

Guide to the Neil Galatz Scrapbooks

This finding aid was created by Emily Lapworth and Joyce Moore on April 20, 2017.

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections Division.
Creator:	Galatz, Neil
Title:	Neil Galatz Scrapbooks
ID:	MS-00723
Date [inclusive]:	1948-2009
Physical Description:	25 Linear Feet (1 box and 18 oversize boxes)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Collection is comprised of scrapbooks from 1948 to 2009 documenting the career of Las Vegas, Nevada lawyer Neil Galatz, his family, and his involvement with the local Jewish community. Contents include news clippings, photographs, event programs, and other ephemera.

Preferred Citation

Neil Galatz Collection of Scrapbooks, 1948-2009. MS-00723. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Prominent attorney and community leader Neil G. Galatz (1933-2013) was a prominent attorney and community leader in Las Vegas Nevada. He moved to Las Vegas and started practicing law in 1957 and served as deputy district attorney from 1959 to 1960. In the 1980s he was co-chairman for the Plaintiffs Lead Counsel Committee in the MGM Multi-District Fire Litigation and in the Hilton Fire Litigation, which were lawsuits related to two major hotel fires in Las Vegas. After the PEPCON industrial disaster in Henderson, Nevada in 1988, Galatz chaired the PEPCON Explosion Plaintiffs Committee. His specialties in private practice included personal injury, medical and legal malpractice, and product liability. Galatz held leadership positions in law organizations such as the American Bar Association, State Bar of Nevada, Nevada Justice Association, and the American Association for Justice. He was also an active member of the Jewish community of Las Vegas, serving as Second Vice President of B'nai B'rith, Adult Education Coordinator at Temple Beth Sholom, and, for 35 years, a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Las Vegas. In 1981 Galatz and his wife Elaine founded Vegas Valley Morgans horse farm to breed and train Morgan horses. He and his family, including his daughters Lara and Leesa, competed at horse shows and won numerous national and world championships.

Neil Galatz was born in New York City on January 22, 1933. He graduated from the Bronx High School of Science before receiving a bachelor of arts from Adelphi College in 1953 and his Juris Doctor from Columbia University-New York in 1956. After moving to Las Vegas, Galatz was a partner in Weiner, Goldwater, and Galatz before he started his own law firm, Galatz, Earl, and Biggar, in the mid-1960s. He wrote dozens of law related articles and lectured for multiple organizations including The American Association for Justice, National Judicial College, Hastings Law School, State Trial Lawyers Groups and the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. Galatz was recognized as one of the best lawyers in the country by publications such as the *Best Lawyers* guide and *Town & Country* magazine. Examples of other recognition he received include: the American Bar Association Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section Task Force on Plaintiff's Involvement Pursuit of Justice Award (May 2008) and Nevada Justice Association Trial Lawyer of the Year (2002). At the time of his death (January 3, 2103), Galatz was Of Counsel with the law firm Gordon Silver.

Sources:

"Neil Galatz Obituary." *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. Accessed March 24, 2015. <http://obits.reviewjournal.com/obituaries/lvrj/obituary.aspx?pid=162137440>.

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Scope and Contents Note

Neil Galatz Scrapbooks (1948-2009) are comprised of scrapbooks documenting the career of Las Vegas, Nevada lawyer Neil Galatz, his family, and his involvement with the local Jewish community. Contents include news clippings, photographs, event programs, and other ephemera. Materials related to the Galatz's Vegas Valley Morgans horse farm, and their involvement with B'nai B'rith, Temple Beth Sholom, and the Jewish Federation of Las Vegas are included in the scrapbooks. Neil Galatz's career, including his time as deputy district attorney, his involvement in law organizations, and his work on the MGM Multi-District Fire Litigation, the Hilton Fire Litigation, and the PEPCON Explosion Plaintiffs Committee, is well-represented within the collection.

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Arrangement

Materials are listed chronologically, but are housed in a manner that supports their preservation.

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Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2015 by Elaine Galatz; accession number 2015-107.

Processing Note

Material was processed by Emily Lapworth in 2015. In 2017 Joyce Moore edited content and published ArchivesSpace finding aid.

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Names and Subjects

- Jews -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- History
- Lawyers--Nevada--Clark County--Biography
- Horse sports
- Photographs

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Scrapbook, 1948-1959	box 01
Scrapbook, 1959 February-1959 September	box 01
Scrapbook, 1959 October-1960 December	box 01
Scrapbook, 1961 March-1961 November	box 02
Scrapbook, 1963 November-1966 May	box 03
Scrapbook, 1966 June-1967 February	

	box 04
Scrapbook, 1967 May-1969 June	box 05
Scrapbook, 1969 August-1971 January	box 06
Scrapbook, 1971 February-1972 April	box 07
Scrapbook, 1972 April-1972 June	box 03
Scrapbook, 1972 July-1972 December	box 08
Scrapbook, 1973 January-1973 March	box 09
Scrapbook, 1973 April-1973 October	box 10
Scrapbook, 1973 September-1974 February	box 11
Scrapbook, 1974 March-1975 July	box 12
Scrapbook, 1975 August-1977 July	box 13
Scrapbook, 1977 June-1979 April	box 05
Scrapbook, 1979 April-1980 August	box 04
Scrapbook, 1980 November-1982 June	box 09
Scrapbook, 1982 July-1984 March	box 14
Scrapbook, 1984 May-1985 October	box 15
Scrapbook, 1985-1987	box 05
Scrapbook, 1987 June-1989 November	box 16
Scrapbook, 1990 January-1991 August	box 06
Scrapbook, 1991 August-1993 October	box 17
Scrapbook, 1993 November-1995 December	box 18
Scrapbook, 1995 December-1997 December	box 12
Scrapbook, 1997 May-1998 December	box 08
Scrapbook, 1999 January-2000 December	box 11
Scrapbook, 2001 January-2003 January	box 10
Scrapbook, 2003 January-2006 June	box 07
Scrapbook, 2006 June-2009 June	box 19