
Guide to the John G. Schmitz Campaign Materials

Collection number: MS-R47

Special Collections and Archives
The UCI Libraries

University of California
Irvine, California

Contact Information

- Special Collections and Archives
- The UCI Libraries
- P.O. Box 19557
- University of California
- Irvine, California 92623-9557
- Phone: (949) 824-7227
- Fax: (949) 824-2472
- Email: spcoll@uci.edu
- URL: <http://www.lib.uci.edu/rjsc/speccoll.html>

Processed by:

Tami Morse McGill

Date Completed:

2001

Encoded by:

Tami Morse McGill

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Descriptive Summary

Title: John G. Schmitz campaign materials,

Date (inclusive): 1968-1976

Date (bulk): 1972

Collection number: MS-R047

Creator: Schmitz, John G., 1930-

Extent: 0.6 linear feet (1 box and 2 oversize folders)

Repository: University of California, Irvine. Library. Special Collections and Archives.

Irvine, California 92623-9557

Abstract: This collection comprises news clippings, correspondence, memoranda, press releases and other papers related to the 1972 campaign of John G. Schmitz as the nominee of the American Party for President of the United States. Also included are news stories and publications by and about the national American Party and its affiliated state parties.

Language: English

Access

Collection is open for research. Access to fragile originals is restricted when preservation photocopies are available.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

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Acquisition Information

Gift of John G. Schmitz, 1979.

Processing History

Arranged in labeled folders and a brief inventory created in 1996. Fully processed by Tami Morse McGill in 2001.

Biography

John G. Schmitz was born on August 12, 1930 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In 1964 Schmitz was elected as a Republican to the California State Senate and was reelected in 1966. He successfully ran for a seat in the United States Congress in 1970, where he represented Newport Beach, California (35th District) for a single term. After losing his congressional reelection bid in the June primaries in 1972, Schmitz was nominated to run for President of the United States by the American Party, known in California as the American Independent Party. Although unsuccessful, he and his running mate Tom Anderson received over a million votes in the 1972 presidential election. Schmitz returned to the Republican Party after this election and ran unsuccessfully for Congress in 1976. He served again in the California State Senate from 1978-1982. Schmitz died on January 10, 2001, in Washington, D.C.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

This collection comprises news clippings, correspondence, memoranda, press releases and other papers related to the 1972 campaign of John G. Schmitz as the nominee of the American Party for President of the United States. Also included are news stories and publications by and about the national American Party and its affiliated state parties.

Clippings include those collected by the Schmitz-Anderson campaign office. They consist of both publicity (press releases) and unsolicited campaign coverage, and a few articles on Schmitz's activities before and after the campaign.

There are also a large number of letters and telegrams received by Schmitz or the campaign office. They include expressions of support, requests for materials, statistics on the election results, and letters calling Schmitz's attention to particular issues. Much of the correspondence also includes news clippings enclosed by the senders.

The collection includes newsletters and other documents concerning the history, activities, and platform of the American Party and affiliated state parties, for example, the American Independent Party, the Courage Party, and the Kansas Conservative Party. It does not contain any materials relating to Schmitz's terms in the California State Senate or the United States Congress.

The collection is arranged topically.

Related Collections

A related collection of political ephemera from Schmitz's senatorial office and campaigns can be found in the California Political Publication and Ephemera Collection (MS-R14), Special Collections and Archives, the UC Irvine Libraries.

Papers relating John G. Schmitz's term in the United States Congress are at the Wichita State University Special Collections and University Archives. A finding aid is available online at their Web site. Two sound tape reels and one film reel of commercials used in Schmitz's presidential campaign are at the University of Oklahoma Political Commercial Archive, Department of Communication, Burton Hall, Norman, OK 73019.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects

Schmitz, John G. 1930- --Archives.

American Party (1967-)--Archival resources.

American Independent Party (Calif.)--Archival resources.
Presidents--United States--Election--1972--Archival resources.
United States--Politics and government--Archival resources.
Orange County (Calif.)--Archival resources.

Genres and Forms of Material

Campaign paraphernalia--United States.

Occupations

Politicians--United States.

Box 1 : 1-2 **American Party nationwide party materials**

Box 1 : 1 *A Brief history of the organization and development of California's American Independent Party, and of the state party's conflict with the national Wallace campaign* , photocopy of a report, ca. 1968

Box 1 : 2 **American Party and affiliated state parties, correspondence, clippings, fliers, and newsletters, 1972-1976 and undated**

Box FB-22 : 3 **Platform brochure, undated**

Box FB-22 : 3 **Oversize newsletters, 1972-1974 and undated, use copies**

Box FB-24 : 1 **Oversize newsletters, 1972-1974 and undated.**

Access Information

Access to fragile originals is restricted.

Box 1 : 3-8 **Campaign materials**

Box 1 : 3 **American Party convention program and approved platform, 1972**

Box 1 : 4 **Campaign file, 1972-1973 and undated**

Box 1 : 5-6 **Correspondence received by Schmitz-Anderson campaign, 1972-1975.**

Physical Description: 2 folders.

Box FB-22 : 3 **Oversize material, 1972, use copies**

Box FB-24 : 1 **Oversize material, 1972.**

Access Information

Access to fragile originals is restricted.

Box 1 : 7-8 **News clippings, 1971-1976 and undated.**

Physical Description: 2 folders.

Box FB-22 : 3 **Oversize material, 1972**

Box 1 : 9 **Writings of John G. Schmitz on the American Party and his Presidential campaign, 1972-1973**