

McLean County Museum of History
Margaret (Peg) Kirk Collection

Processed by
Michela Liable
Fall 2024

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	2 boxes
COLLECTION DATES:	1994 - 2017
RESTRICTIONS:	None
PROVENANCE	Donation from daughter, Kathleen Kirk.
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	Scrapbook located in Scrapbook Collection – contains local newspaper clippings, photographs and correspondence from 1973 – 1982.

Brief History

Margaret (Peg) Kirk was a beloved English teacher and speech coach at Normal Community High School. Kirk was instrumental in getting the Unit Five Education Association recognized as the bargaining unit for teacher's contract negotiations and served as president of the union for two years. After 27 years at NCHS, she retired in 1994. In retirement, Kirk supervised student teachers, worked with Senior Professionals, volunteered for the McLean County Museum of History, served on the Beyond the Books Foundation, and performed and volunteered at Heartland Theatre Company and with the annual Evergreen Cemetery Walk. She and her

husband John received the McLean County History Makers award in 2015. Peg Kirk passed away on November 5, 2023, at the age of 90.

Scope

The collection includes various writings by Peg Kirk including plays, poems, etc.

Box 1 - Folder Inventory

Folder 1: General Information

- 1.1.1 Margaret Kirk obituary, *Pantagraph*, November 8, 2023.
- 1.1.2 Playbill for *The Third Richard*, by John Kirk, 2019.
- 1.1.3 Award of Recognition from Illinois State Board of Education to Margaret Kirk, 1992-1993.
- 1.1.4 UFEA (Unit Five Education Assoc) Teachers Excellence Awards, pictorial collage, 2 pp.
- 1.1.5 Note on Margaret (Peg) Kirk scrapbook in Scrapbook Collection.

Folder 2: Plays (dated and undated drafts and finished short plays)

- 1.2.1 "The Affair," undated.
- 1.2.2 "The Library," undated.
- 1.2.3 "The Trial of Harriet," 2004.
- 1.2.4 "The Conference," 2004.
- 1.2.5 "The Letter," 2006.
- 1.2.6 "Got a Match?" (estimated 2008).

Folder 3: Prose – writings for the McLean County Museum of History

- 1.3.1 "Looking Back," 2018.
- 1.3.2 "Good Neighbors," 2019.
- 1.3.3 "Pitfalls and Pratfalls," speech, 1994.
- 1.3.4 "Reflections on War," speech, 2000.
- 1.3.5 "To travel hopefully.....," speech, 2005.
- 1.3.6 Short stories from 1995 - 2005

Folder 4: Parodies – writings for the McLean County Museum of History

- 1.4.1 Drafts, correspondence and copy of final publication of "An Essay on An Essay on Man," *Satire Newsletter*, 1966.
- 1.4.2 Individual dated poems preceded by a list of authors being parodied (1996 – 2002).

Folder 5: Poems (2008 – 2017)

Folder 6: W.O.W. (Women of Words)

- 1.6.1 Peg's offerings to the group include short autobiographical essays, poems, and possibly short fiction.

- Folder 7: Poems and Miscellany (2004-2006)**
 1.7.1 Poems and other miscellany writings, some dated and some not, some drafts in progress.
- Folder 8: Goodness Program (Spring, 2007), Wesley United Methodist Church**
 1.8.1 “Goodness Program,” 2007, 16 pp. (2 copies)
- Folder 9: In Her Own Voice**
 1.9.1 “In Her Own Voice,” 1998, Longfellow Club Dinner, 15 pp.
- Folder 10: From Passion to Program (Maggie Parret and Peg Kirk)**
 1.10.1 “Having the Time of Their Lives,” *Community News*, March 3, 1999.
 1.10.2 ISU Annuitants Association, Sept 4, 2002, 20 pp.
 1.10.3 Literary Guild, Hudson Public Library, November 15, 2001, 19 pp.
 1.10.4 Portraits in Poetry, undated, 29 pp.
 1.10.5 A Tribute to Women, Kiwanis Program, undated, 12 pp.
 1.10.6 “A Word Fitly Spoken...,” A Readers Theatre Performance, April 11, 1997, 34 pp.
 1.10.7 “Pass It On,” A Readers Theatre Performance, Fall 1998, 22 pp.
 1.10.8 “A Child’s Christmas in Wales,” undated, 20 pp.
 1.10.9 “Then and Now,” undated, 21 pp.

Box 2

- Folder 11: NCC Anniversary Program, undated, 7 pp.**
- Folder 12: “He and She” (John and Peg), undated, 22 pp.**
- Folder 13: Museum Program, various poems, 2011-2012.**
- Folder 14: Iving School – Voices**
 2.14.1 Tongue twisters, warm up exercises, poems, riddles.