

∞ The Ward M. Canaday Center ∞
for Special Collections
The University of Toledo

Finding Aid

➤ Robert G. Wingerter Papers and Photographs, 1967-1978 ◀

MSS-243

Size: 3 linear feet

Provenance: Jan Dixon of Holland, OH, donated 21 August 2010

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Biographical Sketch

Robert G. Wingerter was born in Detroit, Michigan, on October 5, 1916, to Hugh and Bertha (Seeger) Wingerter. He grew up in Detroit and graduated from Wayne State University cum laude in 1938 with a B.S. in mechanical engineering on a scholarship. In 1955 he completed the executive program in business administration at Columbia University. He received the Wayne State University College of Engineering Merit Award Citation in 1958 for achievement and contributions in the field of engineering. In 1967 he received Freedom Foundation's George Washington Honor Medal Award.

He was a member of the American Management Association, Association of the United States Army, Engineering Society of Detroit, Society of Automotive Engineers, American Ordnance Association, Automotive Old Timers, Economic Club of Detroit, Tau Beta Pi, Necomen Society in North America, Detroit Athletic Club, Bloomfield Hills Country Club, the Detroit Club, the Toledo Club, the Noon Club of Toledo, Inverness Club, and Otsego Ski Club. He also served as president of the Automotive Original Equipment Manufacturers Association, a director of the Wayne State University Fund, and trustee of the Institute for Economic Education.

He started off in business in 1938 with Timken Roller Bearing. He was the director of sales of the automotive division by 1959. Wingerter then served as the executive vice president, chief administrative officer, and a director of the Rockwell-Standard Corporation from 1963 to 1967.

In 1967 he was recruited to Libbey-Owens-Ford, Inc. Within a few months, he was president, CEO, and a director. He was elevated to chairman in 1975 when Don T. McKone became the president. He retired from L-O-F in 1979, but continued to serve as chairman of the board's executive committee for several years.

During his time at L-O-F, Wingerter brought the organization back to profitability. In 1972 an article was published in *Forbes* magazine entitled "How Bob Wingerter Robbed the Bank." Prior to Wingerter's joining L-O-F, they were the sole glass supplier to General Motors, making a profit of 18 percent on stockholders' equity. It was referred to as "the bank that made glass." When GM expanded to other manufacturers and profits ebbed, Wingerter was brought in to bring the company back to profitability.

Wingerter modernized L-O-F's plants and bought other companies such as Aeroquip (a flexible hose manufacturer), and Woodall Industries (a molded plastic parts manufacturer). He put uncommitted L-O-F assets to work. Under Wingerter, sales doubled and profits rose by 40 percent.

He served on the boards of Toledo Edison, Centerior Energy, Marathon Oil, and Toledo Trust. He was a Capital University regent, and a trustee of the Medical College of Ohio. He served as the president of the Toledo Museum of Art trustees, led a United Way annual campaign, and served as the chairman of a YWCA renovation campaign. He died 3 January 2011 in Perrysburg Township, where he was a longtime resident.

Robert G. Wingerter
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Scope and Content

The Robert G. Wingerter Papers primarily document Wingerter's career as an executive with Libbey-Owens-Ford, Inc. The collection is divided into two primary series: speeches and addresses, and photographs.

Series I, speeches, is divided into the following subseries: awards, speeches to financial analysts, speeches to various engineering groups, miscellaneous addresses, speeches to L-O-F sales groups, speeches on tariff and trade issues, and speeches to groups of the American Flint Glass Workers Union. Miscellaneous addresses include talks related to his community service activities for various charitable organizations in Toledo and addresses at colleges and universities.

Series II, photographs and albums, is divided into the following subseries by subject of the photos: dinners and events, factories, meetings with executives and other associates, official company photographs, and photograph albums. The photograph albums document Wingerter's trips abroad to Japan and Italy to tour glass factories there. One oversized photograph is of Wingerter with Lord Peter Pilkington and Sir Alastair Pilkington of Pilkington Glass in Great Britain.

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Papers and Photographs, 1967-1978

Folder List

Box	Folder	Topics	Categories	Date	Description
1	1	Speeches and Addresses	Awards	11/6/1974	UT Citation Honoring R. G. Wingerter
	2	Speeches and Addresses	Awards	Undated	Resolution of Appreciation of R.G. Wingerter at the time of his Retirement – LOF BOD
	3	Speeches and Addresses	Analysts	5/17/1967	“New Glasses Give LOF Better Vision” Security Analysts
	4	Speeches and Addresses	Analysts	1967-1968	LOF Consolidated Financial Data
	5	Speeches and Addresses	Analysts	12/17/1968	LOF Sales Conferences
	6	Speeches and Addresses	Analysts	11/20/1969	The New York Automotive Security Analysts
	7	Speeches and Addresses	Analysts	12/1/1969	The Financial Analysts Society of Toledo
	8	Speeches and Addresses	Analysts	11/1/1972	The Financial Analysts Society of Detroit
	9	Speeches and Addresses	Analysts	12/11/1973	The Financial Analysts Society of Toledo
	10	Speeches and Addresses	Analysts	10/8/1974	Financial Analysts Federation Fall Conference
	10	Speeches and Addresses	Analysts	10/10/1974	G. Tsai & Company Institutional Investors Luncheon
	11	Speeches and Addresses	Engineering Groups	9/10/1965	“Some Observations on the Field of Industrial Sales Engineering” Engineering Society of Detroit
	12	Speeches and Addresses	Engineering Groups	10/17/1967	“An Engineer’s View of Some Current Major Social and Business Problems” Toledo Society of Professional Engineers
	13	Speeches and Addresses	Engineering Groups	10/23/1973	“The Change of the Game” 28 th Annual technical Convention, The American Society of Body Engineers
	14	Speeches and Addresses	Engineering Groups	4/22/1981	“Reflections from 43 Years in the Post-Grad. Curriculum” Annual Honors Convocation, College of Engineering, Wayne State University
	15	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	10/27/1965	“The Tiny Flame” Business Education Day; Logans Port, IN
	16	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	5/14/1966	“I Can’t Swim” Chamber of Commerce Meeting; Ashtabula, OH
	17	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	1967	LOF News Clippings
	18	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	4/20/1967	Biographical Sketch of R. G. Wingerter
	19	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	May, 1967	"What Business Looks for When Hiring Young People." Newspaperboy Parent Newsletter - Chats with Mom and Dad

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20	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	6/5/1967	Remarks, Capital University
21	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	5/23/1968	Remarks, Junior Achievement of Northwest Ohio, Inc. - 1968 Future Unlimited Banquet
22	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	6/24/1969	Remarks at Junior Achievement Dinner - Carranor Club
23	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	1971	Letter to Shareholders Addressing Bigger's letter of 1931 40 years later on how the business with GM transformed the company and hope for the future
24	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	8/29/1971	"A Need for New Beginnings." - Commencement Day, Sampson Technical Institute - Clinton, NC
25	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	7/3/1972	Open house Dedication Program, Thermopane LOF Inc. - Clinton, NC
26	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	September, 1972	"...The Sky's A-Going to Fall...!" The Glass Industry
27	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	11/15/1972	"How Bob Wingerter Robbed the Bank."
28	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	February, 1973	Editorial - Aeroquip - The Flying A
29	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	11/19/1973	Outline for YPO Talk
30	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	September, 1974	"LOF's President Views the Inflation Problem."
31	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	9/18/1974	"Crusade of Mercy Kick-Off Banquet."
32	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	10/23/1974	People of the Financial World - Financial World
33	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	10/24/1974	"Crusade of Mercy Victory Dinner"
34	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	November, 1974	"Hundreds of Tests Prove Glass for Construction" <i>Ceramic Industry Magazine</i>
35	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	2/24/1975	"Glassmakers Reflect Detroit's Troubles." <i>Business Week</i>
36	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	5/5/1975	House Committee on Banking, Currency, and Household - Automobile Industry Task Force
37	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	5/23/1975	"We Can Have Only What We Produce." Business Roundtable of Northern Ohio Economic Conference - Cleveland, OH
38	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	6/12/1975	"The Mike Owens Legacy." Michael J. Owens Technical College - Perrysburg, OH
39	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	7/3/1975	"A Time for New Perspectives." Toledo Downtown Lions Club
40	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	7/22/1975	Sealed Insulating Glass Manufacturers Association - Minneapolis, MN
41	Speeches and	Misc.	2/6/1976	Dedication and Opening of L-N Safety

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	Addresses			Glass, S.A. de C.V. - Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico
42	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	5/13/1976	"Does Private Enterprise Have a Future?" Annual Meeting of the Better Business Bureau of Toledo
43	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	9-7-1976	Major Corporate and Individual Gifts Division - 1976 United Way Campaign
44	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	3/2/1977	"Why Choose a Business Career?" Remarks for Student-Business Dialogue Series Meeting - The University of Toledo
45	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	1/22/1978	"Comments on the 1978 Economic Outlook." Belmont Country Club Economic Seminar
46	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	4/2/1978	"An Industrial Energy User Looks at the Energy Dilemma." Marathon Oil Company General Management Meeting - Boca Raton, FL
47	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	4/27/1979	Dedication and Premier Showing of the New Rare Mammal Building - Toledo Zoological Gardens
48	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	11/1/1979	Twin Dinner Remarks
49	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	7/17/1982	Dedication of Toledo Museum of Art Renovation
50	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	3/10/1987	"Criteria for Success in Today's Corporate World." Wayne State University Panel Discussion
51	Speeches and Addresses	Misc.	1/3/2011	Obituaries of R. G. Wingerter
52	Speeches and Addresses	Sales Groups	November, 1965	Rockwell-Standard Automotive Divisions
53	Speeches and Addresses	Sales Groups	3/17/1968	National Glass Dealers Association - San Francisco, CA
54	Speeches and Addresses	Sales Groups	12/17/1968	LOF Sales Conference
55	Speeches and Addresses	Sales Groups	10/2/1972	"Today's LOF Accepts a Challenge." National Association of Mirror Manufacturers
56	Speeches and Addresses	Sales Groups	1/28/1974	Flat Glass Marketing Association Meeting - Scottsdale, AZ
57	Speeches and Addresses	Sales Groups	3/17/1974	"An Overview of LOF, '74." National Marketing Meeting - Pinehurst, NC
58	Speeches and Addresses	Sales Groups	7/22/1975	Sealed Insulated Glass Manufacturers Association - Minneapolis, MN
59	Speeches and Addresses	Tariff and Trade	7/11/1967	"The Impact of U.S. Tariff and Trade Policies on the Flat Glass Industry." Flat Glass Marketing Association - Miami, FL
60	Speeches and Addresses	Tariff and Trade	8/16/1967	Senator Frank Lausche (D-OH) presents the address of R. G. Wingerter in Miami, FL to Flat Glass Marketing Association (7/11/1967) to U.S. Congress

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61	Speeches and Addresses	Tariff and Trade	10/30/1967	"Free Trade Cult' in United States Will Reduce Nation to Farm Economy." <i>American Banker</i>
62	Speeches and Addresses	Tariff and Trade	Winter, 1967	"Reciprocity: Myth or Reality? Foreign Nations Reduce the Value of Tariff Concessions by Imposing Nontariff Restrictions on Imported Goods." <i>Ward's Quarterly</i>
63	Speeches and Addresses	Tariff and Trade	12/15/1967	Representative Basil L. Whitener (D-NC) presents the address of R. G. Wingerter "Survival of Our Domestic Industry."
64	Speeches and Addresses	Tariff and Trade	1/4/1968	"The Foreign Trade Credibility Gap." Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce
65	Speeches and Addresses	Tariff and Trade	1/5/1968	"Import Safeguards Urged for U.S." <i>The Blade</i> - Toledo, OH
66	Speeches and Addresses	Tariff and Trade	3/19/1968	"Why Not Facts on Foreign Trade?" NAM Reports
67	Speeches and Addresses	Unions	10/16/1968	Wage Conference - Atlantic City, NJ
68	Speeches and Addresses	Unions	2/23/1971	Remarks to Glass Workers Officers
69	Speeches and Addresses	Unions	4/6/1971	Remarks to Union
70	Photos	Dinners and Events	1966	Japan - R. G. Wingerter, Mrs. Wingerter, Other Execs. and their spouses (Japanese)
71	Photos	Dinners and Events	3/26/1968	"Evening with Lowell Thomas." Lowell Thomas, R. G. Wingerter, Other Execs.
72	Photos	Dinners and Events	11/30/1970	R. G. Wingerter receives a Certificate of Appreciation
73	Photos	Dinners and Events	1972	Mel Burwell Retirement - R. G. Wingerter, Mel Burwell
74	Photos	Dinners and Events	3/8/1972	LOF Service Award Dinner - R. G. Wingerter, Awardee and Spouse - Charleston, WV
75	Photos	Dinners and Events	March, 1973	Visit of Nippon Sheet Glass
76	Photos	Dinners and Events	September, 1973	Lord Peter Pilkington of Oxenford and Sir Alastair Pilkington in Harrisburg, NC and Toledo, OH
77	Photos	Dinners and Events	8/3/1974	"President's Cup Race for Charity." R. G. Wingerter and Others
78	Photos	Dinners and Events	11/30/1974	Opening of LOF Building Restaurant
79	Photos	Dinners and Events	1976	Dinner in Honor of Milton Rubin's Retirement as President of the National Association of Mirror Manufacturers
80	Photos	Factories	Undated	R. G. Wingerter and (Presumably) Gov. James E. Holshouser (NC), and Other LOF Float Glass Furnace - Laurenburg, NC

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81	Photos	Factories	5/29/1967	R. G. Wingerter and Other Execs. Touring Plant
82	Photos	Factories	2/6/1976	Opening of L. N. Safety Glass - R. G. Wingerter, Other Execs.
83	Photos	Factories	7/24/1979	R. G. Wingerter and C. H. Damke
84	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	Undated	R. G. Wingerter and Other Execs. (Illegible Handwriting) - Verna Gorman, MA
85	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	Undated	R. G. Wingerter and Other Execs. (Japanese and American)
86	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	2/14/1967	R. G. Wingerter with Other Executives Boarding or De-boarding a Plane
87	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	1968	R. G. Wingerter and Associates
88	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	4/4/1968	R. G. Wingerter (presumably) in his office with Other Execs.
89	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	4/24/1968	R. G. Wingerter - Report to Shareholders After 1st Year of Presidency
90	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	1969	Glass Management Policy Committee - R. G. Wingerter, Other Execs.
91	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	October, 1972	R. G. Wingerter and Other Execs. (Japanese and American) - Yokohama Rubhes
92	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	11/3/1972	R. G. Wingerter and Shelley Brown (J. A. LOF Products), Dave White (J. A. Pres. - Superflyers), and Venessa Crenshaw (J. A. Pres - WOL - LOF)
93	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	December, 1972	Nippon Visitors, Muva, Muvata, and Nakamura in LOF Dining Room
94	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	1/19/1974	Reiser Testimonial Dinner - R. G. Wingerter and Other Execs.
95	Photos	Meetings, Executives,	September, 1974	Meeting in Japan - F. E. Schwertfer, Jioro Kawase (Nippon Sheet Glass Co., Ltd.),

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		and Associates		and Other Execs. (Japanese and American)
96	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates	11/28/1975	"Second Closing." R. G. Wingerter, Others
97	Photos	Official Photos	11/7/1973	R. G. Wingerter in his Office
98	Photos	Official Photos	1974	R. G. Wingerter, President and CEO, LOF Glass
	Photo Albums	Small Albums	4/18/1973	Retirement Party for Curt Davis, Director; Ross Carey, V.P. and Director; Dick Weter, V.P.; and Harry Ryan, Controller - Bellmont Country Club
	Photo Albums	Small Albums	10/5/1973	Pictures of J.M. Roche & LOF Personnel, Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce Luncheon (Employer Support for the Guard & Reserve)
	Photo Albums	Small Albums	1976	LOF Annual Meeting
	Miscellaneous	Memorabilia	1978	M. J. Owens 75th Anniversary Automatic Bottle Machine, 1903-1978 - Paperweight
2	Photos	Official Photos	Undated	Robert G. Wingerter, President - LOF
2	Photo Albums	Large Albums	1974	Japan - R. G. Wingerter, Mrs. Wingerter, Nippon Sheet Glass
2	Photo Albums	Large Albums	October, 1976	Japan - R. G. Wingerter, Mrs. Wingerter, Nippon Sheet Glass
2	Photo Albums	Large Albums	10/28/1967	R. G. Wingerter and Associates/Executives, Factory, Societa Italiana Vetro
2	Photo Albums	Large Albums	7/23/1985	H. D. Hoopman "Hoop" Retirement Party
2	Scrapbook	Large Albums		R. G. Wingerter Scrapbook
3	Miscellaneous	Oversized		<i>Libbey-Owens-Ford Company Goals</i> - 13 Goals, R. G. Wingerter
3	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates - Oversized	Undated	Merger with Aeroquip - R. G. Wingerter, Milton Knight, Peter F. Hurst, Don McKone
3	Photos	Dinners and Events - Oversized	September, 1973	Lord Peter Pilkington of Oxenford and Sir Alastair Pilkington
3	Photos	Meetings, Executives, and Associates - Oversized	1969	Glass Management Policy Committee - R. G. Wingerter, Other Execs.

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3	Photos	Official Photos - Oversized	Undated	R. G. Wingerter in a Hallway - January 1978, 12th Floor, LOF Building
3	Photos	Official Photos - Oversized	Undated	R. G. Wingerter in front of paintings of Edward Drummond Libbey, Michael J. Owens, Edward Ford - January 1978, 12th Floor, LOF Building
3	Newspaper Clipping	Oversized	6/2/1968	"LOF Shattering Tradition Of Glass- Bound Future." Article on the merger with Aeroquip