



Guide to the Vern Lanegrass Papers

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Summary Information

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| Repository: | University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives. |
| Creator: | Lanegrass, Vern, 1924-2011 |
| Contributor: | California Restaurant Writers Association |
| Contributor: | Brotherhood of the Knights of the Vine |
| Title: | Vern Lanegrass Papers |
| ID: | MS-00295 |
| Date [inclusive]: | 1961 to 2010 |
| Physical Description: | 5.29 Cubic Feet (7 boxes and 2 oversized boxes) |
| Physical Description: | 6.37 Linear Feet |
| Language of the Material: | English |
| Abstract: | The Vern Lanegrass Papers (1961-2010) consist of materials from the Brotherhood of the Knights of the Vine and the California Restaurant Writers Association as well as event programs, menus, and other materials related to food and wine. |

Preferred Citation

Vern Lanegrass Papers, 1961-2010. MS-00295. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Vern Lanegrass lived in Los Angeles, California where he was known as "The Hollywood Chef" and hosted television and radio programs about cooking.

Vernon B. Lanegrass was born August 22, 1924 to Bertrand and Pearl Lanegrass in Louisiana. He earned a music degree from Loyola University in New Orleans and performed as a singer with the New Orleans Opera Company. He later went to work for NBC in New York City where he began as a page and progressed to supervisor of the page and tour staff. He moved to Southern California and worked at NBC's Burbank studio.

After leaving NBC, Lanegrass began working in hospitality and food. He went by the name "The Hollywood Chef" and hosted radio and television programs about cooking. He also wrote regular columns about cooking and dining. He gave lectures and worked as a guest chef across the United States. He served as president of the California Writers Association. He also worked as a spokesperson and a judge for food and wine competitions.

Lanegrass also taught wine appreciation classes and held the position of Master Vice Commander of the Los Angeles chapter of the Brotherhood of the Knights of the Vine as well as membership in several other wine brotherhoods. He was also active in the Twelfth Night Revelers.

Lanegrass died on January 19, 2011 in Los Angeles, California.

Source:

Vernon B. Lanegrass obituary, *Los Angeles Times*, January 26, 2011. Accessed August 9, 2019.
<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/latimes/obituary.aspx?n=vernon-b-lanegrass&pid=148107412>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Vern Lanegrass Papers (1961-2010) consist of materials related to gastronomy and wine tasting. Vern Lanegrass lived in Los Angeles, California where he was known as "The Hollywood Chef" and hosted television and radio programs about cooking. He held leadership positions in the wine society, Brotherhood of the Knights of the Vine, and the California Restaurant Writers Association and the collection documents events held by both organizations. The collection also contains event programs, menus, and other materials related to food and wine as well as menus from Southern California and Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged by topic.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Aquisition Note

Materials were received periodically from Vern Lanegrass from 1982 to 2010; accession numbers 82-46, 88-107, and 90-95.

Processing Note

Materials were inventoried by Special Collections staff as they were received. In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Paola Landaverde rehoused and arranged the materials, and Angela Moor revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resource may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:

University of Nevada, Las Vegas University Libraries Menu Collection, 1852-2010. MS-00436. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Restaurants -- California -- Los Angeles
- Dinners and dining
- Menus
- Theater programs
- Wine tasting

Collection Inventory

| Title/Description | Containers |
|--|---------------------|
| Brotherhood of the Knights of the Vine event materials | |
| Arizona, approximately 1961-2010 | box 01 |
| California, Los Angeles, approximately 1961-2010 | box 01 |
| California, Napa Valley, approximately 1961-2010 | box 01 |
| California, San Francisco, approximately 1961-2010 | box 01 |
| Physical Description: 4 Files | box 02 |
| California, Sonoma, approximately 1961-2010 | box 02 |
| California, other cities, approximately 1961-2010 | box 02 |
| | oversized box 08 |
| Florida, 1980 | box 02 |
| Georgia, 1977 | box 02 |
| Illinois, 1997 | box 02 |
| Minnesota, 1978 | box 02 |
| Missouri, 1989 | box 02 |
| New York, 1996 | box 03 |
| North Carolina, 1980-1988 | box 03 |
| Oregon, 1981-1998 | box 03 |
| Tennessee, 1979 | box 03 |
| Texas, 1977-1998 | box 03 |
| Washington, 1976 | oversized box 08 |
| Washington, D.C., 1988-1998 | |

| | |
|--|--|
| | box 03 |
| Unidentified location, approximately 1961-2010 Physical Description: 2 Files | box 03 |
| No location, approximately 1961-2010 | box 03 |
| Wine and Food Society materials, 1978-1996 Physical Description: 2 Files | box 03 |
| Wine labels, approximately 1961-2010 Physical Description: 2 Files | box 03 |
| California Restaurant Writers Association materials, approximately 1961-2010 Physical Description: 12 Files | box 04 oversized box 08 |
| Wine and spirit informational materials, approximately 1961-2000 Physical Description: 4 Files | box 04 oversized box 08 oversized box 09 |
| Dining guides and programs, 1962-1988 Physical Description: 3 Files | box 05 |
| Event programs, 1961-2000 Physical Description: 10 Files | box 05 |
| Twelfth Night Revelers materials, 1970-1999 | box 06 oversized box 08 |
| Menus, approximately 1961-2010 Physical Description: 9 Files | box 06 box 07 oversized box 08 oversized box 09 |