

Phillipson

of my life.

Alfred State College Centennial

Name: Charles P. Phillipson
Department: Mathematics
Dates Employed: July 1963-July 1990
Memories: Attached Page

Phillipson

To: Centennial Committee
Alfred State College
Alfred, NY 14802

This is a pleasant surprise to hear from you and invite me to contribute to the history book.

I would like to begin by describing my interview for a position in the Math Department. It took place on the second floor of the "I" building in the spring of 1963. Walt Shogoloff (might be spelled incorrectly) and I stared out the window while he described what soon was to take place in Alfred. A whole new campus would take shape and the student enrollment would significantly increase. With this wonderful vision of the future I returned to Watertown and made plans for the sale of my house and the purchase of one in Alfred.

At that time there were a few homes that were for rent but only two new ones for sale. The barber/builder of both was living in one while the other was empty and recently finished. Since both were the same price my wife Rita and I decided on the latter. It was a great choice since we are still living there but it was a great choice because my kitchen window looked out on the field that soon changed with giant earthmovers clearing the land for the promised campus.

I believe that 25 new faculty were added that fall and we all assembled at a social event where we were introduced to the entire faculty. It was quite exciting considering that prior to this I was teaching in a private business college which had only four other teachers.

During the early years of my tenure the school invited many famous people from politics, entertainment and other fields to visit the campus. One person that I was invited to meet at a cocktail hour was Jose' Montoya, the classical guitarist. Another was Sander Vanoker who had just returned from Viet Nam. He joined me for coffee one day in the snack bar and described Viet Nam and the French withdrawal which he covered for the press. Another activity that I will always remember was the year that I was treasurer for the Fall Festival and had to pay the band leader, Billy Butterfield. He was quite popular.

On the humorous side maybe somebody might remember hearing about the cross campus pass. The math department was housed on Main Street across from the present Post Office. Classes were held on both sides of Main Street. We had a young lady in the department who had classes on both sides and one day I asked her if she had a cross campus path in order to cross Main Street. . We all had fun with this idea and even Dean Bouck played along.

Another memory that I treasure was attending several away from the campus weekends that some faculty shared with students. These took place on Keuka Lake, in Albany and other resorts where we had occasion to get to know the students more individually. And the best of all, who could forget the wonderful performances by our students under the direction of John Larson of such shows as West Side Story and Oklahoma.

For the record I retired in 1990 but continued to teach part-time for the next 4 years. Thank you again for giving me a chance to recall a few events in a most enjoyable period

of my life.