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## MS-163: The Gettysburg Experience, Class of 1963

G. Ronald Couchman  
*Gettysburg College*

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## MS-163: The Gettysburg Experience, Class of 1963

### **Description**

The collection includes printed materials from college sponsored programs, college publications, scrapbooks, correspondence between a student and her family, textbooks from the required course GE 201-202: Literary Foundations of Western Culture, numerous documents and artifacts from Greek life, athletics, student life, and academic programs and activities. The collection presents a helpful overview of the academic program and student life at the college during the early 1960s, and follows the interaction of class members with the college as active alumni, highlighting their service to the college, honors and awards received, and activities during class reunions. Of special interest are legacy statements written by class members reflecting on their time at the college and how those experiences shaped their careers and lives after graduation.

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### **Keywords**

Gettysburg College History, student life early 1960s, Gettysburg College alumni, fraternities, sororities

### **Disciplines**

Cultural History | History | Social History

**Guide to  
MS – 163: The Gettysburg College Experience  
Class of 1963**



**G. Ronald Couchman  
July 2016**

## **MS – 163: The Gettysburg Experience – Class of 1963**

14 boxes, 3.70 cubic feet  
Location: Collection Room

Inclusive Dates: 1958 - 2013  
Bulk Dates: 1959-1963

*Processed by: G. Ronald Couchman*  
July 2016

**Provenance:** The Planning Committee for the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion celebration for the Class of 1963 indorsed the idea of including, within the schedule of events, a class exhibit to be located in the Special Collections Reading Room of Musselman Library. To prepare for the exhibit, members of the class were asked to provide materials and memorabilia from their time at the college. The exhibit included printed materials from college programs, college publications, scrapbooks, textbooks from the period, photographs of faculty and staff, and numerous artifacts from Greek life, athletics, and other student life and academic programs and activities. Members of the class donated many of these materials to be included in this manuscript collection.

**Historical Note:** On September 19, 1959, 497 students matriculated at Gettysburg College as members of the Class of 1963. During orientation activities they bonded as a class. Over the next four years they completed a vigorous academic program of study and made significant contributions to the life of the college through student government, athletics, music, drama, clubs and organizations, religious programs and the fraternity and sorority system. At the June 1963 Commencement Exercises, 341 members of the class received Bachelor's degrees and entered into productive lives in education, religion, law, medicine, public service, the military and business. Their association with the college did not end at graduation but continued over the years in service to the institution as members of the Board of Trustees, the Alumni Council, as a Commencement speaker and as employees. Members of the class have funded scholarships and awards and have made significant contribution to the Gettysburg Fund and the Orange & Blue Fund. The College has recognized members with honorary degrees, distinguished alumni and meritorious service awards and selection to the College Athletic Hall of Honor. In addition, members of the class have returned to the campus often for class reunions and other college events.

**Scope and Content Notes:** The collection includes printed materials from college sponsored programs, college publications, scrapbooks, correspondence between a student and her family, textbooks from the required course GE 201-202: Literary Foundations of Western Culture, numerous documents and artifacts from Greek life, athletics, student life, and academic programs and activities. The collection presents a helpful overview of the academic program and student life at the college during the early 1960s, and follows the interaction of class members with the college as active alumni, highlighting their service to the college, honors and awards received, and activities during class reunions. Of special interest are legacy statements written by class members reflecting on their time at the college and how those experiences shaped their careers and lives after graduation.

**Subjects:** Gettysburg College History, student life early 1960s, Gettysburg College alumni, fraternities, sororities

**Series Description:**

This collection is divided into six Series. **Series 1:** College Programs and Publications, **Series 2:** Academics, **Series 3:** Student Life, **Series 4:** Service to the College, Honors and Awards, **Series 5:** Legacy Statements, **Series 6:** Class Reunions

**Box List**

**Box 1**

1-0 Finding Aid and Historical Information

**Series 1: College Programs and Publications**

1-1 Admissions Material for the class of 1963

- Gettysburg College in Brief (2)
- Gettysburg College dedicated to Liberal Arts and Science
- Gettysburg College photo book
- Admissions Information
- Campus photo poster
- College View Book

1-2 Orientation

- Orientation Week Program, September 13-21, 1959
- Opening Convocations, September 19, 1959 (2)
- Orientation Week Service Christ Chapel, September 20, 1959 (2)
- G-Book 1959
- Campus Map
- New Student Photo Directory (3)
- Address to the Freshman Class, Joseph Wolfinger

### 1-3 College Programs

- Father's Weekend, October 17-18, 1959
- Mother's Weekend, April 30-May 1, 1960
- Open Convocation, September 17, 1960
- Father's Weekend, October 1-2, 1960
- Alumni Service at Christ Chapel, October 23, 1960
- Founders' Day, April 7, 1961
- Mother's Weekend, May 6-7, 1961
- Mother's Weekend, May 5-6, 1962
- Orientation Program, September 9-15, 1962

### 1-4 G-Books

- 1957
- 1958
- 1959
- 1960
- 1961

### 1-5 *The Gettysburg Times* 1961 College Edition

### 1-6 The Junto, October 8, 1962

### 1-7 Student Directories

- 1959-1960
- 1960-1961
- 1961-1962
- 1962-1963

### 1-8 Postcards – Campus Buildings

### 1-9 Commencement, June 2, 1963

- The Commencement Exercises (3)
- The Baccalaureate Service (2)
- Commissioning Exercises
- Commencement Invitation (3)
- Seniors – Your Commencement Weekend
- Graduation Tassel
- *The Gettysburg Times*, Monday, June 3, 1963

## **Box 2**

### **Series 2: Academics**

#### 2-1 College Catalogues

- 1959-1960
- 1961-1962
- 1962-1963

#### 2-2 Graduation Check Sheet – Biology Major

#### 2-3 Tests and Papers

- Final Examination for GE 202: Literary Foundations

- Examination for French I – Betty Jean Platt
- Paper “The Yang Yin Symbol”

#### 2-4 Honorary Society Handbooks

- Phi Beta Kappa
- Psi Chi

### **Box 3**

#### Textbooks for GE 201: Literary Foundations of Western Culture I

- Aeschylus I: Oresteia
- Apuleius: The Golden Ass
- Aristotle: On Poetry and Music
- Euripides: Three Plays of Euripides
- Homer: The Odyssey
- Lucretius: The Nature of the Universe
- Plato: Great Dialogues of Plato
- Sophocles I
- Virgil: The Aeneid

#### Textbooks for GE 202: Literary Foundations of Western Culture II

- Beowulf
- Cervantes: Don Quixote

### **Box 4**

#### Textbooks for GE 202: Literary Foundations of Western Culture II

- Dante: The Divine Comedy
- Goethe: Faust
- Milton: Paradise Lost
- Montaigne: Essays
- Rabelais: Gargantua and Pantagruel
- The Song of Roland
- St. Augustine: Confessions
- Shakespeare: Six Plays of Shakespeare

### **Box 5**

#### **Series 3: Student Life**

##### **Subset 1: Student Organizations and Activities**

#### 5-1 Student Life – Programs

- Invitation to Winter Weekend, February 24-25, 1961 (2)
- Frosh-Soph Show, February 25, 1961
- Water Show “Around the World”. Physical Education Majors Club, May 5-6, 1961

- Lent 1961 Devotional Booklet, Student Christian Association
- Lent 1962 Devotional Booklet, Student Christian Association
- Christ Chapel Service
- Religious Emphasis Week, February 17-20, 1963
- Hawaiian Holiday, Physical Education Majors Club

#### 5-2 Student Life – Athletics

- Middle Atlantic States Collegiate Athletic Conference Track and Field Championships, May 13-14, 1960
- Football program Homecoming, Muhlenberg vs. Gettysburg, October 22, 1960
- Basketball program, Penn State vs. Gettysburg, January 12, 1961
- Basketball program, Elizabethtown vs. Gettysburg, February 22, 1961

#### 5-3 Student Life – Music

- Gettysburg College Bullet Band Formations 1959
- Concert Band Program, March 31, 1962
- Concert Band Program, May 1, 1963
- Owl and Nightingale South Pacific, Director Peter French

#### 5-4 Campus Highlights from *The Gettysburgian*

- “Trustees Eliminate Compulsory Chapel” September 23, 1960
- “Construction Begins on Physics Building”, “Senate Plans Father’s Day”, September 30, 1960
- “Coeds Start Evacuation of Dormitory as Hanson Hall ‘Almost Burns Down’”, October 6, 1961
- “Three Juniors Seek Presidency of Senate”, Bennett, Bicknell, Hodgson, March 9, 1962
- “Students Elect Bennett, Hodgson, Senate President, Vice-President”, “Alpha Xi, TKE Claim Top Trophies at IFC-Panhell Sing Last Weekend”, March 16, 1962
- “Dr. C.A. Hanson Delivers Address at Inauguration Ceremony Saturday”, “Betsy Mackey to Head New Staff of Spectrum”, May 4, 1962
- “Dr. Hanson Emphasizes Religion, Finance, Honor As College Opens”, “New Chaplain Vannorsdall Invites Various Faiths to Join in Worship”, “Bennett Outlines Senate Program: Rankin Reports on Honor System”, September 21, 1962
- “Students Protest Shortened Holiday With Campus Riot”, October 5, 1962
- “Dean Gives Awards at Honors Assembly”, October 12, 1962
- “Students Vote Acceptance at Polls For Senate Reorganization Proposal”, February 15, 1963

#### 5-5 Greek Life

- The Greeks at Gettysburg (Introductory Booklet) (2)
- Freshman Date Book, Fall, 1959
- Sorority Handbook, Panhellenic Council, September, 1961
- Annual Interfraternity Weekend, March 11-13, 1960



- Interfraternity Weekend Pledge Banquet, March 11, 1960
  - Annual Interfraternity Weekend, March 10-12, 1961 (2)
  - Annual Interfraternity Weekend, March 9-11, 1962 (2)
  - Brothers Four Sing at G-Burg for Xmas Houseparty Weekend, December 2, 1960
  - Newspaper photos – Homecoming Floats and House Party Decorations
- 5-6 Greek Life – Alpha Delta Pi
- Invitation for membership
  - Installation Banquet Program
  - Miscellaneous invitations and favors
  - Photo of membership in formals
  - 1961 Composite
  - 1962 Composite
- 5-7 Greek Life – Gamma Phi Beta
- Father’s Banquet program, October 17, 1959
  - “Gamma Phi Beta Capture Intramural Swim Crown”
  - Miscellaneous favors
- 5-8 Greek Life – Phi Delta Theta
- Freshman Date Book, Fall of 1961
  - “Karux” – Pennsylvania Beta, 1961-1962
  - “Karux” – Pennsylvania Beta, 1962-1963
  - Open House Poster
- 5-9 Greek Life -- Sigma Chi from Gary Bootay
- A brief history of the fraternity at Gettysburg
  - Sigma Chi varsity letter winners
  - Photos from the period
  - 150 year celebration photo
- 5-10 Greek Life – Sigma Kappa
- Constitution and By-Laws of Sigma Kappa Sorority
  - Recording “In The Still Of The Night” I.F.C. Sing 1960
  - Sheet Music “In The Still Of The Night”
- 5-11 Student Life Miscellaneous
- Photos from Susan Cunningham Euker
  - Floor Roster Dorm “D” – First Floor

## **Box 6**

### **Subset 2: Scrapbooks**

6-1 Scrapbook – BJ Platt, “With The Beginning of My Life at Gettysburg, My Future Began to Bud .... And Bloom”

## **Box 7**

7-1 Scrapbook – Peggy Jaeger Shreiner, “My First Year at Gettysburg College”

**Box 8**

**Subset 3: Correspondence – College Correspondence of Evelyn Miller**

8-1 Letters of introduction from individual women and from the college to Evelyn before her enrollment, summer 1959 (17 letters)

8-2 Letters to Evelyn from home 1959-1963

- September 15, 1959 comments about weather, Eisenhower and Khrushchev meeting at Camp David
- September 22, 1959 advised not to cut Friday and Saturday classes to attend a family function, possible visit to college by parents, support for pledging a sorority, hopes at possibly seeing Eisenhower farm
- October 18, 1959 supportive comments about early academic performance, travel plans at Thanksgiving, questions about Father’s Day program
- October 21, 1959 banking plans, President Eisenhower in Georgia so will not be in Gettysburg for Sunday services
- December 13, 1959 positive comments about Biology grade, Christmas travel plans
- January 11, 1960 financial questions, paid up for next semester, very thoughtful responses from questions raised in Bible class about God, sin, and wars
- January 19, 1960 support for joining a sorority, not to worry about the added expenses, winter weather in the Buffalo area
- February 24, 1960 acknowledged receipt of a letter reporting that a duplicate key had been made of the dorm master key, news about not receiving a sorority bid, further comments about the Bible course, plans for spring break, typed note of support and encouragement from father
- March 15, 1960 reactions to concern about some low marks, question about the meaning of “Jap” in connection with grades, train travel plans home for spring break
- May 2, 1961 From Evelyn to Parents—about summer employment, seeing Ike and Mamie in church at Gettysburg on Sunday
- December 5, 1961 response about Y Teen hayride that included David Eisenhower, winter weather on the way, plane ticket home for Christmas, plans for Christmas party
- February 19, 1962 references to John Glenn’s space flight, tired of winter weather, medical concerns, acknowledged sorority and other student life activities, hope to meet her botany professor

January 4, 1963 urged to check concerns with history professor, described a clergy group visit to Russia and Armenia

February 8, 1963 financial check-up, tax forms, need for a transcript, job applications

March 19, 1963 plans for a tour, financial support for the trip, good results from conference with Education Department Chair

April 1, 1963 discussion about some moral and ethical issues of the day, friend buying a Studebaker Lark, going to see "To Kill a Mocking Bird", plans for graduation, graduation trip, Kennedys visiting the Gettysburg battlefield

8-3 Graduation cards from family and friends

8-4 Eisenhower related material

- Article about Eisenhower's office on the Gettysburg College campus
- Article about Evelyn's work with Y-teen program
- Note accepting an invitation to a Y-teens event signed by David Eisenhower
- Permission slip from David Eisenhower to attend a Y-teens event signed by Barbara Eisenhower
- Program of Adams County Republican Dinner October 26, 1961, attended by General and Mrs. Eisenhower and autographed by him.

## **Box 9**

### **Subset 4: Student Life memorabilia**

College Memorabilia

- Orientation dink
- Orientation Orange tie
- Gettysburg College window sticker
- Music letter
- Gettysburg College Pennant
- Gettysburg College Band Pin
- Class ring
- Alpha Chi Rho pin
- Sigma Kappa playing cards dance favor
- Alpha Chi Rho ceramic beer mug (located adjacent to box 9)

## **Box 10**

## **Series 4: Service to Gettysburg College and Class of 1963 Honors and Awards**

### Benefactor's Wall

- William T. '63 and Jean (Cleveland) '64 Kirchhoff P'86

### Lavern H. Brenneman Award for Exemplary Service

- William T. and Jean Kirchhoff

### Alumni Association Board of Directors

- Donald Burden
- Jay Kappmeier
- Joseph Sharrah
- James Vinson

### Alumni Meritorious Service Award

- William Kirchoff
- Brian Bennett

### Selected to the Board of Trustees

- Fred Settelmeyer
- William Kirchhoff
- Brian Bennett
- Don Burden

### Commencement Speaker

- Carol Bellamy

### Class Correspondent

- Mary Alice (Dress) Baumgardner
- Hal Sheads
- Susan (Cunningham) Euker

### Gifts to the College

- Brauer Language Resource Center – Marilyn Brauer
- Scholarship Fund – Wallburga Mank Weber
- Endowed Internship Fund for Musselman Library – Carol (Dunlap) Billings
- Endowed Diversity Award – Ronald Couchman

### 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Scholarships

- Brian Bennett in Memory of Bruce Sands
- Don Burden
- Class of 1963 (Two additional \$25,000 Scholarships)

### Honorary Degrees

- Carol Bellamy
- Peter French
- Jerry Spinelli

#### Distinguished Alumni Award

- Carol Bellamy
- Jerry Spinelli
- James Vinson
- John Pawelek
- James “Bill” Houldin
- Carol (Seible) Hendrix
- David Hamilton
- Frank Martin

#### Hall of Athletic Honor

- Ann B. Shockey
- Carole Johnson
- Theodore G. Koerner

#### Employment

- Ronald Couchman – Registrar Emeritus

### **Box 11**

#### **Series 5: Legacy Statements**

11-1 Edward Ammarell

11-2 Barbara Baker Happer

11-3 Brian Bennett

11-4 Charles H. (Chuck) Bikle

11-5 Gary Bootay

11-6 Donald W. Burden

11-7 G. Ronald Couchman

11-8 Susan Cunningham Euker

11-9 Nancy L. Dilcher

11-10 Tracy Goodrick Salter

11-11 Carol Eckhardt Harrison

11-12 Paul E. Henry

11-13 Paul A. Herman

11-14 Peggy Jaeger Shreiner

11-15 Russell Klauk

11-16 Barbara Levering Blank

11-17 Connie Mann Detrick

11-18 Walt Maust

11-19 B.J. Platt Klauk

11-20 Jerry Robertson  
11-21 "Oz" Sanborn  
11-22 Jerry Spinelli  
11-23 Joanne Thomas Robinson  
11-24 James S. Vinson  
11-25 Wayne Zajac

### **Box 12**

#### **Series 6: Class Reunions**

12-1 Fifth Reunion  
12-2 Tenth Reunion  
12-3 Fifteenth Reunion  
12-4 Twentieth Reunion  
12-5 Twenty-fifth Reunion  
12-6 Thirtieth Reunion

### **Box 13**

13-1 Thirty-fifth Reunion  
13-2 Fortieth Reunion  
13-3 Forty-fifth Reunion

### **Box 14**

14-1 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Planning Material  
14-2 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Weekend, May 30-June 2, 2013  
14-3 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class Scholarships  
14-4 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Exhibit  
14-5 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion "Then & Now" exhibit documents

#### **For more information about the Class of 1963**

MS-007: The Papers of Jerry Spinelli, Class of 1963  
VFM-322: Rios, Marjorie, Class 1963, letters to her parents sophomore year  
Peter French '63 Premiere Players (unprocessed collection)  
*Gettysburg College Spectrum* 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963  
*The Gettysburgian* (September 1959-May 1963)

Members of the class who contributed to this collection:

Edward Ammarell  
Barbara Baker Happer  
Brian Bennett  
Charles H. (Chuck) Bikle,  
Gary Bootay  
Donald W. Burden  
G. Ronald Couchman  
Susan Cunningham Euker  
Nancy L. Dilcher  
Tracy Goodrick Salter  
Carol Eckhardt Harrison  
Paul E. Henry  
Paul A. Herman  
Peggy Jaeger Shreiner  
Jay A. Kappmeier  
Russell Klauk  
Barbara Levering Blank  
Connie Mann Detrick  
Walt Maust  
Evelyn Miller Swarts  
B.J. Platt Klauk  
Jerry Robertson  
"Oz" Sanborn  
Jerry Spinelli  
Joanne Thomas Robinson  
James S. Vinson  
Wayne Zajac