

American Legion, Wellesley Post 72 Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

Repository Identifier

mawelhs

Local Identifier

2010.21

Name and Location of Repository

The Wellesley Historical Society
229 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02481
(781) 235-6690
www.wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org

Title

American Legion, Wellesley Post 72 Collection, 1919 – 1992

Date

1919 – 1992, bulk c.1960 – 1992

Extent

1 linear foot, 3 boxes

Names of Creators

Adzigian, George
American Legion
American Legion, Department of Massachusetts
American Legion, Wellesley Post 72
Hiatt, Frank J.
Tripp, Carl F.

Biographical Note

A national patriotic organization, the American Legion was chartered by the United States Congress in 1919, following World War I. Primarily a service organization for veterans, the Legion is organized into state units called Departments; Wellesley Post 72 fell under the Department of Massachusetts, and is one of the early posts organized just after the congressional charter. Efforts of the Legion led to the creation of the United States Veterans Bureau (precursor to the Veterans Administration); they also created the U.S. Flag Code and were instrumental in establishing the G.I. Bill.

The building allocated for the post was originally located at 492 Washington Street, where the Tolles Parsons Center is now located. The original land and building had been purchased on behalf of the new Legion post by Isaac Sprague in 1922.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains financial documents relating to Wellesley Post 72 operations, as well as notebooks and scrapbooks compiled by several post commanders. Of note is a photograph album

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chronicling the early days of the foundation of the post, dating from 1919 – 1922; the photo album contains photographs of early Wellesley Post 72 parades, as well as photographs of public funeral processions, including the funeral of Jack Early in 1921.

Index Terms

Adzigian, George
American Legion, Department of Massachusetts—History, Local
American Legion—History
American Legion—Photograph collections
Armed Forces
Early, John Joseph, 1896-1921
Hiatt, Frank J.
Memorial Day—Wellesley (Mass.)
Moore, Raymond
Patriotism—United States—Massachusetts
Ramponi, Joseph
Tripp, Carl F.
United States—Armed Forces
Vietnam War, 1961-1975
Wellesley (Mass.)
Wellesley American Legion Post 72
World War, 1914-1918
World War, 1939-1945

System of Arrangement

The collection is organized into five series, organized by type:

- I. Executive Notebooks
- II. Printed Materials
- III. Financial Documents
- IV. Photograph Album
- V. Scrapbook

Conditions Governing Access

The Collection is open for research purposes by appointment only. Please contact the Wellesley Historical Society for more information.

info@wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org
(781) 235-6690

Physical Access

Some of the materials are fragile.

Conservation/Preservation Notes

Some of the executive Commander's notebooks were in vinyl 3-ring binders; these materials have been removed from the binders and are contained in a single folder to maintain context. One of the scrapbooks in Series I contains newspaper clippings and photographs which have been taped in, and the tape is deteriorating and has caused some of the pages to stick together; care must be used when handling this notebook (Box 1, Folder 1). The Photograph Album in

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Series IV has been unbound, but the original covers have been retained (Archives Oversize Box 11, Folder 1).

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

English

Immediate Source of Acquisition

2010.21

Accruals

The Historical Society may add materials to this collection in the future; however, no further accruals are currently expected.

Related Materials

Early Family Papers, Wellesley Historical Society

Description

DACS-compliant Finding Aid created in May 2017 by Alden Ludlow, following and reformatting the legacy finding aid created by Jennifer A. Jovin, completed May 23, 2007. Re-processing of this collection was made possible through grants from the Wellesley Community Preservation Commission (CPC) and from the Massachusetts State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB).

Bibliography

American Legion. Institutional history. URL <https://www.legion.org/history>.

Brauner, Cathy. "Vets: Remember the Wellesley American Legion Building." Wellesley Wicked Local, December 27, 2017. URL <http://wellesley.wickedlocal.com/news/20171227/vets-remember-wellesley-american-legion-building>.

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Container List

I. Executive Notebooks

This series contains several notebooks compiled by Wellesley Post 72 Commanders; commanders serve for a term of one year. The contents of the notebooks vary according to the interest of each individual, but generally they contain press releases, bulletins, newspaper clippings, correspondence, meeting notes, membership lists, fundraising activities, event planning notes, and institutional history.

Box 1

- Folder 1: Notebook featuring institutional history c.1930 – 1959
- Folder 2: Carl F. Tripp Post Commander notebook, 1969 – 1970
- Folder 3: Carl F. Tripp Post Commander notebook, 1977 – 1978
- Folder 4: Flag Day 1992 planning; photo caption for unknown photo

II. Printed Materials

Box 1

- Folder 5: *The American Legion Manual for Employment Chairmen*, c.1979

III. Financial Documents

This series contains financial documents relating to the administrative functions of Wellesley Post 72. There is no systematic order to these documents, and they are only a small part of a larger organizational collection. Included in this series are reports, budget notes, cancelled checks, invoices, and utility bills. The materials span from the late 1950s through the early 1990s; the bulk of the materials are from the 1980s and 1990s.

Box 2

- Folder 1: Wellesley Post 72 Finance Officer Reports, 1956 – 1965
- Folder 2: Budgets, 1965 – 1966
- Folder 3: Budgets, c.1980 – 1986
- Folder 4: Bills, receipts, and invoices, c.1989
- Folder 5: Invoices, bank receipts, and cancelled checks, c.1989
- Folder 6: Bank statements and account balance registers, c.1988
- Folder 7: Bank statements, invoices, and receipts, 1978 and 1990
- Folder 8: Fundraising notes and documents

IV. Photograph Album

This series contains a single photograph album, c.1922, containing photographs documenting the early days of Wellesley Post 72. All photographs are annotated. Images include photographs of the early preparation and renovation of the original Legion Hall at 492 Washington Street, the Legion Womens' Auxiliary Lawn Party in 1921, the Memorial Day parades of 1921 and 1922, and the funeral processions of Raymond Moore

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(1921), Jack Early (1921), and Joseph Ramponi (1922). This photograph album was on display in the Legion Hall after its completion.

Archives Oversize Box 11

Folder 1: Wellesley Post 72 photograph album, c.1919 – 1922

V. Scrapbook

This series contains one photograph album which has been used as a newspaper clipping scrapbook. The clippings date from 1956 – 1958, during the commanderships of George Adzigian, Frank J. Hiatt, and Ferdinand V. Della Piana.

Archives Oversize Box 11

Folder 2: Wellesley Post 72 newspaper clipping scrapbook, 1956 – 1958