

American Committee on Italian Migration

CMS.027

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February 13, 2016

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	Center for Migration Studies
Creator	American Committee on Italian Migration.
Title	American Committee on Italian Migration (ACIM) Records
Date [bulk]	Bulk, 1966-1974
Date [inclusive]	1962-1975
Extent	5.0 Linear feet Ten document boxes; box #9 is a half-document box.
Location note	CMS.027 is in the library at the Center for Migration Studies, 307 60th Street, Third Floor, New York, New York 10021
Language	English
Language of Materials note	CMS.027 is in English with some Italian.
Abstract	CMS.027 documents the activities of the Women's Division of the American Committee for Italian Migration (ACIM) under the leadership of Yolanda Coda during the 1960s and 1970s via correspondence and various materials--meeting minutes, seating charts, receipts, advertisements, invitations, programs and photographs and clippings describing the events being held--that document ACIM's Women's Division's fundraising mission.

Preferred Citation note

Center for Migration Studies Collection #027, American Committee on Italian Migration, Box X, Folder Y.

Scope and Contents note

The American Committee on Italian Migration (pronounced AH-chim) was founded in 1953 in response to the failure of the 1952 McCarran-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act to lift restrictions on Italian migration. ACIM was in part a mission of the Society of Saint Charles-Scalabrinians, an order of priests founded in Italy in 1887 to minister to migrants, and a priest served as Executive Director. The organization had a main and a Women's Division. Miss Yolanda Coda served as coordinator of the Women's Division from Greenwich Village in New York City, and she was in touch with chapters across the country. The chapters raised funds that were used to support Miss Coda's position and two others. A New York City-based social worker assisted Italian immigrants with legal paperwork regarding U.S. immigration, U.S. and Italian Social Security and veterans' benefits, and U.S. Medicare. The Executive Director traveled between New York and Washington, D.C., spearheading ACIM's lobbying efforts. ACIM contributed to the abolition of national quotas in the 1965 Hart-Celler Immigration Act and to the preservation of the fifth (married siblings) preference in the 1986 Simpson-Mazzoli Immigration Reform and Control Act. Those activities are documented in CMS.001 and CMS.001A.

ACIM's activity declined in the 2000s along with the number of Italian Americans needing aid. ACIM had already begun to transfer its voluminous records to CMS; its papers from the 1950s and 1960s make up CMS's earliest processed collection. A second deposit, covering the period from the 1970s through the 1990s, was processed in the 2000s. This deposit arrived in the late 1970s and was processed about then; it is unclear why it was separated from the other materials. Both of those collections also contain material from the Women's Division; this collection is exclusively Women's Division material. However, it is similar to the Women's Division material in CMS.001 and .00A. Yolanda Coda corresponded with local chapters and received copies of their publications, along with receipts, invoices, publications, clippings, and minute books. As the chapters have dissolved CMS.027 maintains a record of Italian-American women's activity in various parts of the country.

The Women's Division chapters' primary responsibility was fundraising, and the collection documents their efforts in that direction. Materials include minutes and memoranda devoted to planning brunches, luncheons, cocktail parties, teas, dinners, dances, cruises and fashion shows, advertisements, invitations, seating charts, posters, photographs and clippings about the event after it was over. Together, the documents extend the study of women's history to this particular group of ethnic women, the degree to which they helped to form a distinct community, and the degree to which the forming of that community revealed their degree of assimilation.

Arrangement note

CMS.027 is arranged in alphabetical order.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Center for Migration Studies

Revision Description

2016

Conditions Governing Access note

CMS.027 is accessible by appointment.

Conditions Governing Use note

Items in CMS.027 may be copyrighted. It is the researcher's responsibility to secure copyright permission before publication.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

CMS.027 came to the Center for Migration Studies through Yolada Coda, Coordinator of ACIM's Women's Division.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

CMS.001, American Committee on Italian Migration Records CMS.001A, American Committee on Italian Migration Records

Other Finding Aids note

An earlier, print, edition of the finding aid for CMS.027 is available at the CMS archives.

Collection Inventory

General Correspondence 1962-1969

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	1	1

General Correspondence 1970

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	1	2

General Correspondence 1971

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	1	3

General Correspondence 1972

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	2	4

General Correspondence 1973

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	2	5

General Correspondence 1974

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	3	6

General Correspondence 1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	3	7

Baltimore, Maryland, Chapter 1972-1976

	Box	Box
Mixed materials	4	8

Boston, Massachusetts, Chapter 1965-1971

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	4	9

Brooklyn, New York, Chapter 1974-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	4	10

Buffalo, New York, Chapter 1966-1972

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	4	11

Detroit, Michigan, Chapter 1967-1968

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	4	12

Essex, New Jersey, Chapter 1967-1974

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	4	13

Essex, New Jersey, Chapter 1974-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	5	14

Greenwich Village, New York, Chapter 1974-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	5	15

Hartford, Connecticut, Chapter 1969-1973

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	5	16

Hudson County, New Jersey, Chapter 1968-1974

	Box	Drawer
Mixed materials	6	17

Hudson County, New Jersey 1974-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	6	18

Nassau County, New York, Chapter 1968-1970

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	6	19

New Britain, Connecticut, Chapter 1966-1971

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	6	20

New Haven, Connecticut, Chapter 1974-1976

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	6	21

Providence, Rhode Island, Chapter 1963-1968

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	7	22

Queens, New York, Chapter 1969-1974

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	7	23

Queens, New York, Chapter 1974-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	7	24

Staten Island, New York Chapter, Ball Records 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	25

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Ballo in Maschera 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	26

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Bi-Centennial 1973-1975

	Box	Drawer
Mixed materials	8	27

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Camp 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	28

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Children's Aid Society 1973-1975

	Box	Drawer
Mixed materials	8	29

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Christmas Party 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	30

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Correspondence and Invitations 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	31

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Meeting Outlines 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	32

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Membership Tea Invitation 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	33

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Minutes 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	34

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Miscellaneous 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	35

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Newsletters, American Committee for Italian Migration 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	36

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Newsletters, Staten Island Chapter of the American Committee for Italian Migration 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	37

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Safety 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	38

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, San Giorgio Ship 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	39

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Sponsors Reception 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	40

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Spring Luncheon or Dinner 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	41

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Treasurer's Report 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	

Staten Island, New York, Chapter, Unit Report 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	8	43

Westchester County, New York, Chapter 1973-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	9	44

Tiziani (Italian Fashion House) 1967

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	9	45

Sirena (Italian-American Artist) 1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	10	46

Miscellaneous 1968-1975

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	10	47