

Organization of Chinese Americans Newsletters (S0021)

Collection Number: S0021

Collection Title: Organization of Chinese Americans Newsletters

Dates: 1975-1978

Creator: Organization of Chinese Americans

Abstract: Originally founded in 1972 as the League of Chinese Americans, the Organization of Chinese Americans – Asian Pacific American Advocates promotes the cultural heritage and social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The collection consists of newsletters from the Organization of Chinese Americans from 1975-1978.

Collection Size: 0.1 cubic foot (1 folder)

Language: Collection materials are in English and Chinese.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at <u>The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis</u>. If you would like more information, please contact us at <u>stlouis@shsmo.org</u>. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Organization of Chinese Americans* (S0021); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

Donor Information: The newsletters were collected by WHMC Director Irene Cortinovis (Accession No. SA0706).

Alternate Forms Available: Digital copies of some of the materials in this collection are available. Contact the St. Louis Research Center for access.

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the OCA Newsletters can be found in the following collections:

Geoffrey Wade Donnan Papers, (S1222) St. Louis Chinese-American Oral Histories Collection (S0556)

Processed by: Processed by Western Historical Manuscript Collection staff. Revised by Zack Palitzsch, August 2021. Finding aid updated by Erin Purdy, August 2022.

Historical Note:

The St. Louis Chapter of the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) was founded in 1972 as the League of Chinese Americans, St. Louis, and was one of the three founding branches of the national OCA. The national branch is located in Washington, D.C. The original mission of the organization was to promote the cultural heritage of the Chinese in America as well as to advocate for social justice and equality for all people, regardless of their nationality or gender. In 2013, the organization changed its name to OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates and expanded its mission to advocate for the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans.

Irene Cortinovis, Director of the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection at the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL), collected the materials in this collection in the 1970s. Cortinovis was interested in researching the local Chinese-American community and was involved in the American Association of Chinese Studies Conference at UMSL. She also wrote an article about China during the 1904 World's Fair.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into one folder.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains newsletters detailing the growth of the organization and its involvement in the St. Louis, Missouri community. The collection contains the St. Louis OCA newsletters from August and October 1975, and a circular letter regarding the OCA National Board and Executive Council elections for 1975-1976. Topics include membership development, legislation, events, finances, programing, member news, and national and international dealings. Also included in the collection are two newsletters from the US-China Peoples Friendship Association (USCPFA) from November 1977 and July 1978. The newsletters discuss organizational structure, Chinese science and technology, the USCPFA Fifth Annual National Convention, and the Chinese Communist Party. It also includes a flier from the St. Louis Council on World Affairs regarding the relationship between China and the USSR dating to 1978. The materials in the collection date from 1975 to 1978 and are arranged chronologically in the folder.

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Newsletters, 1975-1978

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