

THE FUTURE OF RESEARCH IN THE MARGARET CHASE SMITH ARCHIVES

The value of the Margaret Chase Smith Archives already has been shown by both the kind and variety of research people who have used this resource. The greatest value of the Archives, however, is in the future. This is because history, based on careful historical research, is written with perspective. Perspective comes with time. As times pass the material found in the Margaret Chase Smith Archives will become more and more essential to research in the history of the twentieth century.

The Archives technically began in 1940 when Senator Smith was elected to the House of Representatives as the first woman elected to national office by the State of Maine. However, the Archives really have their basis in the earlier years of the century as Margaret Chase Smith grew up in small town America. The basic influences which formed the character and established her later political career can be seen as fundamental to whatever common experience can be said to be true of Americans as a whole. These qualities: honesty, integrity, conscientious devotion to what seemed best at the time for the people of Maine and the nation, formed the background of Senator Smith's public service. These years, as the oldest in a family of six children,

formed her character as, indeed, they do for most people. In her case, however, the character formed in childhood propelled her to achievements and service undreamed of by the people she grew up with. From this American family and from this American town, Margaret Smith went out into the world to become one of its most influential and admired leaders and an outstanding statesman representing her people, her town, her state and her nation before the leaders of the country and the world. And because she accomplished all that she did, the records of that career have a unique place in the scope of historical research as it pertains to twentieth century America.

It has been said that one cannot understand one's self or one's environment at the time one is experiencing it. This is especially true of serious, scholarly, and valid historical writing. The Margaret Chase Smith Archives will not change or be modified. The information in them, however, will be modified by perspective. As the historical scholars of the future look back on a twentieth century they did not experience personally, the events of that most momentous century in our history will be seen by the way in which all existing records are seen taken together. The Margaret Chase Smith Archives will be a major portion of that total perspective of the twentieth century. They will take their appropriate place among the records of other movers and shakers who formed the century as it came to be.

As Benjamin Disraeli, Queen Victoria, and Napoleon, and so many others framed the nineteenth century so will Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Eisenhower, Marshall, and Margaret Smith, among the many frame the twentieth century. The career of Margaret Chase Smith, however, like Queen Victoria, will have a

greater impact because of the fact that she is a woman. Some historians have called the twentieth century the century of the woman. It could not have been that without Margaret Smith. She, more than any other woman, led the way for women to become political leaders, economic and social arbiters, and educational and cultural statesmen. These aspects of the Smith Archives, above all, constitute the essence of this collection and guarantee its permanence for the future of historical research in this nation.

SENATOR SMITH HONORED

Senator Margaret Chase Smith receives recognition and many awards each year before her continuing service and contributions to the world. Following is a list of some of her 1986 distinctions:

- Central Maine Area Agency on Aging (Augusta)
- Living Legacies Award
- Maine Council for the Social Studies Award for Contributions to Education
- Maine Legislature Proclamation: Margaret Chase Smith American Spirit Day
- Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey Honorary Degree, Doctor of Laws
- Skowhegan Area High School Margaret Chase Smith Lobby
- United States Air Force American Spirit Award
- Unity College (Unity, Maine) Honorary Degree, Doctor of Public Service
- Westbrook College (Portland, Maine) Woman of Achievement Award
- Wilson College (Chambersburg, Pennsylvania) Presidential Award

Senator Smith is flanked by honorees and program participants at the 1986 Entrepreneur of the Year Award: David E. Fry, Roger Michaud, Senator Smith, Kenneth Tuttle, and R. Gary Stauffer (L-R)

ENTREPRENEURS HAILED

The Maine Society of Entrepreneurs and the Northwood Institute Margaret Chase Smith Library Center presented the 1986 Entrepreneur of the Year Award to two leading Maine businessmen. Named as recipients of this honor were Roger P. Michaud, president and founder of American Stabilis, Inc., Lewiston, and entrepreneur and historic restoration leader Kenneth E. Tuttle, Pittston.

Michaud and Tuttle were presented the award by Dr. David E. Fry, president of Northwood Institute at the August meeting of the Maine Society of Entrepreneurs.

In making the award presentations Fry said, "Kenneth Tuttle and Roger Michaud recognized opportunity and did something about it. They have served us all in the process. This opportunity, turned into a spirit of entrepreneurship is central to the future of our country."

Roger P. Michaud, president of American Stabilis, Inc., founded the company in 1972 at the age of 24. Today at 36, Michaud's hard work, dedication and perseverance have built American Stabilis from a two-man operation to a multi-national corporation with three manufacturing plants in Lewiston, and sales and technical training centers in England and Canada. Actively involved in community and state affairs, Michaud has received recognition for his business acumen and leadership.

Entrepreneur Kenneth E. Tuttle is considered one of the state's most successful antiques dealer and the major force behind the revitalization of his hometown, Gardiner, Maine. Tuttle's restoration of a random row of 19th century buildings has not only renewed

enthusiasm for the past but has "awakened the sleeping city."

Leading Gardiner to be a classy commercial district rivaling Portland, Ken Tuttle has become something of a local hero and referred to as a "one man private urban renewal authority." Assisting Dr. Fry in the award presentations were Dr. R. Gary Stauffer, co-founder of Northwood Institute and Senator Margaret Chase Smith. Remarks were also made by Myrt Willey, president, T. W. Dick Co., Inc. The luncheon hosts for the event were Gloria and Ray Hearn, MSE members. In 1984 the Entrepreneur of the Year tradition began with the award being presented to leading Maine businessmen, Thomas M. Chappall, president of Tom's of Maine, Inc., Kennebunk, and real estate developer Peter Webber of Carrabassett. In 1985 recipients of this honor were Anthony L. Gelardi and Paul J. Gelardi both of Kennebunkport. Anthony is president and co-founder of SHAPE, and Paul is president of SHAPE Video and vice President of SHAPE

OPEN HOUSE HELD

Over 150 people accepted the invitation of Dr. MacCampbell to visit the Library Center during the annual Appreciation Day. This occasion is an opportunity for the staff to thank those who have participated in the growth and development of the Library Center and those who are interested in supporting it in the future.

Senator Smith continues to build bridges between generations as evidenced by the number of young people meeting with her and utilizing the resources at the Library Center. The record shows:

* 100 students ranging from elementary school to college interviewed Senator Smith during Women's History Week.

* 14 students from the Department of Human Health and Family Studies, University of Maine, Farmington, participated in an educational tour, discussed current events and reviewed periods in history with Senator Smith.

* 75 students from schools including Athens Elementary, Corinna Junior High and Mount View Junior High toured the facilities and quizzed Senator Smith on her political career. Students, like most visitors, are intrigued by the honorary doctoral degree hoods which hang in the exhibition hall.

* 105 cast members from "Up with People" visited the Library Center; many nations were represented for the production in Waterville.

* Members of the Political Science Club from Mount Blue High School met with Senator Smith for discussions and toured the Library Center.

* Fifth grade history students from the Margaret Chase Smith Elementary School had the opportunity to meet their school's namesake during a field trip.

The students heard presentations by Senator Smith and two former educators, Lynall Smith and Dorothy Hobart, on the importance of history study.

Senator Smith recalled that she wasn't a particularly good student and always regretted not placing a greater emphasis on her studies. She encouraged the students to take advantage of their educational opportunities.

The Elderhostel Program is now an expected event on the roster at the Library Center. It is also an accepted fact that each week-long program will offer three academic classes, balanced with social activities.

A statistician can easily calculate the 176 individuals who have participated in the six programs since September '83 have represented 23 states. The numbers show 11 individuals have attended more than one program. (Total weight gain has not been recorded as a result of the 2,992 meals served from menus offering hot dogs to lobster.)

At the conclusion of each program, the numbers are calculated and reports are filed. For the most part, the statistical reports are easily forgotten because they fail to reflect the value, excitement and true meaning of Elderhostel at the Margaret Chase Smith Library Center.

To gain a sense of the reality of the programs, one must look in separate files for the handwritten comments from participants, study the photographs and feel the emotion in personal correspondence.

While any one program is in process, even the most casual observer would find it difficult to avoid the interest and intrigue as participants view the displays and become familiar with the resources at the Library Center.

The dada for the expression of positive human emotion is exhilarating: brothers from Maine and California meet to share the week; long-time friends since early military days discuss the events of their lives; a foursome from Florida laugh about experiences as they traveled by van; family stories work into conversations with brother, sister and spouses from Kansas; a returning participant from Arizona introduces a friend recruited for the current program; tears of joy are visible as family reunions are incorporated with the Elderhostel schedule. Smiles and hugs are exchanged as strangers, casual acquaintances and lifetime friends from as far as Hawaii gather in Skowhegan to form a cohesive group eager to learn; instructors and learners are energized by stimulating lectures and lively discussions; and on the home front, commuter participants welcome guests to their community with great pride.

Participants depart with a variety of treasured experiences...and, as calculated by those in attendance, heading the list is the opportunity to meet and talk with Senator Margaret Chase Smith.

During the June '86 meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Margaret Chase Smith Library Center, Betty Bryden, Washington, D.C., addressed the 27 members attending. The text of her address follows:

Last year at Dr. MacCampbell's invitation, I had the privilege of working in the Library Center during June and well in August. I helped with the indexing of the scrapbooks, a fascinating experience. My weeks here gave me a deeper appreciation of what Senator Smith has done by collecting and saving valuable historical materials. I am sure any presidential or any other senatorial library would be envious of the treasures here. Upon my return to Washington, I wondered how I could be of more help to the Library. There is a Yankee saying: "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, go without." My own formula to help the library is: "Walk the miles instead of riding the bus; send in for cash rebates; redeem cents-off grocery coupons; take advantage of clothing sales and book bargains. Then—save the accumulated profits." By starting last December—adhering to my formula—my goal of something extra for the Library was reached a few days ago.

With my admiration, love and affection, Senator Smith, would you please accept this contribution for the Margaret Chase Smith Library Center. It is given in memory of our very special friend, Bill Lewis.

Miss Bryden presented a check for \$533 to Senator Smith. The Committee unanimously voted to name her, "Friend of the Library Center." Bryden was librarian of the Senate Republican Conference while Senator Smith served as chairman. During the past two years she has volunteered several months of her time at the Library Center in organizing the index to Senator Smith's scrapbooks.

We salute a special friend...Betty Bryden.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

* New flagpole honoring General William C. Lewis, Jr., long-time aide and confidant to Senator Smith, given by Captain Georgia McKearly, and Commander Maurine Meckes, members of the Advisory Committee.

* Additional exhibit display cases in the gallery and the exhibition area, funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment.

* Handcrafted cherry wood podium and tambor top computer console, funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment.

* The original collection of the "Personhood of Margaret Chase Smith" by Dr. Judith Burton. The resources of the Library Center were used extensively in research of this doctorate-producing work, and is a gift from the author.

* Two new book cases in the General Lewis Room, matching the existing cases, needed to house the balance of the recently completed scrapbook project, both funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 27- March 6:

Northwood Mini Session and Ski Event

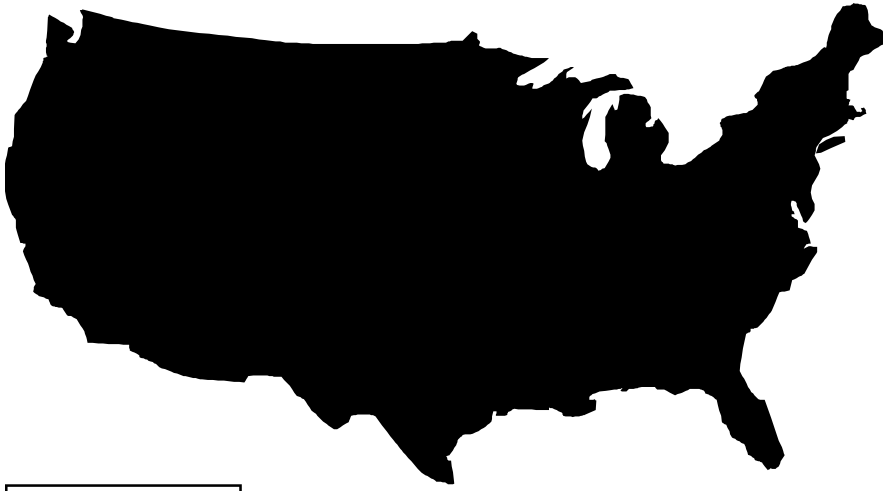
May 31 - June 6: Elderhostel Program featuring three classes: "The Political Career of Margaret Chase Smith," "Brighten your Life with Music," and "Artistry in Food."

June 24: Annual meeting of the Margaret Chase Smith Library Center Board

June 25: Annual meeting of the Margaret Chase Smith Library Center Advisory Committee

September 13-19: Elderhostel Program featuring three classes: "The Personhood of Margaret Chase Smith," "Great Writers from Maine," and "A Brief History of the State of Maine."

FOR THE RECORD



The shaded states on the map above (37 in total plus the District of Columbia) indicate residences of individuals who have come to the Library Center for tours, research, seminars, or meetings. In addition to the United States, International residences are: **Canada, England, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland, West Germany.**

MSE HOLDS QUARTERLY MEETINGS

“How to get the Most Out of Your Marketing and Advertising Dollars” was discussed during the April meeting of the Maine Society of Entrepreneurs. Paul Dooling, president of William Estey Company, New York City, was the featured speaker. Panelists who shared their expertise and experience with the more than 60 members gathered were: Bob Cott, vice president, and Barrett Alexander, chief copy writer, of Creative Design and Marketing, Portland; and John Christie, president of Christie Associates, Augusta. Thomas Moser, Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers, Portland, moderated the event. “The August meeting theme, “Business Planning in Today’s Economy,” featured a keynote address by economist Richard F. Spellman, director of Central Maine Power Company’s Market Research and Forecasting Department. Additional presentations were made by Stanley O. Provus, chief executive officer of the Finance Authority of Maine; G. Leroy Perry, assistant district director of Small Business Association lending programs; Armand Faureau of American Stabilis, Inc., and Robert Leason, director of advertising for Central Maine Power Company. Chairing the meeting was Myrt Willey, president of T. W. Dick Co., Inc.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

The Advisory Committee and the Board of the Margaret Chase Smith Library Center met during the summer in Skowhegan. Each group meets annually for an update of the current operation and activities of the facility, and to discuss plans for the future. Welcomed by Dr. R. Gary Stauffer as friends and ambassadors of the Library Center, the groups’ primary function is to serve in an advisory capacity to the Library Center’s management team.

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Comments and suggestions can be directed to the Editor at the Library Center

—A variety of organizations continue to visit the Library Center for meetings and tours. Recent groups include:

- * Maine Library Commission
- * Daughters of the American Revolution
- * Kennebec Corridor Minister’s Roundtable
- * Family Violence Project
- * Skowhegan Extension Homemakers
- * Salvation Army Golden Age Group
- * Palermo Extension
- * Board of Trustees - Kennebec Valley Mental Health Center
- * Central Maine Library District Board

—Grand Dame Ingrid Bjornberg of Finland visited the Library Center and Senator Smith. She was accompanied by Jack Chinn, president of Madison Paper Industries.

—During July, 250 individuals visited the Library Center

—NBC television crews interviewed Senator Smith at her home and the Library Center for a segment of the TODAY SHOW aired in late October.

—Myrt Willey, member of Maine Society of Entrepreneurs, accompanied members of the Augusta Zonta Club for an evening tour with Senator Smith.

—Fifty-two senior citizens from the Muskie Center in Waterville toured and spoke with Senator Smith, recalling moments in history which exemplified the politics of their day.

—On an economic note Maine craftspeople gathered to discuss plans for meeting at the Jacob Javits Center in New York City to participate in the World Trade Show. Billed as an international event, hundreds of craftspeople display handmade products, resulting in exposure to more than 50,000 buyers.

—The Maine Federation of Women’s Clubs held a District III Art Contest and Exhibit for area high school students. Art work from surrounding communities was on display throughout the day and ribbon awards were presented to four finalists.

—Central Maine Management Corporation scheduled the Library Center for a meeting and tour. Because of the number of people responding to hear Senator Smith speak, CMMC held their dinner meeting at a local restaurant with Margaret Chase Smith and Dr. MacCampbell as honored guests. After dinner, the 70 participants toured the Library Center.

—The Skowhegan Business and Professional Women’s Club meets at the Library Center twice monthly to discuss a variety of topics related to personal and work worlds.