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INVENTORY TO THE JANICE VOSS PAPERS, 1962-2007

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Compiled By: Stephanie Schmitz, 2009
Revised: Jonathan McConnell, February 2012

Descriptive Summary

Creator Information	Voss, Janice 1956-2012
Title	Janice Voss papers
Collection Identifier	MSA 9
Date Span	1962-2007, predominant 1990-1997
Abstract	Correspondence, photographs, clippings, artifacts, and ephemera documenting the early life and professional career of astronaut Janice Voss.
Extent	6 cubic feet (1 manuscript box, 2 oversize boxes, 3 media boxes)
Finding Aid Author	Stephanie Schmitz, 2009
Languages	English
Repository	Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries

Administrative Information

Location Information:	ASC
Access Restrictions:	Collection is open for research. 24 hours notice is required to access the collection.
Acquisition Information:	A majority of the collection was donated by James and Louise Voss in February and May of 2009. The oversized aerial photograph of the Hexion chemical facility was donated by Janice Voss in August 2008. The Purdue pennant flown aboard the United States Space Shuttle Endeavor with Voss was donated in August, 2009 by the Purdue Office of the Vice President for University Relations.
Accession Number:	20080801 20090211 20090507 20090519 20091028 20101217

Preferred Citation:

MSA 9, Janice Voss Papers, Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries

Copyright Notice:

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Related Materials Information:

Neil Armstrong papers
Roy Bridges, Jr. papers
Donald E. Williams papers, 1978-1990

“Purdue’s Place in Space: From the Midwest to the Moon,”
online exhibit that chronicles Purdue University’s role in
aviation history and space exploration:
<http://www.lib.purdue.edu/moon/>

Subjects and Genres

Persons

Voss, Janice 1956-2012

Organizations

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (U.S.)

Topics

Purdue University- alumni and alumnae

Women's Archives at Purdue University

Form and Genre Types

Artifacts

Awards

Correspondence

Clippings, newspaper

Digital moving image formats

Printed ephemera

Scrapbooks

Occupations

Astronauts—United States

Women Astronauts

Women Engineers

Biography of Janice Voss

Dr. Janice Voss was born on October 8, 1956 to James and Louise Voss in South Bend, Indiana. Voss attended Minnechaug Regional High School in Wilbraham, Massachusetts and graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Science in 1975. She then earned a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, and a Doctorate in Aeronautics/Astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1977 and 1987, respectively. Having worked on computer simulations and as a crew trainer at the NASA Johnson Space Center during her graduate studies, Voss took a position at the Orbital Sciences Corporation upon completing her doctorate, where she was involved with mission integration and flight operations. In January 1990, Voss was selected by NASA to become an astronaut, and qualified as a mission specialist in July 1991. She flew on five space flights from 1993 until 2000, including the STS-57, STS-63, STS-83, STS-94 and STS-99, having logged a total of 49 days and 18.8 million miles in space. From 2004 to 2007, Voss was the Science Director for the Kepler spacecraft at the NASA Ames Research Center. Most recently, she served as Payloads Lead of the Astronaut Office Station Branch. Janice Voss died of breast cancer in February 2012.

Sources:

National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Biographical Data Sheets, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, 1997.

Welch, Rosanne. *Encyclopedia of Women in Aviation and Space*. Santa Barbara, Ca: ABC-CLIO, 1998.

Collection Description

Scope

The Janice Voss papers (1962-2004) document the early years and career highlights of astronaut Janice Voss. The collection includes materials from Voss' childhood, including elementary school class pictures and report cards, as well as materials from her time as a graduate student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Items pertaining to her professional career consist primarily of materials created and collected by her immediate family which celebrate her participation in space shuttle missions during the period of 1993-2000, and also includes audio visual materials such as "flight day highlights" from her STS-63 mission as well as assorted videotaped interviews. Additionally, the collection contains a number of honors and awards presented to Voss by community organizations. The papers are organized into four series:

Arrangement

1. Youth, 1962-1986 (2 folders). This series contains materials that document the childhood of Janice Voss, particularly her time as an elementary school student. Included is a journal, kept presumably by Janice's grandmother, which records Voss's activities from June 18, 1962 to July 21, 1962 and contains several black and white photographs. Also included in this series are class pictures, report cards, certificates, a report written for her fifth grade health class, and six photographs of Voss ranging from the age of eight to twenty-seven. Materials are arranged chronologically by format.

2. Education, circa 1977-1982 (0.5 cubic feet). This series contains Voss' master's thesis, which was completed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and graded coursework and exams, likely from her time as a graduate student.

3. Professional Career, 1975-2007 (0.5 cubic feet). This series contains materials which highlight Voss's professional career, particularly her space shuttle missions during the period of 1993-2000. Included in this series are clippings, photographs, programs, NASA publications, her Kennedy Space Center badge, email correspondence sent to her parents in 2004, and other ephemeral materials relating to different space shuttle missions, some of which have been compiled into three scrapbooks. Materials are arranged by format and, when appropriate, by mission.

4. Multimedia, 1993-circa 1995 (1 cubic foot). This series contains VHS tapes of flight day highlights and interviews for the various space shuttle missions in which Voss participated. For preservation and access purposes, the tapes have been reformatted to DVD.

5. Oversize Materials, 1962-2000 (2 cubic feet). This series includes artifactual materials such as various awards from community organizations, a Purdue pennant flown aboard the United States Space Shuttle Endeavor, a framed photograph of Voss taken in 1962, and a large Purdue banner picturing Voss. The materials are stored in three large oversize boxes.

Descriptive Rules Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Processing Information

Materials have been re-housed into acid free folders and boxes, and into polyester sleeves when appropriate. Newsprint and clippings have been photocopied onto acid-free paper and the originals have been preserved for display purposes. In an attempt to retain their intrinsic value, the contents of the scrapbooks have not undergone preservation treatment. Artifacts have been separated and grouped together in a separate series for preservation and storage purposes. Materials continue to be received for this collection, and archival processing is ongoing.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Youth, 1962-1983

(2 folders)

Box 1 Materials pertaining to the youth, education, and professional career of Voss

Folder

1. Youth, 1962
 Journal with black and white photographs documenting Voss's activities during the summer of 1962
2. Youth, 1963-1983
 Photographs, 1963-1983
 Winnebago County Public Schools Perfect Attendance Award, 1966
 Guilford Center School, Report to Parents, 1963-1964
 Guilford Center School, Report to Parents, 1964-1965
 Guilford Center School, Report to Parents, 1965-1966
 Iowa Tests of Basic Skills, undated
 Third Grade Class Photograph, 1963-1964
 Fourth Grade Class Photograph, 1964-1965
 Fifth Grade Class Photograph, 1965-1966
 Clipping: Photograph of Girl Scouts of Guilford Center School, Troop 337, East Rider, April 14, 1965
 Report: "Human Body," circa 1965
 Illinois 4-H Members Record Book and Certificate of Achievement, 1966

Education, circa 1977-1982

(0.5 cubic feet)

Folder

3. Master's Thesis, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1977
 Optimization of Variable Mixture Ratio Rocket Boosters
4. Compilation of graded coursework and exams, circa 1978-1982

Professional Career, 1975-2007

(1 cubic foot)

5. Clippings, 1975-2007
 "Women Engineers: The 'New' Trailblazers," *Purdue University Perspective*, 1975
 "Astronaut Speaks About Experiences," *Spokesman*, October 29, 1993
 "Astronauts from WMass Faced Risks," *Sunday Republican*, February 2,

- 2003
- “Around the World in 90 Minutes: Astronaut Lands Close to Home to Talk About Space,” *The Courier News*, July 10, 2007
- Crossword puzzle, undated. (26 down: “Astronaut Voss”)
6. Correspondence, 2004
 - Email to Jim and Louise Voss, February 27, 2004
 7. Photographs, circa 1993-1995
 - Eight color photographs pertaining to the STS-63 and STS-57 missions
 8. STS-57 Mission, 1993
 - Postcard with information about STS-57 launch date, 1993
 - STS Mission Profiles Booklet, 1993
 - Sample RSVP postcard, undated
 - STS-57 Mission Information (one page), undated
 - Letter regarding Janice Voss’ participation in the annual Madison Regatta Parade, 1993
 - Memos to family and friends concerning the STS-57 mission launch (Includes information about accommodations, schedule of activities, maps, guest list, etc.)
 - Jefferson County Monthly, 1995 (Signed by Janice Voss, who is featured on the cover.)
 9. STS-83 Mission, 1997
 - Invitation card to the STS-83 launch, 1997
 - STS-83 first day cover
 - NASA fact sheet on STS-83
 - Information sheet on the Columbia (OV-102) Space Shuttle orbiter
 - Letters of invitation and memos regarding planning and arrangements for the STS-83 launch, 1997
 - STS-83 timeline
 - NASA press kit, Space Shuttle Mission STS-83
 10. STS-94 Mission, 1997
 - STS-94 Family Itinerary, June 24, 1997
 11. Miscellaneous Items, undated
 - Athena 2000 awards ceremony program
 - NASA brochure on the Microgravity Science Laboratory
 12. Astronaut Badge, Kennedy Space Center Restricted Access Area, circa 2000

Box 2 Scrapbooks, 1989-2000

STS-57 Scrapbook, 1989-1990

Contains newspaper clippings, correspondence from family friends to James and Louise Voss, photographs from STS-57 launch, and documents pertaining to the selection of Janice Voss as an astronaut candidate

Scrapbook, 1990

Newspaper clippings pertaining to Janice Voss and the STS-57 Mission

Scrapbook, 1993-2000

Photographs, guest lists, signed photographs and other ephemera commemorating the STS-99, STS-94, STS-83, STS-63 and STS-99 missions

Oversize materials, 1993-2000

(3 oversize boxes)

Box 3 OVS Framed Items, circa 1993

“Field of Honor Award,” undated

Framed mirror: Carey Hill Girls Club, 1993

Box 4 OVS Artifacts, 1962-2000

Framed childhood photograph, circa 1962

Purdue pennant flown aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavor, 2000

Pewter mug: Engraved, “Talcott Mountain Space Center,” 1991

Athena Chapter Honors Award For Being a Twenty-First Century Woman, 2000

NASA Kennedy Space Center Area Permit and Restricted Access Badge, circa 1991

Box 5 OVS Banner

Large Purdue banner picturing Janice Voss in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the mission. Acquired by Betty Nelson through a Purdue Marketing and Media online auction held on 10/31/2010.

Multimedia

(1.2 cubic feet)

Box 6 VHS tapes containing flight day highlights and other footage such as interviews, circa 1991-1993

“Mission Highlights, STS-57”

“Janice, STS-57, NASA”

“Central High School, Springfield, MA, 12/3/1991”

“TV interviews, 7/1990, Ch 23. Ch 13 Rockford”

“Janice, Rockford, June 1991, four interviews”

“Janice Voss: Woman Astronaut, 1 hour, March 27, 1992” [Note: There is some slight distortion in this VHS tape.]

Box 7 VHS tapes containing flight day highlights, circa 1995

“STS-63 Flight Day Highlights, Day 1”

“STS-63 Flight Day Highlights, Day 2”

“STS-63 Flight Day Highlights, Day 3”
“STS-63 Flight Day Highlights, Day 4”
“STS-63 Flight Day Highlights, Day 5”
“STS-63 Flight Day Highlights, Day 6”
“STS-63 Flight Day Highlights, Day 7”
“STS-63, Highlights 1-7, NASA Tape”

Box 8 DVDS (reformatted VHS tapes and additional footage of Voss) and CDs

Reformatted copies of VHS tapes (19 DVDS)

“Janice Voss Flight Videos”

“CNN Broadcast”

“Miraikan,” February 2, 2008 (Images)

“Tsukaba photos from RT”

NASA Space Center Highlights (Video; 47 minutes)