

Wilmington Historical Society
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Finding Aid for the Carlos "Charlie" Rico, Lions Club of Wilmington Collection, 1954-2013

Collection Overview

Title: Carlos "Charlie" Rico, Lions Club of Wilmington Collection

Dates: 1954-2013

ID: CRL

Primary Creator: Rico, Carlos Garcia, 1927-2016

Extent: 1.27 linear feet

Arrangement: This collection is arranged at the collection level, alphabetically by subject.

Forms of Material: Documents, photographic materials, objects

Language of materials: English

Abstract

The Carlos "Charlie" Rico, Lions Club of Wilmington Collection primarily documents Rico's membership and tenure as President of the organization between 1994 and 2013. The collection includes administrative records, photographs, and planning and promotional materials related to philanthropic activities and a small amount of material related to Lions Club International. The collection is arranged at the collection level, alphabetically by subject.

Biographical/Administrative History

Carlos "Charlie" Garcia Rico was born in Los Angeles County, California on April 12, 1927 to parents, Joe George and Mary Rico (née Garcia). The family lived in the Harbor area and Joe worked as a welder for the Bethlehem Steel Company in San Pedro. Charlie attended Wilmington schools and graduated from Phineas Banning High School in 1945. He married Bernice Stathes on February 28, 1945 in Zacatepec, Morelos, Mexico. Shortly after graduation, he enlisted in the United States Navy. He was stationed in Corona, California where he worked as a cartoonist for the naval station newspaper.

Charlie was discharged from the Navy in June 1946 and briefly worked at the Long Beach naval shipyard as a transportation dispatcher. He attended Los Angeles Trade Technical School, earning a certificate in technical illustration, and later became a graphic artist at Los Angeles Harbor College. In addition to his work as an illustrator, he also taught commercial lettering, sign

painting, and other graphic arts at Harbor College and the Banning-Carson Adult School, and worked as Boys Activities Director at Wilmington Recreation Center, where he taught drawing and cartooning.

Charlie was an active member in several community organizations, most significantly the Wilmington Lions Club, which he joined in 1996. Through Lions Club membership, he was involved in many community projects, including Habitat for Humanity, Flag Day ceremonies at various elementary schools, and the annual Charity Downhill Race. Rico also served on the Port Committee Advisory Commission, a standing committee of the Port of Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners. Carlos "Charlie" Garcia Rico passed away on July 2, 2016, and is buried at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Long Beach, California.

The Wilmington Lions Club was established on June 25, 1936. Charter members included: Charles W. Gorham, president, James Clark, first vice-president, J. L. "Chuck" Wood, second vice-president, Dwayne Larson, secretary-treasurer, and Leo Bray, Tail Twister. The group held dinner meetings at the California Yacht Club in Wilmington and offered educational lectures on topics such as community development, local government and political issues, history of the area, health and safety, and current events. The Wilmington Lions Club was, and continues to be involved in a number of philanthropic projects, including community health screenings and health care fairs, youth sports and recreation programs, and fundraising for homeless and low-income individuals and families.

Scope and Contents

The Carlos "Charlie" Rico, Lions Club of Wilmington Collection primarily documents Rico's membership and tenure as President of the organization between 1994 and 2013. The collection includes event planning and promotional materials, administrative records, correspondence, photographs, and other documents related to Rico's philanthropic activities. Highlights include a collection of Lions Club commemorative pins, patches, decals, and stickers, Rico's presidential gavel, and the Lions Club International official songbook, published in 1954. The collection is arranged alphabetically by subject.

Creators

Personal Name:

Rico, Carlos "Charlie" Garcia Rico, 1927-2016

Organization Names:

Lions Club of Wilmington

Lions Club International

Subject Headings

Topical Terms:

Fraternal organizations

Fund raising

Men--Societies and clubs

Women--Societies and clubs

Organization names:

Habitat for Humanity, Inc.
La Leche League International

Geographical locations:

Los Angeles County (Calif.)
San Pedro (Los Angeles, Calif.)
Wilmington (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Documentary forms:

Documents
Objects
Photographic materials

Administrative Information

Processing Information: Holli Teltoe, 2023-2024

Processing of this collection is made possible by generous donations from Marathon Petroleum Corporation, Wilmington Neighborhood Council, Fast Lane Transportation, I.L.W.U. Credit Union, Russell and Laura Mohberg, and Lendistry.

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Conditions Governing Access: The collection is open for research use.

Preferred Citation: Carlos "Charlie" Rico, Wilmington Lions Club Collection. Wilmington Historical Society.

Acquisition: Charlotte Rico

Related Materials: Alex N. Albright, Wilmington Lions Club President's Book

Collection Contents

Box 1

Folder 1: Administrative Records, 1962, 1999, 2000, 2004, 2013

Folder 2: Brochures, 1999-2000

Folder 3: Certificates of Membership, 2012, 2013

Folder 4: Charity Downhill Race, 2000, 2002

Folder 5: Charity Downhill Race Programs, 2000-2003

- Folder 6:** Charity Downhill Race and Legends Car Show Programs, 2004, 2005
- Folder 7:** Charity Downhill Race and Legends Car Show Programs, 2005, 2007, 2009
- Folder 8:** Gaffey Street Downhill Race, 1999, 2000
- Folder 9:** Habitat for Humanity, 2002-2005
- Folder 10:** Holiday Parties and Parades, 1999, 2000, 2003
- Folder 11:** The International Association of Lions Clubs Constitution and By-Laws, 1996, 1998
- Folder 12:** The International Association of Lions Clubs, Songs for Lions, 1954
- Folder 13:** Jenny Oropeza, 2000
- Folder 14:** La Leche League, 1999
- Folder 15:** Lions Club International, 1999, 2002-2003
- Folder 16:** Lions Club International and Habitat for Humanity, 2001
- Folder 17:** Mobile Medical Screening, 1999
- Folder 18:** Pancake Breakfast, 2004, 2007
- Folder 19:** Relay Event, 2012
- Folder 20:** School Visits, 1996, 1999, 2004, 2007
- Folder 21:** Unknown Events, 1994-1995, 1997-2000, 2002-2004, 2006-2007
- Folder 22:** Unknown Events
- Item 1:** Commemorative Pin, Friends of Banning's Landing Community Center
- Item 2:** Commemorative Pin, Future Port
- Item 3:** Decal, Lions International, "Dime and a Prayer" for Cancer Research, Another Lions Project
- Item 4:** Decal, Remember Lions Drag Strip, 1955-1972, "A Tribute to Lions Drag Strip," Carson Convention Center, 1998 June 4-7

- Item 5:** Endorsement Stamp, Wilmington Lions Club
- Item 6:** Fabric Patch, Lions International (2)
- Item 7:** Fabric Patch, President
- Item 8:** Fabric Patch, Wilderness Camp for Deaf Children, Inc., CAL MD-4-NEV
- Item 9:** Fabric Patch, Wilderness Camp for Deaf Children, Inc., CAL-NEV
- Item 10:** Fraternal Banner, Wilmington Lions Club (3)
- Item 11:** Fraternal Pin, 100% Attendance, 2009-2010
- Item 12:** Fraternal Pin, 4C-5, CA, Golden Empire Zone
- Item 13:** Fraternal Pin, 4-L3 Eyemobile, So. Calif., 1976
- Item 14:** Fraternal Pin, 55th Annual Convention, Mexico City, 4-L3, Southern California, B, Mexico, 1972
- Item 15:** Fraternal Pin, 93rd International Convention, MD 201, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Norfolk Isl., Timor, 2010
- Item 16:** Fraternal Pin, Believe in the Power of Joel I. L. Pastor, District Governor, Lions Clubs International, District 4-L3, California, 2011-2012
- Item 17:** Fraternal Pin, District 4-L3 Convention, Santa Catalina Island, 1989 May 18-20
- Item 18:** Fraternal Pin, Heart of the Harbor, Wilmington 50th, 1936 (2), 1986
- Item 19:** Fraternal Pin, International Convention, District 4-L3, Los Angeles, California, Seoul, Korea, 1995
- Item 20:** Fraternal Pin, Kyoto Otokuni
- Item 21:** Fraternal Pin, La Atarazana, 15 Años, C. Guayaquil, 1968-1983
- Item 22:** Fraternal Pin, Lions Club, Kayumanggi, Harbor South Bay, California, 4-L3
- Item 23:** Fraternal Pin, Lions International (4)
- Item 24:** Fraternal Pin, Long Beach Centennial, All American Pin Company, 1987
- Item 25:** Fraternal Pin, MD4 Dallas, California-Nevada (2), 1975

Item 26: Fraternal Pin, Multiple District 19, Lions International, Seattle, Washington, 2011

Item 27: Fraternal Pin, New Mexico Jayceettes

Item 28: Fraternal Pin, October Growth Award, 1986

Item 29: Fraternal Pin, San Pedro Valley, 21-B, Mammoth, Arizona (2)

Item 30: Fraternal Pin, San Pedro, California, 1922

Item 31: Fraternal Pin, Service Our Nature, Dist. 322-B, India, 1994

Item 32: Fraternal Pin, Share the Vision of Service, District Governor, District 4-L3, Jesse G. Cordova, Home Club, Palos Verdes Peninsula, 1992-1993

Item 33: Fraternal Pin, South Tucson Lions, Tucson, Arizona, 1947-1987

Item 34: Fraternal Pin, Tri-Club Installation, San Pedro, Harbor City, Wilmington, 2004
June 24

Item 35: Fraternal Pin, W. V. L. C., 50 Years

Item 36: Fraternal Pin, We Serve, 100% Attendance Award, 1992-1993

Item 37: Fraternal Pin, Westwood Village Lions Club, Fifty Years Community Service, 1937-1987

Item 38: Hat, American Legion, Leonidas Post. No. 285

Item 39: Presidential Gavel, Charlie Rico-President

Item 40: Sticker, Food 4 Less

Item 41: Stickers, Lions International

Item 42: Stickers, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Item 43: Tie, Lions International

Map Case 2

Flat File 1: Charity Downhill Race, 2003

[end of box list]