This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are newsletters, printed materials, and miscellaneous papers of the Knights of Columbus council at Rolla in Phelps County, Missouri.

The Knights of Columbus chapter at Rolla was established on 12 December 1926. The membership was composed primarily of residents of Rolla associated with St. Patrick Church, but the charter members also included men from Cuba, Newburg, Rolla, St. James, and Salem. Rolla Council 2726 has also counted on its rolls many non-local and out-of-state members as well as students attending college at Rolla. Leo Higley was the first Grand Knight; Albert L. Johns, a charter member, was Grand Knight longer than any other member (1935-1940), and held every office in the local council at one time or another. Other Grand Knights were Eugene J. Campbell, Paul Marling, Henry A. Meyer, Leo Steinmetz, and James Somers.

In 1935, the Cuba Council merged with the Rolla Knights of Columbus. In 1954, the Rolla Council helped found Council 3882 at Rosati. The Rolla Council maintained fraternal and social associations with the Knights of Columbus councils at Cuba, Rosati, Sullivan, and Vienna. The Rolla Council hosted the annual state convention five times between 1936 and 1948.

The collection consists of Rolla Council newsletters, 1936-1963, and a group of miscellaneous papers and printed materials, 1937-2000. Folders 1 and 2 contain the Rolla Council’s newsletters. They contain items on regular and special events, fundraising, membership drives, and hosting of the annual conventions at Rolla. There are no newsletters from May 1942 through 1945.

Folder 3 contains printed programs for the annual conventions at Rolla in 1937 and 1939. There are also issues of the Mariner, the official publication of the Knights of Columbus of Missouri, and the Rolla Herald, that cover the events. There is also an issue of the Mariner featuring the annual convention at Rolla in 1948.

Folder 4 consists of miscellaneous papers, newspaper clippings, and printed materials. Included is a brief history of the Rolla Council compiled by Robert M. Doerr in 1993. The history has a listing of all the Grand Knights of the Rolla Council to 1993.
Folder 1: Newsletters, 1936-1946

Folder 2: Newsletters, 1952-1963

Folder 3: Printed materials concerning Rolla Council’s hosting of annual conventions, 1937-1948

Folder 4: Miscellaneous papers, 1942-2000

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Catholic Church—Missouri—Rolla
Catholics—Missouri—Rolla
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Doerr, Robert M.
Johns, Albert L.
Knights of Columbus. Rolla Council 2627 (Rolla, Mo.).
Phelps County (Mo.).
Rolla (Mo.).
St. Patrick Church (Rolla, Mo.).