

**Title:** Pohl, William and La Vera Papers

**Reference Code:** Mss-1089

**Inclusive Dates:** 1919 – 1972

**Quantity:** 1.8 cu. ft.

**Location:** CV, Sh. 001  
RC9, Sh. 012 – 015

**Abstract:** William Pohl was born in Germany in 1890 and immigrated to Milwaukee in 1913. He found work as a reporter for the Milwaukee Herald before founding Kepec Chemical in 1919. The business grew and eventually included plants in Germany, England and Salem, MA. He passed away in November 1970.

William met his future wife La Vera in the early 1920s, and they were married in 1925. She was a Wisconsin native and graduated from Beloit High School in 1919. La Vera studied art at the Milwaukee Art Institute before doing graduate studies at the Cologne Academy and earning a Ph.D. from the University of Bonn. She became an acclaimed artist with successful showings in Wisconsin and New York. She was appointed director of the Milwaukee Art Institute in 1951 and was an influential art historian. She passed away in 1981.

**Scope and Content:** This collection includes lecture notes, articles and newspaper clippings about the Pohls and Christmas cards with sketches done by La Vera. In addition, there are numerous articles and newspaper clippings about Ernst Udet, technical chief of the German Air Force and Reich Marshal Hermann Wilhelm Goering's right-hand man. From their correspondence, it seems the Pohls may have invested in Udet's aviation corporation.

**Access and Use:** No restrictions

**Language:** English and German

**Notes:** Processed by Janet Geronime, December 1990; added to by Steve Daily, December 1994, and Kevin Abing, March 2019.

**Arrangement:**

Folder Title	Box #	Folder #
LaVera Pohl	1	1
- Excerpt from The Wisconsin Players Program (1934)		
- Newspaper clippings (1944, 1945, 1951)		
- Magazine articles: <i>Exclusively Yours</i> , "Art Institute's New Director (1951); <i>Mount Mary Quarterly</i> , "Our Enthusiasm Is Showing (1953); <i>Print</i> , "Medicine Art" [Exhibit at Milwaukee Art Institute planned by Dr. LaVera Pohl]		

(1953) - Milwaukee Art Institute flyer re exhibit of La Vera's work (1945) - Invitation to exhibit of La Vera's work at Paine Art Center in Oshkosh, WI (1956) - Christmas cards with sketches done by La Vera (ca 1946-1977)		
William Pohl - Manuscript, "Without Work" (Not Dated) - Newspaper clippings (1932-1933, 1948) - Lecture notes (1949) - Funeral program (1970)	1	2
Siegburg 900 Year Celebration: poster, pamphlet (Museum Der Stadt Siegburg); newspapers (Siegburger Zeitung); certificate and postcards (1964)	1	3
Ernst Udet #1 - Letters to Herr Pohl (1921-1922, 1926) - Photographs and airplane sketches - Corporate records (?): Udet-Flugzeugbau (1922) - Newspaper clippings (1940-1941, 1949, 1971-1972) [Some not dated; some in German]	1	4
Ernst Udet #2 - Serial article in newspaper: "Hans Herlin schreibt die Geschichte Ernst Udets" (In German, not dated)	1	5
Miscellaneous - Newspaper clippings: "Funeral of Col. Brumder" (Not dated); "Hello, Is This Paris" (1932) - Notes for speech (1924) - Magazine: <i>Reality-A Journal of Artists' Opinions</i> (Spring 1953, Spring 1954) - Article on the Arts from <i>Newsweek</i> (1954) - Excerpts from pamphlet: "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" (U.S. House of Rep., Committee on Un-American Activities, 1951) - Congressional Record – Speeches of hon. George A. Dondero of Michigan in the House of Representatives - "Communism Under the Guise of Cultural Freedom – Strangling American Art" (6/14/1956) and "UNESCO – Communism and Modern Art" (9/20/1956)	1	6
Album: "The Girl Graduate Her Own Book" (Beloit High School, 1919)	1	Loose in Box
Scrapbooks: clippings, biographical material, and travel photos #1: 1940 – 1951 #2: 1951 – 1953 #3: 1951 – 1958	RC9	012-015

#4: 1953		
#5: 1953 – 1955		
#6: 1954		
#7: Photo album, 1923 – 1925		