



The Wittliff Collections

Guide to the Clarence Schultz Texas Humor Collection

1995-2003

Collection SWWC-101

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Schultz, Clarence C.
Title:	Guide to the Clarence Schultz Texas Humor Collection
Dates:	1995-2003
Abstract:	The Clarence Schultz Texas humor collection is made up of Schultz's research materials and drafts for his unpublished manuscript, "Texas Laughter: A Chronicle of Sixteen Humorists, 1836-2000." Also included in the collection are 504 books collected by Schultz on humor in Texas and the Southwest.
Identification:	SWWC-101
Extent:	6 Linear Feet, 13 boxes
Language:	English
Repository:	The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

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Biographical Notes

Clarence C. Schultz was born in Temple, Texas on October 31, 1924. He graduated from Temple High School at the age of sixteen and entered a junior college, where he met his future wife, Margie. They were married October 29, 1943. In 1942, at the age of eighteen, Schultz joined the Navy and served until 1946. While in the navy, he entered an officer-training program at Southwestern University in Georgetown where he earned college credit. After leaving the navy, Schultz spent a final six months in Temple in a management-training program for McClellan stores. He was transferred to Laredo in August of 1946 where he worked for just a few months before being transferred to McClellan, Texas as an assistant-manager in December 1946. He resided in McClellan until September of 1947 when his landlady convinced him to go back to school and complete his college degree. Schultz knew that he wanted to be a teacher, and throughout a 45 year career never lost his dedication or love for teaching.

With the assistance of the GI Bill, Schultz entered what was then Southwest Texas State Teacher's College (now Texas State University). He completed his final year of college earning a degree in history, and then completed his master's degree in history with a minor in sociology. Upon completion of his degrees, he was immediately offered a teaching position as an instructor of History and Sociology and taught at Texas State from September 1949 until May 1952. While teaching, Schultz worked on his doctorate degree in sociology at the University of Texas. Before completing his doctorate degree he was offered a position at Lee College in Baytown, Texas. He taught at Lee College from September 1953 until September 1965 when he returned as an assistant professor to Texas State. He also returned to school and earned his PhD from the University of Texas in December 1970. Schultz became the first chair of the department of Sociology when the Economic and Sociology Department split at Texas State. He held this position from 1971 until 1976. During an interregnum from fall 1979 until spring of 1980, Schultz was the acting dean of the liberal arts department. In December of 1990 Schultz retired from full-time teaching and fully retired in December of 1994. After both Clarence and Margie retired they travelled around the country.

Schultz won numerous honors and awards, including the Piper Professor award in 1976, in 1990 Lee College, despite no longer teaching there, named Schultz outstanding teacher and awarded him an honorary associate degree, and in May of 1998 Schultz was honored Distinguished

Professor Emeritus at Texas State. Over Schultz's career he published two books *Texas Probation Handbook* (1976) and *The Family a Reader* (approximately 1980).

Early in Schultz's career his personal library contained numerous books on humor and a few books on Texas humor. Schultz's interest in Texas humor grew, and during the 1970s he began to exclusively collect Texas humor books. Schultz went to bookstores, visited the Austin bookseller convention, and searched other venues for books and stated, it "brought great joy" when he found books. Ever since he started collecting humor books Schultz knew that he wanted to write a book on Texas humor. Schultz officially started work on his manuscript "Texas Laughter: A Chronicle of Sixteen Humorists, 1836-2000" after he retired in 1995. This is also when he began collecting articles for his research notebooks. He completed research for the manuscript in 2000 and completed final revisions in 2003. In writing his manuscript, Schultz selectively chose humorists who he believed reflected the evolution of Texas humor. Schultz collected and donated his Texas humor collection because he believed that no institution had adequately compiled a collection of Texas humor.

Note: Information for the biographical sketch was obtained from a telephone interview conducted on September 27, 2010 with Clarence C. Schultz by Maggie DeBrecht.

Scope and Contents

The Clarence Schultz Humor Collection contains material related to Schultz's research for his unpublished manuscript, "Texas Laughter: A Chronicle of Sixteen Humorists, 1836-2000" along with his collection of books on humor and Texas humor. Clarence Schultz donated the collection to Texas State in 2010, and the dates of the collection span from 1995 to approximately 2003. It is divided into four series: Research Notebooks, 1995-2000; Manuscript, 1995-2003; Bibliography Manuscript, 1995-2002; and Book Collection, 1836-2000. Folder titles in quotations are original titles written by Schultz.

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Clarence C. Schultz, 2010.

Preferred Citation

Clarence Schultz Texas Humor Collection, The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University.

Physical Location

Materials may be stored off-site. Advance notice is required for use:

<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/makearesearchappointment.html>

Conditions Governing Use

Materials from the Wittliff Collections are made available for use in research, teaching, and private study. The user assumes responsibility for determining copyright status, obtaining permission to publish, and abiding by U.S. copyright laws.

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

Separated Materials

The book collection contains 504 titles. They are available by searching the Alkek Library's online catalog.

Controlled Access Headings

- Book collecting -- United States
- Humor

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Research Notebooks, 1995-2000

Box Folder

1		Research notebooks 1-6
2		Research notebooks 7-11
3		Research notebooks 12-16
4		Research notebooks 17-22
5		Research notebooks 23-28
6		Research notebooks 29-34
7		Research notebooks 35-40
8		Research notebooks 41-47
9	1	Research notebook 48
12		Research notebooks/bibliography-index (note cards)

Series II: Manuscript , 1995-2003

9	2	“Source guides for writing about each author.” Handwritten
9	3	Worksheets for original manuscript. Handwritten “Texas Laughter: Two Centuries of Texas Humor”
9	4-5	Original handwritten manuscript. “Texas Laughter: Two Centuries of Texas Humor”
10	1	Revision of first draft of manuscript. “Texas Laugh Makers: The Lives and Times of Sixteen Texas Humorists”
10	2	“Postscript” for unused addition to manuscript. Handwritten. “Texas Premier Humorists: A Chronicle, 1836-2000”
10	3	Postscript (second draft) but dropped from final manuscript
10	4	Second manuscript draft. Revised manuscript with postscript. “Texas Premier Humorists: A Chronicle, 1836-2000”
10	5	“Personal copy” of sixth revision of manuscript with notes on needed corrections. “Texas Laughter: A Chronicle of Sixteen Humorists, 1836-2000”
11	1	Last (sixth) Revision of manuscript with needed corrections noted. For Texas State University. “Texas Laughter: A Chronicle of Sixteen Humorists, 1836-2000”

13 Manuscript index-incomplete (note cards)

Series III: Bibliography Manuscript, 1995-2002

11 2 "Worksheets for original bibliography"

11 3 Annotated bibliography manuscript. "The Comic Imagination of Texas, 1836-2000: A Bibliography."

11 4 "MS Bibliography." A copy of the annotated bibliography section of the bibliography manuscript that was donated along with the books intended to be used as a reference for the original book inventory. This copy appears to be an edited version of the original bibliography manuscript

11 5 "Book titles in Texas humor collection."