



Archives and Records

Finding Aid

COLLECTION NUMBER: Coll.20
TITLE: Papers of Albert Wakefield and Marshall Belmaine

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator: Albert Wakefield and Marshall Belmaine
Title: Papers of Albert Wakefield and Marshall Belmaine
Extent: 1 Record Carton and 1 Photo Album (art)
Repository: The History Project, Archives and Records

Finding aid prepared for The History Project, Archives and Records Department by Amy Kennedy, Volunteer, under the supervision of Libby Bouvier and Andrew Elder, 2009.

SUBJECT TERMS

Subject Names:

- Gay Organizations - Boston
- Gays - U.S. Military
- Gay - Leather Clubs
- Gay - Motorcycle Clubs
- U.S. History - Vietnam
- U.S. Military
- PTSD

Subject Topics:

- Art
- Gay History
- Gay's in the Military
- Gay Organizations - Boston
- Leather Men - Boston
- Motorcycle Clubs - Boston
- PTSD
- Vietnam

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Terms of Use/Copyright: Unrestricted, though some items in the collection are copyrighted by individuals and/or organizations outside The History Project.

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HISTORICAL ABSTRACT

The collection chronicles the lives of Albert Wakefield and Marshall Belmaine from the 1950's to the 1990's. There is military information about the service records of both men. Al Wakefield served in Vietnam and was decorated for service. Military materials span from the late 1950's to the 1990's. Some examples of art by Al are included in the collection. There are hardcopies and electronic records of letters and files pertaining to their lives. An art album containing examples of drawings by Al Wakefield of military service in Vietnam is included in the collection. A button collection of buttons depicting the Motorcycle Club, the Vikings, is included in the collection.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Both Albert Wakefield and Marshall Belmaine, gay partners, were active in the gay scene in Boston in the 1970's through the 1990's. They formed gay men's organizations, such as the Homophile Union, Papa Gayos, and "The Gay Co-op." and motorcycle/leather clubs for gay men called the Vikings. Al Wakefield entered a program for PTSD sufferers around 1994. He worked as a janitor in an elementary school and left that job to enter a PTSD program. Marshall Belmaine served in Vietnam in the Marines, and Al Wakefield served in the Army, also in Vietnam. Marshall was injured in Vietnam in the Quang Tri Republic in Spring of 1967. One or both men are believed to now reside in Florida.

FOLDER LIST

Folder 1a: 1.44 MB disks – Archive 1 / Archive 2; MS Word files – includes listing of files, 2 pgs.

Folder 1b: MS Word Hard Copies, letters and files, e.g. Lambda Veterans, Primetimers.

Folder 2: Video Tapes, "Survival of the Fire Team," VA Hospital Performance; First Cambridge Saint Patrick's Day Parade; Racial and homosexual issues; PTSD Program.

Folder 3: Photographs – misc. Marshall and Al.

Folder 4: Letters from Children to Marshall who was leaving job as janitor at school.

Folder 5: Primetimers Perspective newsletters Dec. 1994, Spring 1995; Gay persons guide to New England 1975; Copy of Night Blooming – about Allyn Amundson

(See also Organization File: Prime Timers; Coll.21 – Bob Wheatly Collection).

Folder 6: 1957 Military Materials; Vikings Registration Certificate; Selective Service Material, cross references by Hard Copy and Disk.

Folder 7: Men of Colors, Bay State Lambda Veterans; Vikings "The Longship" (Al Wakefield Art).

Folder 8: Al Wakefield Art; leather store, includes linoleum cut "Al and Marshall."

Folder 9: Military info.

Folder 10: Viking Constitution- The Viking Motorcycle Club; Viking Materials - "The Longship"

Folder 11: Papa Gayos [sic] Organization of Gay Professional Men.

Folder 12: The Gay Cooperative "Gay Co-op."

Folder 13: Homophile Union of Boston; Fashion Show

(See also Coll.9 - Homophile Union of Boston Collection)

Folder 14: Letter to Al Wakefield regarding Paul Gardner's arrest.

Folder 15: Clapgood and Whitney Show - "Wakefield and Belmaine discussing gay marriage and DOMA," (See also RCFM Collection).

Folder 16: "Tri-men Trumpet," (1999) Newsletter of gay men of Medford, Malden, Melrose and surrounding area.

Folder 17: Misc Materials

ADDITIONAL BOX/ART BINDER

Folder 18: Buttons (Most are Viking Motorcycle Club and misc Motorcycle Clubs).

Folder 19: Art Album by Al Wakefield, Vietnam war art.