Guide to the
GALEN BURKE COLLECTION
1966-1991
7 linear inches
Accession Number: 9900-03
Collection Number: 27
Prepared by Kevin Kendro
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CITATION: The Galen Burke Collection, Collection 27, Box number, Folder number, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Historical Sketch

Galen Burke, Irving resident, pilot, and flight engineer, was an instrumental member or founder of three hobby clubs in the area: The Irving Bicycle and Touring Club, The Dallas Hullraiser Catamaran Club, and the Metro Movie Makers.

The Irving Bicycle and Touring Club held its organizational meeting in October 1971. Officers were elected at a November meeting. Club dues were $4 per year, and membership was open to those with any size or type of bicycle. The club held weekly pleasure rides in various sections of the city and surrounding area. Each ride was planned and led by a club member. Club meetings were held at the American Bike Center, which was located on N. Belt Line Road. The bike center also served as the beginning point for many of the club’s rides. The Irving Bicycle and Touring Club was in existence approximately two years before disbanding.

The Dallas Hullraisers Catamaran Club was founded by Mr. Burke and three friends in May 1970. The club was formed to encourage sailing, sailboat racing, and seamanship, and to build camaraderie among sailing enthusiasts. The club conducted races every other weekend from the spring through the fall at area lakes, with Grapevine and North Lakes being primary locations. The club grew to sixteen members by the end of the 1970 season.

In March 1971, the Hobie Cat Class Association approved the club’s application for a fleet charter, and the club was designated as Fleet #23. After receiving fleet designation, the club name was changed to Dallas Hobie Cat Fleet #23. In addition to weekend races, club members also participated in state and regional regattas. In 1971, the club divided into two classes: Hobie Cat 14’ and Hobie Cat 16’. The club sponsored two races for each class every other Sunday.
In 1972, the organization established two racing seasons; the spring season lasting from March until May, and the fall session from August through October.

In October of 1971, Fleet #23 voted to form an organization to include catamaran sailboats other than strictly Hobie Cats. The resulting organization was the North Texas Catamaran Association.

Although Mr. Burke is no longer associated with Fleet #23, it continues to conduct business (2000).

The Dallas 8mm Movie Club was founded in 1947 by enthusiasts of the then new technology. The purpose of the organization was to “aid and benefit, by mutual cooperation, the amateur movie makers residing in the Dallas District.” The club held 8mm film contests, the winners of which would receive an “Oscar” awarded at the club’s annual banquet.

In August 1979, the club’s name was changed to the Metro Movie Makers in order to attract a wider diversity of amateur film makers. With the advent of videotape during the 1980s, fewer people were shooting with 8mm film resulting in the club’s dwindling membership. In 1982, the Metro Movie Makers disbanded.

Sources:

The Galen Burke Collection, Collection 27, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Notes from interview with Galen Burke, October 1999.

Series Description


Scope and Content

The Galen Burke Collection consists of material collected by Mr. Galen Burke, relating to three hobby clubs he helped establish or of which he was an instrumental member. The collection is contained in one manuscript box and one flat box containing twelve folders and three 8mm films.

The collection consists of three series, one for each of the clubs chronicled. Series I, Irving Bicycle and Touring Club, established by Mr. Burke and friends, consists mainly of newsletters. Also included are two club rosters.
Series II consists of newsletters, club records, and publications relating to the Dallas Hullraisers Catamaran Club. Mr. Burke and three friends were the founders of this group. Also included are Hobie Cat racing rules and the by-laws of the North Texas Catamaran Association. This association was begun by the members of the Dallas Hullraisers to be inclusive of more varying types of catamaran style sailboats.

Series III is made up of the club records, newsletters, correspondence, publications, photographs, and films relating to the Metro Movie Makers Club. The club began in 1947 as the Dallas 8mm Movie Club. In 1979, the club name was changed to the Metro Movie Makers Club. Material under both names is included in the collection. Most of the correspondence is from Thomas P. Clark, the man the club used to judge many of their film contests.

In 1980-1981, the club developed and shot a film project entitled “Least of Evidence.” A copy of the raw footage of the film and the shooting script are included in the collection. Many of the photos in the material are of the group working on the film. The rest of the photos are taken at club meetings.

Two additional films are included in the collection. These are travelogues made by club member W. L. Barton of his trips to Alaska and New Zealand.

The material is in good condition. The films have not been reviewed but they appear to be in good condition. The material was separated by club when it was received; beyond that there was no clear order. The processor maintained the separation by club, but arranged the material within each club group first by document type and then chronologically. A file containing vendor catalogues was discarded.

**Provenance Statement**

The Galen Burke Collection, accession number 9900-03, was donated to the Irving Archives by Galen Burke in October 1999. Prior to its donation to the Archives, the material was in Mr. Burke’s possession.

**Literary Rights Statement**

Permission to publish from the Galen Burke Collection must be obtained from the Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

**Container List**

**Series I. Irving Bicycle and Touring Club**

**Box 1**

**Folder**

1 Newsletters and Club Records, 1971-1972
Contains newsletters (October 1971-May 1972); one club roster (1972); list of dues paying members as of Dec. 1971.
Series II. Dallas Hullraisers Catamaran Club

2 Newsletters and Club Records, 1970-1972

3 Publications, c. 1971
Contains two early 1970s publications relating to Hobie Cats.

4 North Texas Catamaran Association records, 1972
Contains a brief history of the North Texas Catamaran Association; officer roster; and by-laws. Also included is a racing protest form.

5 Racing Rules, 1970 and 1972
Contains Hobie Cat class racing rules, 1970 and 1972

Series III. Metro Movie Makers

Contains membership rosters, 1974-1982; minutes March-Dec. 1976 and Feb.-March 1982; by-laws amended to 1966 and 1976. At the back of the folder are copies of rosters on which names have been added by hand or notes made. These were received stapled together. Since it is unclear which roster followed which, the processor has left them stapled together so they will retain their original order. Also included are two club constitutions amended to 1966 and 1976.

7 Correspondence, 1974-1991 (bulk 1974-1981)
Contains correspondence. The vast majority of the correspondence is with Mr. Thomas P. Clark who served as judge in many of the club’s film making contests. Also included at the back of this folder is a speech given by Mr. Burke at the club’s banquet dinner in January 1977.

Contains newsletters of the Dallas 8mm Film Club and Metro Movie Makers: “The Shutterbug” and “Film Clips.”

9 Photographs, 1970s-1980s
Contains photographs taken at club meetings and during the making of the club project film “Least of Evidence.”

10 Photographs, 1970s-1980s
Contains photographs taken at club meetings and during the making of the club project film “Least of Evidence.” Included in this folder is the shooting script for the film “Least of Evidence.”

11 Publications, 1974-1989
Contains material from various publications relating to filmmaking.
Contains handwritten notes relating to the club and its activities. Also contains Metro Movie Makers logo transparencies and membership applications.

Box 2

Films

Contains three 8mm films. Two of the films are 8mm travelogues taken in New Zealand and Alaska by club member W. L. Barton. The third film is the raw footage of “Least of Evidence,” the 8mm club film project from 1980-1981.