

Fishing Trip to Moosehead From Anecdotes collection

All through the years of my public service, I have paid great attention to my mail, feeling that if people were interested enough to write me, they deserved a response. Wherever I went I usually carried a bundle of mail under my arm, trying to get it answered immediately. In 1948, after a hard-fought campaign for the United States Senate, I was nominated in the primary by an overwhelming majority, getting more votes than all three of my opponents received together. Running against me was the immediately sitting Governor, a conservative, the immediate preceding Governor, Sumner Sewall, and a rather attractive minister. In those days, the primary in Maine was the same as an election, as it was largely a Republican state. I had no difficulty in the final election. Friends, feeling that I needed a rest, invited me to spend a few days at Moosehead Lake. I accepted the invitation and unknown to them took with me my mail. The first day we went for a boat ride taking along a guide that we might decide to do some fishing—and my mail—and my secretary. We all decided to try our luck and cast our lines in. Remembering other fishing trips and the slow process of a bite, I started working on my mail, much to the annoyance of others. After two hours, during which time I was doing my dictation, only one salmon was caught, a six pounder and by whom—the newly elected Senator from Maine, Margaret Chase Smith.

Did You Know Senator Smith received an Award of Merit from Better Fishing, Inc., in 1953? The award states, “in recognition of your valuable contribution to the youth of America; in helping to provide more Fishing Fun for boys and girls under wholesome auspices as a means of developing stronger characters, and securing the health-building benefits derived from the Great Outdoors.”

Fishing and Politics Ain't Just for Men Any More! In Milwaukee Journal, Ross A. Lewis cartoon above, Barry Goldwater appears a bit frazzled that “Margie” has decided to cast her line. Fishing references appear throughout the collection—in 1948 and 1953 as above, and in 1964 when MCS made her bid for the presidency.

Margaret Chase is shown with her ice fishing catch on Lake Wesserunsett in 1923.

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Are You on the List?

Of those who tell the truth? Robert Shetterly's, **Americans Who Tell the Truth** has just been released by Dutton Children's Books and now sits on the Library shelves along with other children's books geared toward history. Such a book would be lacking if it did not include Margaret Chase Smith but her image does appear within and on the front cover along with such notables as 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. 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 collection may be viewed at www.americanswhotellthetruth.org.

An exhibition of portraits was on display until October 28 at the University of Maine. In conjunction with the exhibit, Library Director Dr. Greg Gallant gave a talk, "**None of Us Could Call our Souls Our Own: Margaret Chase Smith and the Politics of Honesty**," on October 20 at Carnegie Galleries on the Orono campus.



Dr. Gallant addresses University of Maine audience regarding the "Politics of Honesty." Shetterly's portrayal of Senator Smith is to left of Dr. Gallant.

Under the direction of teacher Maura Smith, Madison High School Drama Club members, Kailey Smith, Sterling Dorion, Ashley Marandola, and Liza Miller, raised approximately \$200 for Hurricane Katrina relief by putting on an "improv" show patterned after "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"

Former First Lady of Maine Passes Away

Helen Longley, wife of Independent Governor James B. Longley, passed away in September. Helen was not only a friend of Senator Smith while serving as Maine's First Lady, but became a member of the Advisory Committee and brought much grace and dignity to events sponsored by the Library. A wonderful, charming lady, Helen was very supportive of the Special Olympics program during her tenure as First Lady and a volunteer for 35 years for various local organizations. She is survived by two sons and three daughters. Daughter Susan, like her mother, serves on the Library's Advisory Committee. She followed in her father's political footsteps, having been elected as a state senator. Our condolences to the Longley family. Mrs. Longley will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Governor James B. and Helen Longley are shown with Senator Smith in August of 1977.

Shirley and Edgar Madden are shown at a June, 1999, Advisory Committee reception.

Former Northwood Chancellor and CEO Passes Away

Dr. David Fry described Edgar Madden as "one of those professionals who was never confined by the description of his job, as he rightly considered it his job to make Northwood prosper, and he did, no matter what that entailed." Dr. Madden served Northwood University for 39 years, beginning his career as an English instructor and later in academic and operation leadership positions. After retirement, he taught classes and became the leader of a project to document the history of Northwood University for its upcoming 50th anniversary. As part of the project, he conducted over 100 oral interviews. He served as well on the Library's Advisory Committee and will be sadly missed by all who knew and respected him as a friend and devoted family man. Our condolences to his wife, Shirley, their five children and their families.

College Librarians Meet

The Association of College Research Librarians held a July retreat at Colby College and toured the MCS Library as part of their two-day program. While at the Library, Dr. Gallant and Dr. Richards addressed the group and talked about the career of Senator Smith. Following the lectures, Angie Stockwell spoke to the group about the Library's extensive research operation, including types of requests, procedures, scope of projects, and case studies.

Melissa Gaspar (center) and her Mom, Annette Janes, visited with friend, Shirley Raynard (left) to see how other libraries operate. Melissa has become the head librarian at the Skowhegan Free Public Library, following in the footsteps of her mother and Raynard. Shirley was an elector during a presidential election in the 1950s. The conversation regarding that process and the Electoral College was most interesting in that Senator Smith wished to abolish that institution. The topic is one of the case studies.

Collection Specialist Angie Stockwell speaks to members of the ACRL about research procedures at the facility.

1954 Election Letter

The 1954 election was a difficult race for Senator Smith in that Joseph McCarthy had hand-picked and financially supported a Republican candidate—Robert L. Jones—whom he felt would be the best candidate to defeat the lady Senator. Paul Fullam, a Colby College professor, also ran in the election to unseat Smith. In a letter to Fullam from another Democrat, Senator Paul H. Douglas, partisan politics took a back seat when Douglas wrote, “As a Democrat who grew up in Maine, I am naturally interested in your candidacy and I shall be glad to talk with you when you come down here. I am a loyal Democrat and will be glad to give you general advice, and to hold confidential anything you may wish to say to me. At the same time, it is only fair to tell you that I like Margaret Smith very much. She served with my wife in the House and we both feel very much drawn to her. I would never do anything to hurt her personally, and I feel quite certain that you will not say or do anything to damage her reputation or her good name. She has taken such a beating on some questions from a wing of the Republican Party that I cannot bear to think of her being injured further. A campaign on issues, without personal attacks, is in the best American traditions. A campaign such as was waged against her in 1948, and is being attempted today, is not. I am sure you are not that sort of fellow, and it is in that spirit, and only in that spirit, that I shall be glad to talk with you.”

MCS Day Honors Two on August 4

The Skowhegan Community Action Group honored Bob and Millie Reisner of Skowhegan for their dedication to children through music at an MCS Day reception. The Reisners have been instrumental in keeping the Skowhegan Community Chorus and Band alive and have given foster children a home where an appreciation for music is the family tradition.

Partisan Politics? Not Always

In a letter to Margaret Chase Smith dated June 22, 1948, Democratic National Committee Executive Director India Edwards wrote, “I want to offer my congratulations upon being the first woman of the Republican Party to be nominated for the United States Senate. I also think the Republicans of Maine should be commended for their sagacity and good judgment in choosing such an able Representative in the House to make the race for the Senate this year. Since a Democrat is running against you in the general election, I cannot sincerely say I hope you win but I wouldn't bet any money against you!

Being a great believer in women and the contribution they can make to politics and government, it gives me a thrill to see a woman do as well as you are doing even if you do belong to the opposition.”

Shirley Whittemore (center) leads the group in the Pledge of Allegiance as a program honoring Bob and Millie Reisner begins. Marion Sherman is shown placing a corsage on Millie.

Seasons Greetings from President and Mrs. Nixon

As a sequel to last year's holiday display of presidential Christmas cards, "Season's Greetings from the White House," a new exhibit opening on December 1, will feature five historic gift prints given to Senator Smith by President and Mrs. Nixon. The Nixons were the first presidential family to open the White House to the public at Christmastime with special candlelight tours and televised specials. President Nixon's admiration of his predecessors and Mrs. Nixon's major efforts to restore the White House to the golden age of the early 19th century served as the inspiration for the first family's White House cards and gift prints. The President and Mrs. Nixon brought historic formality back to White House holiday greetings. The print below is signed: "*With our best wishes, The President and Mrs. Nixon at Christmas 1969.*"



This first in a series of Nixon holiday gift prints featured the portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart. This is the famed portrait saved by First Lady Dolly Madison when the British burned the White House in 1814. Hallmark reproduced 3500 of these keepsake prints. The rest of the series of Nixon gift prints featuring Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, and James Monroe will be on display from December 1st – January 31st.

Roland and Norma Boulette have spent hundreds of hours following the family line of the Boulet/Murrays. They recently gathered material from the collection which relates to Senator Smith's mother, Carrie Murray Chase. David Richards is shown with the Boulettes as they review files.

Holiday Thoughts from December 24, 1952 By Margaret Chase Smith

"Tonight the holiday season starts. It will be a time of merriment and goodwill among all of us. At least for a week the spirit of friendship will be dominant in a world that is plagued with bitterness, suspicion and aggression. Were it in my power to be Santa Claus today and by some magic bestow Christmas gifts, I would give the following gifts:

To the World—Peace and goodwill

To Americans—A nation cleansed of subversion, suspicion, division, reckless and evil demagoguery, ideological softness and fear

To the GI's in Korea—an end to the war and return home

To Koreans—A unified and free country

To the United Nations—The power to establish and enforce honorable peace

To NATO—Sufficient strength to deter and stop Communist aggression and subversion

To the Russian People—freedom from Communist enslavement

To Joseph Stalin—A complete change of character and heart

To Tito—greater respect for religion

To Churchill—A long life

To Chiang Kai-Shek—A magic formula for winning back China

To the Chinese Reds—complete defeat by Chiang

To India—the realism that her kind of "neutralism" helps only Red Russia and divides the free half of the world

To Iran—the realization that oil money won't mean much if Russia takes over Iran

To Taxpayers—real economy at long last from Congress and the President

To Newspapers—less unjustified criticism of favoritism in news coverage—but also less irresponsible journalism

To the Republican Party—real unity and cooperation internally, as well as on the surface, to do a job for the people

To the Democratic Party—being a constructive opposition free of carping and not merely for the sake of opposition

To Congress—a better understanding and appreciation by the people—greater public confidence and respect

To my friends—A minimum of disappointment about me

To my readers—Patience with my limitations

To myself—Perspective and objective self-appraisal for self-improvement

To Everyone—**A happy and healthy 1953—and a deep and devout understanding of the meaning of Christmas.**"

"Leave It To The Girls" Songstress is Dead

Loretta Sell, better known as Hildegard, died in New York at the age of 99, following an entertainment career that spanned almost seven decades. Perhaps the fashion setter for one-name performers, "The Incomparable Hildegard" was the most famous supper-club entertainer of her time. Senator Smith was privileged to have her 1964 Presidential campaign song, "Leave it to the Girls," sung by Hildegard. Check out the Library website for the audio recording—<http://www.mcslibrary.org/program/library/audio.htm>.

Senator Smith is shown with Hildegard on May 5, 1964

Fall Fellowship Program Begins

In its 14th year, the Margaret Chase Smith Fellowship program traditionally brings students from Northwood University's three campuses in Michigan, Florida, and Texas. The four students selected this year, Angela Albright, Jennifer Denver, Audrey Kowatch, and Dominique Williams, come from the Michigan and Florida campuses.

Angela hails from Union, Michigan, where she lives with her parents and two brothers. Angie is an advertising/marketing/management major and hopes to become an event planner. She enjoys golf, baking, and cooking. Dominique is from the Bahamas and is majoring in accounting. She enjoys reading, shopping, and surfing the net. A member of NU's International Club and the National Honor Society, Dominique hopes to attend graduate school for a CPA degree and eventually open her own firm. Jennifer is from West Palm Beach, Florida, and is a business management major. She enjoys basketball, shopping, and polka. A member of Phi Theta Kappa, Jen hopes to get her master's degree, manage a corporation, "make lots of money," and have a family/marriage. She is considering law school. Audrey is from Pewamo, Michigan, where she lives with her six brothers and sisters. She is an accounting major and hopes to become a CPA and work for a large, public firm, preferably Abercrombie & Fitch. She would like to work in a big city or possibly another country for a few years. She loves to play beach volleyball and tennis, is a NASCAR fan, and loves to cook. A member of the Accounting Society at Northwood, she also tutors at Timberwolf Learning Center and works part-time at Dow Chemical.

All students are required to research and write two papers on some aspect of Senator Smith's career. During weekly lectures, Dr. Gregory Gallant provides historical context for the period in which Senator Smith served in Congress. An integral part of the program involves weekly round-table discussions on required readings. To gain a better idea of Maine's economy, industry, history and culture, students have taken weekly field trips to such places as the Oceanarium in Bar Harbor; the Joshua Chamberlain House in Brunswick, North Star Orchard in Madison, Madison Paper Industries and the State House and Maine State Museum in Augusta.

Civil War hero, Joshua Chamberlain, stands proudly with NU Fellowship students.

The girls enjoy a bit of Cold Stone Creamery atmosphere and delicious ice cream during a field trip to the Bath/Brunswick area.



For all those living in Maine, it's hard to imagine that some folks have never seen the ocean but Michigander Audrey Kowatch, posing on the rocks at Bailey's Island, had her first glimpse of the Atlantic Ocean!

Dominique Williams, Angela Albright, Jennifer Denver, and Audrey Kowatch pose in front of the Library shortly after their arrival for 10 weeks of study.

Robin Duperry of the local cable access television station is shown preparing to tape the "Everything's Coming Up Roses" exhibit to coincide with coverage of the "Gateways to Gardens" program mentioned in the August newsletter. Other area museums were featured on the broadcast as well.

MCS Focus of One-Person Play

Marianne Owen Beattie's association with A Contemporary Theatre in Seattle, Washington, is a most appropriate connection for her plans to write a one-person show about Margaret Chase Smith. The play will focus primarily on the Declaration of Conscience and Smith's run for the presidency in 1964. A recipient of an Ada Leeke Research Fellowship, Marianne reviewed countless videos to get a feel for Margaret Chase Smith, the lone woman Senator in Washington, D. C., for many years. Marianne studied her style, her voice, and her mannerisms, hoping to capture the essence of Senator Smith. Not without previous knowledge of Maine's most renowned statesperson, Marianne is a graduate of the University of Southern Maine and has associations with Actor's Equity, the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, and the Screen Actors Guild. Says Beattie of Senator Smith, "modern audiences need to learn about her integrity, hard work, ethics, and political sense."

Update: Maine Vest-a-Dog, a project to outfit police dogs with protective vests, is celebrating its 5th anniversary. The founder, Brunswick high school student Kelly Davis, was inducted into the Kids Hall of Fame in New York City for her community service efforts on October 30. She has raised \$38,000 to date and vested 51 Maine police dogs with bullet-proof Kevlar K-9 vests at a cost of \$835. For more information, check out Kelly's web site: <http://mainevestadog.homestead.com>.

In conjunction with summer children's programs at the Skowhegan Free Public Library, the MCS Library co-sponsored the North Star Planetarium program on August 10. Shown here are participants exiting "Starlab Planetarium," under the watchful "gaze" of John Meader.

Katie Wilber Conducts Research

Skowhegan High School student Katie Wilber has selected MCS as the topic of her study for National History Day. She is reviewing the Declaration of Conscience speech and Senator Smith's stand against Joseph R. McCarthy. Katie will also study Smith's early years to determine the significance of being raised in a small town. Smith's presidential bid will also be a part of Katie's focus. Good luck, Katie!

Marianne Owen Beattie

Katie Wilber gathers material for History Day.

Portrait Unveiling in Washington, DC

In 1999, artist Ron Frontin contacted the Library to study photographs of Senator Smith for use in painting the portrait which was to be placed at the U. S. Capitol. The painting is done! In an unveiling ceremony in Washington, DC, on October 18, dignitaries paid homage to Senator Smith and placed her portrait among the two other women so honored—Pocahontas and Hattie Carraway. Maine Senator Olympia Snowe was the major proponent of the Smith project, with full support from then-Majority Leader Trent Lott. Says Snowe of Senator Smith, "her life was a testimony to the possibilities that exist for women in America." Others who spoke at the ceremony were Senators Susan Collins, also of Maine; Ted Stevens of Alaska; Bill Frist of Tennessee; and Harry Reid of Nevada. John Bernier, Merton Henry, Anne and Jim Herrin, and Dr. Gregory Gallant traveled from Florida and Maine to attend this long-awaited occasion. The Senate Commission on Art selected Frontin from 30 applicants in its effort to increase the collection of paintings of women who served in the Senate. According to the program distributed at the unveiling, "posthumous portraiture presents numerous challenges. To capture the sitter, Frontin interviewed friends and colleagues of Margaret Chase Smith to gain a better understanding of her personality and character. Frontin sought to portray a powerful image of the senator and depicted her at the height of her career, with her signature pearls and red rose." The painting will hang on the third floor of the Capitol. What a testament to Maine's revered and most famous stateswoman.

MCS Portrait unveiled at U. S. Capitol on October 18.

Poland Spring Topic of Book

Congratulations go out to assistant director David Richards for the release of his book, *Poland Spring: A Tale of the Gilded Age, 1860-1900*. Between those years, the Ricker family's rural farm became the world-renowned summer community of Poland Spring, Maine, where upper-middle-class patrons enjoyed status, leisure, and consumption at this beautiful resort in small-town Maine. *Poland Spring* studies the rise of this nineteenth-century tourist mecca from its heyday of fortune and fame to the pitfalls and realities of creating and maintaining a popular and enduring mineral water marketplace. A very compelling story, *Poland Spring* discusses the vacation trade and tourism in the 19th century and provides a cultural history of the Gilded Age. Scholars interested in regional, business, and tourism history will find this book a fascinating read.

In a September 9th celebration of the newly released book, sponsored by Nestle Waters North America, the Poland Spring Resort, and the Poland Spring Preservation Society, guests toured the Bottling Plant Museum and the Maine State Building. Following a delicious lunch and inspiring remarks by the author at the Poland Spring Inn, a book signing was held.

Since 1996, David Richards has been the Assistant Director at the Margaret Chase Smith Library in Skowhegan, Maine, where he is responsible for educational programs. He has served as Executive Secretary of the Androscoggin Historical Society in Auburn, as well as Curator of Collections from 1984 to 1991 at the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Museum in New Gloucester. David majored in History at Bates College. He holds an M.A. in New England Studies from the University of Southern Maine and a Ph.D. in History from the University of New Hampshire. He has led over forty Maine Humanities Council book discussion series throughout the state since 1996.

The author autographs Poland Spring: A Tale of the Gilded Age, 1860-1900.

Petal Contest Winners Announced

During the first annual Fall Festival in September, sponsored by the Skowhegan Free Public Library, adults and children were invited to "Guess the Number of Rose Petals" in a glass container. Norman Moody of Canaan won a copy of Frank Sleeper's, **Margaret Chase Smith's Skowhegan**, and Amber Richardson of Madison won a copy of Alberta Gould's book, **First Lady of the Senate: A Life of Margaret Chase Smith**. Congratulations!

Dr. Sheppard Returns for Further Study

Dr. Alice Sheppard, Professor of Psychology at the University of Maine at Presque Isle, returned in October to further analyze the political cartoon images in the collection. She is a continuing recipient of the Ada Leeke Research Fellowship and hopes to produce articles for publication once her work 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.

The Library shared space at Coburn Park with the L. C. Bates Museum from Good Will-Hinckley. Can you find young Margaret in this photo taken in front of the Margaret Chase Smith Rose Garden?

In photo above, Dr. Sheppard is shown reviewing a scrapbook which contains original newspaper clippings focusing on Senator Smith's run for the presidency in 1964. Library scrapbooks currently number 533.

“Trivia” Answer from August Newsletter—The answer is on cover “Inside” section. In November, 1956, Senator Smith debated Eleanor Roosevelt on Face the Nation. Congratulations once again to Phillis Russakoff for being the first to respond with the correct answer and location. Others responding were Alyse Corson, Bob Woodbury, Joe Hanslip, and Shirley Leahan, as well as Bob Hall from Massachusetts. The November trivia question is: **What happened on May 14, 1930, which had particular significance in the life of Margaret Chase Smith?** 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!

Essay Contest Topic Announced

Margaret Chase Smith served in Congress during the emergence of the African-American civil rights and women’s liberation movements. The scope of civil rights for these two groups, as well as for many others, is still contested today, as seen recently from a referendum initiative in Maine and during debates over two Supreme Court nominees. With this in mind, Maine high school seniors are invited to submit essays explaining their views on the role government should play in protecting and extending civil rights, using the lessons of history in their responses. Essays are due on April 3, 2006, with winners eligible for eight awards ranging from \$25 to \$500.

Nation Mourns the Death of the “Mother of Civil Rights”

Rosa Parks, whose act on December 1, 1955, when she refused to relinquish her seat to a white passenger on a segregated Montgomery, Alabama, bus, has passed away at the age of 92. Rosa’s act of courage and conscience caused the National Secretaries of State to name her as the second recipient of the Margaret Chase Smith American Democracy Award in 1993. Margaret Chase Smith had received the first award which carries her name the prior year. That single act fifty years ago by one lone black woman was the beginning of the civil rights movement.

Senator Smith is shown with Coretta Scott King, wife of civil rights activist, Martin Luther King, on April 23, 1970.

Happy Holidays! To read the holiday thoughts expressed by Senator Smith in 1952, and to learn a bit about the history of presidential Christmas cards, please see p. 4



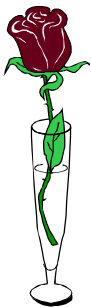
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