

An Interview with **Sol & Ruth Colker , Jan. 27, 2008**

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Re: Our Place/ Fishing Club Project

Sponsored by: Shady Side Rural Heritage Society

Interviewed by: Barry Kessler

Transcribed by: Christina Davidson: Dec 2008

Q. Barry Kessler: It's January 27th, 2008. I'm visiting Ruth and Sol Colker at their home in Silver Spring, to talk about Shady Side. Can you tell me how it was that you began going to Shady Side?

RUTH: It started because we were very friendly with the Sacks and the Kamerows and our children were very close and they told us about it. And that's how we learned about it and went there.

SOL: I think that's pretty accurate. It all started after the War – the first one – the children were fairly small, having been born in the post-war era – the neo-post-war era. It's kinda strange – now these little kids are grandparents. I think it was... you have to be nostalgic – you don't have to be, but you can't avoid being nostalgic about it. If for nothing else then just the time of life was just so much more dynamic than what we experience now. I think Shady Side in my mind, at least, had two phases: the pre-pool and the post-pool.

The pre-pool was an era where we did have a boat and we did use it. We did rely upon the knowledge of others, which was considerably more than mine... repair work and not getting stranded at sea. But it was a matter of getting sunshine on the boat and meeting there with the other people. But after the pool, then there was another life gain, and that was swimming whenever you got a chance, which was quite frequent. And I think it was far more enjoyable then... It's an era that you can't escape thinking of the kids particularly, because our kids were just about the age of ... I guess they were what now? ten or so when we started. And they went into the difficult teenage years without any problem. And I guess none of the kids there seemed to have very many problems. So it was a rather healthy environment for them.

And as is always true, some people stick out in your memory more than others. Sometimes it's their personality, sometimes it's their good looks, sometimes it's the absence of both. But I think everyone was an individual – there was no one that you could speak of as being a bland person that fades into the exterior of any picture. They were all fairly dynamic and fairly interesting, all told, I guess it was a very happy period of our lives.

RUTH: Well, talking about the pool – as I remember, I taught my daughter ... ? called her Laura, we call her "Taffy" – how to dive. And I was very good about explaining exactly how it should be done. And after she dived perfectly, she came and said to me: "Momma, now you dive with me." And I told her, I don't know how to dive! [laughter] She was kind of upset.

Q: What do you think the Kamerows and Sacks told you about the Fishing Club that made you want to come down?

SOL: Well I don't know. I used to see a great deal of Herb... not as much as Stanley. Although there was a period when I took advantage of the fact that they were going downtown at exactly the time that I had to go... and they drifted off into their own private conversations most of the time. When I started to build a boat with somebody who knew much more about boats than I did, I started to go to the... what's the name of that organization ... the organization that teaches navigation and

the basics of sailing and such? I've forgotten their name for the moment. But Herb and Stan went and I went at the same time. So I used to see them in the evenings as well as mornings, for some good reason... and when the boat was just about ready for the water, I figured that we had to have a place to use it, and so Shady Side came to mind immediately. And I think I asked Herb about it -- I guess I was closer to Herb than I was to anyone else down there at the time -- I thought he was a genuine, great person -- a unique person, and we then joined the Club because it was a place to park the boat -- not at Shady Side but we docked nearby. I've forgotten the man's name by the marina there, and we kept it there. I think others did too...

Q: Was it Jim Rhodes?

SOL: Rhodes, Rhodes, yes, exactly. From the fact that we had the boat there, we felt it natural to have a place to spend the weekend.

RUTH: What was nice about it was they had dormitories -- the girls and the boys. And that way the children were with each other. And I must say, there were never any fights. Everybody got along well with everybody else. Of course, Sidney Freedman normally -- and we can understand -- was a little resentful that Herb Sacks was in charge...

SOL: ... I don't think we need to go into that...

RUTH: Well, what it is was that he was silent, but everybody else was cordial and very close. So it worked out very well.

SOL: Those were good times.

Q: Tell me more about your boat.

SOL: It was a 15-1/2 footer and we started from the keel -- a neighbor of ours had built the keel -- he worked for the Navy Yard and obviously had a lot of time on his hands. So once we had a keel, and he had sufficient... well, the entire hull, you might say, was laid out. And he had gotten the proper curvature for all the planks, so it was a matter of putting that all together. And then finally we bought a used -- I think it was a Ford motor, and put it as an indoor motor, but we wouldn't want to rely on it, so we also acquired an outboard and fixed it up. The chap I worked with was a colleague of mine at work, and engines were his love and he virtually built an engine from scratch. And it worked pretty nicely. There was one instance I remember, when it just conked out when I was with Ruth and the kids, and just didn't know how to get it started, and Bill Goldberg came out and towed me in. That wasn't exactly a happy moment. But I did feel awfully ignorant, which I was about the matter... Generally though, we didn't need too much help. We put fiber-board on it while we were down there -- fiberglass, I'm sorry. There isn't much I can tell you about it except it was homemade (?) -- as a matter of fact it ended up in ____ territory -- we gave it to Gordon Danoff (?) in _____, I think he used it for a year and found it was deficient for his needs, so he disposed of it somehow. I don't know.

Q: What made you get interested in building this boat in the first place?

SOL: Well, I love the water and I didn't think I would ever learn to be a sailor because I'm not even sure which way the wind is blowing! I can wet my finger but I debate with myself "now where's that breeze coming from?" So without being a sailor is what I would love to be ... I was a driver of a mechanical device like an engine -- outboard or inboard -- it put us on the water which was the major objective. Just to ride along and make the ... get speed once in a while... get a thrill out of that. But

just being in the water where the wind just pats you on the cheek every once in a while – the sun was pleasant – it was a great feeling to have – made you feel alive.

Q: Ruth, how did you feel about boating?

RUTH: Oh, I loved the water. I swim in the water and I think I would like to live in the water – be a fish. Right now, I can walk in the pool but I can't walk out of the pool. And I wish that my abilities would be outside of water the way it is inside.

SOL: She's a "new person" in the water. You can just see beneath the water, this complete transformation in her face, in her feelings, and it just comes out of it. Unfortunately she can't go as often as she would like because she has an impediment in her legs which causes bleeding and she can't go in the water while it's bleeding, so she obviously has to go only when she can go, and that's not as often as she'd love.

RUTH: I mean, we're in a retirement home, and the reason I came here is because I could go to the pool every single day – winter and summer.

SOL: That's always available for her.

Q: Think back to when you first went down to Shady Side though, let's talk about the ways in which you got into the water... before there was a pool. Why don't we start with that.

SOL: We never swam in the river down there, or anything like that. That's why the pool was so welcomed. The only time we were in the water there was in a boat.

Q: Give me an idea of your typical day at Shady Side. When you were down there for the weekend, you would wake up... what would your day consist of?

(11:51)

SOL: Well, not exactly unusual. It would be a hearty breakfast and then walking around the grounds – not terribly much. And then, I guess, going out to take to sea. And when you were afraid of sunburn or such, you went back in and then had another hearty meal, and went out. Now the pool, of course, gave you diversity... and you could go any time you wanted.

RUTH: Of course a "hearty meal" was cooked by Ruth and everybody had their own refrigerator. We lived together even though we had a private refrigerator. It was pleasant to have the people around you and you knew they liked you.

SOL: Well, let's put it the other way, we knew they didn't dislike you. [laughter] So that is, I think, the fact of the matter.

RUTH: And it was nice for the children because there were other children their own age around. And there were never fights. Of course, Franny tells me that Goldberg's son was asking her out to smoke – to teach her how to smoke a cigarette. So, she thought I would yell at her not to do it. But I told her to go ahead. So she tried it and she never liked it and ever since then she tells everybody what I did. Now I don't remember this – Franny just told me this two weeks ago.

SOL: Well, the moral of the story was, when you make a great deal out of a prohibition, it works in reverse, and so you are better off letting the person find out what the facts are by themselves. And they will learn on their own that it might not be a good idea to smoke.

Q: Coming back to your boat, what did you call your boat?

SOL: “Taffy-tanny” (?) – the beginning of “Taffy” and the ending of “Fanny” – “Tanny” was an important element in our life for a number of years, till we gave her away, which was when we no longer went to Shady Side.

Q: Did you when you went out on the boat, did you typically go... well, who would be part of such an outing? Who would be there with you?

SOL: Well it was a small boat – you could only take four. It had a front seat and a back seat and four would be its maximum -- which our family was four.

RUTH: The only others was when my sister and her husband came from Providence, Rhode Island, then we took them. But there was no point to take people in our boat because everybody had boats that were way better than ours ...

SOL: ... far superior, yes.

Q: So did you often go out with some of the other families in their boats?

RUTH: Yes, they invited us – the Sacks and Kamerows...

SOL: Sacks and Kamerows had one boat and it was in constant repair – maybe you might say “improvement” rather than “repair.” That was the only one we were on. Most of the boats were not more than enough to do fishing. I can’t remember whether the Sheinbaums and Foers had a boat or not. They may have – certainly Mel knew an awful lot about boats. And I would not be surprised if they did own one, but I don’t remember being on it.

Q: They had the “Mel-Art” –

SOL: They did? It was their own boat? No surprise at the name. I hope the boat was a jewel. I’m not sure. They were all good people – nice people. Obviously everybody’s not the same in sense of humor or the ability to project charm. But there was nobody there that I could honestly say I disliked or anything like that – nobody like that.

Q: Ruth, you mentioned living together and you mentioned the kitchen – in what way was it like... you were obviously in one building – but how, in what way was it living together? Could you just elaborate on that.

RUTH: Well, lots of times Bill Goldberg would come with... crabs. Then the whole ... everybody had it, everybody shared it. But other than that, when you had your meals, there were usually people around and if you had a good cake you would share it. Things like that.

SOL: The community portion, other than the fact that your cooking was all mixed into one unit, but as Ruth pointed out, you had your own refrigeration and utensils. And then sleeping quarters were totally individual. There’s nothing new to the aspect of that. The community is pretty much limited to dining – and you didn’t always eat with the same people, because they didn’t choose the same time of day – but other than that, it would be sitting on the porch, maybe singing songs, or yakking away. Some of them had fairly good voices and almost all of them knew the tunes and the words to the songs that were prevalent at that time. So, there were a few merry nights.

Q: Tell me more about the singing, because few people have mentioned that.

SOL: Well, Mel Foer used to like to sing... actually other ___ songs, but he was, I'd say, the spokesman on that subject and whoever was there would join in. But it would generally be in the evening, when the mosquitoes were lining up, and the fireflies were lit up. And it would sort of penetrate the sounds of the night... a little melody. It was pleasant.

Q: What kind of songs were sung?

SOL: Well, the songs of the '50s, pretty much... it would be "Oklahoma" at that time... Hammerstein. Let's see... maybe "Carousel" was written at that time and Lowe and Lerner's "My Fair Lady"... "Come Blow Your Horn" – you pretty much go back and look at the compositions of the time. It would be... let's see, who else... oh, I can remember that "Mairzy Doats" was a crazy one... and "That Doggy in the Window" – those were the less desirable ones. But the Lowe and Lerner "Carousel" and then there was...

RUTH: "Carousel" was Hammerstein...

SOL: No, I'm thinking of...

Q: "My Fair Lady" and "Gigi" ...

SOL: "Gigi" – that was Lowe and Lerner, yes, "Gigi" at that time...

Q: ... but the Broadway musicals, the novelty songs...

SOL: Yes, but I guess the most popular ones were Lowe and Lerner and Hammerstein.

Q: I just wanted to get a general idea, or if there was a favorite song that you always sang together, that would stick in your mind... Ruth, did you have any songs that you remember?

RUTH: I do a lot of Yiddish songs, but that was not prevalent. I'd mention it once or twice but nobody could join me in that except maybe Franny.

SOL: Well a lot of people knew the language, if they wanted to.

Q: Any other activities that you enjoyed in the evening, with the whole group gathered together?

[21:20]

SOL: No, we never built a bonfire or anything like that.

RUTH: Except the crabfests... that would bring everybody together.

Q: Were you card players?

RUTH: No, we weren't ...

SOL: We may be cards but not card players.

RUTH: The Sacks and the Kamerows weren't card players either. Most everybody really didn't play much cards.

SOL: No pinochle players... I don't remember anybody playing Bridge...they may have been.

Q: You mentioned the crab feast, and of course all these people were Jewish... what was the sense of Jewish practice down at Shady Side?

SOL: Nothing prominent.

RUTH: No, that wasn't prominent. I'm more Yiddish ____ than they were. In fact I still teach Yiddish – we have a group that comes together. But there was not a big, shall I say, memory that we have of any Yiddish, or even talking about history or things like that.

SOL: Anything serious was completely dismissed.

RUTH: Of course we saw the Sacks and the Kamerows at our synagogue, and we all went to services and saw each other there... but not at Shady Side.

Q: So during the summer, was people's sense of Jewish identity, or sense of Jewish different from during the regular year?

RUTH: No.

SOL: No, the Club had no influence in that direction.

RUTH: No, it's not like work in _____ ??

SOL: You were just about the same way as being home, I guess – just with a lot of people around.

Q: Well, did you keep Kosher at home in Montgomery County, but not in...

RUTH: No, no, we didn't keep Kosher. We had Kosher style.

SOL: I would call it "Kosher-like" in the sense that there was no hog meat, but other than that there was no distinction between dairy and meat and so on.

Q: What about the crab feast though, did you... would you typically go to a crab feast when you were home in Montgomery County?

SOL: No, we wouldn't go. It was brought to us and so we participated. Cleaning out the shells, you know, so as you threw away only the shells and no meat was rejected (?).

Q: When you were growing up, had you eaten crabs before?

RUTH & SOL: No. Not at home.

Q: I'm just wondering how you viewed the difference in your life in Montgomery County and Shady Side.

SOL: It wasn't doing anything that you wouldn't do at home, it's just doing it with others. It was a case of like drinking in one instance and not the other or smoking or any of the participations or anything that you would do at home.

Q: How about the ambience of the town or the area of Shady Side? Did you ever leave...

SOL: We were an island.

RUTH: No, we never even got around to even talking to your neighbors. We were all isolated.

SOL: I think we have to be careful there... our own experience is what Ruth just described, I don't think it pertains to others who were more gregarious.

Q: That's OK – I'm really just asking about your experience.

SOL: Our experience was... we could have been surrounded totally by water... it wouldn't have mattered to us. We didn't know any of the neighbors, except for down at the docks... there was one seaman whose name escapes me at the moment. ... and his wife always would chatter with us. I can't think of his name now.

Q: You're probably thinking of Capt. Ennis Bast.

SOL: That's it exactly.

Q: And his wife, Alice.

SOL: Yes, exactly... we met them out back. Now they never lost an opportunity to chat away and make a few cracks here and there. We brought our son-in-law down at the time – his name was Michael -- and he'd say "what's a Jewish boy named 'Michael' for?" and that kind of thing. But, other than Bast, I don't think we spoke to.... oh, the keeper of the marina was Richie, did you say? Rhodes... I chatted with him. But other than that, we might have just as well been in Silver Spring. Sort of isolated...

Q: You didn't get any sense of just curious about the distance between your Silver Spring home and Shady Side. But it sounds as though... well, you tell me.

SOL: We transported one to the other. We just lifted ourselves and our habits and all our faults just miles away and that's all. I regret it now. We should have, in retrospect, been more community conscious or neighbor conscious or so on. But it's only a thing that you did overnight...

RUTH: We didn't spend weeks there, we were there just weekends.

SOL: So that the amount of time that we had ... time was a constraint to doing a lot of things, which we probably should have.

Q: Why should you have?

SOL: Well, we probably would have enjoyed it – and certainly we would have enjoyed knowing the histories of many of these people, and having made a living down there, and what their problems were. There were broad-leaf tobacco farmers all over the place – I would have liked to have known how they sold at auction and what problems they had selling tobacco and to whom. But, we never got that far – never attended a tobacco auction, which we could have.

Q: How did you perceive the area around Shady Side?

RUTH: I don't know, I'm kind of confused with the other place that we went to. That was anti-Semitic – I was with Evelyn Sacks and we were... it started to be a hail storm, and there was this building that looked like it was some kind of place that sold food. There was a big front porch and we went there. And the woman thought that I was OK – she wanted to let me come in – but not Evelyn because she thought Evelyn looked Jewish. So that was in my mind a lot – the kind of atmosphere I might find, which may never have happened right around Shady Side.

SOL: There was beach... you may know the name of it... which had, I think, some gambling machines. And it's the oldest beach down around that part – I don't know the name of it. But it was not Shady Side itself or Deale.

Q: Are you thinking of Beverly Beach?

SOL: No. Beverly Beach was near_____.

Q: There was Beverly Beach and Mayo Beach.... that people have talked about

SOL: I think it was Mayo ... which isn't exactly Shady Side...

Q: Ruth, when you were there on that day it began to hail, who... was it just you and Evelyn or were there others?

RUTH: Just the two of us... and it was hailing, not just raining... but of course I wouldn't go and leave Evelyn. And we were both lost in a hail storm.

Q: What did you do?

RUTH: Nothing [laughter] We just went home as fast as we could, but it took a while.

Q: In other words, you didn't... could you go into the building at all?

RUTH: No, she wouldn't let Evelyn come in. And it was hailing. Would you believe it?

Q: Several people have told me a similar kind of story, but in most cases it was the children who said they were there as well. And they remember not being allowed to come in to maybe, go under cover. They think it was like a... more of a pavilion than a building. But this may have happened on more than one occasion – I don't know.

RUTH: It could have been a pavilion because it was like a porch, all around on three sides, and the front was open.

Q: Very interesting. So I'm curious to know if this incident happened ... toward the beginning of the time you were coming down to Shady Side...

RUTH: I can't remember exactly when it happened. It's just that the picture of both of us in a hail storm, together, and the picture of that building, is what is in my mind.

Q: How did you feel at the time?

RUTH: Angry.

Q: Did you and Evelyn talk about the incident?

RUTH: No.

Q: With any of the people back at the ...

RUTH: No, we never mentioned anything.

SOL: I didn't hear about it until much later.

Q: Had you ever experienced anything like that at all anywhere in your life?

RUTH: When we were first married, we were in Florida... we were in Miami Beach, and there were two beautiful, lovely hotels with a beautiful lawn. And on the lawn there was a sign saying "No Jews and dogs allowed." And then, we once were driving up towards Canada... were the children with us?... no... and we didn't have any reservations and it was getting late. So we found this little hotel and we went in there, and the woman greeted us very cordially, and she said that dinner was over but she would be glad to make us a meal. And she made us a meal and it was so beautiful – our room was right over water. And we had a lovely breakfast. So then, I asked her for some literature so I could show my friends how lovely this place was. And when I opened the literature it said "No Jews allowed."

SOL: Actually, we didn't know it when we entered but as we left, we could see the signs to the same effect on the door as we said good-bye.

Q: Did you tell her you were Jewish?

RUTH: No. Oh she thought we were a lovely couple – she made us a meal herself.

Q: Any other interactions with the people of Anne Arundel County or Shady Side... good or bad?

RUTH: No. Not really.

Q: Any events that you would have gone to...

SOL: I don't know. Maybe if we had more time and knew better, we would have considered going say, square dancing just to watch them do it.

RUTH: You were square dancing also (?) kid (?) at that time – so was I.

SOL: We didn't know what was going on and we didn't try to inquire as to what was going on.

Q: Well, you said that you felt that it was like an island, but what an island it was.

SOL: Yes, it was nice.

Q: Did you participate in some of the sports that were going on in the yard during the day?

RUTH: No, the kids did -- I didn't. Sol didn't, did you?

SOL: I don't remember any adults that would. I don't remember any adults that played tennis or volleyball – they may have.

Q: What about your daughters – when you, say you were sitting on the porch and looking out and seeing them, what would they be doing?

SOL: Their own thing with their own friends – the subject matters of which we can only speculate about. We never inquired, they never volunteered.

Q: So they were off on their own, completely?

RUTH: Yes

SOL: Not very far away...

RUTH: ... in the boat, they were with us, and swimming they were with us.

SOL: ... always in sight. They didn't go to town... or restaurants

Q: Tell me about the sleeping arrangements a little more.

SOL: You had your own private room...

RUTH:and the kids had dormitories.

Q: So where was your room and how did you furnish it?

SOL: Sparsely. It had just a bed.... we didn't buy furniture... it was there. We didn't buy anything.

RUTH: The only thing we bought was the refrigerator.

SOL: I don't know whose place we took when we paid our admission fee... I don't know.

Q: Tell me a little bit about the financial arrangements. What did you... how did you...

SOL: There was an admission payment, as I recall...and then we paid ...

RUTH: We didn't pay anything except the admission, and we were supposed to get it back when we left. But nobody said anything about giving the money back and we never said anything about "hey, you said we should get it back."

SOL: Wait a minute... weren't there payments at all? For maintenance and such? I'm very hazy about it.

Q: Each year, you didn't have to pay?

SOL: I can't see how it would not have been.

RUTH: It was just the initial payment.

SOL: There had to be... after all, there was the electricity, utilities... got to be payments. I don't remember.

Q: What about when it came time to build the pool? Were you involved in the decision?

[37:55]

SOL: No, there was a committee on that. I think Jack Goldberg was on that...

RUTH: ... we didn't go asking for bids or anything like that.

SOL: I can't tell you who the spokesman was for it... my impression is that Goldberg was one of the leaders in getting estimates ...

RUTH: I think the Sacks and Kamerows were ...

SOL: ... certainly they would have been the best equipped.

RUTH: We were not the big _____

SOL: No, we enjoyed the fruits, we weren't the planters or the farmers.

Q: Tell me just a little bit about the construction of the pool... it was in 1957 that it opened, so, you were there for the summer before...

SOL: Oh yes, several years before.

Q: I know you talked about how much you liked it but, could you contrast the before and after in terms of how you would spend your day.

SOL: Yes, before then, you'd be on the water and then after that, you were less on the water. The boats got used far less frequently. It was just nice being in the pool. It made going there more desirable... increased(?) our anxiety.

Q: Can you summarize how you feel it benefited your children to be part of the Shady Side experience.

SOL: Yes, access to kids who may otherwise not see very much... gaining a broader perspective on differences(?) of people... different kinds of kids. Otherwise you have a set group... your neighbors, kids in the neighborhood, kids at school... this added a third dimension. It broadened their contacts and learning how other people think and do things.

Q: Would you generalize that to your own experience as adults, in terms of your group of friends and kinds of people you were exposed to at that point in your life?

SOL: Oh, I guess in theory, yes... in practice, no because the people we were closest to there... well, Ruth not as much, but in my case... I saw them almost every day. We carpoled and so on.

RUTH: Oh you didn't carpool that much...

SOL: I did for quite a while... but even there Herb and Stanley... they were pretty much talking to themselves. I don't know, they had an enormous amount of back and forth flow – I don't know how

that was possible because they saw each other so much, but they always had something to tell each other. I couldn't understand...

RUTH: I had a lot of closeness to the women there.

Q: How did that develop?

RUTH: It didn't develop... you just came and you were together.

Q: What kinds of things would you be talking about with the other women?

SOL: [laughter] Kids probably.

RUTH: I don't know... it wasn't just about our diaper-talking... they were intelligent people and we'd talk about politics...

SOL: None of the women, from my memory, had outside employment, so they were all housewives, pretty much. ... they were all intelligent women

RUTH:... they were not stupid.

Q: Did your friendships extend beyond Shady Side?

RUTH: ... I don't think they were beyond except for our neighbors.

SOL: Let's say, what they were after was what they were before. There were no new additions or loss at Shady Side. As you probably know, some of them were neighbors. Right behind us were the Sacks and Kamerows and the others... I don't know where some of them lived.

Q: Did you ever drive down to Shady Side together? Or make any driving arrangements?

SOL: No, I don't think we ever did. Because most of them went for longer periods of time. They'd leave Friday and come back maybe Monday morning or Sunday night. They all out-stayed us. In those days, I regret to say, I'd frequently work on Saturday morning, so we didn't get there until Saturday afternoon.

Q: Well, that about wraps up the time that we have. I just wonder if you could ... somehow, if you were to look at it from the perspective of history, or the perspective of looking at it from far away, now that you've lived many decades past the time you were involved in Shady Side, if you could sort of access what it meant to you in your... during that time in your life. Ruth, you're looking thoughtful...

RUTH: I think it's always good to know that you have lived with people and that you have gotten along with people.

SOL: I think that's correct... I would amend it only by saying that it was a period of life that was enjoyable... the main _____ by the fact that we were younger and healthier and didn't have those problems to worry about. But it added a flavor that we otherwise didn't get ... being exposed to people that we otherwise would not have been exposed to. It's the give and take of conversations, the give and take of borrowing a knife or utensil or something. All that broadens your perspective and without that opportunity we probably would have been the poorer... It was not the greatest thing in

our life, on the other hand, it was a memorable, pleasant one and there are not regrets and many thanks.

Q: Very good. Thank you very much for spending this time with me. I really, really appreciate it.