

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the Albany Boys' Club Records

Collection Summary

Collection Title: Albany Boys' Club Records

Call Number: MG-99

Creator: Unknown

Inclusive Dates: 1907-1981

Bulk Dates: 1936-1953; 1974-1981

Abstract: The collection contains photographs, hand drawn posters, blueprints, maps, pamphlets, booklets, annual reports, scrapbooks, binders, and information regarding the purchase and fundraising for a camp located at Thatcher Park near Thompson's Lake, NY. There are 3 binders/scrapbooks containing information on Camp Thatcher as well as the Eastern New York Area Council #11 of the Boys' Clubs of America

Quantity: 3 Boxes, one is oversize

Administrative Information

Custodial History:

Preferred Citation: Albany Boys' Club Collection, MG 99. Albany Institute of History & Art Library, New York.

Acquisition Information:

Accession #: LIB.20000.136

Accession Date: 8/18/2000 Found in Collections

Processing Information:

Processed by NAME; completed on **DATE**.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: None

Restrictions on Use: Permission to publish material must be obtained in writing prior to publication from the Chief Librarian & Archivist, Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210.

Index Term

Persons

Adams, David	Garhatt, David	Morton, Warner
Allegro, Joseph	Gilroy, Arthur,	Mosconi, Willie
Armao, Joe	Glock, Philip	Mullins, Fred
Armstrong, Dave	Goldberg, Jerry	Pickett, Dana
Baker, Michael	Goldstein, Harry	Richburg, Howard
Beach, Helen	Green, Al	Rimmer, Alan
Bender, Tom	Guszcza, John	Rockenstyne, Harold
Bink, John	Hart, Clarence	Rohan, Virginia
Blais, Gerry	Herholz, Zig	Rossi, Angelo
Blais, Michael	Hoag, Ed	Seaburg, Donald
Carty, Chas	Hughes, George	Simpkins, Robert
Carty, Stephen	Lanahan, Michael	Singleman Jr, Al
Chiera, John	Laviano, Joe	Skelley, Donald
Cohen, Frieda	Legg, Bob	Smakwitz, Charles
Compton, Bert	Leonard, Donald	Spence, Bob
Comson, Gil	Levine, David	Taylor, David
Corning II, Erastus	Liviano, Vincent	Thacher, John Boyd
Crowley, Dan	Luft, John	Thomson, Howard
DeAngelis, Jim	Lyman, Ed	Van Duzer, Russell
DeLessio, Pat	Maddex, James	Van Ordin, Kate
Dickson, Nancy	Mahah, Thomas	Weisberg, Ronald
Dinkelman, Fred	Malatino, Tony	Welch, Charles
Fish, Roy	McMullin Jr, Bob	Wright, Gretchen
Frisbee, George	Miller, Donald	
Funk, Bernard	Moore, John	

Organizations

Boys' Clubs of America - Albany Boys Club, Albany NY
Variety Club

Subjects

Places

Parks – Thatcher Park, NY
Lakes – Thompson's Lake, NY
Cities – Albany, NY

Document Types

Photographs

Scrapbooks

Blueprints

Titles

Biography/History of

The bulk of this collection deals primarily with the organization, planning donations and running of the Albany Boys' Club Camp Thatcher near Thompson's Lake, NY. The name of the camp was officially known as Variety's Albany Boys' Club Camp Thatcher, run by the Albany Boys' Club Camp and financed by the Variety Club. The camp was in operation since 1909, but most of the development of the camp took place from 1942 on. As of 1950 the camp was located 20 miles west of Albany in Thatcher Park near Thompson's Lake. The camp area was surrounded by woods and the terrain was somewhat hilly, but provided play areas. The facilities at the camp included a building with dining-hall and kitchen, with the capacity to feed about 100. The hall contained long tables with seating for 10 campers per table. There were 4 cabins, two old cottages and 3 tents for sleeping quarters. The camp also had 4-5 outhouses, and one outdoor shower. There was also a recreation hall, swimming area, and ball field. There was no nurse on the premises, but there were 2 doctors on call.

There is also a blue binder that contains a constitution, meeting information, and collaboration forming the Eastern New York Area Council #11 of the Boys' Clubs of America. This Council is comprised of members of local Boys' Clubs from: Albany, Catskill, Kingston, Lansingburgh, Rensselaer, Schenectady, and Troy.

The bulk of the photographs in the collection pertain to the Albany Boys' Club located on Delaware Avenue in Albany, NY. They show members of the Boys' Club involved in various activities: wood working, crafts, fishing, games, reading, helping others, etc.

Scope and Contents of the Records/Papers/Collection

The collection contains three boxes consisting of photographs, papers, maps, blueprints, scrapbooks, binders, and posters pertaining to the Albany Boys' Club Camp Thatcher at Thatcher Park, NY and the Eastern New York Area Council #11 of the Boys' Clubs of America. There is information about the purchase, fund raising, and use of land at Thatcher Park near Thompson's Lake for the Albany Boys' Club as a camp.

The bound scrapbook without cover contains budgets for the Camp Thatcher summer camp, as well as a register for cash receipts and disbursements for the years 1936-1951. It appears also to be a ledger with information on all aspects of running the Camp at Thatcher Park including: salaries, accounts payable, supplies needed, and letters and donations from various organizations, businesses and persons. There are also minutes from various meetings held by the board of the Albany Boys' Club. This book

also contains some small photographs of the buildings at Camp Thatcher. The scrapbook starts at about 1951 and works backwards to 1936.

The black bound (1951-1953) scrapbook contains letters to Howard Thompson as he stepped down from the chairperson of the camp in 1953. There are also minutes from Board of Directors meetings, operating statements and budgets; this book also acts as a ledger.

The blue binder deals with the Eastern New York Area Council #11 Boys' Clubs of America. The binder is divided into sections : Aims and Purpose; Bi-Laws/Constitution; Lay Pro Meetings; Professional Meetings; B.C.A. Reports; National Area Conference Communication; and Correspondence. The purpose of the Eastern NY Council is to bring Board volunteers and executive directors of Boys' Clubs within an area together periodically to exchange information and to discuss plans, programs, methods, trends and common problems. It was created for the purpose, in each area, of exchanging information and collaboration by their members in connection with plans, programs, methods, and problems among Boys' Clubs, etc.

Organization of the Records/Papers/Collection

Related Material

None

Separated Materials

None

Other Finding Aids

None

Detailed Description of the Records/Papers/Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Series

Series Title

Box #	Folder#	Title/ Description
1	1	Thatcher Park Building/ Contribution Correspondence
1	2	Pamphlets/ Information
1	3	Blueprints/ Maps

Series #		Series Title
Box #	Folder#	Title/ Description
1	4	Annual Reports
1	5	Camp Prospectus- Camp Thatcher/ Thompson's Lake
1	6	Photographs (91 total) (31) - Our roof decorations for Christmas- a Joint Effort between Art and Shop classes (47) - At the Home Show 1950 (48) - Annual Fishing Derby-Another Boys' Club event (53) - Angelo Rossi - 1st Boys' Club Member, 2 nd Volunteer & Camp counselor, 3 rd Air Force stationed in Pacific (60) -1963 Club Discussion Group (73) - City & County Savings Bank Our Host 1964 (78) - City & County Savings Bank Our Host 1962 (82) - A Civic Project –Bird Houses for the Nature Lovers of Albany
2		Bound scrapbook without cover 1936-1951 Contains Budget for Camp Thatcher summer camp
2		Blue/Black Scrapbook 1951-1953
2		Blue Binder
3	7	Oversize Photographs
3	8	Oversize Hand Drawn Posters