

Local History Resource Center, Peabody Institute Library
82 Main Street Peabody MA, 01960

Veterans History Project Collection, 2003-2004

Repository: Local History Resource Center, Peabody Institute Library, Peabody, Massachusetts.

Call Number: VHP

Creator: John P. Cena; George P. Chronis; Charlie Gargas; Robert K. Flachbart; William E. Freeman; Gladys L. Gaman; Charles J. Gargas; Clyde D. Hudnall; Mary U. Hudnall; Bernard Joseph Kelly; Anthony Koutzoukis; Theodore Metropolis; Christos H. Shambos; Lena Styles; Robert S. Withers; Peabody Institute Library.

Title: Veterans History Project Collection, 2003-2004

Dates: 2003-2004

Size: 1.251 linear feet (three (3) boxes).

Language(s): Collection materials are in English.

Abstract: The Peabody Institute Library in collaboration with students from the Peabody Veterans Memorial High School, and local volunteers interviewed and preserved the oral histories of Peabody, Massachusetts veterans and civilians for the Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C..

Organizational History

The U.S. Congress created the Veterans History Project in 2000. The legislation (Public Law 106-380), sponsored by Representatives Ron Kind, Amo Houghton, and Steny Hoyer in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senators Max Cleland and Chuck Hagel in the U.S. Senate, received unanimous support and was signed into law by President William Jefferson Clinton on October 27, 2000.

The law set up The Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. The Project collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. Wars that are included are World War I (1914-1920); World War II (1939-1946); Korean War (1950-1955); Vietnam War (1961-1975); Persian Gulf War (1990-1995); Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts (2001-present). The project is part of a larger effort by the Library of Congress to collect stories, photographs, letters and other materials to have a greater understanding of their respective time periods.

Arrangement

Series 1: Consent forms & Transcriptions, 2003-2004

Series 2: VHS interviews

Scope and Content Note

The Peabody Institute Library under the direction of former Assistant Director Maria Vagianos undertook the Veterans History Project, which brought together veterans and civilians during World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf Wars. The project at the Library was completed with financial support by Wal-Mart of Salem; Eastman Gelatine Corporation and Costco of Danvers.

Materials in the collection include letters, memoirs, scrapbooks, unit histories and unit newsletters, photographs, oral interviews and transcriptions, maps, and publications. As stated in the enabling Federal legislation, the scope of the project concerns individuals' participation in the military or as civilians during war time. Later, the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan were also included. Individuals who served in the military during peacetime, who served during other military conflicts, or who were involved in activities such as the counterculture movement during the Vietnam Era, are generally excluded from this project. Persons who expressed interest in the project but whose experience did not fall into the scope of the project were encouraged to contribute their materials to the Special Collections Division general collections of the Library of Congress or local institution such as the Peabody Institute Library.

Collecting efforts have been centered upon gathering materials relating to Peabody and Essex County residents. This includes individuals who resided in Essex County and specifically Peabody either during their military service.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation: Interview with [interviewee name] by [interviewer name], [interview date], Veterans History Project Collection, Local History Resource Center, Peabody Institute Library.

Provenance: Participants volunteered to have their oral history taken and allowed the Peabody Institute Library and the Library of Congress to deposit their history into their collections.

Acquisition Information: Oral histories were acquired between 2003 and 2004. Interview were conducted at the Peabody Veterans Memorial High School or at the Peabody Institute Library on Main Street.

Processing Information: Erik R. Bauer, Archivist, 2013.

Access Rights: Collection is open for research.

Physical Access Restrictions: The use of the sub-master will be used in lieu of the original VHS tapes.

Tech. Access Restrictions: The Peabody Institute Library may not have a VHS or DVD player available.

Special Formats: VHS & DVD video recordings

Copyright: Copyright has not been assigned to the Peabody Institute Library. All request for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts or other material must be submitted in writing to the archivist. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Peabody Institute Library as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.

Conservation Notes: Staples were removed; original items and objects were photocopied. VHS tapes were transferred to DVD, which included a new master and sub-master.

Related Collections: None.

Separated Material: None

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

Peabody Institute Library (Peabody, MA)
Peabody Veterans Memorial High School
United States. Air Force
United States. Army
United States. Navy

Genre(s)

Oral History
United States--History, Military
Veterans History Project (Washington D.C.)
World War, 1939-1945 — Veterans — Peabody, MA —Interviews
World War II

Personal Name(s)

Cena, John P. (1920-)
Chronis, George P. (1924-2004)
Gargas, Charlie
Flachbart, Robert K. (1920-)
Freeman, William E. (1926-)
Gaman, Gladys L. (1917-)
Gargas, Charles J. (1922-)
Hudnall, Clyde D. (1918-)
Hudnall, Mary U. (1919-)
Kelly, Bernard Joseph (1924 -)
Koutzoukis, Anthony (1925-)
Metropolis, Theodore (1922-)

Shambos, Christos H. (1924-)
 Styles, Lena (1917-)
 Withers, Robert S. (1920-)

Using the collection: The Local History Resource Center views oral history not as an end in itself, but as an additional tool for exploring social life in past times. Interviews constitute primary source material, retrospective evidence of individual experiences and perceptions. Those who use the Local History tapes or transcripts are cautioned to bring to them the same rules of evidence applied to other forms of historical documentation, testing one interview against another as well as against written sources. The Program, Local History Resource Center, Peabody Institute Library, staff, Library Trustee's or those who worked on the project makes no representation as to the factual accuracy of a memoir; the scholar judges for him or herself.

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Consent forms, Transcriptions and Additional Materials, 2003-2004

Consent forms and additional materials. This series contains the consent and release forms along with any materials that the interviewees brought along. Those materials were copied and originals returned to owners.

Box	Folder	File Title	Dates (if know)
1			
	1	John Cena (has transcript)	2003
	2	George P. Chronis	2004
	3	Robert K. Flachbart	2004
	4	William E. Freeman	2004
	5	Gladys L. Gaman	2004
	6	Charlie Gargas	2003
	7	Clyde D. & Mary Hudnall (has transcript)	2004
	8	Bernard J. Kelly	2004
	9	Anthony Koutzoukis	2003
	10	Harold L. Linsky	2003
	11	Theodore Metropolis	2003
	12	Christos H. Sambos	2004
	13	Lena Styles (has transcript)	2003
	14	Robert S. Withers	2003

Series 2: VHS Taps of Oral History Interviews, 2003-2004

This series contains the original VHS interviews. They are not currently arranged in a specify order.

Box	File Title	Dates (if know)
Oral History Box 2	George P. Chronis	
	John Cena	
	Bernard J. Kelly	
	Charles Gargas	

Robert Withers
Harold L. Linsky
Anthony Koutzoukis
Robert K. Flachbart

Oral History Box 3

Robert K. Flachbart	12/14/2004
Robert K. Flachbart	12/14/2004
Theodore Metropolis	
Gladys L. Gaman	
Clyde & Mary Hudnall	
Lena Styles	
Christos H. Shambos	
William E. Freeman	
William E. Freeman (personal narrative)	
Robert K. Flachbart (personal narrative)	