

C American Legion, Herbert Williams Post 202, Records, 1919-2009
4257 2.0 cubic feet, (27 folders)

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

INTRODUCTION

The papers of the American Legion Post 202 in Columbia, Missouri, chronicle the actions of the veteran organization from 1919-2009. This includes yearly meetings, as well as the different events they hosted and attended. The collections contains letters, documents, photos, financial documents, newspaper clippings and two scrapbooks.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Mike Trial on 13 June 2013 (Accession No. 6430).

ORGANIZATIONAL SKETCH

Congress chartered the American Legion in 1919, at the end of WWI. It was an organization created to assist servicemen and their families. It is organized today into fifty-five departments, which includes all fifty states, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico and the Philippines. The Legion currently has over 2.4 million members with 14,000 posts. It has grown to become one of the most powerful nonprofit organizations in the United States. The Legion fought for social benefits for veterans and has created many programs for children and youth. The American Legion Post 202 was created on August 1, 1920, in Columbia, Missouri. It was named in honor of Herbert Clarence Williams. Herbert, a resident of Hartsburg, Missouri, was born on September 18, 1895. He enlisted in the Army on June 2, 1917, and served in Company F, of the 139th Infantry, 35th Division. He was killed on September 29, 1917, during the beginning of the Meuse Argonne Offensive.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers have been divided into the following four series:

Correspondence
Scrapbooks
Financial Information
Miscellaneous

The **Correspondence** series contains letters, documents, and other items about the daily life and events of the Post from before its creation in 1920 to 2009. The **Scrapbooks** series contains two scrapbooks. The first one covers important events that happened from 1971-1972. The second one covers the American Legacy Run, which was a charity event to raise money for children of fallen soldiers by the Indiana American

Legion Riders who would travel from Indianapolis to Salt Lake City. The **Financial Information** series contains the financial documents dealing with membership and events from 1946 to 2005. The **Miscellaneous** series contains documents pertaining to by-laws passed for the post. Also included are photos from the organization and information on the American Legion Baseball team.

FOLDER LIST

Correspondence Series

- f. 1 Correspondence, 1919-36, 1960-61
- f. 2 Correspondence, 1963
- f. 3 Correspondence, 1964
- f. 4 Correspondence, 1965-66
- f. 5 Correspondence, Jan.-March 1967
- f. 6 Correspondence, Apr.-July 1967
- f. 7 Correspondence, Aug.-Dec. 1967
- f. 8 Correspondence, 1968
- f. 9 Correspondence, 1969-72
- f. 10 Correspondence, 1973-76
- f. 11 Correspondence, 1977-78
- f. 12 Correspondence, 1979-80
- f. 13 Correspondence, 1981-92
- f. 14 Correspondence, 1995
- f. 15 Correspondence, 1996-98
- f. 16 Correspondence, 1998
- f. 17 Correspondence, 1999-2001
- f. 18 Correspondence, 2002-2006
- f. 19 Correspondence, 2007-2009
- f. 20 Correspondence, Undated

Scrapbooks Series

- f. 21 Scrapbook, 1971-72
- f. 22 Scrapbook Legacy Run

Financial Information Series

- f. 23 Financial Documents, 1943-1976
- f. 24 Financial Documents, 1977- 2005, Undated

Miscellaneous Series

- f. 25 Photos
- f. 26 By-Laws
- f. 27 Baseball

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