

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#: 020

Name of Interviewee: Gerard Cox

Main Topics: Gerard Cox recalls his early days on the campus and some of the original buildings. He tells about his life as a Student Brother and also about his college life. He also discusses the construction of new buildings and the growth in faculty and staff as well as the introduction of lay students. Gerard recalls his days as professor, dean of students and also reflects on former Brother Paul Ambrose also Linus Richard Foy and Dennis Murray as presidents.

Others present?: No

Interviewed by: John Ansley

Interview Date: 25 February 2002

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

Recorder model and type: Marantz PMD 690

Length of interview: 47 minutes, 55 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: This interview was held in the Student Center on the Marist College campus.

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<u>Time (00:00.00 ~ in hrs./mins./seconds)</u>	<u>Summary</u>
00:00.04 – 00:11.21	Gerard Cox begins his second interview by summarizing the mission of the Marist Brothers and relating his understanding of why Marist College was originally named Marion College. He describes what it was like being a student at Marion College; the work assignments he was given, the physical layout of the campus, the dorms that he slept in, what they did in the little free time that they had, and the construction projects they assisted with.
00:11.22 – 00:16.26	At the time that Gerard was a student Brother the Marist Brothers were very isolated from the surrounding community and even other religious orders. Despite this fact, however, the Marist Brothers were a very diverse group with members from all over the world.
00:16.27 – 00:27.09	Gerard briefly recaps from his previous interview how he left school early to go teach and received his degree from Marist at a later date. He briefly recounts what buildings were on campus while he was a student Brother, what functions they served, and which building was his favorite. He also reflects on why he believes the Marist Brothers stopped their construction projects.
00:27.10 – 00:32.45	Gerard talks about the introduction of lay students and then female students to the Marist College campus and the effects they had. He goes on to discuss the transfer of power at the college from the Marist Brothers to the Marist College Education Cooperation, and his feelings on the matter.
00:32.46 – 00:38.03	Gerard describes returning to Marist as a teacher, the classes that he taught, the amount of classes the faculty taught, and where their offices were located. In his opinion, the growth of the campus and the student body has not changed the ideals of Marist. For the future, he hopes that as more and more faculty that are imbued with the Marist ideals retire, the college will find younger faculty to fill their roles who understand and appreciate the heritage of Marist College.

- 00:38.04 – 00:44.32 Gerard discusses the three college presidents of Marist College. He feels that they are all good men, and that they were all great men for the job that needed to be done at the time they each were president. He also discusses the phenomenon of all three presidents staying and working with Marist for such long periods of time, which is not customary. He feels that it's part of the special package of Marist. Once people begin working here they don't want to leave, they're committed to the college and what it's trying to do, and they end up building their life around it.
- 00:44.33 – 00:47.59 If Gerard could give any advice to Marist students, it would be to take advantage of everyday that they're at this college, because it is truly a unique experience.