



## **Ruby Rose Stauber Papers (SP0015)**

**Collection Number:** SP0015

**Collection Title:** Ruby Rose Stauber Papers

**Dates:** 1777-2016

**Creator:** Stauber, Ruby Rose, 1928-2018

**Abstract:** The papers of Rose Stauber contain the personal papers of Ruby Rose Stauber. They include correspondence, genealogical research, family photographs, and material related to Rose's 31 years of service in the Women's Army Corp.

**Collection Size:** 13.5 cubic feet  
(452 folders, 2 oversize)

**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](mailto:springfield@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

**Restrictions on Use:** The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Ruby Rose Stauber Papers* (SP0015); 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 Ruby Rose Stauber on July 23, 2016 (Accession No. SP0017).

**Processed by:** Processed by Katie Seale, February 10, 2017

**Historical Note:**

Ruby Rose Stauber was born on 6 August 1928, on the Stauber farm near Noel, Missouri. Rose was the oldest child of Anna Pearl Rose Stauber (1905-1971) and Martin Stevens Stauber (1903-1992). Graduating from Noel High School in 1946, Rose went on to Southwest Missouri State University (now Missouri State University) graduating in 1949. She then taught eighth and ninth grade in Springfield before enlisting in the army in 1951. She had a 31 year career in the Women's Army Corps (WAC) where she commanded at platoon, company, and battalion level. She was one of the first female officers, public affairs officer for V Corp, editor-in-chief of *Military Review*, deputy Public Affairs Officer for the U.S. European command, and commander/editor-in-chief of *Stars and Stripes*.

In 1952, Rose joined the Women's Army Corps (WAC). The Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) was established in 1941 to work with the U.S. Army. Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts championed the WAAC as an equal opportunity for women to serve in the army. In 1943, the WAAC was converted into the Women's Army Corps (WAC) and incorporated into the U.S. Army. When the WAC bill was signed into law on July 3, 1943, WAC service members gained officers rankings and overseas pay equal to men. WACs served around the world in a myriad of critical positions for the duration of the war. Over 150,000 American women served in the army during World War II and were a crucial part of the war effort. In 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act. The act established a permanent place for women in the armed forces. By 1951, when Rose Stauber joined the Women's Army Corps, this law was in effect and the WAC increased its recruitment goals.

During her service Rose served at several U.S. bases: Fort Lee, Virginia, Ft. McClellan, Alabama, Fort Slocum, New York, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Collectively, she served four tours overseas, eleven of those years in Germany and one tour in Vietnam, April 1966 to April 1967. While in Vietnam, Stauber served under General Westmoreland as a public affairs officer. She also served as the in-country distributor of the *Stars and Stripes*. Stationed in Saigon, Stauber made trips to other military bases elsewhere in Vietnam. An avid photographer, Stauber documented her time in Vietnam in the images she took.

While in the army, Rose earned her Master's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri (1968). During her service, she earned the Bronze Star and Legion of Merit. She retired in 1982 and returned to the home she had contracted to be built during her last tour in Germany. Soon after, Rose attended a family reunion and was made the family historian, thus beginning

her work in genealogy, first for personal family research and eventually aiding others in their search. This research led to her to a series of publications on local cemeteries and local history. Rose Stauber passed away in 2018.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following four series with the following subseries.

**Family Information**

- Miscellaneous

- Correspondence

**Records and Source Material**

- Cemetery Records

- News Clippings

- Correspondence

- Obituaries

- Grove Book

- Southwest City Cemetery Book

- First Presbyterian Church of Wyalusing records

**Personal**

- Academic

- Correspondence

- Army

- Writings

- News Clippings

**Photographs**

- Army

- Photo Albums

**Oversize****Scope and Content Note:****Family Information**

This series contains the genealogical information for various family groups. These materials include family trees, research material, military records, indenture papers, land records, family histories, pension paperwork, and genealogy correspondence. The correspondence subseries contains letters written to and from Rose Stauber regarding research on different family groups and individuals. The series is organized by the surname of the family group being discussed or by the name of the individual with whom Stauber was corresponding.

**Records and Source Material**

This series contains supplemental research materials including family histories, news clippings, correspondents of ancestors, and genealogical materials. This series also contain cemetery records, local history materials, Stauber's book information, including research, correspondence, transcripts, obituaries, and book drafts.

### **Personal**

This series contains materials connected directly to Rose Stauber. This includes military materials and personal correspondence to and from Stauber. It also contains academic papers, and Stauber's writings. Her diary from 1951 is also included in this series. The diary covers her trip to Women's Army Corps (WAC) basic training and her initial experiences during training.

### **Photographs**

This series contains images taken by Stauber, images of family members, and ancestors. These include photographs of her great uncle Cyrus S. Avery (1871- 1963) and his family. There are also images taken while Stauber served in the military that include WAC training, promotions, scenes from Vietnam and Germany. The photographs are organized by family name, individual name, photograph albums, and army images.

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- f. 256 Bulletin of the Geological Survey No. 175, 1900
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- f. 269 Freemason Grand Lodge Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Missouri publication Vol. 26 No. 3, 1981
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