

# Fischer Family Collection, circa 1900-1979, undated

## Administration Information

### Creator

Fischer, Nelson  
Fischer, Thelma Hildebrand  
Fischer, Arthur

### Call Number

Buffalo Collection CS71.F5328 F57 1900-1979

### Extent

1 manuscript box, 1 half box, 2 oversize boxes (3.18 linear feet)

### Abstract

Personal scrapbooks, clippings, and family photographs compiled by Arthur Fischer, Nelson Fischer, and Thelma Hildebrand Fischer of Buffalo, NY.

### Terms of Use

The *Fischer Family Collection* is open for research.

### Reproduction of Materials

See librarian for information on reproducing materials from this collection, including photocopies, digital camera images, or digital scans, as well as copyright restrictions that may pertain to these materials.

### Acquisition

The *Fischer Family Collection* was donated to the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library by Nelson Fischer, Jr. circa 2008.

### Processing Information

Collection processed by: Susan Cutrona, December 2013; additions from 2018 processed by Charles Alaimo.

Finding aid written by: Susan Cutrona, January 2016; updated 2023.

### Biographical Note

Nelson “Nano” G. Fischer (May 7, 1914—June 12, 1987<sup>1</sup>) and his brother Arthur “Buddy” Fischer (1917—August 28, 1944<sup>1</sup>) were born and raised in Buffalo, NY. Both attended Fosdick-Masten Park High School and were active in athletics, including baseball, football, and track. Nelson began his Army service in February of 1941 and married Thelma Hildebrand in September 1941. Thelma (April 12, 1910—February 18, 1992<sup>1&3</sup>) kept a detailed scrapbook of Nelson’s time in the army, from 1941 to 1944. In 1945, after returning home, Nelson became a firefighter with the Buffalo Fire Department. He retired in 1975<sup>2</sup>.

Arthur Fischer also served in the Army during the war; he was wounded in 1944 at the Battle of Saint-Lô, France and died in a hospital in Atlantic City, New Jersey shortly after<sup>4</sup>.

### **Sources:**

1. Ancestry.com. U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935-2014 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2011. Original data: Social Security Administration. Social Security Death Index, Master File. Social Security Administration.
2. Nelson Fischer death notice, Buffalo Evening News, June, 14 1987: B12.
3. Thelma Fischer death notice, Buffalo Evening News, February, 19, 1992: C7
4. Arthur Fischer obituary, Courier Express, August 31, 1944: 15

### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of three scrapbooks and related loose ephemera, a memo book, and photographs. The scrapbooks chronicle Nelson's and Arthur's high school sports accomplishments in the 1930s and Nelson's service in the Army during WWII. Photographs of the Fischer and Hildebrand families include professional baby photos and amateur snapshots.

### **Arrangement**

- Series I. Scrapbooks & related ephemera, circa 1929-1944, undated.
- Series II. Photographs, circa 1900-1945, undated.

### **Container List**

#### **Series I. Scrapbooks & related ephemera, circa 1929-1944, undated**

*Arranged chronologically.*

Box 1: [Nelson Fischer Sports Scrapbook, 1929-1936, undated]; athletic achievements in football and track at Fosdick-Masten Park High School, and municipal softball in the years following; includes newspaper clippings, a few photographs, and yellow fabric varsity letters.

Box 2: [Arthur Fischer Sports Scrapbook, 1932-1937, undated]; athletic achievements in baseball and football at Fosdick-Masten Park and Canisius College; newspaper clippings and a few photographs.

Box 3: [Nelson Fischer Scrapbook, 1941-1944]; compiled by Thelma; includes ephemera and mementos from Nelson's army training at Fort Knox, KY and Pine Camp in Jefferson County, NY, his World War II experience overseas, and furloughs; mostly telegrams, holiday greeting cards, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and small souvenirs.

Box 4.1: Nelson Fischer, miscellaneous sports ephemera, 1929-1936, undated.

4.2: Nelson Fischer, race bibs (numbers), undated

4.3: Nelson Fischer, Florida Coast League baseball clippings and ephemera, circa 1938.

4.4: Nelson Fischer, Record book for raffle for the Young Men's Demo. Club, 11th Ward Division.

- 4.5 Nelson Fischer, miscellaneous WWII ephemera, 1942-1945, undated; postcards, telegrams, souvenirs and Honorable Discharge.  
4.6 Nelson Fischer, newspaper clippings (copies), 1941-1979, undated.  
4.7 Newspaper clippings (copies), 1942-1945, undated.

## **Series II. Photographs, circa 1900-1955, undated.**

*Arranged by subject.*

- 4.8 Fischer & Hildebrand family, identified, circa 1900-1945, undated.  
4.9 Miscellaneous and unidentified, circa 1900-1955, undated. Includes Fischer's City of Buffalo Department of Fire certificate with signed photograph (Addition 2018). Loose in box, 2 pray books/devotionals, and WWI Infantry Manual, 1917 (Addition 2018); Fire Department badge "503" and dog tag; 2 birthday wishes from the White House addressed to Thelma Fischer and signed by Barbara and George Bush; miscellaneous postcards (Additions 2018).

## **Separated Materials**

Two yearbooks belonging to the Fischer brothers have been added to the Buffalo Collection yearbooks for ease of access.

Buffalo Collection LD7501.B9 C5. Fosdick-Masten Park High School. *The Chronicle* [Yearbook], 1932 & 1934.

## **Search Terms**

### **Authors**

Compilers:

Fischer, Nelson

Fischer, Thelma Hildebrand

Fischer, Arthur

### **Subject terms**

World War, 1939-1945

Fosdick-Masten Park High School (Buffalo, N.Y.)

Buffalo (N.Y.) -- Social life and customs.

Pine Camp (N.Y.)

Fischer Family

### **Genre terms**

black-and-white photographs

correspondence

scrapbooks

clippings (information artifacts)