



## *Grace Gawthrop Peterson Papers*

(MS028; FF021)

### Finding Aid

Monmouth College Archives

Hewes Library

Monmouth, Illinois

2014

#### **Contact information:**

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*Grace Gawthrope Peterson Papers*

**Descriptive Summary**

Title: Grace Gawthrope Peterson Papers

Creator: Grace (Gracie) Gawthrope Peterson

Dates: 1917-2006

Extent: 25 boxes

Language(s): English

Repository: Monmouth College Archives, Monmouth, Illinois

Abstract: Papers of Grace Gawthrope Peterson, graduate and long-time professor in the Music Department from 1923-1972. The collection consists of many photographs, scrapbooks

Location: MS028; FF021

**Administrative Information**

Cite as: Grace Gawthrope Peterson Papers, Monmouth College, Monmouth Illinois.

Provenance:

Processed by: Nick Mainz

Separations: FF021. 001- .021

Access: Obtained by completing a Request for Research Materials Form at the Hewes Library Circulation Desk. Materials are generally pulled once daily during the school year.

Ownership:

The Grace Gawthrope Peterson Collection/Papers/Records/Photos/scrapbooks are the physical property of the Monmouth College Archives. Copyright may belong to authors or their legal heirs or assigns. Researchers assume full responsibility for conforming to laws of privacy, copyright and literary rights which may be involved with use of materials from the Monmouth College Archives.

## **Biographical Background**

As a student at MC, “Gracie” Peterson was a pupil of Edna Riggs and together they helped to establish a music department that became one of the largest and strongest in the history of the College. Gracie was a 1922 graduate from MC’s Musice Conservatory and soon after was invited to become a part of the faculty at Monmouth College. For over fifty years she participated actively on Monmouth’s campus. She and Professor Riggs often performed their popular twin-piano concerts together. Professor Peterson also planned and directed vaudeville shows that became known as the “Gracie Show”. These performances ran for several nights, often on the stage at the Rivoli Theater in downtown Monmouth. She directed the choir at Second United Presbyterian Church which, over time, became known unofficially as “Gracie’s Choir.” Since 1932 she served yearly as the official pianist of the American Legion Auxiliary State Convention. Grace also became a habitual world traveler and after every major trip she presented a musical program based on her adventures with proceeds funding her next trip. Dr. William Urban put it best when he wrote: “[Grace’s] place in the history of Monmouth College is secure, for she has done more in the last half-century than anyone, any Director of Alumni or Director of Development, to cement the ties between the institution and its graduates so necessary to any college” (Urban, *A History of MC through its 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Century*). Gracie Passed away in 2006 at the young age of 104.

## **Container List**

<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Contents</u></b>
1 (MS028.001)	1	Monmouth college magazine
	2	Clippings
	3	Photo of MC music faculty 1934 Review Atlas article
	4	Sheet music and music books
	5	Events and announcements
	6	Royal wedding in Holland
	7	Letters, clippings and announcements
	8	notes
	9	Miscellaneous finances
	10	Audio
	11	Programs
	12	Death announcements
2 (MS028.002)	1	Awards
	2	Monmouth High School Yearbooks 1917, 1920

<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Contents</u></b>
3 (MS028.003)	1	22 envelopes photos
	2	Photographs 1992/89
	3	MC Amazing Grace
	4	Portraits
	5	Photographs
	6	Photographs 1935-1969
	7	1940s-1950s Photographs
	8	99 <sup>th</sup> Birthday, 2001
4 (FF021.001)		Clippings Scrapbook, 1947-1953
5 (FF021.002)		Clippings/ Letters Scrapbook, 1922 - 1983
6 (FF021.003)	1	1919-1966 Programs/Recitals
	2	1942-43 Clippings Scrapbook
	3	Photographs
7 (FF021.004)		Large Photographs, 1946-1948
8 (FF021.005)		Large Photographs, 1949-1950
9 (FF021.006)		Medium Photographs 1944, 1946, 1948-53
10 (FF021.007)	1	Medium Photographs 1944-1949
		Musicals poster, UIAAA Awards
11 (FF021.008)		Small Photographs, 1944-53
12 (FF021.009)		American Legion Auxiliary Scrapbook, 1932-1943
13 (FF021.010)		Second United Presbyterian Church Choir Scrapbook
14 (FF021.011)		VHS tapes
15 (FF021.012)		Lions Club Banners & Rotary wheel

<b><u>Box</u></b>	<b><u>Folder</u></b>	<b><u>Contents</u></b>
16 (FF021.013)		Crimson Clan, 1937-1979
17 (FF021.014)		Rotary Scrapbook, 1920-1990's
18 (FF021.015)		Gracie Peterson Day 1970, Photo Album
19 (FF021.016)		Scandolls of '44, Musigals of '45 Scapbook
20 (FF021.017)		Second United Presbyterian Church Choir photographs, 1946-47
21 (FF021.018)		Gracie Peterson Day Scrapbook, 1970
22 (FF021.019)		1980's/90's Scrapbook
23 (FF021.020)		1980's/80's Scrapbook 2
24 (FF021.021)		Recitals, 1933-1953
25 (FF021.022)		90th Birthday Scrapbook, 1992
26 (FF021.023)		Awards: Spirit of Monmouth, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Plaque
27 (MS028.004)		Personal calendars, 1970-1981
28 (FF021.024)		Happy Birthday Posters, Piano Students, Key to the City