



## [COLLEGE ARCHIVES](#)

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Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
800 West College Avenue, Saint Peter, MN 56082-1498

### **Gustavus Adolphus College Archives St. Peter, Minnesota**

**Oral History Interviews with John Kendall and Chester Johnson,  
1994-1995.**

**GACA Collection 166**

**Oral History Interviews with John Kendall and Chester Johnson, 1994-1995. GACA Collection 166. ½ Hollinger and 1 cassette box.**

**ABSTRACT:**

The Oral History Interviews with John Kendall and Chester Johnson collection contains transcripts and original audio-cassette tape recording of interviews with John Kendall and Chester Johnson. Interviews were conducted by John Kendall, Chester Johnson, and Edi Thorstensson. Conversations took place in the Gustavus Adolphus College Archives from February 1994 to February 1995. The tapes were transcribed by Gustavus Adolphus College Administrative Assistant Janine Genelin during the summers of 2003 and 2004. In the interviews Kendall discusses his education, family life, and career while Johnson talked about the history of Gustavus Adolphus College including the V-12 program and other topics from the 1940s-1960s.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:**

John Seedoff Kendall (28 August 1928-26 July 2002) attended Gustavus Adolphus College and graduated with a B.A. in psychology in 1949. He continued his education with a M.A. in psychology from the University of Minnesota in 1951, a B.D. from Augustana Theological Seminary in 1954, and a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Minnesota during 1959. He was a professor in the Psychology Department at Gustavus Adolphus College from 1958-1965 and 1968-1981. He received the Edgar M. Carlson award for Distinguished Teaching in 1973. In 1981, he became Gustavus Adolphus College's 12<sup>th</sup> president and served for ten years during which Gustavus Adolphus College became a Phi Beta Kappa institution and received a grant from the F.W. Olin Foundation to build a new science hall.

Chester O. Johnson graduated from Augustan College with a B.A. in 1935. He then received an M.A. from the University of Chicago. He was Gustavus Adolphus College professor in the Geology Department from 1940-1978 and then given the title of emeritus. After his retirement from teaching, he became the Lutheran Church Archivist at Gustavus Adolphus College from 1978-2001.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

This collection is divided into two sections: John Kendall Interviews and Chester Johnson Interviews, then arranged chronologically.

**RESTRICTIONS:**

There are no restrictions on use of this collection for research purposes. The researcher assumes full responsibility for observing all copyright, property, and libel laws as they apply.

Researchers must use collection in accordance with the policies of the College Archives, the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library, and Gustavus Adolphus College.

**COLLECTION CITATION:**

Oral History Interviews with John Kendall and Chester Johnson, 1994-1995. GACA Collection 166. Gustavus Adolphus College Archives, St. Peter, Minnesota.

**PROCESSED BY:**

Adrianna Darden processed this collection and developed the finding aid during November 2009.

**SUBJECT HEADINGS:**

Kendall, John Seedoff, 1928-2002 -- Interviewer.

Kendall, John Seedoff, 1928-2002 -- Interviewee.

Johnson, Chester O. -- Interviewer.

Johnson, Chester O. -- Interviewee.

Thorstensson, Edi (Edith) -- Interviewer.

Gustavus Adolphus College -- Faculty.

Gustavus Adolphus College -- Administrators.

Gustavus Adolphus College -- History.

Navy V-12 Program (U. S.) -- History.

<b>GACA Collection 166</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
<b>John Kendall Interviews, 1994-1995</b>		
John Kendall Interview with Edi Thorstensson, Family Background, Youth, and College, 23 February 1994	1	1
John Kendall Interviewed by Edi Thorstensson, Family Background, Youth and College Years, 23 February 1994 (cassette tape)	2	1
John Kendall Interview with Chester Johnson, John Kendall Reminisces, 24 February 1994	1	2
John Kendall Interviewed by Chester Johnson, 24 February 1994 (cassette tape)	2	5
John Kendall Interview with Edi Thorstensson, Years on Faculty and As President, 16 March 1994	1	3
John Kendall Interviewed by Edi Thorstensson, As President of Gustavus Adolphus College, 16 March 1994 (cassette tape)	2	2
John Kendall Interviewed by Edi Thorstensson, Years as GAC President continued, 16 March 1994 (cassette tape)	2	3
John Kendall Interview with Chester Johnson, John Kendall Reminisces, 17 March 1994	1	4
John Kendall Interviewed by Chester Johnson, 17 March 1994 (cassette tape)	2	6
John Kendall Interview with Chester Johnson, Conclusion regarding Leonard Kendall, JK High School and College Years, 23 March 1994	1	5
John Kendall Interviewed by Chester Johnson, Conclusion, Leonard Kendall, John Kendall-High School and College Years, University and Seminary, Ministry Call to Gustavus 23 March 1994 (cassette tape)	2	7
John Kendall Visiting with Edi Thorstensson, Personal Family Relationships and How that Wove into the Life at the College, 24 March 1994	1	6
John Kendall Interviewed by Edi Thorstensson, Family, Career, Activities and Plans, 24 March 1994 (cassette tape)	2	4
John Kendall Visiting with Chester Johnson, Gustavus as a Church-Related College, 6 April 1994	1	7
John Kendall interviewed by Chester Johnson, Gustavus as a Church-Related College, 6 April 1994 (cassette tape)	2	8
John Kendall Visiting with Chester Johnson, Oral History of Gustavus (the early '50s), 25 January 1995	1	11
<b>Chester Johnson Interviews, 1994-1995</b>		
Chester Johnson Interview with John Kendall, 21 April 1994	1	8
Chester Johnson Interviewed by John Kendall, 21 April 1994 (cassette tape)	2	9
Chester Johnson Interview with John Kendall, 27 April 1994	1	9
Chester Johnson Interviewed by John Kendall, 27 April 1994 (cassette tape)	2	10
Chester Johnson Oral History of GAC: 1940-44, 11 January 1995	1	10

Chester Johnson Interviewed by John Kendall, 11 January 1995 (cassette tape)	2	11
Chester Johnson Oral History of GAC (continued) Discussion of: 1) End of Lunden years 42-43 2) V-12 Unite - War Years 3) Transition to Post-War Gustavus and Carlson Presidency, 19 January 1995 (cassette tape)	2	12
Chet Johnson, Oral History of Gustavus, The early '50s, 25 January 1995 (cassette tape)	2	13
Chester Johnson (with John Kendall) - Oral History, 8 February 1995	1	12
Chester Johnson Interviews, 1950s and 1960s, Includes comments about Curriculum Review and revision 1961-63. Interviewed by John S. Kendall (cassette tape)	2	14
Chester Johnson (with John Kendall) - Oral History, 22 February 1995	1	13
Interview with Chester Johnson (continued), 22 February 1995 (cassette tape)	2	15