

A Guide to the Isidor Steve Brody Papers, 1889-1978

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1889-1978

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History

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A Guide to the Isidor Steve Brody Papers, 1889-1978

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Descriptive Summary

Accession Number

1983.1.1

Language

English

Physical Characteristics

1 record storage box, 1 suitcase

Repository

Roanoke Public Libraries

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Donor information unavailable.

Preferred Citation

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Adjunct Descriptive Data

Biographical/Historical Information

Born March 12, 1889 in Kiev Russia, Isidor Steve Brody came to the United States in 1906 at the age of 17. He became a U.S. citizen in 1912. In 1916, Brody enlisted in the army as a medic and fought with the American Expeditionary Force in France. He came to Roanoke in 1935, serving first at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Salem, VA, then at the Veterans Affairs Regional office from 1946 until his retirement in December 1958. An active member of the community, Brody helped establish a unit of the United Service Organization and the first War Mothers Chapter in the Roanoke Valley. He was an active member in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans and received numerous awards and honors for his patriotism.

Roanoke World-News editor M. Carl Andrews said of Brody, "It requires a person born in a country without basic human rights to fully understand and demonstrate his love for our America...[n]o other person in Roanoke ever did so much to honor that [American] flag in his lifetime." He unselfishly made financial contributions to many civic organizations, most notably the Boy Scouts of America. Brody is best known for donating and placing a United States flag in almost every building in the City of Roanoke. (The last flag that he donated was at the dedication of the Roanoke Civic Center in 1971. The Steve Brody Room in the Main Library of the Roanoke Public Libraries was named in his honor in 1983. Remembered as Roanoke's Russian-born patriot, Brody died on November 20, 1978.

Scope and Content

The Isidor Steve Brody Papers are comprised of documents, photographs, and artifacts that relate to community work done by Brody in Roanoke from 1953-1978. Documents include a biographical timeline of military service, news clippings, awards, stars of David, war enlistment cards, Christmas cards (including images of local families) and correspondence (1951-1977). Photographs and negatives include portraits of Brody from WW I - 1978, public events (flag dedication ceremonies, picketing during Vietnam, festivals in Elmwood Park and Victory Stadium); streetscapes and local buildings; small group photos (award ceremonies, WDBJ 7 TV man of the week award ceremony); and collages of awards, news clippings, and photographs of Brody. Artifacts include war registration cards, wallets with all personal contents, a scrapbook, yamikas, suitcase, flag and various awards and trophies.

Index Terms

Isidor Steve Brody

Brody

Roanoke Virginia

Arrangement

Documents are arranged by document format and chronologically there under. Photographs and negatives were separated and organized by subject. Artifacts are arranged according to type and size. The Isidor Steve Brody Papers had no original order at the time of donation.

Contents List

Correspondence, 1951-1977

Correspondence, 1951-1977

Box 1, Folder 2

Christmas Cards

Box 1, Folder 3

Scope and Content

Includes pictures of local Roanoke families.

Correspondence re: Security National Bank

Box 1, Folder 13

Framed Letter, March 10, 1975

Other Suitcase, Item 9

Scope and Content

'In the Council of the City of Roanoke, Virginia, the 10th day of March, 1975.' Attached on letter is gold seal with purple ribbon.

Artifacts

Star of David

Box 1, Folder 1

ID Bracelet, cuff links, ivory pocket knife)

Box 1, Item 20

Extent

Items placed in an artifact box.

Beaver Badge

Box 1, Item 22

Extent

Item placed in an artifact box.

Tweezers, key holder, scissors

Box 1, Item 23

Extent

Items placed in an artifact box.

Contents of wallet

Box 1, Item 24

Extent

Items placed in an artifact box.

Key pouch.

Box 1, Item 25

Extent

Item placed in an artifact box.

Trophy (cup on wood stand) 1972

Other Suitcase, Item 1 (othertype)

Scope and Content

Trophy reads 'To my good Samaritan friend Steve Brodie from Saunders Guerrant 1972;

United States Flag

Other Suitcase, Item 3 (othertype)

Yamika (black)

Other Suitcase, Item 11 (othertype)

Wallet (empty)

Other Suitcase, Item 12 (othertype)

Bill holder (plastic)

Other Suitcase, Item 13 (othertype)

Wallet (with contents)

Other Suitcase, Item 14 (othertype)

Photographs & Negatives

Collages and Signs

Box 1, Folder 5

Portraits of Steve Brody

Box 1, Folder 6

Public Events Photographs

Box 1, Folder 7

Streetscapes & Buildings

Box 1, Folder 8

Small groups

Box 1, Folder 9

Negatives

Box 1, Folder 10

Framed portraits of Steve Brody (2)

Box 1, Item 19

Framed Photo collage of Steve Brody (black & white) 1916-1918, 1955, 1956

Other Suitcase, Item 2 (othertype)

Scrapbook

Other Suitcase, Item 5 (othertype)

Scope and Content

Entitled "Photographs" in dark red lettering. Contains newspaper articles, pictures and magazine clippings containing information about Steve Brody.

Baby lying on its back (black & white image)

Other Suitcase, Item 6 (othertype)

Five color circle portraits of a woman, a young girl and three young boys.

Other Suitcase, Item 7 (othertype)

Biographical Information

News clippings re: Steve Brody

Box 1, Folder 4

Biographical Timeline

Box 1, Folder 12

Documents re: Civil Service Commission

Box 1, Folder 14

Certificates & Awards

Awards

Box 1, Folder 11

Raleigh Court Library Dedication

Box 1, Folder 15

Collage of certificates, letters and photographs

Box 1, Item 16

Extent

Framed.

Collage of certificates, photographs, and news articles

Box 1, Item 17

Extent

Two framed images nailed together.

Roanoke Valley Chamber of Commerce resolution re: Roanoke Citizen of Honor, Steve Brody.

Box 1, Item 18

Extent

Framed.

Award lapel pins

Box 1, Item 21

Extent

Items placed in an artifact box.

Certificate, 'Boy Scouts of America the Silver Beaver Award for Distinguished Service to Boyhood' and article 'Civitan's Select Good Samaritan'

Other Suitcase, Item 8 (othertype)

Extent

Two items framed together.

Award, 'National Conference of Christians and Jews presents its brotherhood citation to Steve Brody'

Other Suitcase, Item 10 (othertype)

Silver Beaver Award Box

Other Suitcase, Item 15 (othertype)

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