

Banquet Programs Collection

Jessamyn Lloyd 2022

National Air and Space Museum Archives 14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway Chantilly, VA 20151

Business Number: Phone: 703-572-4045

NASMRefDesk@si.edu

https://airandspace.si.edu/archives

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Collection Overview

Repository: National Air and Space Museum Archives

Title: Banquet Programs Collection

Date: 1907-1977

Identifier: NASM.XXXX.0116

Extent: 0.35 Cubic feet (7 folders)

Language: English, French.

Summary: This collection consists of approximately 0.35 cubic feet of banquet

programs, menus, and similar items from aviation-themed events.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Unknown, Material found in collection is likely from various donors, NASM.XXXX.0116.

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2022.

Preferred Citation

Banquet Programs Collection, NASM.XXXX.0116, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

During the early flight period, World War I, and on into the 1920s and 1930s, numerous famous flights by pioneering pilots represented the cultural acceptance of the airplane from an entertaining novelty into an instrument of commerce, a weapon of war, and a vehicle for spectacle. In response, there emerged a new form of technological enthusiasm called "air-mindedness." To be airminded meant the zealous support of aviation to bring about the next great era in human civilization, which many people called the "Air Age." With such a great interest in aviation, many of the pilots during this era were treated as celebrities whose activities were followed with interest by the press as well as the public. Pilots making trailblazing flights were often fêted with parades, banquets, and other events in order to celebrate their achievements, and many aviation events were similarly celebrated. Also during this time

period, numerous aviation-related societies and clubs were formed and their members would meet for dinners and other social occasions.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of approximately 0.35 cubic feet of banquet programs, menus, and similar items from aviation-themed events. Some are from events honoring individual pilots such as Charles Lindbergh, Richard Byrd, the Wright Brothers, and Amelia Earhart, and some are from events held by organizations including the Aero Club of America, the Early Birds of Aviation, the Manufacturers Aircraft Association, and the 31st Division Air Corps of the Alabama National Guard. Additional programs relate to specific events including the Hudson-Fulton Celebration, various air racing events and record setting flights, memorial dedications, and air route inaugurations.

Arrangement

Items in this collection have been organized by topic with a miscellaneous folder at the end. Folders are arranged alphabetically by organization name or by last name when the topic is a particular person. Within each folder, items are arranged chronologically.

General

In cases where identical duplicate items exist in the collection, only one representative version was scanned to appear in the slideshow. In cases where duplicate items had differences (such as signatures on the cover or an enclosure not present in the other versions), only the parts that differ were scanned.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Aeronautics Air pilots Women air pilots

Types of Materials:

Ephemera

Names:

Byrd, Richard Evelyn, 1888-1957 Earhart, Amelia, 1897-1937 Lindbergh, Charles A. (Charles Augustus), 1902-1974 Wright Brothers

Container Listing

Folder 1	Aero Club of America Programs, 1907-1915
Folder 2	Richard Byrd Programs, 1930
Folder 3	Amelia Earhart Programs, 1932, 1949
Folder 4	Early Birds Autographed Menus, 1929, 1946
Folder 5	Charles Lindbergh Programs, 1927-1928, 1977
Folder 6	Wright Brothers Programs and Banquet Menus, 1909-1948
Folder 7	Miscellaneous Programs, 1909-1967