

Living With Crisis: Questions Asked by Young People

*MCS Political Philosophy file, from June, 1955, Allied Youth magazine. **Have things changed in fifty years?***

Our questions make the assumption that the general world situation is pretty bad—that some kind of major war is a possibility if not a probability. What’s your view on that?

MCS: *I think the assumption is bad. It is too much in the theme of “living by fear.” What we must recognize and reconcile ourselves to is that world tensions and the “cold war” will be with us for many years and we must so adjust our living and thinking. We must courageously and confidently face the fact that world problems cannot be solved easily and overnight.*

Do you believe that the current world situation puts teen-agers under unusual psychological stress? Do you think this has made them different from previous crops of young people and if so, how?

MCS: *No. It is too often used as an excuse. Show me a good, upright teen-ager and I’ll show you a teen-ager who is not complaining or using the world situation as an excuse of merely living for each day regardless of normal standards of individual behavior.*

What future is there in marrying and raising a family in the face of possible hydrogen-atomic annihilation?

MCS: *No one knows. But successful futures are not built upon defeatist fear of anything.*

Adults seem to “muddle through” by habit, but how is a teen-ager supposed to find the courage to go on with college or to work toward a good job, when war seems likely, and military service for the boys is inevitable?

MCS: *This question is a defeatist question. The teen-agers of World War II have done as well as any teen-agers of any other period of history.*

Can you suggest any general principles that would make it easier to live normally and happily in a period of continuing crisis?

MCS: *Stop living by fear. Stop thinking so much and negatively about the dangers of the world. Start living by confidence—start planning your life on the determination to live as normally and as happily as possible.*

Senator Smith is shown with Maine’s Girls’ Nation representatives, Linda Milvaney of Yarmouth and Donna Tussing of Brewer, in 1964.

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Smithfield Students Annual Trip

Dianna Dumont of the Smithfield Elementary School has been bringing her students to visit the Library from its inception. As one of the first field trips to this facility, Dumont’s earlier students were privileged to meet with Senator Smith and spend time in conversation. It was truly an honor for these young boys and girls! In Senator Smith’s absence, it is hoped that staff members are able to continue to inspire these young minds.

Sanford Kids Travel a Long Distance

Each spring, students from the Margaret Chase Smith School in Sanford make the long, three-hour bus trek to this facility. Two different days are set aside so that the boys and girls in the third grade have an opportunity to study the displays, find answers to assigned questions, and enjoy a picnic lunch. Pictured below, they are shown on the grounds during lunch and enjoying a fun cheer with Hayley King prior to departure.

MCS School Students from Sanford, Maine

Smithfield Elementary School students review the Smithfield file.

From the Mouths of Babes

After visiting the facility, students often write thank you notes to staff members. Below is some commentary:

“It was cool that you made half of the museum into her house.”

*Shea Costin
MCS School , Sanford*

“Margaret Chase Smith didn’t want anyone to give up on anything.”

*Jake from the
Washington Street
School, Brewer*



“The first click of my camera I thought was going to be a miracle. Her motto is my motto from now on—it’s helping others. I felt like an angel when I first stepped in to the building.”

*Gavin Flagg
Strong Elementary School,*

“I was tickled pink to have come to the Library. Thank you so much for all 12 of us students.”

Mariah Ellis, Canaan Elementary School

“We would like to extend a big thank you to the staff at the MCS Library for helping us with our history projects. We really appreciated your historical expertise.”

Don Finley’s AP US History class, Skowhegan Area H. S.—Ellie Baker, Christopher Caron, Amanda Clark, Will Gates, Stephen Powell, Mallory Shute, and Corey Tozier.

“I learned a load of information. I learned that Margaret Chase Smith wanted young students to care for others and to set goals and try their best to complete them. I also learned that she was a peace maker and cared about everyone.”

*Justin Moulton
Cook School, LaGrange*

“Thanks for letting all of us kids come! We made sure nothing broke.”

*Rachael Higgins
Cook School, LaGrange*

Benton Elementary School students

Summer Intern Busy at MCSL

Special projects have kept Hayley King occupied during the summer months before returning to Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, where she is a sophomore. She has been assisting Curator Sheri Leahan with the new “Everything’s Coming Up Roses” exhibit and cataloging the museum collections. Hayley’s mom, Lynnette King, is the Library’s administrator.

Children of World War II

Dr. Lisa Ossian, instructor at Southwestern Community College in Creston, Iowa, is the recipient of an Ada Leeke Research Fellowship grant. Dr. Ossian has been granted a contract by Ivan Dee Publishers of Chicago to write a book about American children during World War II as part of their American Childhoods series. She will be examining the impact on children of the Pearl Harbor attack, national educational policies, war bond campaigns, propaganda, scrap drive efforts, agricultural work contributions, children’s labor patterns, war migration issues and elements of wartime grief.

Senator Smith’s service and efforts during the war years for women and children will be a welcome part of the book’s focus.



Dr. Lisa Ossian

Gateways to Gardens Program Successful

More than forty people attended the kick-off program at Good Will-Hinckley where Theresa Mattor spoke about landscape architecture. Six area museums participated in the Friday and Saturday programs—L. C. Bates Museum, Macartney House, Fairfield History House, Skowhegan History House, Norridgewock Historical Society and the MCS Library. The Library’s theme of “Everything’s Coming Up Roses,” allowed guests to sample desserts with a rose motif and flavoring. Pound cakes made with rose water and sugar cookies decorated with rose buds were enjoyed as well as Senator Smith’s blueberry muffins in the shape of a rose. A contest to guess the number of rose petals in a jar and a drawing were held for floral prizes. Children could make pinwheels and paper dolls and guests were able to view a video tape on the life of Senator Smith.

The rose exhibit features the rose stamp which was presented to Senator Smith in 1988 as “an official commendation and recognition of your contributions to the United States Postal Service.”



In 1955 when President Dwight Eisenhower visited Skowhegan in 1955, the picnic table was adorned with a floral arrangement with a golf theme. In photo above, Skowhegan Fleuriste has replicated the arrangement for use in the “Everything’s Coming Up Roses” display.

Hellfire Nation: The Politics of Sin...

The annual Maine Town Meeting program offered participants an opportunity to listen to the views of Dr. James Morone, who has authored **Hellfire Nation: The Politics of Sin in American History**. Morone's talk focused on the role morality has played in the formulation of U. S. public policy. Nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, the book is an analysis of "us" versus "them" and the complexities of community, race, and morality. "Americans don't like government," says Dr. Morone. "There is a huge difference between the way we treat different people, strangers to us. We are really tough on them. We are a nation of tough love and zero tolerance." Morone talked about the Puritans who believed that God had pre-ordained some for heaven and some for hell. "Americans take religion seriously and they keep the moral pot always boiling. As soon as you are frightened of someone, all the rules change. If you can demonize your enemy, you can get political action." Every generation has said that "young people don't have a moral sense." "However," states Morone, "we have survived our depravity and we still keeping ticking along. Maybe our kids are not so bad. Maybe we all just need to relax a bit."

*Dr. James Morone, author of **Hellfire Nation** is a political science professor at Brown University*

Moon Globe Anyone?

Most recently, a call came in from the Office of Global Navigation in Washington DC which is responsible for providing the Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard as well as commercial pilots and mariners with the best navigational safety information possible. Forty years ago, the mission of the aeronautical analysts included charting the lunar surface which led to the production of moon globes. Margaret Chase Smith's moon globe was on display during the Space Exhibit in 2001 and may be viewed by visiting our web site at <http://www.mcslibrary.org/program/museum/space.htm>

Merton G. Henry, Douglas Carr, and Speaker Jim Morone discuss Maine Town Meeting.

Essay Contest Update

Second and third place winners Eliav Bitan and Mike Rowntree's biographical material was unavailable before release of the June newsletter. Eliav helped his basketball team win the Western Maine Class B Championship; captained the Mock Trial team for two years into the semifinal round. He is a National Merit Finalist, an Advanced Placement Scholar, a Presidential Scholar nominee, and a member of the National Honor Society. Eliav volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House, Cedars Nursing Home, and the Preble Street Soup Kitchen. He plans to attend Columbia University in the fall.

Mike is involved in cross country skiing and participates in the biathlon. He is interested in government and politics and hopes to study international economics and free trade at George Washington University where he has been accepted for admission. He also has an interest in Middle Eastern history.

Condolences to the William May Family

The Library has lost a dear friend. Judge William May was an active member of the Library's Advisory Committee and traveled from Manassas, Virginia, to attend yearly meetings. Through his association with Dr. Virginia Harward Teller, Judge May began his relationship with the Library and had much to offer at the annual gatherings. He will be sadly missed.

Judge May is shown with Dr. Virginia Harward Teller in a June 1994 photo at the annual Advisory Committee meeting.

Sweetheart of the ROA

From Scrapbook v. 165, August, 1955

The thunderous ovation afforded Senator Smith as she concluded her address to convention delegates had hardly subsided when Brigadier General Strom Thurmond proclaimed her the "Sweetheart of the ROA." Those privileged to hear the remarks of Senator Smith acknowledged the title is entirely warranted and long overdue; those unable to be present at the Boston convention have but to read her address to realize the substance of her remarks reveal her as an informed legislator and one possessing the courage of her convictions.

While ROA's (Reserve Officers Association) legion of admirers and supporters is vast and enthusiastic, seldom has such a distinguished figure gone so completely overboard in praise of the Association as the Senator from Maine. Her belief in and understanding of ROA is buttressed by years of experience on Capitol Hill. She has a firsthand knowledge of the necessity for "group action" in behalf of the Reserve Program as well as the individual reservist. As an Air Force Reserve lieutenant colonel, Senator Smith knows her military. As a national legislator she is well acquainted with ROA and Pentagon activities. A member of the Armed Services Committee, she knows of what she speaks and ROA, unified in its admiration of this gracious lady, prizes her as its "sweetheart," officially and unofficially.

School Field Trips, Community Service Projects—Great Kids Doing Great Things

Madison Junior High School Student Council members, under the direction of Karyn Martin, were busy helping others by holding a food drive for the “People Who Care Food Cupboard,” collecting Coats for Kids; and raising money for the school playground fund. For their efforts, students received Core Value Awards for honesty, respect, understanding, responsibility and compassion.



Madison Junior High School students

For the 8th consecutive year, Linda Voss brought Winslow Junior High School students to the Library to explain their varied service projects. A coin drive was held to support Voice for Animals, Ukrainian schools, and tsunami victims. Voss also has her students honor veterans each year. For her efforts, she was recently awarded the American Legion Maine Educator of the Year award.



Winslow Junior High School students

The Glenburn Elementary Schools students of another faithful visitor, Gloria Westhrin, picked up trash around school; collected empty ink cartridges for the school technology fund; bought 3 acres of rain forest in Brazil; donated \$70 to the Salvation Army's Santa Fund; collected food for Manna soup kitchen; sent school supplies to an orphanage in Jamaica; and bought 14 turkeys for a homeless shelter.



Glenburn Elementary School students

Sixth grade students of Carla Burnham and Mary Gill from the MCS School in Skowhegan created a walking tour of historic downtown Skowhegan. The team received inspiration for the project in 2004 after visiting the Library and seeing a Power Point presentation on the town's historic buildings. Students returned to explain their project which includes 19 stops at such landmarks as Coburn Park, the Strand Cinema, Benedict Arnold Rock and the Swinging Bridge. The “Red Rose Tour,” named in honor of Senator Smith, is a fascinating walk through town.



MCS School students from Skowhegan

Sabrina Peters is shown with 3 student representatives from the Warsaw Middle School in Pittsfield who have been involved with Project Reach. The boys and girls held a talent show and food drive for the local food pantry; donated items for Coats for Kids; and held a coin drive which generated \$200 for tsunami relief.



Warsaw Middle School students

Former Fellowship Student Elected President

Congratulations to Angel Moreno of Texas, a 2004 MCS Fellowship student, who has recently been elected national president of Delta Epsilon Chi (DEX). Angel experienced the challenge of running a tough campaign race—caucusing, delivering speeches, and garnering support from delegates—just a bit of what Margaret Chase Smith might have experienced during her nine campaigns in 1940, 1942, 1944, 1946, 1948, 1954, 1960, 1966, and 1972. Recently graduated from Northwood University, Angel plans to commit the coming year to serving as national president.

Angel Moreno

Cartoons Topic of Study

Dr. Alice Sheppard, Professor of Psychology at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, is systematically analyzing and interpreting the political cartoon images in the Library collection. Of the MCS cartoons, Dr. Sheppard says, “they are a wonderful resource and provide a fascinating glimpse at a transitional time in women’s history. Finding a novel twist is always a challenge.” She is a recipient of the Ada Leeke Research Fellowship and hopes to produce articles for publication once her analysis is complete. An earlier project focused on cartoons of the women’s suffrage movement which evolved into **Cartooning for Suffrage** published in 1994 by the University of New Mexico Press.

Dr. Alice Sheppard

Summer University College Programs Successful

Two weeks of each summer are devoted to Northwood University’s University College program in which career adults work to complete their academic degrees by attending summer classes. Seventeen case studies are made available for research and each student is required to give an oral presentation of their findings as well as a written report.

University College students pictured above—Seated: Dawne Gardner and Joan Barrons-Sweeney; Standing L-R: Alesia Willett, Ralph Czolgosz, Professor Tom Luptowski, Sarah Vasey, John Kohn, Mary Finch, Honey Brown, Ralph Castro, and Amy Ouellette.

University College students pictured above: Mary Gaudreau, Debra Doyle, Sarah Kolb, Mel Lederer, Susan Mandziuk, Professor Tom Luptowski, Tommie Smith, Glenn Lukacs, Jeremy Jacobs, Bryan Ellis, Bill Haverman, Bill Schubert, and Don Knox.

UC Directors Meet

The directors of the more than twenty Northwood University, University College outreach centers held their annual meetings at the Library. Outreach facilities are located in Alpena, Bay City, Flint, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Livonia, Midland, Saginaw, Selfridge, Southgate, Troy, and Warren, Michigan; as well as Carlsbad, New Mexico; Cedar Hill and Ft. Worth, Texas; Ft. Mitchell and Louisville, Kentucky; New Orleans, Louisiana; Indianapolis, Indiana; Lisle, Illinois; and Tampa and West Palm Beach, Florida. While here, the directors saw first hand what the Maine experience entails as students pursue their degrees. Scheduled to coincide with the second University College program, the directors were able to hear oral presentations by twelve students. The program was intended to give additional Northwood constituencies a greater appreciation for the person for whom the Library is named.

University College Directors: Front: Dawn Humphrey, Jill McMahan, Tina Brisbois, Pat Cannon, Tom Luptowski, Robert Serum; Center: Betsy Martin, Carol Davis, Regina Yaquinto, Linda Mohr, Karen Camburn, Marcella Matzke; Back: Molly Money, Rhonda Anderson, Roy Wilson, Stan Osweiler, Cathy Taylor, and Terry Silva. Missing from photo is Dorothy Kitts.

Day Camp Lots of Fun!

Seven boys and girls joined Coordinator Vanessa Caron, and staffers, Sheri Leahan and Hayley King, for a weeklong program of education and fun. Originally called the “Skowhegan Girl” program, Skowhegan History Fun Day Camp encouraged both genders to participate. Children toured the facility, learned fun MCS facts, read from **First Lady of the Senate**, made blueberry muffins, played a memory game, made paper dolls and pinwheels, toured the public library and History House, played croquet and made homemade ice cream. Mid-way through the week, friend and volunteer Maryann Nyman regaled the participants with stories about the time period of Margaret Chase’s childhood and displayed period items. Dressed in garb from the late 19th century, Mrs. Nyman certainly looked the part of the old time schoolmarm. Thank you, Mrs. Nyman, for your help!

Participants included: (Seated) Alexis Lanctot and Robin Kelly; Standing L-R: Deanna Hayden, Staffer Sheri Leahan, Ryley Burkhart, Steven Ek, Cody Dillingham, and Melissa Kelly. Coordinator Vanessa Caron is seated in front of assistant Hayley King and life-size cutout of young Margaret Chase.

Maryann Nyman talks about typical children’s activities in the late 19th Century.

In photos above, students are learning the game of croquet, playing a card game, and making homemade ice cream by kicking a can filled with the ingredients for ice cream surrounded by rock salt and crushed ice. The results were pretty tasty!

Citizenship Awards Presented

Established by Senator Smith in 1994, the Citizenship Award at the MCS School in Skowhegan honors students who have a good attitude, work hard, participate in school activities, and are helpful, polite, attentive, and cheerful. Staff members, Lynnette King and Crystal Perkins, presented a red rose, a \$50 savings bond, and a copy of **A Woman for All Seasons** to each of the students pictured below.

Recipients: Alexander Cates, Tyler Blanchet, Corrine Anderson, Katlynn Smith, Whitney Jones, Abbi Gillis, and Abbey Dubois.

A Wee Tug? from Library scrapbook v. 164, July, 1955, an article from the Charlotte Observer entitled “A Wee Tug at an Honorable Leg.”

“Recent disclosure that addicts of the shorts-wearing craze will not be barred from the House and Senate galleries leaves us strangely disturbed. In brief, we foresee implication. It has long been our impression that the people who visit the Congress in session do so to look at the Congressmen. With the gallery full of women in abbreviated britches, the show is bound to move topside.

Thus the Congressmen will be looking at the galleryites and the galleryites will be looking at the gals, and who’s to look after Uncle Sam’s business, danged if we rightly know. Not even a Senator Claghorn can anchor his mind on legislation when his eyes are on legs. And though an occasional statesman may manage to keep his gaze averted, it’s barely conceivable. We have, as you might expect, a substitute motion. Why not order the folks upstairs to come fully dressed and issue the Congressmen several pairs each of Bermudas? That would keep public attention in logical focus and the pants in proper perspective.

We have, as you doubtless deduced, a sinister motive. Her name is Margaret Chase Smith.”

“Trivia” Answer from June Newsletter—The answer is on p.8 in the rose vase. Senator Smith visited 23 foreign countries during her World Trip. Congratulations to Michael Lord for being the first to respond with the correct answer and location. A former Fellowship student, Joey Yatouma, from Michigan, responded as well. The August trivia question is: **In November of 1956, Senator Smith debated another powerful woman on a CBS broadcast of Face the Nation. Who was that woman?** 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!

Previous Exhibits:

For those who may have missed the World Trip Exhibit, portions will be on display later in the year in the MCS Gallery in the Good Will-Hinckley Harold and Bibby Alford Visitors Center.

Portions of the Eisenhower Visit display remain here at the Library.

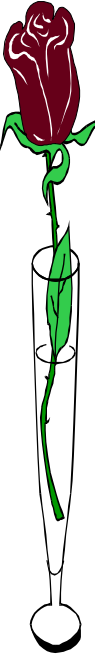
The “Let’s Play” **traveling exhibit** is no longer available for viewing but a small portion continues to delight visitors who may remember pastimes of yesteryear.

“Everything’s Coming Up Roses” New Exhibit Opens

As an integral part of the “Gateways to Gardens” program held on July 8 and 9 at area museums, Maine’s landscape legacy was revealed through period gardens, historical plantings, lectures, revised landscape interpretations, new exhibits and hands-on activities. The MCS Library’s theme focused on Senator Smith and the rose, as her trademark, as the national flower, in language, and as gifts. This lovely exhibit will remain open for viewing for the remainder of the year.

(See Gateways article on pg. 3)

In photo at right, Senator Everett Dirksen calmly removes a rose from his lapel as Senator Smith laughingly holds a bouquet of marigolds. While Dirksen preferred the marigold as the national flower, Smith much preferred the rose!



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