



The New York Public Library
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters collection

1969-1999

Sc MG 638

Summary

Creator: International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters

Title: International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters collection

Date: 1969-1999

Size: 1.25 linear feet (3 boxes)

Source: Gift of Robert O. Lowery and Vincent W. Julius, June 1997.

Revision History: Finding aid updated by Lauren Stark.

Abstract: The International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters (IABPFF) was founded in September 1969, at a meeting attended by Black and other minority fire fighters of all ranks, from municipalities across the United States. They met to discuss various problems and issues affecting Black fire fighters: the recruitment of Black youth into the fire service; fire fighters and community relations with special emphasis on relations with the residents of neighborhoods inhabited by Blacks; intergroup relations and practices in fire departments; and the need to improve fire prevention programs in minority areas. Tpdau, the association represents more than 8000 fire service personnel including fire fighters, dispatchers, and individuals in related professions throughout the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean, organized into 180 chapters. The International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters collection is primarily limited to the Northeast region, where the organization was established. There are several items regarding the initial meeting, constitution, and by-laws, along with anecdotes by the first president about recruitment of minority fire fighters. Most of the collection is comprised of publications and papers related to IABPFF conferences. Also included are newsletters, printed material related to various chapters, some officers' correspondence, souvenir journals, and newspaper clippings. Additionally, there is printed matter from other organizations that are consistent with the aims of the IABPFF.

Preferred citation: [Item], International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters collection, Sc MG 638, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: English

Processing note: Accessioned by P. Williams, May 1998.

Separated Materials:

Transferred to the Art and Artifacts Division: button.

Related Materials:

Vulcan Society collection, Sc MG 467, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

Creator History

The International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters (IABPFF) was founded in September 1969, at a meeting attended by Black and other minority fire fighters of all ranks, from municipalities across the United States. They met to discuss various problems and issues affecting Black fire fighters: the recruitment of Black youth into the fire service; fire fighters and community relations with special emphasis on relations with the residents of neighborhoods inhabited by Blacks; intergroup relations and practices in fire departments; and the need to improve fire prevention programs in minority areas. Today, the association represents more than 8000 fire service personnel including fire fighters, dispatchers, and individuals in related professions throughout the United States, Canada, and the Caribbean, organized into 180 chapters.

Scope and Content Note

The International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters collection is primarily limited to the Northeast region, where the organization was established. There are several items regarding the initial meeting, constitution, and by-laws, along with anecdotes by the first president about recruitment of minority fire fighters. Most of the collection is comprised of publications and papers related to IABPFF conferences. Also included are newsletters, printed material related to various chapters, some officers' correspondence, souvenir journals, and newspaper clippings. Additionally, there is printed matter from other organizations that are consistent with the aims of the IABPFF.

Key Terms

Subjects

African American fire fighters
African American professional employees
Associations, institutions, etc. -- African American membership
Fire fighters -- Employment -- United States
Fire fighters -- Legal status, laws, etc. -- United States

Names

International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters

Container List

Administration

b. 1 f. 1 Constitution, by-laws, and brochure 1970-1988

b. 1 f. 2 Officers' and treasurer's reports 1971-1977

Presidents

b. 1 f. 3 Floyd, David J 1971-1975

b. 1 f. 4 Whitehead, Alfred K 1989

b. 1 f. 5-6 Recruitment 1973-1974

b. 1 f. 7 Hendricks, Charles, treasurer 1973-1974

b. 1 f. 8 Julius, Vincent W., secretary 1973

b. 1 f. 9 Annual report 1973-1974

Northeast region

Correspondence

b. 1 f. 10 1971-1975

b. 1 f. 11 1990-1995

b. 1 f. 12 Conference 1983

b. 1 f. 13 Clippings 1992

b. 1 f. 14 Other regions 1974-1989

Conventions

b. 1 f. 15 Black fire fighters meeting 1969

b. 1 f. 16 First convention 1970

b. 1 f. 17 1970s-1990s

b. 1 f. 18 Correspondence 1973-1974

Programs and journals

b. 1 f. 19 1971-1975

b. 1 f. 20 1986-1988

b. 2 f. 1 1990-1994

Newsletters

b. 2 f. 2 1970-1979

b. 2 f. 3 1980-1986

b. 2 f. 4 1990-1991

b. 2 f. 5 1991-1992

Chapters

b. 2 f. 6 Firebirds Society of Bridgeport, Inc 1987

b. 2 f. 7-8 Phoenix Society 1971-1992

b. 2 f. 9 Connecticut 1970-1980s

b. 2 f. 10 Vulcans of Massachusetts 1981-1988

b. 2 f. 11 Vulcan Pioneers of New Jersey 1970s-1993

b. 2 f. 12 Vulcan Pioneers of Hudson County, Inc 1976

b. 2 f. 13 Vulcan Society of Westchester, NY 1995

Chapters (cont.)

- b. 3 f. 1 Valiants, Inc 1972-1975

Other organizations

- b. 3 f. 2 National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control 1973
- b. 3 f. 3 Men of Color Helping All Society, Inc 1986-1988
- b. 3 f. 4 Black Fire Chief's Resource Book 1985
- b. 3 f. 5 National Fire Fighter Profession 1972
- b. 3 f. 6-7 Printed matter and clippings 1972-1992