

Marguerite Parrish Papers  
MS- 280

## Introduction

The papers of Marguerite Parrish cover the years from about 1930 to 1980. They were donated to the Wright State University Special Collections and Archives in February and March of 1983 by her daughter Marguerite M. Parrish.

Marguerite Parrish was an active Democratic leader for over sixty years. She worked with the Democratic Party at the local, state, and national level. Through her work she gained many acquaintances with leading political figures such as Harry Truman, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson. Her papers include materials from her acquaintance with these individuals as well as many others. Her papers also include correspondence and information materials on the working of the Democratic party. Some of the most extensive information deals with her work in the Federated Democratic Women of Ohio organization for which she was President.

The collection fills eleven Hollinger boxes and fills approximately 2.5 linear feet of shelf space. There are no restrictions to the use of these materials. The Marguerite Parrish collection is broken into three series and one sub-series as follows:

- Series I**        Democratic Party Activities
  - Sub-series I   Political Leaders
- Series II**      Personal/Service Activities
- Series III**     Ephemera

### Biography

Marguerite H. Parrish (1895-1983) was an active Democratic leader for over sixty years. She began her career during the 1930's and lobbied for the "50-50 bill" which demanded equal rights for women. She worked with women's groups on the local level as well as on the state and national level. She held such positions as the President of the Women's Democratic Club of Montgomery County, the President of the Women's Democratic Council of Dayton and Montgomery County, and the President of the Federated Democratic Women of Ohio. While she was President of the Federated Democratic Women of Ohio the organization sponsored the first woman to run for a state office in Ohio, Gertrude Donahey.

Marguerite Parrish was very active with the main body of the Democratic Party where she held a State Central Committeewoman position for twelve years (1966-1978) representing the third Congressional District. Locally, she held positions which included a County central Committee post from about 1954-1972 and the 1974 Democratic Precinct Committeewoman for Kettering. Mrs. Parrish was also a delegate to the Democratic National Convention six times and attended several others. The first she attended was the National Convention of 1944 where she was the first Ohio delegate to vote for Harry Truman for Vice President.

Her years of service also earned her numerous awards including the 1970 Democratic Woman of the Year from the Federated Democratic Women of Ohio. Through the years she gained many acquaintances including such individuals as Harry S. Truman, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, and their families.

In addition to her political career Marguerite Parrish was married, raised a daughter, and was active in many community and service projects. Marguerite was married to Rial T. Parrish, a local architect who designed such buildings as the Fairmont West High School and Kennedy Junior High School in Kettering. Rial Parrish preceded her in death in 1968. They had one child, a daughter, also named Marguerite M. Parrish.

Mrs. Parrish's social and community work included such campaigns as the Porchlight Parade for Polio for which she was the Commander General in 1952, Child Nutrition Association, American Cancer Society, Charter member of the Isabella Saint Anne Circle #396, and the 1971 White House Conference on Aging.

### Scope and Context

The Marguerite Parrish Papers is divided into three series which are Democratic Party Activities, Personal/Service Activities, and Ephemera.

The first series, the Democratic Party Activities, is the majority of the materials within the collection. The items are arranged beginning with Marguerite Parrish's Personal campaign items. The rest of the collection is organized beginning from the local and moving to the national level. The items include such things as correspondence, minutes, photographs, pamphlets, programs, and newspaper clippings.

Series one also has a sub-series entitled Political Leaders. This sub-series is also arranged from local to national leaders. This is one of the most interesting parts of the collection dealing with many of her acquaintances such as John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, and Harry S. Truman. The John F. Kennedy files in this sub-series have many photographs of the President while visiting Dayton as well as some postcards and letters to Marguerite Parrish. Additionally, many items from the Inaugurations of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson are also included in this sub-series.

The second series entitled Personal/Service Activities includes both the few items pertaining to her family that were with the collection and her many service organizations which were also included. Her work included the Child Nutrient Association in the 1930's, the Porchlight Parade for Polio in the 1950's, and the 1971 White House Conference on Aging. These items vary considerably in time and content and include such things as books, correspondence, minutes, programs, awards, and newspaper clippings.

The final series is ephemera. This series contains mainly political campaign buttons but also has some American Cancer Society Buttons and state of Ohio patriotism buttons. The campaign buttons begin as early as FDR and run through President Carter. One very interesting piece of ephemera included in this series is an ink pen with President Johnson's signature on it with a note that it was used to sign several bills into Law.

The last box in the collection contains the oversized materials. These materials are noted in their appropriate sections and are also listed separately at the end to assist in locating them. The oversized materials contain items from all the series and sub-series.

Container Listing

**SERIES I: Democratic Party Activities**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	Marguerite Parrish Biographical Articles
	2	Personal Campaign Items
	3	Certificates (also look in Oversized for similar materials)
	4	Democrat of the Year
	5	Montgomery County Democrats
	6	Montgomery County Democrats - Correspondence
	7	Montgomery County Democrats - Newsletter
	8	Montgomery County 1958 Democratic Primary
	9	Democratic Women's Club of Dayton and Montgomery County
	10	Women's Democratic Ward Clubs
	11	Federated Democratic Women of Montgomery County
	12	Montgomery County Council of Democratic Women
	13	Women's Activities in Montgomery County
	14	Gem City Club
	15	Ohio Democratic Party
	16	Ohio Democratic Party - Correspondence
	17	Ohio Democratic Party - Photographs
	18	"The Ohio Democrat"
2	19	Federated Democratic Women of Ohio - Correspondence
	20	Federated Democratic Women of Ohio - Minutes
	21	Federated Democratic Women of Ohio - Programs
	22	Federated Democratic Women of Ohio - Newsletters
	23	Federated Democratic Women of Ohio - Speeches
	24	Federated Democratic Women of Ohio - Articles
	25	National Democratic Committee
	26	National Democratic Committee - Women's Division
	27	National Democratic Committee - Women's Division - Correspondence
	28	National Democratic Committee - Women's Division- Speeches
3	29	1944 Democratic National Convention (also see oversized)
	30	1956 Democratic National Convention
	31	1960 Democratic National Convention
	32	1964 Democratic National Convention
	33	1972 Democratic National Convention
	34	1976 Democratic National Convention

Box File Description

- |   |    |  |
|---|----|--|
| 4 | 35 | Democratic Campaign Music  |
|   | 36 | "The Democratic Digest"  |
|   | 37 | "The Democrat"   |
|   | 38 | CBS Vote Profile Analysis - 1964                                   |
|   | 39 | Democratic Leader's Instruction                                    |
|   | 40 | Political Speeches - Unidentified                                  |
|   | 41 | Political Miscellaneous  |
|   | 42 | Democratic Party Histories   |
|   | 43 | Political Books  |
|   |    | <u>Agenda 1961 :New principles for a New Age -- Charles Bowles</u> |
|   |    | <u>My Friends -- Franklin Delano Roosevelt</u>                     |

**Sub-series 1: Political Leaders**

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 5 | 1  | Ester Mayl  |
|   | 2  | Albert A. Horstman (also see oversized)                             |
|   | 3  | Gertrude W. Donahey   |
|   | 4  | Governor Michael V. DiSalle   |
|   | 5  | Robert F. Kennedy   |
|   | 6  | President Franklin Delano Roosevelt                                 |
|   | 7  | President Harry S. Truman (also see oversized)                      |
|   | 8  | President John F. Kennedy - Campaign                                |
|   | 9  | President John F. Kennedy - Correspondence                          |
|   | 10 | President John F. Kennedy - Newspaper Articles (also see oversized) |
|   | 11 | President John F. Kennedy - Pamphlets                               |
|   | 12 | President John F. Kennedy - Photographs                             |
|   | 13 | President Lyndon B. Johnson   |
|   | 14 | President Lyndon B. Johnson - Speeches                              |
| 6 | 15 | President Lyndon B. Johnson - 1965 Inauguration                     |
|   | 16 | Vice President Herbert H. Humphrey                                  |
|   | 17 | Democratic Leaders - Miscellaneous                                  |

**SERIES II: Personal / Service Activities**

Box File Description

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 7 | 1 | Family Activities                            |
|   | 2 | Child Nutrition Association                  |
|   | 3 | American Cancer Society                      |
|   | 4 | Daughters of Isabella - St. Anne Circle #396 |

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
7	5	Catholic Women's Associations
	6	Porchlight Parade for Polio (also see oversized)
	7	1971 White House conference on Aging
	8	Task Forces
	9	Books: <u>Eight Discourses on the Gold Standard and other subjects 1932-1933</u> -- Rev. Chas. E. Coughlin <u>Here is your War</u> -- Ernie Pyle
10		Photographs - Unidentified

### **SERIES III: Ephemera**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
8	1	Sample Button
	2	American Smoke Out
	3	Kiss Me, I don't Smoke
	4	American Cancer Society
	5	Ohio
	6	Ohio is a nice place
	7	Marguerite Parrish -- 3rd District
	8	Crime Fighter Lee C. Falke Prosecutor
	9	Paula MacIlwaine -- County Commissioner
	10	Vote for Paula MacIlwaine
	11	Elect Judge Wolff
	12	Ray Wolff (large)
	13	Ray Wolff (small)
	14	Pat Roach
	15	Harrisman
	16	For Governor, Gilligan
	17	Gilligan for Ohio
	18	Reams for Governor
	19	McGovern Shiver
	20	McGovern Shiver '72
	21	Zimmers
	22	Yes! Fran Ryan for Congress
	23	Re-elect Smith of State Senate
	24	Kefauver the winning Democrat
	25	Ohio wants Kefauver
	26	Sweeney for Attorney
	27	Elect Gertrude Donahey

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	
8	28	Donahey Treasurer of State	
	29	Donahey Picture Pin	
	30	Re-elect Donahey	
	31	Federated Democratic Women of Ohio 1972 (also see oversized)	
	32	John Glenn U.S. Senate	
	33	John Glenn for U.S. Senate	
	34	Glenn	
	35	U.S. Senator Young	
	36	I'm a Metz fan	
	37	Return Metzenbaum to the Senate	
	38	Let's Back Jack for U.S. Senate	
	39	Ohio Democratic Convention	
	40	Roosevelt (square) (also see oversized)	
	41	FDR	
	42	Roosevelt	
	9	43	Elect Roosevelt Davey
		44	Kennedy for President(also see oversized)
		45	The Man for the 60's (square)
46		The Man for the 60's (round)	
47		Our next President	
48		Kennedy *for President*	
49		Kennedy	
50		Kennedy for President	
51		The Man for the 60's -- John F. Kennedy	
52		B4JB	
53		All the way with LBJ	
54		LBJ for the USA - Young for Ohio	
55		LBJ for the USA (red)	
56		LBJ for the USA (blue)	
57		4 LBJ	
58		LBJ for the USA - Ohio	
59		LBJ "Hat" Pin	
60		LBJ all the way	
61		Johnson - Humphrey 1964	
62	Humphrey		
63	HH Humphrey		
64	Humphrey for President		
65	Humphrey - Muskie (also see oversized)		
66	Humphrey - Muskie 1968		
67	Women for Humphrey		



<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
9	68	The eyes have it for Humphrey
	69	Humphrey - Muskie (small)
	70	For President Adlai E. Stevenson
	71	Vice-President Mondale
	72	Carter - Mondale
	73	Don't Blame Me I voted Democrat
	74	Democratic Convention Lapel Pin
	75	Honored Guest Democratic National Convention
	76	Democratic National Convention Main Floor Delegate 1956
	77	1960 Convention Floor Delegate
	78	Delegate 1964 National Democratic Convention
	79	Donkey Pin
	80	Cloth covered Donkey Pin
	81	Vote Democrat
	82	Win in 1970
	83	Save the (Elephant picture)
	84	Contentment in a Clean Deal
	85	Route to Victory Vote Democrat 66
	10	86
87		1964 Delegate Democratic National Convention
88		1964 Honored Guest Democratic National Convention
89		For President John F. Kennedy
90		Prosper More Vote LBJ in '64
91		Lyndon B. Johnson Pen
92		LBJ for USA window stickers

### **Oversized Materials**

<u>Loc</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
35	6	Certificates
	7	Daytonians - Ohioans at Democratic National Convention 1944
	8	Al Horstman Obituary
	9	Truman in Dayton - Newspaper
	10	JFK in Dayton - Newspaper
	11	Porchlight Parade for Polio
	13	Large Campaign Posters
	12	Federated Democratic Women of Ohio -- Pennant