

## Scope and Content Note

### Series I: Family Records

Boxes 1 – 11

#### Sub-series 1: Family

Boxes 1 – 4

The Family Sub-series contains four cubic feet of records dating from the 1890s to the 1960s. Contained within the sub-series are materials pertaining to the childhood and schooling in New Concord, Ohio, of John H. Glenn, Jr. and his wife, Anna (Annie) Margaret Castor Glenn, along with materials pertaining to their respective parents and families. Glenn's childhood materials contain such memorabilia as his baby book, his report cards from elementary school, and the notebook he kept on his boyhood club, the Ohio Rangers. Also included are reports written by Glenn on various school subjects, his class notes and handbooks, and newspapers from Glenn's high school years and from the time he spent as a student at Muskingum College. Notable within the college records are Glenn's original civil aviation pilot's license and log book dating from 1941.

Notable within the Glenn family materials are letters received by John H., Jr. and Annie Glenn from family and friends during the 1950s and early 1960s. Other items include Glenn family genealogical information, newspaper clippings, and some awards and honors dating from the 1960s. Also included are miscellaneous items from Annie Glenn's schooling, such as a music book and a workbook. The Glenn family materials also contain letters and newspaper clippings pertaining to Glenn's parents, John H., Sr. and Clara Sproat Glenn. Much of this material dates from the early 1960s and relates to the honors and recognition they received following the *Friendship 7* space flight. Mrs. Clara Glenn, for example, was named "Mother of the Year" in 1962. The Glenn family materials also contain such memorabilia as John and Clara Glenn's wedding announcement and Clara Glenn's teaching certificate.

Most of the small amount of Castor family materials within the sub-series consists of the correspondence and newspaper clippings received and compiled by Annie Glenn's parents, Dr. Homer and Margaret Castor. The majority of the correspondence and clippings date from the early 1960s and pertain to John Glenn's *Friendship 7* space flight and the events that followed it. Also included are items from Dr. Castor's college years and materials pertaining to an award he received from the American Dental Association in 1962. The Castor family materials also contain a few items from the childhood of Jane Castor, Annie Glenn's sister.

Box four of the sub-series contains two scrapbooks, mostly of newspaper clippings, on the *Friendship 7* space flight sent to John H. Glenn, Sr. A fan compiled the first scrapbook and it is included in the collection as a typical example of the many such scrapbooks sent to the parents of John Glenn by the general public. The office of Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson compiled the second scrapbook as a memento of the events surrounding John Glenn's space flight. A third scrapbook contains newspaper clippings on a 1962 conference John H. Glenn, Sr. attended in Chicago.

The Annie Glenn files consist of three and one-half cubic feet of records, dating from the 1960s to 2001, along with six scrapbooks dating from 1957 through 1963. The records document the activities of John Glenn's wife, Anna (Annie) Margaret Castor Glenn and consist of correspondence, speeches, subject files, and travel files. To a large extent, the records pertain to Annie Glenn's lifelong struggle with a severe stuttering problem, a condition she overcame through intensive speech therapy in the 1970s.

The correspondence files consist of incoming letters dating from 1974 to 1992. Carbon copies of Annie Glenn's replies are paired with much of this correspondence. Letters from 1974 through 1985 are arranged alphabetically by the author's name. Another file, dating from 1986 to 1992, contains general correspondence arranged in chronological order. Other letters from the 1980s are filed separately into folders by type or topic. Many of the letters concern Mrs. Glenn's speech difficulties, her public appearances after undergoing therapy, her advice to individuals with similar speech problems, and her advocacy for speech and hearing organizations. Also included are invitations for Mrs. Glenn to either speak at or participate in various events, and letters concerning her work with charitable organizations. Scattered throughout the correspondence are a few letters pertaining to the political affairs of her husband and the Democratic Party.

The chronologically arranged speech files date from 1979 to 2001. Contained within the files are copies of Annie Glenn's speeches, along with correspondence, programs, and other materials pertaining to the event. Most of the speeches are for charitable organizations in which Mrs. Glenn was involved, including a variety of speech and hearing organizations. Other speeches were given in support of the political campaigns of her husband and include speeches from John Glenn's 1980, 1986, and 1992 senate re-election campaigns, as well as his 1984 presidential campaign. Notable within the speech files is a copy of Mrs. Glenn's first public speaking engagement, which took place at the Women's City Club in Canton, Ohio, on September 15, 1979. In this speech Mrs. Glenn gave a moving portrayal of the problems she coped with due to her stuttering and how her life had changed after undergoing speech therapy.

The subject files date from 1963 to 1998, though the majority of the files date from the 1980s and 1990s. The files document Annie Glenn's work with and support of a variety of charitable organizations, most notably organizations centered on speech and hearing disabilities. Mrs. Glenn also was involved in organizations concerned with child abuse, domestic violence, mental retardation, homelessness, and women's health. A few of the subject files pertain to Mrs. Glenn's activities with women's groups within the Democratic Party. Also located within the subject files are some newspaper clippings from the 1980s and 1990s, along with files of newspaper clippings and ephemera dating from 1961 to 1967 from folders originally labeled "For Scrapbooks" by Mrs. Glenn.

The trip files date from the 1980s and 1990s and contain itineraries, schedules, correspondence, and background materials for the various trips, mostly to foreign countries, Annie Glenn took during this time period. Some of these trips were Congressional junkets in which Mrs. Glenn accompanied her husband. Most of the files, however, are for various conferences to which Mrs.

Glenn was invited, including trips to Taiwan in 1987, to India in 1989, and to both Jordan and Greece in 1994. A few of the files pertain to family travel, such as a trip to the Galapagos Islands in 1996.

Boxes nine through eleven contain six scrapbooks, dated 1957 and 1959 to 1963, compiled by Mrs. Glenn on the activities of her husband as a test pilot for the Marine Corps and as a Mercury Seven astronaut. The majority of the materials within the scrapbooks are chronologically arranged newspaper clippings, though scattered throughout the books are a few letters, ephemera, and photographs. The 1957 scrapbook contains materials on Project Bullet, John Glenn's record setting transcontinental flight. The remaining scrapbooks pertain to the Mercury Program and offer a good synopsis of NASA's first efforts to put a man in space as reported by the national media.

## **Series II: Military Records**

**Boxes 12 – 18**

The military records consist of six cubic feet of materials dating from 1942 to 1965, along with two oversized items dating from the 1940s. These records document John Glenn's twenty-three years as a pilot in the U.S. Marine Corps. The first eleven files in the series contain copies of Glenn's official records as compiled by the Marine Corps. Records within the files are in their original order and are arranged in three sections, labeled commendatory, performance, and service. The commendatory files contain documents pertaining to Glenn's promotions, citations, and awards. The performance files contain fitness reports on Glenn written by his superior officers, while the service files contain various orders, physical fitness reports, and miscellaneous documents.

The remainder of the series consists of files arranged in chronological order, roughly divided into four sections titled World War II, Post-War, Korean War, and Test Pilot. Many of the files contain routine documents pertaining to Glenn's changes of duty station and his various promotions and awards. Within the World War II section are records of his civilian flight training in 1941 as well as his manuals, handbooks, and notes from the military flight schools he attended in Iowa and Texas from 1942 to 1943. Other notable files contain materials pertaining to VMO-155, the squadron Glenn flew combat missions with in the Marshall Islands. These items include a handbook, two official "war diaries" dating from June 1944 to February 1945, and a history of the squadron covering the years 1942 to 1944. Located within box 12 is a scrapbook containing annotated newspaper clippings, along with a few photographs and letters, compiled by Glenn during his flight training in 1942 and 1943. Box 12 also contains a navigational workbook used by Glenn during his training at Corpus Christi, Texas in 1942. Much of the Post-War section consists of routine orders, though notable among these are documents pertaining to VMF-218, the squadron Glenn flew with while posted in northern China and Guam in 1946 and 1947. Other files contain records from Glenn's training at the Naval School of All-Weather Flight at Corpus Christi, Texas in 1950.

The Korean War section contains extensive files from Glenn's training, from July through December 1951, at the Amphibious Warfare School in Quantico, Virginia. Other files contain articles Glenn wrote for the *Marine Corps Gazette* in 1951 and 1952. The files pertaining to Glenn's combat flying during the war include a series of annotated maps of the Korean Peninsula