



Special Collections and University Archives

**Manuscript Group 93
J. K. Stoner Papers**

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Last Modified November 27, 2023**

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J. K. Stoner Papers; Manuscript Group 93
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives
5 boxes; 5 linear feet

Biographical Note

James Kermit (J. K.) Stoner (January 8, 1910-February 7, 1995) was born in Mt. Joy, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. His parents were Benjamin Franklin Stoner (1885-1954) and Lydia Ann Roberts Stoner (1884-1970). On June 3, 1932, J. K. Stoner married Annebelle Nichol (February 6, 1901-March 30, 1990), who was the daughter of Frank and Ida Lydic Nichol. J. K. Stoner attended high school in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, and graduated in 1927. He went to Indiana State Teachers College (IUP), majored in business, and graduated with a B.S. in 1931. He earned his Master's degree (1936) and Doctor of Education (1953) from the University of Pittsburgh.

Stoner began his teaching career as an instructor at New Kensington Junior High School in 1931 where he taught ninth grade general business training for three years. From 1934 to 1937, he was instructor in the New Kensington Senior High School. In 1936-1937, he was an instructor in the Standard Evening School for Adults in New Kensington. From 1937 to 1942, Dr. Stoner was supervisor of student teachers and instructor in business education courses at Indiana Senior High School. In 1942 and 1943, he was an instructor for adults in the Pennsylvania State University Extension. During World War Two, Lieutenant J. K. Stoner served in the United States Navy from 1942-1946, and he was stationed in Pearl Harbor and Washington, D.C. During his three years of active duty service, he worked for the Bureau of Aeronautics and on the Staff of the Air Force, Pacific Fleet as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Naval Reserve in the United States and overseas.

In 1946, J. K. Stoner was Coordinator of Distributive Education of the Indiana Public Schools, and he taught evening class in Retailing and Salesmanship to store employees. From 1946 to 1972, he taught accounting, business mathematics, and law at Indiana State Teachers College (ISTC), Indiana State College (ISC), and later IUP. Dr. Stoner was a professor at the IUP College of Business for 26 years, having first taught in many area high schools including Indiana High School. He was founder of Delta Pi Epsilon business fraternity at IUP, and served on the board of directors of Penelec. Dr. Stoner retired in 1972 as the interim Dean of the College of Business at IUP.

For over 17 years, Dr. Stoner wrote a weekly column, *Ham with Wry* published in the *Indiana Evening Gazette*, which were later compiled and published in two separate volumes in 1980 and 1994. He was highly involved in Indiana, Pennsylvania community affairs, holding memberships in the VFW Post 1989, he was a 50-year member of the Kiwanis Club, the Indiana Chapter of the American Red Cross and served as chairman from 1980 to 1982, as well as the Business Advisory Council of IUP. He joined the Masonic fraternity in 1931, and was 50-year member of Acadia Lodge F. & A.M. in Indiana, Pennsylvania. He belonged to the Graystone Presbyterian Church in Indiana. In addition to *Ham with Wry*, J. K. Stoner was the author of two high school textbooks in marketing and retailing, numerous articles in professional magazines, and freelance articles in several publications. Dr. Stoner's wife of 57 years, Annabelle Nichol Stoner, passed away on March 30, 1990 at St. Andrews Village in Indiana. Dr. J. K. Stoner passed away at the Indiana Hospital on February 7, 1995.

Scope and Content Note

The J. K. Stoner Collection reflects a lifetime of achievements and includes a variety of publications including academic and popular culture. Dr. Stoner earned an “Outstanding Teacher” award at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. There is also a copy of his dissertation: “An Analysis of the Accounting System and Practices of Small, Independent Retail Businesses” in Box 2. The collection includes biographical information, correspondence, education, memberships in fraternities and organizations, photographs, publications, and scrapbooks from his time as a student at Indiana State Teachers College (which later became Indiana State College and then Indiana University of Pennsylvania) and later as an employee there until his retirement in 1972. The collection also contains information about his newspaper weekly column *Ham with Wry* published in the *Indiana Evening Gazette* and his subsequent published collected works. See also Record Group 64 Publications for additional works.

Provenance

The collection was donated by Dr. J. K. Stoner and his family in 1994-1996 and in the 2000s. His daughter Lois Stoner has continued to donate documents and memorabilia for inclusion into her father’s collection.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

Property rights reside with Indiana University of Pennsylvania Libraries. Literary rights are retained by the creators of the records and their heirs. For permissions to reproduce or publish, please contact the IUP Special Collections and University Archives.

Processor

The collection was organized and the finding aid was updated by Harrison Wick on November 27, 2023.

Container List (5 boxes)**Box 1 (15 folders) Biographical Files**

1. Biographical, 1960-1995
 - a. Resumes
 - b. Newspaper Articles
 - c. References
 - d. Obituaries of J. K. Stoner (1910-1995) and his wife Annabelle Nichol Stoner (1901-1990)
2. Education: Waynesboro High School, Class of 1927, 1927-1987
 - a. Correspondence
 - b. Reunion programs, 1927-1987
 - c. Photographs: class members, football games, and reunions
3. Education – Indiana State Teachers College, Class of 1931, 1927-1936
 - a. Report Card, 1927-1931
 - b. Alpha Phi Gamma Fraternity, no date
 - c. Varsity Football, 1927-1930
 - d. Omega Chi Fraternity, 1927

- e. Phi Sigma Pi Fraternity, 1929-1930
- f. Gamma Rho Tau, 1930
- g. Correspondence about student teaching at Indiana High School, 1930
- h. Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity, 1936
4. Education: Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) – Alumni Events and Awards, 1972-1994
 - a. Delta Phi Epsilon, Beta Alpha Chapter, 1972-1994
 - b. Phi Delta Kappa, Epsilon Pi Chapter, 1976-1977
 - c. Correspondence about 50th reunion of the Class of 1931, 1980-1981
 - d. Gamma Rho Tau, Beta Chapter, Spring Banquet program, 1989
5. Education: University of Pittsburgh, 1931-1960
 - a. Transcripts
 - b. Requirements for graduate programs
 - c. Correspondence
6. Family: Obituaries, 1954, 1970 and 1990
 - a. Father: Benjamin Franklin Stoner (1885-1954)
 - b. Mother: Lydia Ann Roberts Stoner (1884-1970)
 - c. Annabelle Nichol Stoner (1901-1990)
7. Military Service: U.S. Navy, no dates
 - a. Correspondence
 - b. Maps
 - c. Newspaper Article, 1942
 - d. Photographs, 1942-1946
 - e. Reports
8. Military Service: U.S. Navy, 1943-1944
 - a. Certificates
 - b. Correspondence
 - c. Reports
9. Military Service: U.S. Navy, 1945
 - a. Correspondence
 - b. Reports
 - c. Telephone Directory
10. Military Service: U.S. Navy, 1946-1949
 - a. Certificates
 - b. Discharge papers
 - c. Post-war correspondence
11. Organizations: Acadia Lodge, No. 586, Free & Accepted Masons (F. & A.M.), Indiana, Pennsylvania, 1977-1981 (Freemasonry)
 - a. J. K. Stoner became a Master Mason in 1931
12. Organizations: American Red Cross, 1947-1986
 - a. By-Laws, 1947
 - b. Correspondence, no date and 1977-1986
13. Organizations: American Red Cross Newspaper Articles, no date and 1978-1982
14. Organizations: Kiwanis Club, Indiana, Pennsylvania, 1962-1987
15. Photographs, 1930s-1980s
 - a. J. K. Stoner and family
 - b. Home (interior)

- c. Reunion photographs, possibly Indiana State Teachers College, Class of 1931
 - d. J. K. Stoner collection on display at the Patrick J. Stapleton, Jr. Library
16. Certificates and Awards

Box 2 (8 folders) Publications

1. Stoner, J. K. (1936). *An Investigation of the School Building Systems and Equipment offered by the Heating and Ventilating Market and the Laws and Regulations of the various states affecting their construction and installation*. Master of Arts thesis. University of Pittsburgh.
2. Stoner, J. K. (1953). *An Analysis of the accounting systems and practices of small, independent retail businesses*. Doctor of Education Dissertation. University of Pittsburgh.
3. *The Story Behind*, history of advertising logos, no dates, published in the Kiplinger Magazine.
4. Short Stories by J. K. Stoner, no dates (manuscripts)
 - a. All about W.A.R.
 - b. A Flitting We Did Go
 - c. It Almost Snowed in Trinidad
 - d. Romance Incorporated
5. Stoner, J. K. (1980). *Selections from the Newspaper Column ... Ham with Wry appearing in the Indiana Evening Gazette*. Illustrations by E. Kathryn Wilcox. A.G. Halldin Publishing Company, Indiana, Pennsylvania. 2 signed copies
6. Stoner, J. K. (1994). *Selections from the Newspaper Column ... Ham with Wry Volume II appearing in the Indiana Evening Gazette*. Illustrations by Karen Border. A.G. Halldin Publishing Company, Indiana, Pennsylvania. 2 signed copies
7. Photographs, advertising, and newspaper articles related to *Ham with Wry* being published in 1980 and 1994.
8. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, June 25, 1977 to December 23, 1978.

Box 3 (5 folders) Publications: *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette, 1979-1987*

1. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, January 6, 1979 to December 22, 1979
2. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, January 5, 1980 to December 20, 1980
3. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, January 3, 1981 to December 1, 1981
4. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, January 8, 1983 to June 23, 1984
5. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, June 30, 1984 to January 4, 1986

Box 4 (28 folders) Publications: *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*

1. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, January 11, 1986 to March 28, 1987
2. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, April 4, 1987 to December 24, 1988
3. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, January 3, 1989 to December 29, 1990
4. *Ham with Wry, Indiana Evening Gazette*, January 5, 1991 to December 25, 1992
5. *Ham with Wry*, (manuscript for book, part 1), no date
6. *Ham with Wry*, (manuscript for book, part 2), no date
7. *Ham with Wry*, (manuscript for book, part 3), no date
8. *Ham with Wry*, (manuscript for book, part 4), no date
9. *Ham with Wry*, (manuscript for book, part 5), no date
10. Employment History, 1936 and 1941

- a. New Kensington High School, Yearbook, *The 1936 Taleoken*, 2 pages (copy)
- b. Indiana High School, Yearbook, *The 1941 L'Indien*, 2 pages (copy)
11. Richert, G. Henry and J. K. Stoner. *Retailing Problems and Projects*. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1954.
12. Colorado State College Summer Catalog, 1957 (JKS taught summer course)
13. Outstanding Business Teacher of 1960 by the Educators of Pennsylvania
14. Stoner, J. K. (1964). *Case Problem Accounting Management*. Indiana State College.
15. Stoner, J. K. (1967). *Case Problem in Accounting Management*. Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
16. Stoner, J. K. (1970). *Teacher's Manual & Key for Marketing: Projects and Activities*.
17. Stoner, J. K. (1971). *Student Teaching in Business and Distributive Education*, IUP.
18. Stoner, J. K. (1972). *Competency-Based Teacher Education Programs*, IUP.
19. Information about J. K. Stoner's retirement from IUP, 1972
20. IUP Scrapbook, 1972-1973 (1)
21. IUP Scrapbook, 1972-1973 (2)
22. IUP Scrapbook, 1972-1973 (3)
23. IUP Scrapbook, 1972-1973 (4)
24. Stoner, J. K. (1973). *Basic Accounting Concepts and the Accounting Teacher*. *Business Education Forum*, February 1973.
25. Committee to save John Sutton Hall (this ad hoc committee was responsible for gaining publicity to save and later renovate the administrative building at IUP, John Sutton Hall, during the IUP Centennial in 1974-1975), 1973-1974 (See also [Manuscript Group 39 Committee to save John Sutton Hall](#))
26. Correspondence about G.G. Hill for citation for outstanding service to IUP, 1978-1982.
27. Pennsylvania Business Education Association, 1980.
28. Correspondence about Retired Faculty Spotlight in the *IUP Magazine* (1989), 1989-1990.

Box 5 U.S. Flag (1 item)

1. American Flag that draped the coffin at the funeral of Dr. J. K. Stoner and presented to his family in 1995.