

Reminiscing at Home *Anecdote by MCS, 1984*

This is a beautiful morning, December 22, 1984. I am sitting here at my home in Skowhegan overlooking the Kennebec River which is not frozen over yet, looking out over the fields and through the snow-loaded evergreen trees thinking how perfectly wonderful it is here. The mail has just come in. I thought I had it all caught up when Mrs. Stockwell left. I love my mail; I don't want it to ever let up but I was a little discouraged when I saw all that mail this morning and no secretary to help me.

I have been reminiscing a bit this early Saturday morning. This is easy to do when there is time to think and I take time occasionally and I have wonderful memories, some very sad ones but most of them happy and how grateful I am. I have been reminiscing and remembering 1936. That was a long, long time ago. Clyde and I had been through a hard campaign. He was elected to Congress in September, 1936. We were tired and he had promised if we got through that election, we would go to Washington and take a trip South and get some sunshine and some rest. He knew little about rest or any kind of recreation, but I had been thinking a good deal about it so we left Skowhegan with a car well-packed, our little black and tan Mexican (chihuahua), Alice Betty, with us and drove to Washington rather more slowly than usual or rather more slowly than I have done it in recent

Clyde H. Smith and Margaret outside their home in Skowhegan in 1936.

years. It was a pleasant trip. We had not done any traveling outside of Maine because we always did so much campaigning in Maine. We stayed all night in an overnight place, lovely home, outside of Washington in Maryland, left not too early the next morning for our first official visit in the Capitol city.

We did some searching, although we had very careful directions as to how to go, where to go to find where we were going to live but we did not know there were four sections in the city of Washington and we were told all we had to do was to find 16th Street and go North. We got to 16th Street in Northeast rather than Northwest section and we hunted and hunted and we didn't find anything like we were looking for. Finally, we found

someone to ask and found we were in the wrong area. So got ourselves straightened out, got to Connecticut Avenue in the District, drove North, first thinking we might stop in somewhere for breakfast and this we did in a place that said coffee and donuts. Of course, we were looking for home made donuts in Maine instead we had coffee and large jelly, yeast donuts. They were alright and we were, of course, excited. We went on past Chevy Chase Circle by the Chevy Chase Country Club and turned right onto Raymond Street and our little red brick house was on the first corner just a block off the Avenue. **(Cont. p. 3)**
(Cont. from front cover) We were very fortunate. We had a friend by the name of Mary Allen who we saw a great deal of in

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RESEARCH ABOUNDS AT THE LIBRARY

To think that the life and career of Margaret Chase Smith, even eight years after her death, is still of interest and pertinent to the issues of today is astonishing. The Margaret Chase Smith Library has almost daily contact from folks in Maine and across the country who are conducting research about some aspect of history in which Margaret Chase Smith played an important role. In the year 2003, over 180 requests for information were received. Of that number, 112 were actual on-site visits and 3 were mail; 30 were telephone; and 33 were e-mail inquiries. It is interesting to note that the e-mail and telephone contacts were so close in number, which might indicate that folks still enjoy that personal association even with today's advanced technology. These figures reflect an amount which has doubled in the last ten years, an accomplishment of which to be proud. Perhaps it is the Library's continuing promotion of field trips, involvement with library associations, and outreach programs, or efforts to create an atmosphere that is user friendly. Regardless, it is hoped that students, teachers, authors, and visitors will continue to avail themselves of one of Maine's most interesting historical facilities.

Leeke Grant Recipient Focuses on D of C

Chris Brady, a senior at St. Mary's College of Maryland has received the Ada E. Leeke Research Fellowship Grant to assist him in his study of Margaret Chase Smith's Declaration of Conscience and McCarthyism. During his two-day stay, Chris reviewed such files as: Aiken-Smith, Bernard Baruch, Declaration of Conscience, and, of course, the McCarthy file. Chris hopes to teach history at the secondary school level following his graduation.

Tiffany Burke

Profiles in Courage Contest Brings Student Inquiry

A senior at Faith Baptist Christian School in Skowhegan, Tiffany Burke has long admired Margaret Chase Smith and selected her as a prime example of courage when submitting an essay to the John F. Kennedy Profiles in Courage Contest. Concentrating specifically on Smith's Second Declaration of Conscience, Tiffany considered her research and subsequent essay as a learning experience that will serve her well when she attends either North Central University in Minneapolis or Colorado Christian University where she plans to major in secondary education.

Leeke Grant recipient, Chris Brady, is shown reviewing the files at the MCSL.

Joyce Spinelli of Toledo, Ohio, returned to continue her research on the life of MCS as the final step toward her master's degree. Also a recipient of the Leeke Grant, Joyce hopes to return in the summer for further study.

University of Maine at Farmington student, Elizabeth Austin, is a political science major looking into the constituent reaction to Smith's Declaration of Conscience. Liz has been accepted for graduate study at St. Andrews in Scotland.

St. Joseph's College (Windham, Maine) student, Danielle McLaughlin, came to determine how the Library might be used as a field trip experience in social studies classes at the elementary school level. Danielle viewed the exhibits and learned about the many educational programs offered by the Library.

Augusta, whose son was an assistant manager at the Walden Park Hotel. He and Betty Snyder were engaged to be married and they had taken it upon themselves to find us a house.

It was a very, very comfortable, small house, small after living in that great big 32-room house in Skowhegan and when in Augusta at the Augusta House, but the house was adequate: living room, glassed-in porch, dining room, a kitchen, a hall, the staircase going to the second floor where there were two or 2 1/2 bedrooms and 1 1/2 bathrooms, all furnished. Got ourselves unpacked and thought we were settled but first it was rather warm. Betty and Sven, thinking we would want some heat, had turned it up and it was warm and we were late in getting in, a day later than they expected. They had come in and dusted the place but there was little dust around and there was one dozen beautiful roses on the radio in the living room; but because of the delay and the heat, they looked like they had had it, but it was such a sweet thought. My how good they were to us when we first went to Washington.

After we were settled, we planned our trip South and started out in the car, Clyde, Betty, and I. We drove along rather casually thinking we were taking it easy as we were going to take time to make this trip right. We finally reached Savannah, Georgia. Now Savannah was to me in the deep South. I had visions of it being bright and sunny and warm. We found an overnight place, had a very comfortable night; but lo and behold, in the morning when we were up, there was four inches of snow on the ground and it was not warm. Clyde went to the desk and asked how much farther we would have to go to find a little sunshine and a little warmer weather than we left in the North, and the gentleman said, "Well, probably you would have to go to Miami. December and January are not our better months." "How far is Miami," Clyde asked. About 1,000 miles and this was somewhat discouraging and Clyde felt we had enough traveling so we turned around to go back North. We went as far as the border of North and South Carolina and went into a very pleasant overnight place at Fayetteville where the weather was delightful, a cool,

brisk air, bright and clear. The place where we were staying was pleasant and the people most gracious and hospitable so we stayed there for three days, did a little visiting in the area. He wanted to see some of the conditions that we read so much about in the poorer sections of the South. He was hoping to become a member of the House Labor and Welfare Committee and then we started back to Washington where we were all settled and ready to begin. It was a pleasant trip but a disappointing trip, and he was not about to take another one so that was the end of our automobile travels through the country.

Members of the Electra-thon Club of Carrabec High School are building an electrically-powered car. Here they learn about the Library research room and Senator Smith's involvement with the space program.

The Red Hat Ladies of the greater Waterville area visited the Library in February as part of their fun-time activities. Many of the hats pictured were made by one of the members. Staff member Crystal Perkins is shown with the ladies following a tour of the home. Crystal, however, fails to meet the age requirement to join these active women.

Members of the Central Kennebec Heritage Council met at the Library to discuss ways to encourage historical preservation and tourism in Central Maine. The Library's assistant director, David Richards, and Curator, Sheri Leahan, are members of that group.

"TO TELL THE TRUTH"

Robert Shetterly of Brooksville, Maine, believes he has found 50 Americans who "tell the truth." In his traveling exhibit of fifty portraits of "Americans Who Tell the Truth," Shetterly reflects what he believes to be a call for increased integrity in the political system. He hopes to remind people of the dignity, courage and importance of some of America's truth tellers. In a recent visit to the Library, Shetterly reviewed the photo file in order to find an example for use in painting Margaret Chase Smith for inclusion in the exhibit. Others in the collection include: Sojourner Truth, Dwight Eisenhower, Eleanor Roosevelt, Henry David Thoreau, Frederick Douglass, Mother Jones, Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, Abraham Lincoln, Rachel Carson, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Walt Whitman, and Emma Goldman.

Shetterly's acrylic-on-panel portraits of each "truth teller" combine images with words. The project will also be published as a book by Dutton. Says Shetterly, "one lesson that can be learned from all of these Americans is that the greatness of our country frequently depends not on the interpretation of the law, but the insistence of a single person that we adhere to the spirit of the law."

The MCS Library looks forward to viewing the collection in its entirety. Mr. Shetterly's collection may be viewed at www.americanswhotellthetruth.org.

Robert Shetterly reviews the MCS photo file

Canaan Classes Receive “Listening” Award

The fourth grade classes of Marc Poulin and Tabitha Brewer at Canaan Elementary School were recipients of the Library’s “Listening and Learning Award.” Because of their attentiveness, inquisitiveness, and good behavior, these boys and girls received the honor which, hopefully, will hold a place of prominence at their school. Not only were the students attentive but they have again proved that today’s young people are worthy of recognition. They collected 1400 items and \$100 in a food drive for the Canaan Food Cupboard. Congratulations, boys and girls! Says class member, **Sabrina Lunt**, “*You don’t know how much I want to thank you for the tour. If you ask my opinion, I think the tour was awesome. I think it is really cool how you still have valuable things that still look brand new.*”

Canaan Elementary School students are pictured above—listening and learning!

Jobs for Maine Graduates is a state-wide program which encourages high school students to prepare for the job market through hands-on learning. Teacher Mark Rancourt at Messalonskee High School brought nineteen students who have been involved in programs of service to their community. They helped prepare 800 Thanksgiving dinners for members of the community. At Christmas, they conducted a school-wide toy drive, raised over \$300, and collected and wrapped 150 presents for the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter. They were also involved in a quilt project for terminally ill children.

Members of the Lawrence High School Student Leadership class from Fairfield visited the Library with teachers Steve Knight and Eric Brown. This past fall the group backpacked into Chimney Pond at Baxter State Park and climbed Mt. Katahdin. During the 2003 holidays, the students made food baskets for two families at Thanksgiving and served meals at Sacred Heart Soup Kitchen in Waterville. They also helped a family with nine children at Christmas.

Jobs for Maine Graduates students listen to a presentation by Dr. David Richards.

Benton Elementary School students raised money for SOS, Support our Soldiers. They collected over 2400 personal supplies and raised \$5000 for the project. They sent Christmas ornaments and cards plus 78 care packages to troops in Iraq.

Students from the Winslow Junior High School have been actively involved in many community service projects. They have cared for animals at the Humane Society, befriended troubled teens, volunteered at a nursing home, assisted the Salvation Army and local food pantry, and honored veterans. This marks the sixth year teacher Linda Voss has brought her students to the Library to tell about their community service projects.

Good Will Students Visit

Ginny Palmer was pleased to bring seven students from the Good Will-Hinckley School. The young women who visited are involved with alternative education students at the Atwood-Tapley School in Oakland and hosted a Christmas party for their benefit. They have plans to visit the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D. C. as part of their study at Good Will-Hinckley’s Averill High School. The Library staff was so impressed by their interest and inquisitiveness, that the group was awarded the “Listening and Learning Award.”

Readers may remember that Senator Smith had a long association with the Hinckley property in that it was originally the Chase Homestead. Currently it is the home of the Bibby & Harold Alford Visitors Center and the Margaret Chase Smith Gallery where the MCS Library places portions of previous exhibits for off-site viewing. On display now are the “Homes of Margaret Chase Smith” and “Social Capital” exhibits. Please stop in the next time you pass by the campus on Route 201.

Rachel Culley, second place winner in the 2003 MCS Essay Contest visited the Library during the annual Appreciation Day. Rachel is currently a freshman at Harvard University.

Annual Appreciation Day in November brought friends to view the "Cover Girl" exhibit which portrays MCS and her relationship with the media. Curator Sheri Leahan presented a very informative gallery talk that explained the exhibit to those in attendance.

PBS Production Still in the Works

Readers may remember an article in 2002 about Catherine Russell who was involved in a documentary film project on the biography of Margaret Chase Smith. The Library is pleased to report that the project continues with further inquiry from Jeff Dobbs of Dobbs Productions in Bar Harbor, Maine. Both Russell and Dobbs have renewed their biographical study of Senator Smith's life and career and hope to review the thousands of photos of Smith for the production. The Library is, of course, glad to participate in any way possible to bring the life of Margaret Chase Smith to Maine's Public Broadcasting audience. Previous productions by Dobbs have included biographies of Percival Baxter and L. L. Bean.

Year End Review, 1975

From Anecdotes

Mr. Stennis, "Mr. President, all who really know Margaret Chase Smith knew that she would not become idle and inactive when she left the U. S. Senate. On the contrary our distinguished charming former colleague has maintained the same pace and productivity as she did when she was a Member of this body. I had the privilege of serving with her in many capacities on both the Senate Armed Services and Appropriations Committee. From my work with her, I know that Mrs. Smith was a very exceptional Senator and is a very special person, and I am sure that all of her former colleagues are interested in her recent activities and achievements as a private citizen.

Therefore, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the year end review of the 1975 activities of the former Senator from Maine—Margaret Chase Smith. I know that we will all be impressed by the scope and breadth of her activities and accomplishments. She continues to be a true servant of the people and continues to expound and personify the great principles of our American Government."

The vigorous pace of 1973 and 1974

for Margaret Chase Smith was more than matched in 1975. Most gratifying of all aspects was the fact that she was able to sandwich in six months in Maine at Skowhegan and Cundy's Harbor between her commitments and activities from coast to coast and throughout the nation. Most of the time in Maine was spent working on the Margaret Chase Smith Library in the compiling and organization of her papers and records. The remaining six months were divided throughout the nation from Palm Beach to Seattle to Boston to Texas to Washington in a variety of pursuits.

As Chairman of the Board of Freedom House, she was in New York City for several board meetings and for the formulation of position papers and statements of that organization on matters of international and domestic concern. As a "citizens' watchdog" on detente and the status of freedom in nations throughout the world, Freedom House drew repeated commendation in Congress.

Weekly academic visits as a Visiting Professor of the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation took (cont. on p. 6) (Review—Cont. from pg. 5) her to universities and colleges throughout the nation. Typical day of the five-

Jefferson Dobbs of Dobbs Productions

SUGGESTIONS ANYONE? The publication of the newsletter began in 1984. As the Library celebrates the 20th year of the "Friends of the Library" Newsletter, we encourage readers to provide us with suggestions for upcoming items for publication. One of the loyal readers to this quarterly missive is Miles Phillips of New Hampshire. Mr. Phillips has offered several suggestions, such as the listing of our museum hours, writing articles which deal with the activities of Senator Smith following her retirement, her votes on such issues as ABM (Anti-Ballistic Missiles) and the MCS Rose. Certainly these are worthwhile topics and the editors will make every effort to incorporate such positive suggestions into timely articles. If anyone has other topics that might be of interest to readers, please contact Angie Stockwell at 207-474-7133 or e-mail angies@tdstelme.net. Your input is appreciated.

day visits would include two classes plus two seminars plus a workshop or lecture and one-on-one dialogue with students topped off in the evening with dinner conferences with faculty members.

Indications of the ratings of her performance range from that of students at Dana College (Nebraska), where she made her last visit, in a letter to the Woodrow Wilson Foundation stating: "Thank you for allowing Senator Smith and General Lewis to visit our campus...they are two wonderful people...they did a great job of restoring confidence in politics (something that is definitely needed today)."

To that of the President of Lilly Endowment, funder of the program and third only to Ford and Rockefeller as the largest foundation in the United States, who wrote: "...my gratitude to you for the extraordinary contributions you have made to the Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow program. Wherever you have gone as a visiting lecturer you have charmed, delighted, informed and inspired your audience. You have abundantly accomplished what we hoped would result from this program." Perhaps most moving to her was the coverage of pictures and praises in this year's Augustana College (South Dakota) Yearbook, which said of her: "All who came in contact with the Senator felt a warm feeling of affection...the Senator and Major General spoke at classes, discussion groups, and chapel. They both showed exhaustive honesty and outstanding integrity, and overwhelmed the students with their capability and energy."

During 1975, she received honorary doctorates from Centenary College in Louisiana, Southeastern Massachusetts University, and Rivier College in New Hampshire, bringing her total to 80 honorary doctorates and her honorary masters from Colby. The New York University Law School honored her with its Distinguished Political Leader Award. The Golden Slipper Club of Philadelphia gave her its Woman of Distinction Award—twenty years earlier in 1955 this same group honored her with an award at the same time that it did the late Perle Mesta. The Salvation Army bestowed its Helping Hand Award to her. Despite traveling some 25,000 miles by all modes of transportation, she had no illness or discomforts in 1975. Perhaps this was because she enjoyed so much of the travel in her car satisfying her post-Senate desire to see more of the United States in this way. In early December, she had her annual medical examination, the extremely thorough and exhaustive Executive type examination. She was found to be in very excellent health in all respects except some difficulty with her eyes. Overall the doctors said she was amazingly younger than her chronological age. Her blood pressure and heart were found to be normal and strong. Her hips, on which surgery was performed in 1968, 1970, and 1971, were found to be in excellent condition. This was no surprise to those who have seen her and tried to keep up with her fast walking pace.

The Student Leadership Group under the direction of Ann Schoenthaler at the Skowhegan Regional Vocational Center collected 1317 items for the area food drive, gave Christmas presents for the Giving Tree, and collected 40 "Coats for Kids." They also sent care packages for Troop 61, the Skowhegan National Guard unit, stationed in Iraq.

Students from the Civil Rights Team at the MCS School in Skowhegan are making efforts to stop bullying and teasing in their school. They also presented a gift basket to a lady who was mugged at a local grocery store to show that young people do more good things than bad.

Three Carrabec High School students will be involved in an upcoming "People to People" trip to California. Shown with teacher Kate Drummond are Alicia Tingley, Amy Campbell and Amanda Cairnie.

The Enrichment Class of the Margaret Chase Smith School in Skowhegan visited Arlington National Cemetery in order to place wreaths on the graves of those who have served our country. They have also commissioned memorial markers for two Skowhegan soldiers who died during the Iraq war.

Volunteer Coordinator, Melissa Skahan, (center), is shown with Hannah Groom and Jason Moyer-Lee. These students represent a group from Greely High School in Cumberland who raised over \$2000 for "Safe Passage," a program which provides schooling and supplies for impoverished Guatemalan "dump" kids.

SHERI SHARES

I'm happy to share news of the Library's improved collections storage area! In the previous issue of the newsletter, I discussed the general recommendations of the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) report conducted last fall. These winter months have afforded the opportunity to follow up on one of the suggestions—to improve the efficiency of our collections storage space in the Library's basement and to begin a program of re-housing the artifacts using archival materials.

The majority of the collection not on display in the timeline exhibit or in Senator Smith's residence was stored in the lower level of the Library in two areas - the staff computer room and the artifact and supply storage area, which included an adjacent textile closet. These two areas were really two mixed-use spaces, containing stored artifacts *and* office supplies and equipment. Existing storage in the Library basement rooms was crowded, making it difficult to locate individual objects and to keep the areas properly clean. Based on CAP recommendations and discussions with Library staff, the low-cost solution to improving storage was to place artifacts in the more secure back storage area and move the majority of the office supplies into the computer room. Black cabinets (which house boxes of memorabilia) were moved from the computer room into the artifact storage area. Most of Senator Smith's clothing was stored in a small adjoining closet. The clothing was cramped together under plastic garment bags behind a trunk and many artifact boxes. This made it extremely difficult to know what we had or to find items to display. I purchased garment racks and moved the hanging clothing, along with textile boxes into the cleared storage area. We then filled the closet with boxes of books that we do not have to access that often. Along the way, we discarded old, never used office supplies by giving them to our colleagues at the Skowhegan Free Public Library and Central Kennebec Heritage Council. We even found a desk for Special Projects Assistant, Crystal Perkins, to use! And, of course, along the way, we cleaned, cleaned, and cleaned the area of dust bunnies and old insect casings.

This project is by no means complete. The next phase entails adding additional shelving units and repacking the collection using more archivally-approved products. I have already removed the clothing from the plastic garment bags and will make padded hangers using batting covered with poly-cotton material. I will also pad awards and framed items with an archival polyethylene foam instead of bubblewrap, which is coated with an unstable material that can deteriorate and harm sensitive materials. There will be room for a worktable so I can continue to inventory and catalog the collection and input data and images into the PastPerfect database. This minor rearrangement will help in the preparation of a full inventory of the artifacts stored in the basement, will improve intellectual control by way of an updated collections database, and will enhance object care by storing the items in a more secure, stable, and clean environment. I'll share more on this project next time.



Storage Area Before



Storage Area After

Tia Nichols is shown above with MCS commemorative wooden coin

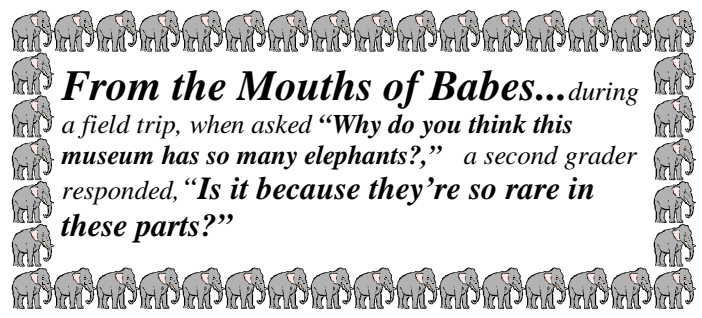
Tia Rediscovered Coin

When Tia Nichols returned to the Library with the Leadership Class of Lawrence High School, she was excited to find that her 1996 handcarved commemorative coin is still a part of the Library's archives. Eight years ago, Tia etched the figure of Margaret Chase Smith in the wooden coin which she holds in the photo above. At that time, there was much discussion about naming a dollar coin after MCS. Pat Washburn of the **Portland Press Herald** suggested this in a column and it was followed up by Maine Secretary of State Bill Diamond who brought it before the National Association of Secretaries of State. As you know by now, Sacajawea appears on that coin instead. The Library is proud of Tia for her efforts in 1996 and her leadership at Lawrence High School in 2004.

“Trivia” Answer from December Newsletter—The answer is in the “Margaret” anecdote on page 6. In 1947, Margaret Chase Smith visited a foreign country as a member of the House Armed Services Committee. What country did Congresswoman Smith visit? Iran Congratulations to first-time winner, Alyse Corson for being the first to respond with the correct answer. The April trivia question is: For many years, Senator Smith held the all-time consecutive roll call voting record in the Senate with how many votes? The answer is somewhere in this newsletter. Be the first to respond with the correct answer **and** where you found it in the newsletter. You might win a prize!

What’s Happening in 2004	
MCS Essay Contest Deadline	April 1
Good Friday—Library Closed	April 9
Essay Contest Winners Announced	May 3
Memorial Day—Library Closed	May 31
Adult Education Program	June 2
Maine Town Meeting	June 10
University College Program	June 15-18
Independence Day-Library Closed	July 5
Take A Dip Into History Day	July 17
University College Program	July 27-30
Maine Heritage Day	September 18
World Trip Exhibit Opening	October 17

Pride in our Children—see articles throughout newsletter



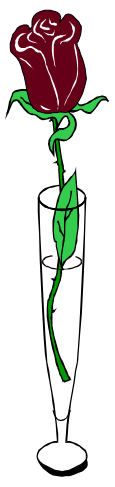
From the Mouths of Babes... during a field trip, when asked “Why do you think this museum has so many elephants?,” a second grader responded, “Is it because they’re so rare in these parts?”

Carmel Elementary School students held a holiday food drive at the local Wal-Mart in Newport, Maine. Here they are shown with Assistant Director David Richards as he shows the boys and girls one of the 531 scrapbooks in the Library collection.

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