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Bowling Green Ministerial Association - Bowling Green, Kentucky (MSS 141)

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Manuscripts & Folklife Archives
Department of Library Special Collections
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Descriptive Inventory

**MSS 141 BOWLING Green Ministerial Association –
Bowling Green, Kentucky**

1 ½ boxes. 19 folders. 590 items. Originals. 1919-1953.

2006.205.1

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

The Bowling Green Ministerial Association was re-organized on 8 September 1919; it is unclear when the organization was originally founded. The minutes for the 8 September 1919 meeting indicate: “It was decided to reorganize at once. Dr. Houze automatically retired as President, and Dr. Galloway automatically succeeded him as President.” No articles of incorporation nor a constitution for the organization has survived. The 1960 revised membership form does indicate the two-fold purpose of the organization: “to provide an opportunity for ministerial fellowship and understanding and to consider and concert measures by which the ministers can cooperate effectively for the interests of the Kingdom, and the good of the community, in a spirit of brotherhood and under democratic forms and methods.” The group was clearly ecumenical and included representatives from the Catholic Church as well as most of the mainline Protestant denominations.

The Association did meet after 1978 and continued to sponsor ecumenical holiday services, but the organization weakened and minutes were not kept. It is believed that the organization finally ceased to exist in the late-1990s.

COLLECTION NOTES

Box 1 contains record books of the Association in five year periods. These books contained all the Association records in a chronological format, including minutes, news clippings, reports, and financial records.

The items in Box 2 came at a later date and were not kept in record books as had the material in Box 1. This allowed the collection to be arranged in a more typical format by record type: membership information, minutes, correspondence, financial records, and miscellaneous. Within these record types, the materials are arranged chronologically. Of particular interest is the group’s participation in a voluntary hospital chaplaincy program, its leadership role in conducting ecumenical Thanksgiving and Easter services, shared responsibility for a Sunday morning radio program, limited social work within the community, and its sponsorship of a summer Vespers program at Western Kentucky State College in the 1950s (Folder 11). The group also sponsored programming or advocated for alcohol and drug abuse counseling, removal of pinball machines,

cessation of gambling at the County Fair, prohibition of the sale of alcoholic beverages, improved religious television programming, decency and modesty in movies, and other social issues. The group's work can easily be traced through the minutes and the correspondence. The Vespers programs held in the 1950s were a popular summer activity. Although held on the campus of Western Kentucky State College, the entire meeting

The minutes indicate that the group met monthly, but enjoyed only sporadic meetings during the summer months. Minutes are occasionally missing, but there is a full run from 1919 to 1978

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	Bowling Green Ministerial Association – Minutes and business records	1919-1953; n.d.	7 items
Folder 1	Descriptive inventory		1 item
Folder 2	Record book (each record book contains minutes, clippings, programs and correspondence)	1919-1924	1 item
Folder 3	Record book	1930-1935	1 item
Folder 4	Record book	1936-1939	1 item
Folder 5	Record book	1940-1945	1 item
Folder 6	Record book	1946-1949	1 item
Folder 7	Record book	1950-1953	1 item
BOX 2	Bowling Green Ministerial Association – Minutes and business records	1942-1981; n.d.	12 items
Folder 1	Membership forms filled out	1963-1976	57 items
Folder 2	Membership lists	1957-1978	14 items
Folder 3	Minutes	1954-1960	57 items
Folder 4	Minutes	1963-1969	78 items
Folder 5	Minutes	1970-1978	76 items
Folder 6	Correspondence, reports, etc.	1954-1969	48 items
Folder 7	Correspondence, reports, etc.	n.d.	62 items

Folder 8	Correspondence, reports, etc.	1975	49 items
Folder 9	Correspondence, reports, etc.	1976-1978	48 items
Folder 10	Bank account books	1942-1952	3 items
Folder 11	Vesper services information	n.d.	71 items
Folder 12	Miscellaneous- forms, programs, letterhead, news clippings, etc.	1955-1981	20 items

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS BOWLING Green Ministerial 1919-1953
 141 Association – Bowling Green,
 Kentucky

Governing documents, minutes, financial
 Records, correspondence and program material
 From the Bowling Green [Kentucky] Ministerial alcohol
 Association.

1½ boxes. 19 folders. 590 items. Originals.
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SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Abortions – Relating to B2,F9
 Alcoholism – Relating to B2,F8
 Barrows, E. N. B2,F9
 Bicentennial – Relating to, 1976 B2,F9
 Bowling Green Warren County Welfare Center – Relating to B2,F6
 Britt, James – Correspondence B2,F6-8
 Carter, Reed McCune, d. 2004– Correspondence B2,F6-8
 Church Women United – Bowling Green – Mentioned B2,F6
 Churches – Bowling Green – Relating to
 Clergy – Relating to
 Community Development – Bowling Green – Comments about B2,F9
 Compulsory military service – Comments about B2,F7
 Drugs – Relating to B2,F8
 Durham, Bob – Relating to B2,F7-8
 Hayden, Lucian P., 1924-2001 B2,F9
 Holiday Inn – Bowling Green – Relating to B2,F6

Hospital chaplains – Relating to B2,F7-9,12
Hospitals – Bowling Green – Comments about B2,F9
Letterheads – WKCT (Radio station) – Bowling Green B2,F8
Moving pictures – Comments about B2,F6
Oldham, Richard P., d. 2014– Correspondence B2,F6-7
Pinball machines – Comments about B2,F7
Religion – Bowling Green – Relating to
Religious institutions – Bowling Green
Religion on television – Mentioned B2,F6
Salvation Army – Bowling Green – Relating to B2,F7
Schools – Bowling Green – Comments about B2,F7
Social work – Bowling Green B2,F6,8-9
Surface, H. Howard, Jr., d. 2011 B2,F7
Warren County Anti-Liquor Association – Comments about B2,F6
Western Kentucky University – Relating to B2,F9

SEE or SEE ALSO CARDS

Movies

See:

Moving pictures

Religious organizations

See:

Religious institutions

Jeffrey 07/29/2013