

Lane Community College Archives
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Guide to Peter Wotton Papers
1933 – 1998

M-003

Collection processed by: Elizabeth Uhlig, 1999, 2001
Inventory encoded by: Elizabeth Uhlig, 2007

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Repository Name: Lane Community College Archives
4000 East 30th Avenue
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Collection Number: M-003

Creator: Peter Wotton

Title: Peter Wotton Papers

Dates: 1933 - 1998

Quantity: 5 document boxes, 33 audio cassette tapes (2 cubic feet)

Summary: Peter Wotton broadcast "Elderberry Wine" commentaries, focusing on issues of interest to older people, on [KLCC](#) radio in Eugene, Oregon, 1982-1996. The collection includes "Elderberry Wine" scripts, audio recordings, and newspaper columns; correspondence, speeches, sermons, poems, short stories, scrapbooks, and photographs.

Location of Collection: Lane Community College Archives, Center Building

Biography

Peter Wotton was born in Pasadena, California, in 1920. He attended Princeton University from 1938-1942 graduating with a degree in English literature. During World War II he served in the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific and in Europe from 1942-1946.

For the next 17 years, he worked in marketing, advertising, and public relations for a number of firms in New York and Connecticut. In 1963 he switched careers to public health administration. He received a Masters Degree in public health from Yale University in 1967. He worked as an administrator and planner in hospitals working in health education, psychiatric administration, and counseling in Connecticut until 1979 when he moved to Eugene, Oregon. In Oregon, he continued his work as an administrator in community health and senior services and as an in-home care provider.

Peter was active in the community as a member of the Unitarian Church and the Eugene Peace Choir. He served on a number of advisory committees and boards dealing with human rights, public health, senior citizens, the rights of aging, disabled services, and grief counseling. Peter was also a journalist, and from 1982 until his death in 1996, he broadcast a weekly commentary on [KLCC](#) radio in Eugene which he called "Elderberry Wine." His commentaries focused on issues of interest to older people and the process of living and growing older. In addition to the weekly radio broadcasts, Peter covered similar topics in the "Elderberry Wine" columns he wrote for local newspapers.

Peter married five times and was survived by his wife Carol Browne Wotton, son George, sister Mariah Marvin, and several step-daughters and step-sons. He had a heart attack in 1977 and was diagnosed with prostate cancer in 1980. He died on November 3, 1996.

Content Description

The core of the Peter Wotton Papers is the scripts and audio recordings of "Elderberry Wine," a weekly commentary on [KLCC-FM](#), the public radio station on the campus of Lane Community College. There are over 700 commentaries which date from June 1982 until November 1996. The commentaries focused on issues of interest to older people, local events and services, local and national politics, and Wotton's reflection on the process of living and growing older.

One hundred commentaries were selected by Carol Browne Wotton, Peter's wife, and published in 1998 in a volume titled *Elderberry Wine: Selected Radio Commentaries by Peter Wotton*.

The collection includes copies of monthly newspaper columns, also titled "Elderberry Wine," which were often identical to the radio broadcasts. The columns were published in a number of local newspapers such as the Phoenix Senior World, Lane County Senior News, Senior News Monthly, and the OTHER paper. The columns are contained in three scrapbooks, which also include other newspaper articles written by Peter Wotton. The newspaper columns have been photocopied on archival quality paper for preservation purposes.

The collection contains a small number of letters, photographs and copies of speeches and sermons. There is also a scrapbook, dated c. 1948 - 1965, containing samples of advertisements which Peter produced during his career in marketing in New York and Connecticut.

Arrangement

Series A: Elderberry Wine Commentaries, Scripts, 1982-1998

Series B: Elderberry Wine Commentaries, Recordings, 1982-1996

Series C: Subject Files and Recordings, 1933-1996

Subjects:

Pepper, Claude

Wotton, Peter

Elderhostel

Gray Panthers

KLCC-FM

Lane Community College (Eugene, Or.)

Phoenix Senior World
Retired Senior Volunteer Program
Senior Companion Program

Aged
Aged—Abuse of
Aged—Employment
Aged—Government policy
Aged—Health and hygiene
Aged—Services for
Aged—Volunteers
Elderberry Wine – radio commentaries

Administrative Information

Acquisition: Donated by Carol Browne Wotton in 1999, 2001 and 2006.

Processing Note: Collection was processed by Elizabeth Uhlig in 1999 and 2001.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research.

Restrictions on Use: Permission to rebroadcast or publish the commentaries must be obtained from KLCC-FM radio which holds the copyright to the commentaries.

Preferred Collection Citation: Peter Wotton Papers, 1933-1998 (M-003), Lane Community College Archives, Eugene, Oregon

Preferred “Elderberry Wine” commentary citation: Elderberry Wine Commentary ###, Peter Wotton Papers, 1933-1998 (M-003), Lane Community College Archives, Eugene, Oregon

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series A: Elderberry Wine Commentaries, Scripts, 1982-1998

Box/Folder

1/01 *Elderberry Wine: Selected Radio Commentaries by Peter Wotton*, 2 copies of book published by Carol Browne Wotton, 1998

1/02 Elderberry Wine, lists of commentary titles and broadcast dates

1/03 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #1-31, 6-12/1982

1/04 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #32-57, 1-6/1983

1/05 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #58-83, 7-12/1983

1/06 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #84-109, 1-6/1984

1/07 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #110-135, 7-12/1984

1/08 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #136-161, 1-6/1985

1/09 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #162-183, 7-12/1985

- 1/10 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #184-208, 1-6/1986
- 1/11 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #209-211, 213-224, 248-258, 7-10/1986, 4-6/1987
- 1/12 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #259-283, 7-12/1987
- 1/13 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #284-307, 1-6/1988
- 1/14 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #308-333, 7-12/1988
- 1/15 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #334-340, 342-360, 1-6/1989
- 1/16 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #361-386, 7-12/1989
- 1/17 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #387-411, 1-6/1990

- 2/01 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #412-438, 7-12/1990
- 2/02 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #439-463, 1-6/1991
- 2/03 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #464-491, 7-12/1991
- 2/04 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #492-516, 1-6/1992
- 2/05 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #517-541, 7-12/1992
- 2/06 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #542-567, 1-6/1993
- 2/07 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #568-592, 7-12/1993
- 2/08 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #593-604, 1-6/1994
- 2/09 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #605-628, 7-12/1994
- 2/10 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #629-653, 1-6/1995
- 2/11 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #654-677, 7-12/1995
- 2/12 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #678-703, 1-6/1996
- 2/13 Elderberry Wine, commentary scripts, #704-719, 999, 1000, 7-11/1996
- 2/14 Elderberry Wine, commentary, extra scripts
- 2/15 Elderberry Wine, commentary, extra scripts
- 2/16 Elderberry Jam, commentary script, n.d.

Series B: Elderberry Wine Commentaries, Recordings, 1982-1996

- 6/01 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #1-24
- 6/02 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #24-46
- 6/03 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #47-71
- 6/04 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #72-94
- 6/05 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #95-116
- 6/06 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #117-142
- 6/07 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #143-168
- 6/08 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #169-191
- 6/09 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #192-213
- 6/10 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #214-232, 234-235
- 6/11 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #233, 236-260
- 6/12 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #261-286
- 6/13 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #287-312
- 6/14 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #313-328
- 6/15 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #329-343
- 6/16 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #344-368
- 6/17 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #369-391
- 6/18 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #392-418
- 6/19 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #419-442

- 6/20 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #443-466
- 6/21 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #467-490
- 6/22 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #491-513
- 6/23 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #514-537
- 6/24 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #536-560
- 6/25 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #560-584
- 6/26 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #584-605
- 6/27 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #606-630
- 6/28 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #631-655
- 6/29 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #656-678
- 6/30 Elderberry Wine, audio cassette recordings, #679-703
- 6/31 Peter's 75th Birthday party, audio cassette recording, December 9, 1995

Series C: Subject Files and Recordings, 1933-1996

- 5/7 Academic Essay, Thomas Hardy and George Eliot, 1942
- 3/7 Awards and appointments, 1984-1995
- 5/3 Booklet, Princeton University, photo-gravures, undated
- 3/8-9 Correspondence, 1961-1963, 1983-1993
- 2/17 Elderberry Wine, newspaper columns, 1982-1984
- 2/18-19 Elderberry Wine, newspaper columns, 1990-1993
- 3/1-3 Elderberry Wine, newspaper columns, 1994-1996
- 5/8 "Enjoying the Sunset", Video tape, 8/25/1996
- 3/10 Lifeline / Resume, undated
- 3/25 M.A. thesis, Yale University, 1967
- 6/33 Memorial Service, audio cassette recording, 11/10 /1996
- 3/13 Miscellaneous, undated
- 3/4-6 Newspaper articles, 1982-1983, 1990-1995
- 6/31 Peter's 75th Birthday party, audio cassette recording, 12/9/1995
- 3/11 Peter's Death, by Mariah Marvin, news clippings, 1996
- 3/12 Photographs, undated
- 5/4 Poems, 1933-1995
- 4/1-4 Scrapbook, Elderberry Wine, columns and news clippings, 1982-1984, 1990-1996
- 5/01 Scrapbook, explanations of advertisements in scrapbook, c. 1948-1965
- 5/02 Scrapbook, advertisements, c. 1948-1965
- 3/14 Sermons, undated
- 6/32 Sermons, "Community," October 30, 1994; "Spirituality," January 29, 1995; audio cassette recordings
- 5/5-6 Short Stories, 1934-1953, undated
- 3/15-16 Speeches, 1960-1962
- 3/17-18 Speeches, 1967-1968
- 3/19 Speeches, 1971, 1977
- 3/20, 24 Speeches, undated
- 3/21-23 Speeches, 1980, 1983-1988