



Guide to the American Red Cross Southern Nevada Chapter Records

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Summary Information

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|----------------------------------|---|
| Repository: | University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives. |
| Creator: | American Red Cross. Southern Nevada Chapter |
| Title: | American Red Cross Southern Nevada Chapter Records |
| ID: | MS-00600 |
| Date [inclusive]: | 1917 to 2015 |
| Physical Description: | 4.94 Cubic Feet (11 boxes) |
| Physical Description: | 9.75 Linear Feet |
| Physical Description: | 433 Digital Files (4.96 GB) |
| Language of the Material: | English |
| Abstract: | The American Red Cross Southern Nevada Chapter Records (1917-2015) include business records, legal and property documents, scrapbooks, photographs, awards and event programs. Also included is documentation of training events in Southern Nevada and disaster relief efforts throughout the country. |

Preferred Citation

American Red Cross Southern Nevada Chapter Records, 1917-2015. MS-00600. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Historical Background

American Red Cross activities started in Las Vegas, Nevada in June 1917 with a small group of women who knitted clothing, rolled bandages, and worked in local hospitals. In 1928, Maude Frazier, Superintendent of the Las Vegas School District, formed a junior branch of the Red Cross and mentored many students over the years.

After World War I there was little local activity. Instead, the community responded to disasters in the United States and around the world. During the Great Depression (1929-1934), Las Vegas was

flooded with people hoping to find work in construction on the Hoover Dam (Boulder Dam), which was built to harness the Colorado River. Hundreds of people were unable to find employment, shelter, or food because the labor market was already saturated. The Red Cross helped to provide meals, gasoline, and temporary shelter until the journey for employment could be continued. It was during this time, in 1932, that the Clark County Chapter was chartered under its new name.

Las Vegas grew during World War II with the establishment of the Las Vegas Air Force Gunnery Range (later renamed Nellis Air Force Base) in 1940, the ongoing construction of the Basic Magnesium plant, and the construction of the town of Henderson. The housing and entertainment of military personnel were one of the challenges faced by the local Red Cross, when wives, relatives, and friends of the servicemen moved to Las Vegas. The chapter was fulfilling its charter obligations to both the military and the civilian population during this time. Local volunteers responded to the chapter's appeal for assistance and were trained to provide services.

The Clark County chapter found its first permanent office in 1943 and continued to grow and expand its services and training, including swimming and lifeguard classes, fire and rescue seminars, disaster forums, and fundraising events. The chapter provided assistance in major emergencies in Clark County such as the 1980 MGM Grand fire, the Pepcon explosion in Henderson in 1988, and the Clark County flood in 1999. The Southern Nevada chapter also sent workers and volunteers to Northridge, California after the 1994 earthquake and to the East Coast to assist after Hurricanes Opal and Marilyn struck in 1995.

On January 1, 2001 the Clark County Chapter was renamed the American Red Cross, Southern Nevada Chapter to reflect the fact that the organization is responsible for Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Henderson, Boulder City, Laughlin, Sandy Valley, Indian Springs, Goodsprings, Overton, Logandale, Moapa, Mesquite, and the counties of Lincoln, Nye, and Esmeralda.

Source:

Birkin, Danielle. "American Red Cross of Southern Nevada Celebrates a Century of Good Works." *Las Vegas Sun*. Accessed December 9, 2019. <https://vegasinc.lasvegassun.com/business/2017/jan/02/a-century-of-good-works/>

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Scope and Contents Note

The American Red Cross Southern Nevada Chapter Records (1917-2015) include administrative records, legal files, event programs and awards, and documentation of disaster relief efforts and community events held by the organization. The collection also contains photographs and scrapbooks documenting the Southern Nevada chapter and the national organization from the 1940s through the 2010s. The collection also contains born-digital image and video files of select "Everyday Heroes" award events from 2015 to 2016.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged by topic.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Advance notice and arrangements are required for access to digital files; please contact Special Collections and Archives for more information.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2013 by Lloyd Ziel, accession number 2013-16. Additional materials were donated by the American Red Cross Southern Nevada Chapter in 2015 and 2016; accession numbers 2015-061, 2015-093, and 2016-022.

Accruals Note

Further additions to these records are anticipated.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Joyce Moore in 2014. Born-digital image and video files were processed by Tammi Kim in 2016. In 2019, Lauren Paljusaj revised the finding aid.

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Names and Subjects

- American Red Cross
- Blood donors
- Disaster relief
- Volunteers
- photographs
- Las Vegas (Nev.)

Collection Inventory

| Title/Description | Containers | |
|---|------------|-----------|
| Administrative records | | |
| Annual reports, 1959 to 1961 | box 01 | folder 01 |
| Blood program participation information, 1944 to 1955 | box 01 | folder 02 |
| Certificate of appreciation, 1971 to 2003 | box 01 | folder 03 |
| Contribution correspondence, 1943 to 1980 | box 01 | folder 04 |
| Daily narrative reports, 1999 | box 01 | folder 05 |
| Disaster operations information, 1999 | box 01 | folder 06 |
| Historic downtown building survey project, 1973 | box 01 | folder 07 |
| Member rosters, 1961 to 1970 | box 01 | folder 08 |
| Pamphlets, 1916 to 1970 | box 01 | folder 09 |
| Reports, 1943 to 1969 | box 01 | folder 10 |
| Stationary, approximately 1950 to 1999 | box 01 | folder 11 |
| SSI Alert program, 1974 | box 01 | folder 12 |
| "We'll be there" event information, 2000 | | |

box 01
folder
13

| | |
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| Legal and property records | |
| Boulder City branch history, 1968 to 1971 | box 02 |
| Junior Red Cross history, 1928 to 1956 | box 02 |
| Clark County chapter history, 1941 to 1987 | box 02 |
| Mesquite Street property, 1968 to 1977 | box 02 |
| Chapter estimates, 1965 to 1971 | box 02 |
| Lease agreements, 1950 to 1972 | box 02 |
| Investment grant, 2001 | box 02 |
| Solicitation permit, 1955 | box 02 |
| By-laws, 1950 to 1972 | box 02 |
| Legal documents, 1973 to 1977 | box 02 |
| Legal correspondence, 1974 to 1976 | box 02 |
| Photographs | |
| Disaster and fire relief efforts, 1981 to 1985 | box 03 |
| Disaster relief efforts, 2001 | box 03 |
| Donor dinner for the City of Las Vegas, approximately 2000 to 2010 | box 03 |
| Events, 1990 to 1991 | box 03 |
| Fire and Rescue Honors Ceremony event information, approximately 2000 to 2010 | box 03 |
| Junior volunteers, 1969 to 1979 | box 03 |
| Las Vegas City Hall proclamation presentation, 2002 | box 03 |
| Palo Verde safety fair, 2002 | box 03 |
| St. Patrick's Day Parade, 2002 | box 03 |
| Various volunteer events, 1944 to 2001 | box 03 |
| Community activities: swimming classes, chorus group, and fundraising drives, 1947 to 1968 | box 04 |
| Tournament of Champions, 2002 | box 04 |
| Service and training events, 1944 to 1967 | box 04 |
| Various events, 2001 | box 04 |
| Volunteer recognition party, 1999 | box 04 |
| Visual materials | |
| Scrapbooks, 1950 to 1966 | |

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|---|---------------------|
| Physical Description: 7 Items | oversized box 05 |
| | oversized box 08 |
| Scrapbooks, 1966 to 2004 Physical Description: 9 Items | oversized box 06 |
| Scrapbook, 1972 to 1973 | oversized box 07 |
| Pregnancy readiness poster set, 1946 Physical Description: 17 Items | oversized box 07 |
| Newspaper clippings, 1987 | oversized box 07 |
| 2015 addition | |
| Photographs | |
| Gabbs, Nevada, 1998 February | box 09 |
| Golf tournaments, 1997 to 2004 | box 09 |
| Adoption public awareness, 1996 November | box 09 |
| Items in new facility, 2001 May | box 09 |
| Power outage excercise, 1998 May 28 | box 09 |
| Tennessee tornado relief efforts, 1998 | box 09 |
| Hero Award, 1997 | box 09 |
| Trade show and education seminar, 2004 March | box 09 |
| North Dakota and South Dakota floods, 1997 | box 09 |
| New York City 9/11 firefighter memorials, approximately 2001 to 2010 | box 09 |
| American Red Cross Institute kick-off event at the Four Queens, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1998 | box 09 |
| Emergency response vehicle workshop, 1997 July | box 09 |
| Airport drill, 1997 October 15 | box 09 |
| Elizabeth Dole visit, 1992 March 21 | box 09 |
| Various events, approximately 1995 to 2005 | box 09 |
| American Red Cross Korean War press photos, 1951 | box 09 |
| Correspondence, 1940 to 1966 | box 09 |
| Donor lists, 2004 to 2005 | box 09 |
| History of the American Red Cross Clark County Chapter, approximately 1973 | box 09 |

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| International Red Cross Geneva Conventions information and Clark County Civil Defense Agency correspondence, 1953 to 1987 | box 09 |
| Nursing Committee minutes, 1965 August to 1966 July | box 09 |
| Red Cross calendar, 1918 | box 09 |
| Red Cross creed and badge regulations, 1939 | box 09 |
| Red Cross posters of symbols, approximately 1918 to 1940 | box 09 |
| Mother and Baby Care instructor guide, brochures, and documents, approximately 1954 to 1970 | box 09 |
| Newspaper clippings, photographs, press releases, 1964 to 2014 | box 09 |
| Regina Schultz scrapbook, 1965 to 1979 | box 09 |
| <i>Las Vegas Age</i> newspaper clippings, 1927 to 1939: photocopies, approximately 1980 | box 09 |
| <i>Las Vegas Review-Journal</i> newspaper clippings, 1931 to 1965: photocopies, approximately 1980 | box 09 |
| Newsletters featuring uniform designs, 1978 to 1980 | box 09 |
| 2016 addition | |
| Everyday Heroes Awards, souvenir program, 2015 Physical Description: 4 Items | box 10 |
| Disaster relief photographs, 2003 | box 10 |
| Awards event photographs, 2002 | box 10 |
| Everyday Heroes Awards optical discs, 2015 Physical Description: 433 Digital Files (JPEG, MP4) | digital file 00 |
| Everyday Heroes Awards, guest programs, 2015 | box 10 |
| Photographs of various events, fire relief efforts, and the opening of new office in Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1995 to 2005 Physical Description: 2 Files | oversized box 11 |
| Proclamations, commendations, and awards, 1989 to 2014 | oversized box 11 |