nobody that I've talked to so far, or any of the transcripts I've read, does anybody have as much knowledge about David Greenburg. Arthur, again, thank you very much for taking the time to be with us. This has been very enlightening and hope you have a good rest of the day. You're three hours behind us. I will be contacting you about the annual meeting.