

Guide to the David Fluke Papers on Las Vegas Entertainers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Fluke, David
Title:	David Fluke Papers on Las Vegas Entertainers
ID:	MS-00304
Date [inclusive]:	1946-1983
Physical Description:	0.67 Linear Feet (2 boxes)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The David Fluke Papers on Las Vegas Entertainers consists of the notebooks of David Fluke, a Las Vegas, Nevada resident whose hobby was documenting entertainers and shows on the Las Vegas Strip from 1946 to 1981. His notebooks feature handwritten lists of entertainers' show dates and lounge acts, and include dates for the Las Vegas debuts of numerous performers. The collection also contains celebrity trivia and biographical sketches of various Las Vegas entertainers.

Preferred Citation

David Fluke Papers on Las Vegas Entertainers, 1946-1983. MS-00304. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

David Fluke worked as a book manager for the *Los Angeles News* before retiring to Las Vegas, Nevada in the early 1970s. In 1974, he began assembling a systematic index of Las Vegas entertainment history. Using microfilm from the public library, Fluke and his wife Neva Mae compiled steno books of handwritten lists featuring entertainers, organized by the hotels they appeared in, their shows, and their debut dates. Fluke also compiled a birthday book, listing the birth dates of a wide range of celebrities, a book listing the real names of celebrities, and a book of celebrity death dates. An article in the *Las Vegas Sun* on May 28, 1978 quoted Fluke's wife as saying that his ultimate goal was "to cover in chronological order all phases of entertainment in Las Vegas." Fluke passed away in a Las Vegas nursing home in 1986.

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Scope and Contents Note

The David Fluke Papers on Las Vegas Entertainers consist of the notebooks of David Fluke, a Las Vegas, Nevada resident whose hobby was documenting entertainers and shows on the Las Vegas Strip from 1946 to 1981. His notebooks feature handwritten lists of entertainers' show dates and lounge acts, and include dates for the Las Vegas debuts of numerous performers. The collection also contains celebrity trivia and biographical sketches of various Las Vegas entertainers.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged by subject.

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Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

The materials were donated by the estate of David Fluke in 1989; accession number 1989-029.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collections Staff and the collection guide was created by Su Kim Chung. In 2014, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Kayla McDuffie revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. Subsequently Kayla McDuffie entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

Revision Description

The finding aid was revised by Kayla McDuffie to bring it into compliance with DACS. July 2014

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Names and Subjects

- Entertainers
- Entertainment -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- History
- Revues - Nevada - Las Vegas

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers	
Celebrities: trivia, 1974-1978	box 01	folder 01
Correspondence, 1979-1984	box 01	folder 02
Entertainment: Las Vegas, 1967-1971, and 1978	box 01	folder 03
Entertainer biographies		
Peter Anthony, July 1963-May 1974	box 01	folder 04
Eddy Arnold and Joe Coppo, May 11, 1949-May 2, 1979 and December 4, 1943-December 1963	box 01	folder 05
Milton Berle, July 1953-January 17, 1979	box 01	folder 06
Sam Butera, December 1952-December 31, 1978	box 01	folder 07
Sid Caesar, May 1960-December 21, 1978	box 01	folder 08
Charlie Callas, September 1969-January 16, 1979	box 01	folder 09
Dick Contino, October 25, 1950-November 11, 1976	box 01	folder 10
Norm Crosby, October 1964-November 20, 1978	box 01	folder 11
Vic Damone, December 1, 1949-December 12, 1978	box 01	folder 12
Rodney Dangerfield, December 20, 1968-February 26, 1979	box 01	folder 13
James Darren, August 3, 1972-March 11, 1981	box 01	folder 14
Jackie Gayle, September 28, 1976-July 24, 1979	box 01	folder 15
Robert Goulet, February 1963-September 19, 1978	box 01	folder 16
Bob Newhart, October 1, 1963-October 31, 1979	box 01	folder 17

Wayne Newton, September 1959-December 16, 1978	box 01	folder 18
Pepper Davis and Tony Reese, January 2, 1954-1978	box 01	folder 19
"Perfecto and Motion", October 2, 1974-September 1, 1978	box 01	folder 20
Don Rickles, May 1959-December 31, 1978	box 01	folder 21
Jerry Vale, November 1974-November 4, 1980	box 01	folder 22
Entertainment Histories: Las Vegas Hotels, 1942-1978	box 01	folder 23
Entertainers: Biography and Trivia, 1943-1978	box 01	folder 24
Las Vegas Entertainers		
Debuts, 1943-1978	box 01	folder 25
Shows in 1981, 1981	box 01	folder 26
Trivia, 1918-1978	box 01	folder 27
Steno books		
Lounge Act debuts and real names of celebrities, undated	box 02	folder 01
Celebrity obituaries and birthdays, undated	box 02	folder 01
Celebrity initials: male and female, undated	box 02	folder 02
Record of Runs: Celebrities from February 1946 to December 1980, undated	box 02	folder 02
Record of Runs: Celebrities from January 1943 to November 1980, undated	box 02	folder 03
Record of Runs: Celebrities from October 1948 to January 1981, undated	box 02	folder 03
Record of Runs: Hotels from January 1966 to December 1971, undated	box 02	folder 04
Record of Runs: Celebrities from November 1946 to 1983, undated	box 02	folder 04
Record of Runs: Hotels from January 1971 to December 1976, undated	box 02	folder 05
Record of Runs: Hotels from January 1977 to October 1980, undated	box 02	folder 05
Record of Runs: Hotels from December 1979 to January 1981, undated	box 02	folder 06
Record of Runs: Hotels from December 1980 to January 1982, undated	box 02	folder 06