

GARY W. ANDERSON  
Siskiyou County Assessor

**Retired Assessor**  
Historical Questionnaire

1. Describe your career before becoming assessor. - Worked in timber industry, obtained BS Degree, employed by Siskiyou County Assessor as an Appraiser in 1975.
2. Give the milestones of your Assessor career, year elected/appointed, reelection dates, date of retirement. - Appointed: May 12, 2002. Served remainder of Carl Bontrager's term through 1/5/03. Retired: September 15, 2003
3. Describe your career, if any, after retiring. - Grandpa
4. What was your relationship with your predecessor? - Excellent
5. What was your relationship with your successor? - Excellent
6. Why did you run for assessor? - Appointment after retirement of Assessor Carl Bontrager prior to expiration of his term.
7. What do you consider your greatest accomplishments? - Transitioning our office through a difficult and emotional time after the retirement and untimely death of the previous Assessor, Carl Bontrager.
8. What did you wish you could have done differently? - No reply.
9. What do you remember most fondly about your time in office? - The support I received from staff and other county departments during my appointment.
10. Were there any parts of your career that you wish had not happened? - No reply.
11. What was your relationship with the CAA? - I was the Assistant Assessor for several years and really enjoyed and benefited from the meetings and seminars put on by the Assistants' group.
12. What is your recollection of the "Assessor Scandals" of the 1960s? - Before my time.
13. Describe the pressure and stress of the Assessor's job prior to the passage of Proposition 13? - The Assessor's position had a higher profile than it does today. When we did cyclic reappraisals, there was a lot more contact with the taxpayers.
  - Did you actively oppose or support Proposition 13? – Opposed
  - How did you feel about Proposition 13 now? - A bad idea that has outlived its usefulness.
14. Were you involved in State or County politics, other than the Assessor's Office? - None

- Were there other offices you ran for while in office as Assessor? - Local school boards.

15. A good Assessor needs to be open minded, impartial in applying the tax code, and deal with staff fairly.

- No, as Assessor shouldn't be required to have an appraisal or real estate background. Application of the R&T Code is becoming more administrative and less "appraisal judgment" than it was in the past.