Suzanne Wilson Papers
(SP0004)

Collection Number: SP0004

Collection Title: Suzanne Wilson Papers

Dates: 1959-2009

Creator: Wilson, Suzanne, 1937-

Abstract: The Suzanne Wilson Papers consist of the fiction, nonfiction, and personal correspondence of free-lance writer Suzanne Wilson (1937- ). The papers cover a variety of topics, but many deal with nature. The bulk of her work was created for Scouting Magazine.

Collection Size: 8 cubic feet
   (394 folders, 1 oversize, approximately 75 photographs)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

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

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Suzanne Wilson Papers (SP0004); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Suzanne Wilson on May 20, 2015 (Accession No. SPA0006).
Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Suzanne Wilson Papers can be found in the following collections:

S. Fred Prince Papers (SP0005)  
James Mueller Papers (R1324)

Processed by: Processed by Erin Smither, July 10, 2015

Biographical Note:

Suzanne Jane Wilson, a writer and journalist, was born in Des Moines, Iowa, October 2, 1937. She attended Des Moines schools and earned a Bachelor of Journalism degree in 1959 from the University of Missouri, Columbia. She began her career at Better Homes and Gardens magazine in Des Moines, in advertising sales promotion.

In 1960, she married Terrence Craig Bladow (Terry), a medical student at the University of Missouri. Suzanne became a public relations assistant and alumnae magazine editor at Christian College, and she later wrote for the University of Missouri alumni office. The couple had two children, Craig Wilson Bladow and Amy Lynn Bladow. Terry completed a residency in pediatrics, and the family lived in Boston and New Orleans before he established a pediatrics practice in Joplin, Missouri, in 1967.

Suzanne began a freelance journalism career in 1972, writing for Scouting Magazine, Missouri Conservationist, National Geographic World (later Kids) and other publications. Writing most frequently for Scouting, she traveled on assignment and was a contributing editor from 1994 to 2008. She often chose environmental subjects in her freelance work.

In 1975, her children’s book The Midnight Flight of Moose, Mops and Marvin was published by McGraw-Hill under the name Suzanne Wilson Bladow. Her short fiction appeared in Isaac Asimov’s Science Fiction Magazine under her pseudonym P. J. MacQuarrie, and one of these stories, “Packing Up,” was included in Space of Her Own, an anthology of speculative fiction by women authors.

From 1980 to 2001, Suzanne was a writer in residence in the Missouri Arts Council’s arts education program, leading creative writing workshops in schools across the state. She was a member of a co-op art gallery in Joplin, working in watercolor and photography.


Suzanne Wilson received a Bachelor of Arts in French, summa cum laude, in 2006 from Missouri Southern State University, Joplin. In 2015, she moved to Fort Collins, Colorado, where she continued studying French and writing fiction.
Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following ten series:

Fiction
Scouting Magazine
Education
Correspondence
Missouri Arts’ Center Residency Program
Nonfiction
Professional
Photography and PhotoSpiva
Novels
Oversize

Scope and Content Note:

Fiction

This series includes all of the short stories written by Suzanne Wilson, several of which were published. Of special note is her children’s book, *The Midnight Flight of Moose, Mops and Marvin*. Also included is correspondence with publishers for each work of fiction. The Series is arranged chronologically.

*Scouting Magazine*

This series includes articles written by Suzanne Wilson for *Scouting Magazine* between the years of 1972-2009. The articles cover a variety of topics, but most have to do with nature and the outdoors. Correspondence with publishers and various drafts of her writing are represented. This series is arranged chronologically.

Education

This series includes materials created during Suzanne Wilson’s college career and early employment. The series is arranged chronologically.

Correspondence

This series includes personal and professional correspondence between Suzanne Wilson, her family, and business associates. The series is arranged chronologically.

Missouri Arts’ Center Residency Program

This series includes lesson plans, photographs, publications and other materials pertaining to Wilson’s role in the Missouri Arts’ Center Residency Program. Her assignments from all over the state of Missouri are represented in this series. This series is arranged chronologically.
Nonfiction

This series consists of articles written by Suzanne Wilson for various publishers. Many articles are from *Missouri Conservationist* but many other publications are represented as well. Also included are rejected articles. This series is arranged chronologically.

Professional

This series contains materials pertaining to Wilson’s professional life including versions of her resume used throughout her career. The series is arranged chronologically.

Photography and PhotoSpiva

This series contains materials relating to the national PhotoSpiva photography contest and photography created by Wilson. The series is arranged chronologically.

Novels

This series contains the three novels written by Suzanne Wilson. This series has been arranged chronologically.

Oversize

This series contains PhotoSpiva posters from 1977-1985.

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<td>PhotoSpiva</td>
<td>371, 375-379</td>
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<td>Wilson, Suzanne, 1937-</td>
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