This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City. If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org.

Introduction

Approximately 0.49 cubic feet

The Lerners were active in Aleph Zadik Aleph (AZA), B’nai B’rith Youth Organization (BBYO), and with the Beth Shalom Synagogue in Kansas City, Missouri. This collection consists of photographs, programs, videos, and artifacts representing their involvement in these activities.

Ken Lerner was a member of Kansas City’s AZA chapter (as illustrated in a group photo dating from 1949) and its advisor in 1964 (and, perhaps, in other years as well). He continued to participate in the chapter’s activities into the 1980s, as evidenced by his possession of a 1984 ticket to a Passover dance sponsored by Nordaunian AZA Chapter 22. Lerner was also on friendly terms with Sam Beber who invited him, in a 1973 letter, to attend the 1974 International Alumni Reunion commemorating AZA’s 50th anniversary. Lerner married Sandra M. Davis.

Sandra M. Davis graduated from Beth Shalom Synagogue’s Intermediate Department Sunday School in 1952 and was confirmed in the Beth Shalom Synagogue in June 1954.

Donor Information

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Sandra Davis Lerner on August 23, 2005 (Accession No. KA1404). Additions were made on August 16, 2006 (Accession No. KA1486) and November 8, 2007 (Accession No. KA1565) by Sandra Davis Lerner; November 15, 2007 (Accession No. KA1578) by Ken Lerner; February 17, 2008 (Accession No. KA1612) by Sandra Davis Lerner; May 3, 2008 (Accession No. KA1700) by Sandra and Ken Lerner; September 17, 2009 (Accession No. KA1764), and April 6, 2016 (Accession No. 2323) by Sandra Davis Lerner. These papers are part of the Jewish Community Archives.

Location note:

The collection is stored offsite and will need to be retrieved before viewing.

Folder List

Box 1 (not full)

(KA1578, KA1565)
Folder 1  Photographs, AZA, miscellaneous fraternity clubs, 1952-1954; B’nai B’rith Youth Organization group photos/slide, AZA presentation at Truman Library, 1961-1962

(KA 1700)

Folder 2  Photographs, Beth Shalom confirmation class, ca. 1940s

(KA1404)

Folder 3  Program for the May 16, 1952 Beth Shalom Synagogue’s Intermediate Department Sunday School graduation service. Sandra M. Davis was a member of this graduation class and is listed in the program as reading Psalm XXIII. Program, photograph, 1953-1954 confirmation class members’ name, address, and telephone number list, and the program script for the June 6, 1954, Beth Shalom Synagogue’s confirmation ceremonies. Sandra M. Davis was a member of this confirmation class.

(KA1700)

Folder 4  Marna Bernstein TB report, 1941

(KA1404, KA1612, KA1578)

Folder 5  AZA/BBG memorabilia, 1949-1984
   AZA Passover dance ticket, 1984
   BBG newspaper clipping
   Sam Beber letter inviting Kenny Lerner to attend 1974 International Alumni Reunion commemorating AZA’s 50th anniversary, 1973
   Newspaper clipping, c. 1964, of a photograph and caption announcing the Best All-Around Chapter award won by the Harry S. Truman AZA Chapter. Ken Lerner, chapter advisor, and Sandra Lerner are included in the photograph of the chapter members.
   AZA convention badge, 1949

(KA1700)

Folder 6  Playgoers League program, Mr. Roberts, c. 1950

(KA1578, KA2323)

Folder 7  Phi Delta Gamma and Alpha Theta Epsilon formal invitations, 1952 and 1954

(KA1578)

Folder 8  W. Zolley Lerner (Thomas Z. Loring), film director, 1950s

(KA1565)

Folder 9  B’nai B’rith Youth Organization nostalgia file, 1964-1997
K1178 (KA1404, ADD’L)
SANDRA DAVIS LERNER (1939- ) AND KENNETH D. LERNER (1933- )
PAPERS, 1940-2000 [JCA]

Folder 10  B’nai B’rith Youth Organization buzz books, 1979-1988
Folder 11  Buzz Book, 2000
Folder 12  B’nai B’rith Youth Organization alumni database, 2000;
3.5” floppy disk, BBYO alumni list, 2000

OVERSIZE BOX

(KA1486)
Group photograph of AZA regional conference, Hotel Muehlebach, Kansas City, Missouri, December 28, 1949

(KA1578)
Kansas City Jewish Chronicle clipping on BBYO reunion, June 10, 1977