

Ku Klux Klan collection, circa 1875-1990 (bulk 1920-1929)

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Ku Klux Klan collection, circa 1875-1990 (bulk 1920-1929)
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 885
Extent: 2.5 linear feet(3 boxes), 1 oversized papers box and 1 oversized papers folder (OP) and AV masters: .25 linear feet (1 box)
Abstract: Artificial collection of Ku Klux Klan related material, including correspondence, images, printed materials, memorabilia, artifacts and audiovisual recordings.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Related Materials in This Repository

Calvin Craig papers.

Source

Purchase, 2001 with subsequent additions.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Ku Klux Klan collection, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Naomi Nelson, August 2001.

Collection Description

Scope and Content Note

This artificial collection documents the activities of regional and national Klan organizations, local Klan chapters, and individual Klan members. The collection includes materials from the following Klan organizations: Association of Georgia Klans, The National Knights, Northern and Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, United Klans of America (KKKK), U.S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Inc., and Women of the Ku Klux Klan (WKKK).

The Ku Klux Klan collection includes correspondence, images, printed materials, and memorabilia and artifacts. The correspondence consists of single letters rather than sustained correspondence. The images are primarily photographs of particular events or portraits of Klansmen wearing their robes. Printed material include handbills, posters, and broadsides announcing Klan events, the music for "The Ku Klux Kismet" march, a souvenir from the Southern Amusement Company's production of "The Clansman." This series also contains a few issues of newspapers reporting on Klan activities. The memorabilia and artifacts include adult Klan robes and a child's Klan robe (a photograph of the child wearing the robe can be found in the Images series). The audio recordings series includes albums of music recorded by Klansmen. Most were produced in Indiana under the KKK label.

Arrangement Note

Organized into four series: (1) Correspondence, (2) Images, (3) Printed materials, (4) Memorabilia and artifacts, (5) Audio recordings.

Description of Series

[Series 1: Correspondence, 1875-1924](#)

[Series 2: Images](#)

[Series 3: Printed materials](#)

[Series 4: Memorabilia and artifacts](#)

[Series 5: Audio recordings](#)

Series 1
Correspondence, 1875-1924
Box 1: folders 1-2, 65; OP 3

| Box | Folder | Content |
|------------|---------------|---|
| 1 | 1 | "Capitol City," Klan No. 81, Austin, Texas (Knights of the Ku Klux Klan) Letter from J. D. Copeland (Kligraph), March 10, 1924, announcing a meeting. Membership application; on reverse is page 6 of a handwritten account of a trial related to a fire at a mill [this document may be associated with the Capitol City Klan] |
| OP1 | 5 | KKKs of Augusta, Georgia, letter to "the members and friends of Glen Mary Church," circa September 1875. The letter threatens reprisals against congregants if they do not stop "guarding the roads" and holding "night meetings." Also included is a response from James B. Hayes in defense of the church and its members, dated September 6, 1875. |
| 1 | 65 | Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Atlanta, Georgia, letters to O.W. Pride and Sadie McGonnigal threatening the couple to end their affair "or the Ku Klux Klan will," undated |
| 1 | 2 | Memphis Klan No. 3 (Knights of the Ku Klux Klan), August 27 1923, letter from J. R. Taylor announcing meeting at which officers will be nominated |

Series 2**Images****Box 1: folders 3- 11 and OP1****Events - Alabama****Box Folder Content**

OP1 1 Outdoor Klan gathering, Selma, Alabama, September 12, 1924

Events, Kansas

1 3 Klan gathering; purchased from Topeka, Kansas, [postcard]

Events, Virginia

1 4 Klan parade

Events , Washington, DC

1 5 Klansmen and women near a truck announcing Klan speaker from Atlanta, Georgia, at Cleveland Park

1 6 Gathering of the Klans, Pennsylvania Avenue, August 8, 1925, [see also Newspapers series]

1 6 Gathering of the Klans, John W. Daniel Klan of Lynchburg, Virginia, group portrait, August 8, 1925

Portraits, Individual members

1 7 C. Kendrick and J.S. McFall, posing in front a picture of themselves as young men, dressed in uniform while on a raid, 1921

1 8 John Milton Barnes' sons, near Somerset, Kentucky, [ca. 1910] [postcard]. (The robe his son is wearing is in the memorabilia series.)

1 9 Teenage boy poses in Klan robes alone and with two women (4 images)

OP1 1 Woman in Klan robes [aquired in West Virginia at an auction]

Portraits - Klan leaders

1 10 John Howard, Grand Dragon of the National Knight of the Ku Klux Klan of South Carolina [postcard]

1 10 Robert M. Shelton, Imperial Wizard, United Klans of America, Alabama [postcard]

OP1 1 Eldon L. Edwards, Imperial Wizard, USK [print, appears to be autographed]

Portraits - Groups, location not identified

1 11 Joe Azbell with a group of Klan members

1 11 Group portrait of Klansmen on a dirt road

Series 3**Printed materials****Box 1: folders 12-63 and OP1, 3****Advertisements**

| Box | Folder | Content |
|-----|--------|--|
| 1 | 12 | Advertisement (postcard) for "Birth of a Nation" showing in Ainsworth, Nebraska, [1917] |
| 1 | 66 | Advertisement (flier) Kolossal Karnival (Dallas, Texas), Dallas, Number 66, 1924 |
| 1 | 13 | Advertisement for the play "The Birth of a the Flag." Letter from the Hartley Company, (Champaign, Illinois) to high school principals, February 24, 1921. |

Applications

| | | |
|---|----|---|
| 1 | 14 | Women of the Ku Klux Klan, application for admission to the second degree [blank], circa 1927 |
| 1 | 15 | Women of the Ku Klux Klan, application for membership [blank], circa 1927 |

Bumper stickers

| | | |
|---|----|--------|
| 1 | 16 | "KKKK" |
|---|----|--------|

Cards

| | | |
|---|----|---|
| 1 | 67 | Business card, "Racial Purity is America's Security," undated |
| 1 | 17 | Cahaba Social Club, Heiberger, Alabama (U.S. Klans, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan). Card soliciting members |
| 1 | 18 | "Get on theKlan Van/Join the Klan Youth Corps," no date |
| 1 | 18 | Hall, E.S. "Gene" (Pastor), "Race Mixing is Wrong/Most preachers fail to preach this truth.," Snellville, Georgia, no date |
| 1 | 18 | Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, J.W. Farrands, Imperial Wizard, United States of America, no date |
| 1 | 18 | Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, "While America is being destroyed, silence is not golden, it's treason! When will you fight?," Shelton, Connecticut, no date |
| 1 | 19 | "THE KKK IS WATCHING YOU" |
| 1 | 20 | Klode card |
| 1 | 21 | Membership card, National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Stone Mountain, Georgia, 1976 [blank] |
| 1 | 18 | National Association for the Advancement of White People (NAAWP), New Orleans, Louisiana, no date [stamped Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Indian Rocks Beach, Florida] |
| 1 | 22 | Membership cheat-sheet. Atlanta (?), Georgia, [c. 1928] |
| 1 | 23 | "Praise God for Aids," Crusade Against Corruption, J.B. Stoner, circa 1987 |

- 1 24 "Since eighteen hundred sixty-six THE KU KLUX KLAN has been riding and will continue to do so as long as the WHITE MAN liveth."
 1 25 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, membership notice [blank], circa 1927
 1 18 "You have been PATRONIZED by the United Klans of America," no date [3 items]

Certificates and forms

- OP2 - Women of the Ku Klux Klan charter [blank], circa 1927
 1 26 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, check and receipt [blank], circa 1927
 OP2 - Women of the Ku Klux Klan membership certificate [blank], circa 1927

Handbills, Broadsides, and Posters

- 1 27 Association of Georgia Klans, "Wake Up America," Atlanta, Georgia
 1 28 "A Great Mass Meeting for Men," 1917
 OP1 2 KKK Cross Burning, U.K.A., Irwinton, Georgia
 1 29 KKK Klan Rally, May 21, 1966, near Plant City, [Florida]
 1 30 Knights of the Green Forest, Inc., "A Message from the Knights of the Green Forest, Inc.," Tupelo, Mississippi, circa 1960s
 1 31 Montgomery and Delaware County Klans, Pennsylvania. Announcement of a regional gathering sponsored by the Hickory Hill Klan featuring Sen. J. Thomas Heflin of Alabama.
 1 32 The National Knights, "White Pride Rally, Etowah, Arkansas," August 23, 1997
 1 33 United Klans of America rally flier, Stone Mountain, Georgia, July 1962
 1 34 United Klans of America, "Don't Be Half a Man, Join the Klan," Durham, North Carolina
 1 34 United Klans of America, Invitation to hear Robert M. Shelton (Imperial Wizard), and Calvin F. Craig (Grand Dragon of Georgia) speak at the court house square in Crawfordsville, Georgia, October 16, 1965
 1 34 United Klans of America, "Save Our Land Join the Klan," Tuscaloosa, Alabama
 1 34 United Klans of America, "Save Our Land Join the Klan"
 1 35 United Klans of America, "Some Questions that Need Straight Answers," Elizabeth City, North Carolina, no date

Identification

- 1 36 United Klans of America Imperial Passport [blank inside]
 1 37 Women of the Ku Klux Klan Imperial Passport [blank], circa 1927

Music

- 1 38 "The Ku Klux Kismet" march, 1924
 1 39 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Musiklan" songbook, circa 1927

Newspapers

- OP1 4 The Fellowship Forum, August 12, 1925 [concerning a rally in Washington, DC; see also the Image series]
- OP1 3 The Augusta Courier, March 2, 1964

Oaths and pledges

- 1 40 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Kleagle's Pledge of Loyalty," circa 1927
- 1 41 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Oath of Allegiance," circa 1927

Pamphlets

- 1 42 "Americans, take Heed!," Atlanta, Georgia, December 15, 1920
- 1 69 "Constitution and Laws of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan," Atlanta, Georgia 1921
- 1 43 Evans, H.W. (Dr.), Imperial Wizard, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, "The Menace of Modern Immigration," address delivered at Klan Day of the Texas State Fair, October 24, 1923
- 1 44 "Ideals of the Ku Klux Klan," Atlanta, Georgia [?]
- 1 45 Junior Ku Klux Klan, "Opening and Closing Ceremony," Atlanta [?], Georgia, [c. 1925]
- 1 46 "The Klan Today," Atlanta, Georgia [?]
- 1 68 "Kloran of the Knights of the Great Forest," Atlanta, Georgia, 1928
- 1 47 Knights of the Green Forest, Inc., National Office, "The Principle of Knights of the Green Forest, Inc. Knights of the Ku Klux Klan," Tupelo, Mississippi
- 1 48 Northern and Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, "Nightmare! What Could Happen to White Americans in the Late 1970s," Greenwood, Indiana: Invisible Empire Northern and Southern Knights of the Ku Klux Klan Imperial Headquarters, [1970s]. Distributed by the Confederate Officers Patriot Squad, Fern Creek, Kentucky, [a police members only klavern].
- 1 49 "The Obligation of American Citizens to Free Public School," Buffalo, New York, no date
- 1 50 "The Practice of Klanishness," First Lesson in the Science Art of Klancraft, Atlanta, Georgia, 1918
- 1 51 United Klans of America Virginia State Office, "The Ku Klux Klan rides again Your country is calling you! Communism must go! America, wake up!," circa early 1960s [Pamphlet also describes the Communist affiliation and radical politics of five Civil Rights leaders: Martin Luther King, Jr., Bayard Rustin, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Roy Wilkins and James E. Jackson, Jr.]
- 1 52 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "The Code of the Flag, as Adopted by the National Flag Conference, Washington, D.C., June 14-15, 1923"
- 1 53 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Constitution and Laws of the Women of the Ku Klux Klan, adopted by First Imperial Klonvocation at St. Louis, Missouri," 1927
- 1 54 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Installation Ceremonies," circa 1927

- 1 55 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Kloran of the National Kourier Guard," circa 1927
- 1 56 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Memorial Service," circa 1927
- 1 57 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Ritual in the Second Degree of the Women of the Ku Klux Klan," circa 1927
- 1 58 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Second Degree Obligation, First Section," circa 1927
- 1 59 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, "Suggestions to Excellent Commander," circa 1927

Play Souvenir

- 1 60 From "The Clansman" by Thomas Dixon, Jr., presented by the Southern Amusement Company, New York, New York. Contains a portrait and sketch of the author, 23 great scenes from the play, the story of the drama, and Dixon's articles on "The Future of the Negro," "The Story of the Ku Klux Klan," and "What Our Nation Owes the Klan."

Postcards

- 1 61 Imperial Palace, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan [Stone Mountain]

Stationery

- 1 62 Ku Klux Klan, "Fiery summons"
- 1 63 Women of the Ku Klux Klan, Tri-K-Klub, circa 1927

Series 4
Memorabilia and artifacts
Boxes 1 (folder 64)-3 and OP1

Buttons

| Box | Folder | Content |
|-----|--------|--|
| 2 | | Campaign button for Charles Brumm Helms |
| 2 | | Women of the Ku Klux Klan, Klanhaven home for orphans and dependent children, Harrisburg, PA |

Memorabilia

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 2 | | Glass disk with "KKK" inside a cross |
| 2 | | Pendant - "KKK" illusion |
| OP1 | 3 | Pennant - United Klans of American |
| 2 | | Plate - "KKK - God Give Us Women" and U.S. flag |

Clothing

| | | |
|---|----|---|
| 3 | | "KKKK" clip-on tie |
| 3 | | Child's klan robe belonging to John Milton Barnes' son (photograph of Barnes' son wearing the robe in the image series) |
| 3 | | Adult male robe, helmet, sash, and rope belt, circa 1922 |
| 3 | | Adult female cape and cap, circa 1922 |
| 1 | 64 | Women of the Ku Klux Klan, sash, circa 1927 |

Series 5
Audio recordings
A/V masters 1

Albums

| Box | Folder | Content |
|------------|---------------|---|
| AV1 | - | "America, Our Nobleland" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0fs] |
| AV1 | - | "Battle Hymn for the Republic" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt04j] |
| AV1 | - | "The Bright Fiery Cross" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0mg] |
| AV1 | - | "Come Join the Ku Klux Klan in the Old Town Tonight" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0bc] |
| AV1 | - | "The Cross in the Wildwood" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0pr] |
| AV1 | - | "Daddy Swiped Our Last Clean Sheet and Joined the Ku Klux Klan" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt05p] |
| AV1 | - | Evans, Hiram Wesley speech "America's Task" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0kb] |
| AV1 | - | "The Gathering Klan" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt000] |
| AV1 | - | "Hear the Call of the Ku Klux Klan" (Davis) [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0ch] |
| AV1 | - | "Midnight's Roll Call" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0gx] |
| AV1 | - | "My Own United States" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt03d] |
| AV1 | - | "Mystic City" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt07z] |
| AV1 | - | "Patriotic Medley" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt083] |
| AV1 | - | Rhinehart, W.R., "That Dear Old Fiery Cross" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt014] |
| AV1 | - | Rhinehart, W.R., "The Happy Klansman" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt028] |
| AV1 | - | Rhinehart, W.R., "The Klansman's Friend" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0j6] |
| AV1 | - | Vaughan, James D., "Hold 'Er Newt" [original: 78 RPM] [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt097] |

- AV1 - Vaughan, James D., "Kluck, Kluck, Kluck," and "Wake Up, America" [original: 78 RPM]
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt06t]
- AV1 - "We Belong to the Ku Klux Klan" [original: 78 RPM]
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0h2]
- AV1 - "Why I Am a Klansman" [original: 78 RPM]
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id bt0dn]
-