

Guide to the Henry and Anita Schuster Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Schuster, Henry
Contributor:	Schuster, Anita
Title:	Henry and Anita Schuster Papers
ID:	MS-00580
Date [inclusive]:	1941-2011
Physical Description:	5 Linear Feet (3 boxes and 2 oversize boxes.)
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	Most materials are in English, although some are in German or French.
Abstract:	Collection is comprised of correspondence, speeches, essays, meeting minutes, photographs, research materials, publications, press clippings, awards, and event programs (1941-2011) that document the life of Henry Schuster, and his work with his wife Anita. Materials are mainly related to the Holocaust and to Holocaust memory and survivor organizations (especially the Holocaust Survivor's Group of Southern Nevada, which the couple founded, and L'Œuvre de Secours aux Enfants). Genealogical information is also included, as well as records of Henry Schuster's time in the U.S. Army and his studies at the Manhattan Technical Institute.

Preferred Citation

Henry and Anita Schuster Papers, 1941-2011. MS-00580. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note: Henry Schuster

Henry Schuster (1926-2014), a child survivor of the Holocaust and 20-year resident of Las Vegas, Nevada, established the Holocaust Survivors Group of Southern Nevada in 1995 with his wife Anita. He served as President Emeritus of the Survivors Group, and also as Jewish Lay Leader for Nellis Air Force Base. Schuster's escape from Nazi persecution was aided by the French humanitarian organization L'Œuvre de Secours aux Enfants (OSE), and he was instrumental in the planning a 50th anniversary reunion for "OSE

children" that was attended by 170 survivors from around the world. His mother and one of his sisters were killed in the Holocaust, but his other sister, Betty Kale, survived Bergen-Belsen and later moved to the United States. In 2010 he published his memoir, *Abraham's Son: The Making of an American*.

Schuster was born on March 18, 1926 in Sterbfritz, Kreis Schlüchtern, Germany. After his father's death in 1936, his mother placed him in a Jewish orphanage in Frankfurt. Because of Nazi persecution, Schuster left Germany in 1939 with a children's transport. He was sent first to Paris, then to the French countryside, and finally to live with relatives in the United States in 1941. He arrived in Shreveport, Louisiana at age 15 with no knowledge of English, but was able to finish high school in three years with honors. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps from 1944 to 1946, and was sent back to Germany in 1945 as part of the Occupation Forces. After his discharge, he studied at Manhattan Technical Institute. In 1948 he married Anita Kleiman, with whom he had four children. The family lived in Peoria, Illinois for twenty years, where Henry and Anita were active in the Jewish community as adult advisors for the Synagogue Youth Group. Henry also served on the Board of Directors for the Agudas Achim Synagogue and was the chairman of the building committee. In 1993 the Schusters retired to Las Vegas where Henry passed away on May 26, 2014.

Source: Schuster, Henry D. *An interview with Henry and Anita Schuster: an oral history conducted by Claytee D. White*. Las Vegas: The Boyer Las Vegas Early History Project, Oral History Research Center at UNLV, University Libraries, University of Las Vegas, 2007.

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Biographical Note: Anita Schuster

Anita Schuster (née Kleiman, 1930-) co-founded the Holocaust Survivors Group of Southern Nevada in 1995 with her husband Henry and has served on the board of directors for the Jewish Community Center of Las Vegas and as a member of the Jewish Federation Women's Division. Anita Kleiman was born in New York City on August 31, 1930. She married Henry Schuster in 1948 and the couple had four children. The family lived in Peoria, Illinois for twenty years, where Henry and Anita were active in the Jewish community as adult advisors for the Synagogue Youth Group. After relocating to Los Angeles in 1969, Anita worked as an office manager for a construction company, and was later promoted to controller. In 1993 Anita and Henry retired to Las Vegas. Anita served as co-president of the Holocaust Survivors Group, and also edited and published its *Survivors Chronicle*.

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Scope and Contents Note

Collection is comprised of correspondence, speeches, essays, meeting minutes, photographs, research materials, publications, press clippings, awards, and event programs (1941-2011) that document the life of Henry Schuster, and his work with his wife Anita. Materials are mainly related to the Holocaust and

to Holocaust memory and survivor organizations (especially the Holocaust Survivor's Group of Southern Nevada, which the couple founded, and L'Œuvre de Secours aux Enfants). Genealogical information is also included, as well as records of Henry Schuster's time in the U.S. Army and his studies at the Manhattan Technical Institute.

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Arrangement Note

Materials remain in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open for research. Portions of this collection have been digitized and are available online at: <http://d.library.unlv.edu/cdm/search/searchterm/MS-00580>

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2011 and 2015; accession numbers 2011-013, 2015-019.

Additions

Further accruals are anticipated.

Processing Note

These records are unprocessed. A rough inventory of the accession was created by Emily Lapworth in 2015. To prepare the inventory, the described materials were reviewed to create a contents list, estimate dates, and identify material types. No other work has been performed on the materials.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

The following collection provides additional resources on the lives of Henry and Anita Schuster: Henry and Anita Schuster Oral History Interview, OH-01647, CT247 .S37 2007

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Names and Subjects

- Holocaust survivors
- Jews -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- History
- Holocaust Survivors Group of Southern Nevada (Las Vegas, Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Papers on the Holocaust, L'Œuvre de Secours aux Enfants (OSE), the Holocaust Survivors Group of Southern Nevada, and other Holocaust memorial events in the Las Vegas area, 1941-2011 Physical Description: 1 Linear Feet	box 1-3
Military and personal papers, 1945-2008 (bulk 1945-1946) Physical Description: 0.12 Linear Feet	box 3
Manhattan Technical Institute papers, 1947 Physical Description: 0.12 Linear Feet	box 3
Photographs, 1946-2007 Physical Description: 1 Linear Feet	box 4
Genealogy, probably 1995 Physical Description: .34 Linear Feet	box 5
Newspapers, 2003-2011 Physical Description: .33 Linear Feet	box 5
Audiovisual materials, 2011, undated Physical Description: 0.33 Linear Feet	box 5