

# Guide to the Interview with Donald Peterson, 1993

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## Overview of the Collection

**Repository:**

Special Collections & Archives  
McIntyre Library  
University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire  
P.O. Box 4004  
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Eau Claire, WI 54702 - 4004  
(715) 836-2739  
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**Reference Code:** USGZE UHC321

**Accession Number:** 08-095

**Collection Number:** University Historical Collection 321

**Creators:** Coy, Richard

**Title:** Interview with Donald Peterson

**Dates:** 1993

**Quantity:** 0.1 linear feet (1 cassette tape)

**Location of Collection:** A10/3f

**Languages:** Collection materials are in English.

**Summary:** An oral history with a liberal leader in the Wisconsin Democratic Party. Topics covered are the presidential candidacy of Eugene McCarthy in 1969 and Peterson's role in the Wisconsin primary, the Democratic National Convention, and the election.

## Biographical / Historical Note

Donald Oliver Peterson, a liberal leader of the anti-Vietnam War faction of the Wisconsin Democratic Party during the late 1960's and early 1970's, was born in Renville, Minnesota, on March 9, 1925.

Although a prominent businessman, Peterson is best known for his activities within the Democratic Party. During the late 1960's Peterson emerged as a leader of the state Democrats opposed to U.S. involvement in Vietnam, and in 1967 he helped to organize Concerned Wisconsin Democrats that eventually grew into the National Conference of Concerned Democrats. In this capacity Peterson was instrumental in persuading Senator Eugene McCarthy to enter the 1968 presidential race. As co-chair

of the Wisconsin McCarthy for President Committee and chairman of the Wisconsin delegation to the national convention Peterson gained national recognition as a leader of the protest against the more conservative members of the party organization.

## Content Description

An oral history with a liberal leader in the Wisconsin Democratic Party. Topics covered are the presidential candidacy of Eugene McCarthy in 1969 and Peterson's role in the Wisconsin primary, the Democratic National Convention, and the election.

## Administrative Information

**Acquisition Information:** Donated to Special Collections & Archives prior to March 2006.

**Access Restrictions:** Collection is open to the public.

**Use Restrictions:** Researchers are responsible for using in accordance with 17 U.S.C. Copyright not owned by the University of Wisconsin--Eau Claire.

**Preferred Citation:** Interview with Donald Peterson, 1993. UHC321. Special Collections & Archives. McIntyre Library. University of Wisconsin--Eau Claire. Eau Claire, WI.

**Processing Note:** Processed by Colleen McFarland in June 2008.

**Arrangement:** Single item.

**OCLC #:** 233597378

## Subjects

### Personal Names:

Peterson, Donald O., 1925-

McCarthy, Eugene J., 1916-

### Corporate Names:

Democratic Party (Wis.)

Democratic Party (U.S.)

### Subject Terms:

- Elections - Wisconsin - 1970
- Wisconsin - Politics and government
- United States - Politics and government