

**GERARD COX**  
**Marist College**  
**Poughkeepsie, NY**  
**For the Marist College Archives and Special Collections**  
**Index – Gerard Cox**

**Project Name:** Marist Heritage Project

**Transcript:** Yes

**Summary:** Yes

**Photograph(s):** Yes

**CD#:** 018

**Name of Interviewee:** Gerard Cox

**Main Topics:** Gerard Cox discusses his life as a Marist Brother. He reflects on the many different positions that he held over the years as a Marist Brother, and on what it was like to leave the order but remain working at Marist College.

**Others present?:** No

**Interviewed by:** Richard Foy

**Interview Date:** 19 February 2002

**Location of Interview:** Gerard Cox's office in the Student Center

**Recorder model and type:** Marantz PMD 690

**Length of interview:** 1 hour, 5 minutes, 32 seconds

**Number of disks:** 1

**Recording medium/format:** Microdrive

**Brand of disks:** IBM 1GB Microdrive

**Archival copy made:** Burned to a gold alloy CD (MAM) and is held in the Marist College Archives and Special Collections. Saved as a .wav file at the highest resolution possible. CD copy is available for researchers.

**Quality of original recording:** Good

**Restrictions on interview access or use:** None

**Transcribed or summarized by:** Mary Ellen Lent

**Brief summary of interview context and recording contents:** The interview was held in the student center on the Marist College campus.

**TAPE INDEX:**

<u>Time (00:00.00 ~ in hrs./mins./seconds)</u>	<u>Summary</u>
00:00.02 – 00:04.13	Gerard Cox begins his interview talking about his personal history. He discusses where he was born and raised, his parents and their occupations, his brother and sister, what schools he grew up in and how he initially became interested in the Marist Brothers.
00:04.14 – 00:15.03	Gerard briefly runs through the process of becoming a Marist Brother. He actually didn't graduate when he was supposed to because he volunteered to be sent out early to teach because there was such a need for teachers. He did, however, receive his diploma later on in life. While he was still at Marist he helped with the construction of the chapel, and spends some time discussing that.
00:15.04 – 00:25.17	Gerard taught in various high schools for thirteen years while he did his graduate work. Then in 1967 he was called back to Marist and became one of the Dutch Masters, a group of five Marist Brothers that were Masters of Scholastics, supervising and teaching the student Brothers. He spends some time talking about the configuration and the development of the campus during those teaching years.
00:25.18 – 00:38.08	Gerard took on a part-time administrative role as the Assistant Academic Dean, along with continuing to be a full-time faculty member. He also began getting involved with the theater guild, directing his first play in 1970. He spends a great deal of time discussing the evolution of the theater guild, the creation and evolution of Children's Theater, and other theater projects.
00:38.09 – 00:43.48	In 1979 Gerard became the Dean of Students for what was supposed to be a year and ended up being 22 years. He reflects on the most difficult aspects of the job and how in the beginning they really made him think about if he wanted that job or not.
00:43.49 – 00:49.40	Gerard talks about the students of Marist College who he believes have not changed much over the years. He believes that deep down they are still the same, nice, idealistic students that were coming here in the beginning. He also talks about what attracts these students and their parents to Marist College, which he believes is the physical look of the campus, but more importantly, the quality interactions they have with the staff and

administration. He is concerned, however, about all of the staff changes that are occurring and how that may affect the college in the future.

- 00:49.41 – 00:56.55 Gerard left the Marist Brothers in 1969, although he continued working for the college. He wasn't really too worried about negative reactions from other Brothers about leaving the order, although he did get some, because he had also experienced some negative reactions while he was a Brother. He did not, however, experience anything negative from the college at all; Marist has always had a very accepting environment. He also briefly discusses the religious affiliation of the college, which is no longer legally Catholic, but for all intents and purposes, as far as the atmosphere and the values that are taught are concerned, it is.
- 00:56.56 – 01:05.34 Gerard talks about the college presidents that Marist has had, taking time to point out and discuss that Marist has actually had six college presidents, rather than three as most people think.