



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

Guide to the

Everett Redd papers

1945-2006

Sc MG 970

Processed by Lauren Stark, November 2019.

Summary

Creator: Redd, Everett

Title: Everett Redd papers

Date: 1945-2006

Size: 0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Purchase from Boo-Hooray, November 2019.

Abstract: This collection consists of the personal papers of Everett Redd, a motorcycle bar and clubhouse manager in California, and material related to his association with motorcycle clubs.

Preferred citation: [Item], Everett Redd papers, Sc MG 970, 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: Processed by Lauren Stark, November 2019.

Separated Materials:

Transferred to the Art and Artifacts Division: two vests and three patches

Transferred to the Photographs and Prints Division: two record cartons of photo albums and loose photographs

Creator History

Everett Redd was born on June 7, 1924, in Goodman, Mississippi. He served in the U.S. Army from 1943-1945, after which he relocated to Los Angeles, California. Over the years, he was employed by an unspecified plant and the County of Los Angeles's Building Services Department. In addition, he and his brother, Sherman, ran a maintenance business. He also managed, and possibly owned, a motorcycle bar and clubhouse called The Tropical Inn. Redd was a motorcycle enthusiast who, according to his memorial service program, started a motorcycle magazine in 1964 called *BAM*

Motorcycle. He also wrote a newsletter for cyclists, *The Tropical Weekly News*; edited and wrote for the *Bronze Motorcycle News Bulletin*; and drafted the by-laws for the Universal Motorcycle Association. He was a member of the Chosen Few Motorcycle Club, where he earned the nickname, "Sexy". Redd died on January 19, 2006.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of the personal papers of Everett Redd and materials related to his association with motorcycle clubs. The personal papers contain his military service records, printed matter on friends and family, correspondence, insurance information, business cards, and his memorial service program, among others. The motorcycle club material includes business licenses and permits for The Tropical Inn; copies of the *Tropical Weekly News* and the *Bronze Motorcycle News Bulletin*; printed matter; by-laws for the Universal Motorcycle Association; and meeting schedules for different motorcycle clubs.

Arrangement: Arranged into two subseries: (1) Personal and (2) Motorcycle clubs.

Key Terms

Subjects

Business enterprises, Black
Motorcycle clubs

Geographic Names

California, Southern

Names

Redd, Everett

Container List

Personal 1945-2006

Arranged in chronological order.

- b. 1 f. 1 **Military service records 1945-1951**
- b. 1 f. 2 **Family and friends 1946-2003**
Includes military records of his brother, Wade; printed matter on family members in Mississippi; student loan information for his daughter, Deborah; and an identification card for his other daughter, among others.
- b. 1 f. 3 **Employment 1954-1997**
Includes a letter of grievance from the (unspecified) plant superintendent from 1954; a parking permit and fuel authorization card from the County of Los Angeles; and business cards for See the Redd's, the maintenance business he owned with his brother.
- b. 1 f. 4 **Awards 1966-1984**
Includes achievement awards in personal traffic safety and a recognition award from the Brotherhood Crusade.
- b. 1 f. 5 **Identification cards and insurance information 1966-1990**
- b. 1 f. 6 **Correspondence 1968-2003**
Includes various invitations, birthday and holiday cards, and a few letters.
- b. 1 f. 7 **Business cards and addresses undated**
The majority of the business cards are from local businesses, many of them auto repair shops.
- b. 1 f. 8 **General printed matter 1974-1999**
Includes memorabilia, such as ticket stubs; reprints of humorous poems and anecdotes; and clipping photocopies on subjects of interest to Redd.
- b. 1 f. 9 **Memorial service program 2006 January 27**
Also includes "In Memory of Sexy Redd" t-shirt ordering information and a memorial tile card.

Motorcycle clubs 1958-2001

Arranged in chronological order.

- b. 1 f. 10 **The Tropical Inn business licenses and permits 1958-1962**
Redd most likely managed or owned the club with Thelma W. Terry, whose name also appears on the various permits and licenses.
Includes tax registration certificates, liquor licenses, seller's permits, and county licenses for coin-operated machines.
- b. 1 f. 11 ***The Tropical Weekly News* 1960 August-September**
- b. 1 f. 12 ***The Bronze Motorcycle News Bulletin* 1964-1965**
This newsletter could be the one referred to as *BAM Magazine* in his memorial service program.
Includes two issues.
- b. 1 f. 13 **Guest passes for other clubs 1964**
Includes passes for the Star Riders Motorcycle Club and the L.A. Rattlers Motorcycle Club.
- b. 1 f. 14 **Printed matter 1964-2001**
Includes clippings about various motorcycle clubs; flyers for club events, including one for the Chosen Few; directions (one of which is labeled as "Chosen Few campout" on the reverse side); and a flyer for a National Bikers Roundup.
- b. 1 f. 15 **Universal Motorcycle Association by-laws 1966 August**
According to the handwritten draft in the notebook found in this folder, Redd founded this organization in August 1966; however, it is unclear if this club ever existed.
Includes handwritten and typed drafts.
- b. 1 f. 16 **Council meetings of various clubs 1975**
Includes a list of meeting dates of various clubs with their addresses; on the back are various handwritten notes and addresses.