



The Wittliff Collections

Guide to the Bill Arhos Additions *(Austin City Limits)*

1935-2008

Collection UPWC-13045

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Arhos, Bill
Title:	Guide to the Bill Arhos Additions (<i>Austin City Limits</i>)
Dates:	1935-2008
Abstract:	This donation includes nine boxes of items documenting Bill Arhos' life and his work as the founder of "Austin City Limits."
Identification:	UPWC-13045
Extent:	16 boxes
Language:	English
Repository:	The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

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Biographical Notes

Bill Arhos was co-creator of Austin City Limits and executive producer of the show until his retirement in 1999. A Texas native and graduate of Rice University, he received his Master of Educational Administration from Texas A and M. A semi-pro baseball player and a schoolteacher for part of his career, Arhos began working at KLRN-TV, now KLRU, in 1961. He was an instructor in Radio/TV/Film at UT from 1965-1970. He served six years on the PBS Board of Directors and completed two terms on the Country Music Association (CMA) Board of Directors in 1994. Over four decades in public television, Arhos produced and directed educational and entertainment programs, series and specials, and served as program director, general manager, and president of KLRU. Bill Arhos died on April 11, 2015 at the age of eighty.

Scope and Contents

This donation includes awards, certificates, photographs, letters, drawings, clippings, and memorabilia.

Administrative Information

Physical Location

Materials may be stored off-site. Advance notice is required for use: .
<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/makearesearchappointment.html>.

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Bill Arhos, 2013.

Preferred Citation

Bill Arhos Additions, The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University.

Conditions Governing Use

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<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/visit/policies/publication.html>

Controlled Access Headings

- Austin city limits (Television program)
- Concert television programs
- Music
- Music -- Texas -- Austin
- Musicians -- Texas
- Public television -- United States

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Accession 2013-045

Box	Folder	
1691	1	Photograph-ACL Bill Arhos with: Mike Archenhold-Camera, Terry Lickona-Producer, Susan Caldwell-Assoc. Producer, Jeff Peterson-Assoc. Producer, Gary Menotti-Director, undated
1691	2	Photograph-Bill Arhos, photo by Beverly Spicer, circa 1984
1691	3	Photograph-Michael Martin Murphy [L to R: Ryan Murphy (son), Michael Martin Murphy, Bill Arhos], undated
1691	4	Photograph-Bill Arhos and Darrell Royal, undated
1691	5	Photograph-Bill Arhos with a bass he caught in Bull Creek in Austin, undated
1691	6	Photograph-Bill Arhos playing baseball (Arhos lettered for three years at Rice), undated
1691	7	Photograph-Photoshop photo of Bill Arhos' face pasted on a picture "posing" with Tammy Faye Baker-this was done in honor of Arhos' 60th birthday, undated
1691	8	Photograph-Bill Arhos and former Rice baseball player, Lance Berkman, undated
1691	9	Photograph-Baseball, three men in Rice uniforms, undated
1691	10	Photograph-Bill Arhos playing baseball, 1967
1691	11	Photograph-The Festoons 1959 at the last Lion's Club minstrel, circa 1959
1691	12	Photograph-"The Festoons", undated
1691	13	Photograph-Bill Arhos and Willie Nelson, prior to second season taping of entire "Redheaded Stranger," Jerry Retzliff in background, circa 1976
1691	14	Photographs of Bill Arhos [3], undated
1691	15	Photograph-Dog in a tree, "Rio," this dog belonged to J. T. Van Zandt, son of Townes Van Zandt, undated
1691	16	Photographs of Bill Arhos at Rice receiving the Distinguished Alumnus Award-in the photo with him is Robin Shivers, she was a friend and she founded HAAM (Health Alliance for Austin Musicians). These photos were taken by Laura Jenkins, Bill Arhos' daughter, undated
1691	17	Photograph-Picture of Bill Arhos' Irish Water Spaniel, Mance (named for Mance Lipscomb), "Playdog", undated
1691	18	Hologram of tennis player, undated
1691	19	Photograph of Arhos' Irish Water Spaniel, Mance (named for Mance Lipscomb) Mance passed away approximately a year ago, undated
1691	20	Signed photo of the Oak Ridge Boys, 1987
1691	21	Invitation to the ACL 10th Anniversary event [2], undated
1691	22	PBS 1993 Advertising & Promotion Awards, 1993
1691	23	Austin City Limits, screener copies on CD-The Earl Scruggs Revue, John Hartford/The Dillards, and Mance, undated
1691	24	Photograph-Basketball "Arhos shot tipped by Estes", undated
1691	25	Photocopy of newspaper clipping "Rice Takes Texas in 10 Innings, 4-2", undated

- 1691 26 Close Up February 1992, signed by Suzy Bogguss, February 1992
- 1691 27 Letter from Chet Atkins to Bill Arhos, January 30, 1979
- 1691 28 "Country Music Legends" promotional piece for KLRU, undated
- 1691 29 Photograph-Terry Lickona, Bill Arhos, Chet Atkins, Martha Coons, and Richard Coons, undated
- 1691 30 "What Would Ernest Tubb Have Done?" bumper sticker, undated
- 1691 31 Austin City Limits Pilot, Willie Nelson screener copy on CD, 2008
- 1691 32 Patches-Bi-Dist. Champs 1952 Basketball, Bi-Dist. Champs 1953 Baseball, bulk: 1952:1953
- 1691 33 Certificate-"William Marsh Rice University Gratefully Acknowledges the Generous Contribution of Billy P. Arhos, '57 for the Establishment of the Bill Arhos '57 Endowed Scholarship in Cello", 2008
- 1691 34 Newspaper clippings on Bill Arhos, Arhos' report cards from Junior High School, and UIL Thirty-second Annual State Boys Championship Basketball Tournament program. All these items were collected by Arhos' father and stored in a cigar box, undated
- 1691 35 Cigar box used to hold Bill Arhos clippings located in previous folder, undated
- 1691 36 Photograph-"The Waltz King" Bowie School Mrs. John Dunsmoor, Director, April 11, 1946
- 1691 37 Framed Gold Award presented to Southwest Texas Public Broadcasting Council for "Down Home Country Music" 1997 PBS Development Award, square plastic [2], undated
- 1691 38 Awards-1996 and 1997 PBS Development Award, square plastic [2], bulk: 1996:1997
- 1691 39 Newspaper clipping regarding Bill Arhos' distinguished Alumni award from Rice University, May 18, 2007
- 1691 40 Badges-ACL [5], Corporate Battle of the Bands [2], undated
- 1691 41 Plaque-"Engaging Conversations Benefiting Health Alliance for Austin Musicians" newspaper clipping "Poet laureate a 'Texan's Texan'"; two business cards: Keb Mo, Mickey Raphael, October 4, 2007
- 1691 42 ACL "Opening Night" packet plus Lyle Lovett concert ticket, February 24, 2011
- 1691 43 ACL T-Shirt "It All Started Here Studio 6A...", undated
- 1692 Brown cowboy-type hat, from Texas Hatters, Bill Arhos inscribed on the inside, undated
- 1692 White Hydra Hat, undated
- 1692 White and gray baseball cap, "Rice 2003 NCAA National Champions", 2003
- 1692 White and blue baseball cap, "R" [Rice], undated
- 1692 Gray and blue baseball cap, "R" [Rice], undated
- 1692 Black and red baseball cap, "Baseball the American Epic", undated
- 1692 Pink baseball cap, "MC2 Come On Come On", undated
- 1692 Blue jean baseball cap, "BB King: King of the Blues Worldwide", undated
- 1692 Wool baseball cap, "BB King: King of the Blues Worldwide", undated
- 1692 Blue jean hat (similar to those worn by newsboys during the depression), which belonged to Gary P. Nunn, who gave it to Arhos, undated
- 1693 Wooden box containing 12 belt buckles-includes an ACL and Bob Wills belt buckle, undated
- 1693 Small box of sports medals won by Arhos as a young athlete and small charms [16

- items], undated
- 1693 Silver baptismal cup in a green felt case, engraved: "Billy Arhos Baptized July 28, 1935", July 28, 1935
- 1693 Limestone award "Austin Tourism Award 1997 Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau Bill Arhos" 8" x 3 1/2", 1997
- 1693 Austin City Limits coffee mug, undated
- 1693 Leather belt with Austin City Limits belt buckle, undated
- 1693 PBS Encore! Refrigerator magnet and clip, undated
- 1693 Trophy "1st Place Championship Flight '72", 1972
- 1693 Brownie camera used by Bill Arhos when he was 12 years old, undated
- 1693 Polished antler piece with a feather and beads, undated
- 1694 Baseball glove Bill Arhos used as a pitcher at Rice, along with 4 special baseballs from key games, which are signed, plus one signed by Ken Burns, undated
- 1694 Old rusted license plate, # 143233, undated
- 1694 Aluminum canteen, undated
- 1694 A piece of wood that Bill Arhos worked on, which is Texas Madrone and came from "the biggest Madrone in Travis County," near Lake Travis, 21" x 4", undated
- 1695 Ceramic cowboy animated music box, 13" x 7", undated
- 1696 1 Austin, Texas music cartoon, Traditional Country Fan vs. Progressive Country Fan, appears to be reproduction with possible artist corrections, undated
- 1696 2 Patti Page album cover, signed and inscribed by Patti Page to Bill Arhos, undated
- 1696 3 Signed Mance Lipscomb poster, undated
- 1696 4 Gary P. Nunn album cover, undated
- 1696 5 Photograph of Willie Nelson at Farm Aid in Ames, Iowa, undated
- 1696 6 Time Magazine cover and article "And Now, the Chillout," mentions KLRN-TV studio, undated
- 1696 7 Poster/Sign "Austin City Limits is brought to you by Bill", undated
- 1696 8 Poster/Sign "MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour is sponsored in part by Bill", undated
- 1696 9 Photograph of Bill Arhos, undated
- 1696 10 Drawing of a Native American by Dannelley, undated
- 1696 11 Award certificate-The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers presents the ASCAP-Deems Taylor Broadcast Award to ACLs Bill Arhos, undated
- 1696 12 Photograph of a child, undated
- 1696 13 Photograph of Bill Arhos with cut-outs of musicians, undated
- 1696 14 Calendar of Classic Blues Artwork from the 1920s, plus a blue's CD, undated
- 1696 15 ACL Country Music Stars calendar, 1993
- 1697 1 Certificate of Bill Arhos' commission as Admiral in the Texas Navy, November 2, 1989
- 1697 2 National Educational Telecommunications Association award, November 1, 1999
- 1697 3 Calendar, A Century of Baseball Cards, 1982
- 1697 4 Oversize print of a photograph of a child dressed as a pilot [Arhos?], undated
- 1697 5 Willie Nelson and Asleep at the Wheel poster, 2009

- 1697 6 Willie Nelson and Asleep at the Wheel poster, undated
- 1698 CD holder shaped like a guitar, given to Bill Arhos by Texas songwriter Jerry Lynn Williams, 55" x 15", undated
- 1699 Vintage stick horse collected by Bill Arhos, undated
- 1699 3 canes used by Bill Arhos' grandfather, including one from the Texas Sesquicentennial, undated

Series II: Accession 2014-124

- 1871 1 Correspondence with University of Texas at Austin, 1975-1976
- 1871 2 Memorandums Concerning KLRN-TV, 1972-1978
- 1871 3 Unsorted KLRN-TV Documents, undated
- 1871 4 Pioneers of Country Music Cards, undated
- 1871 5 Austin City Limits All Access Pass, undated
- 1871 A 60 Assorted Buttons, undated
- 1871 B Assorted Buttons, undated
- 1871 Placard of Various Arrowheads, undated
- 1871 The Best of Austin City Limits Posterboard, undated
- 1872 "ACL #302 Steve Goodman. ACL #308 John Hartford/The Dillards" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Austin City Limits #302 Steve Goodman" VHS, undated
- 1872 "The Best of Austin City Limits" The Singers—The Songs Compilation Reel #2" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Willie Nelson: Texas Style" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Programming" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Nashville Now #932018 Air Date: 1/27/93" VHS, January 27, 1993
- 1872 "#2113 Sagebrush Symphony" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Season 13 Reba McEntire 11/18/87" VHS, November 18, 1987
- 1872 "KLRU Producers Circle Gift Copy of "Frontline: Hunting bin Laden" October 15, 2001" VHS, 2001-10-15
- 1872 "Chet Atkins and Friends Music From the Heart (HBO/Cinemax Special)" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Sweet Dreams/A Christmas Story" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Blues Slide Guitar Workshop, 3-14-93" VHS, March 14, 1993
- 1872 "Country Music Legends Various Artists" VHS, undated
- 1872 "VHS #21 Property KLUP Programming Department" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Delta Blues Guitar Taught by Rory Block" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Delta Blues Guitar #2 Taught by Rory Block" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Austin City Limits #302 Steve Goodman" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Austin City Limits #306 Doc Watson/Gove" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Austin City Limits #406 Leon Redbone/Steve Fromholz" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Wild Bill Arhos ACL Promo" VHS, undated

- 1872 "Austin City Limits #305 Chet Atkins/Merle Travis" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Austin City Limits #406 Leon Redbone" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Great Moments from Austin City Limits" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Floundering 12-3-92" VHS, December 3, 1992
- 1872 "Front Row Center #306 Adam Holzman" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Solti at 75: A Celebration" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Austin City Limits #1206 Chet Atkins Primary (VT 1844) Bill and Roy Blount JR" VHS, undated
- 1872 "The Texas Connection Gatemouth Brown with Little Jake "Louisiana Zydeco"" VHS, undated
- 1872 "#2001 Vince Gill/Junior Brown" VHS, undated
- 1872 "#1501 George Jones/Carl Perkins" VHS, undated
- 1872 "Austin City Limits #108 B.W. Stevenson/Bobby Bridger" VHS, undated
- 1872 Willie Nelson Salutes Texas" VHS, undated
- 1872 "George Jones & Friends: Hall of Fame Special" VHS, undated
- 1872 "The Texas Connection #918601 Jerry Jeff Walker with Willie Nelson & Kris Kristofferson" VHS, undated

- 1873 "Austin City Limits #304 The Texas Playboys/Ernest Tubb" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits #107 Steve Fromholz" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits #203 Earl Scruggs Revue" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits #113 The Lost Gonzo Band/Jerry Jeff Walkers" VHS, undated
- 1873 "The Best of Austin City Limits: The Singers—The Songs Compilation Reel #1" VHS, undated
- 1873 "A Nitty Gritty Christmas One Hour" VHS, undated
- 1873 "MTV Networks VH-1 Behind the Music Willie Nelson" VHS, undated
- 1873 "The Arlo Guthrie Show KLRU-TV" VHS, undated
- 1873 "The Texas Connection #908601 Robert Earl Keen, Jr./The Artic Lounge Lizards and #908603 Songwriter's Circle" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits #303 John Prine 1/20/00", January 1, 2000
- 1873 "Programming VHS #16 National Geo #1304" VHS, undated
- 1873 "The Texas Connection Sarah Hickman" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Chet Atkins Read My Licks" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Buddy Holly & The Crickets—A Tribute" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits #1506 Stevie Ray Vaughan/W. C. Clark Blues Revue" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits #107 Steve Fromholtz" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits #2112 Gatemouth Brown Keb' Mo'" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits Stanley Jordan" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits All-Time Legends of Country Music" VHS, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits 13 The O'Kanes, 9/9/87" VHS, September 9, 1987
- 1873 "The Women of Country 5/6/93" VHS, May 6, 1993
- 1873 Empty DVD Box, undated
- 1873 Untitled DVD, undated
- 1873 "Austin City Limits Kinky Freidman, Nov. 11, 1975" U-Matic, November 11, 1975

1873		“Bob Schenkkan Tribute” CD [2 Copies], undated
1873		“Every Tub On Its Own Bottom 2011” CD, 2011
1874	1	Austin City Limits Country Music Starts Calendars, 1992 and 1993, 1992-1993
1874	2	Nobody But Me and Home With the Armadillo Signed by Gary P. Nunn, undated
1874	3	Salt of the Earth, Signed by Billy Joel Shaver, undated
1874	4	Rusty Weir, Signed by Rusty Weir, undated
1874		Arhos’s Letterman Jacket, undated
1874		21.5” x 16.5” Austin City Limits Season 21 Poster, undated
1874		16” x 22” Painting of KLRN Newsroom Poster, undated
1874		17.5” x 23.5” The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band Poster, undated
1875		“R” Wool Blanket, undated

Series III: Accession 2014-143

1881	1	“Directing the Music Program” typed speech from R.D. Squier, undated
1881	2	Photographs-Bill Arhos, ACL performers, one photo of Bill Wittliff, Morgan Fairchild, and Bill Arhos, and unidentified photos, undated
1881	3	Photographs-Shakespeare play, 1964
1881	4	Photographs from anniversary dinner celebrating the Public Broadcasting Act of 1967, 1967
1881	5	Correspondence, 1980s-2004
1881	6	Austin City Limits-Typed radio/advertisement spot about a Willie Nelson/Tracy Nelson show, undated
1881	7	KLRU notepad, undated
1881	8	Arhos’s resume, clippings about the Rice Distinguished Alumni Award, business cards, VIP pass, 25th Annual ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award Winners list, undated
1881	9	Resolution of Appreciation from the Country Music Association, undated
1881	10	Austin Music Business Leadership Award, October 6, 1993
1881	11	Videocassette: Bill Arhos Tribute, February 18, 2000
1881	12	“Rice Owlmanac” includes listing of 2007 Distinguished Alumni Awards recipients, 2007
1881	13	Letters congratulating Bill Arhos on his retirement [removed from scrapbook], 2000
1881	14	Austin City Limits second season program information packet, undated
1881	15	The Schedule KLRN-TV Channel 9 booklets, undated
1881	16	KLRN 4th Annual Auction Workshop packet, undated
1881	17	Two Austin City Limits Glen Campbell programs, undated
1881	18	Austin City Limits articles in magazines, undated
1881	19	Austin City Limits articles in magazines, undated
1881	20	Newspaper clippings, 1979-1980
1881	21	Newspaper clippings, undated
1881	22	Newspaper clippings, undated
1881	23	The Good Life featuring article “KLRU-TV Public Television Beyond Limits” and

		two copies of the Austin Business Journal featuring photo of Arhos celebrating his Rice Distinguished Alumni Award, undated
1881	24	Photocopies of articles about Bill Arhos in the Austin Business Journal and the Austin American-Statesman, undated
1881	25	Letter to Phyllis Maniatis, invitation to a celebration in honor of Bill Arhos, one napkin printed with "Bill Arhos 'he set the standard,'" unidentified photograph, and newspaper clippings, undated
1881	26	Austin City Limits articles, undated
1882	1	Austin City Limits articles in Texas Monthly magazines, undated
1882	2	Austin City Limits articles in Texas Monthly magazines, undated
1882	3	Austin City Limits articles in Texas Monthly magazines and Texas Highways, undated
1882	4	Newspaper article about Bill Arhos in the Austin Business Journal, April 1999