6-12-2013

Peace Officers Association of Georgia Collection

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Peace Officers Association of Georgia (POAG) Collection

Extent: 7 linear feet (7 boxes)

Abstract: The collection contains meeting minutes, photographs, and quarterly publications relating to the Peace Officers Association of Georgia. All documents range in time from 1949 through 2013.

Language: English

Acquisition/Provenance Information: The collection was donated by John B. Edwards, Jr., the Secretary Treasurer of the POAG. The collection was delivered to the Georgia Southern University campus from the POAG headquarters in Reidsville, GA, on June 12, 2013. Oral histories were transferred electronically to the University Libraries in 2018.

Access Requirements and Restrictions: None; collection is open and available to the public.

Copyright: Zach S. Henderson Library Special Collections retains full copyright to this material.

Citation Information: [item]. Folder number, box number, Peace Officers Association of Georgia Collection, Zach S. Henderson Special Collections, Georgia Southern University.

History: There are some records that put the formation of the POAG as early as 1900, though heavy documentation of the Association does not begin until 1950. Formal recognition of the organization by the State of Georgia was not until 1953, when the official name “The Peace Officers Association of Georgia, Inc.” was adopted. One of the earliest and most important issues of the POAG was the establishment of a death benefit plan for members. The plan covered deaths both in the line of duty and of natural causes. Several years later, the Association turned their attention to the training and education of officers in the state. Certified training began following their 1988 convention and is still in operation today. The Association puts out a quarterly magazine entitled “The Georgia Peace Officer”. This publication has been in regular print since at least 1950. There is one issue earlier but consistent printings have only occurred since 1950.

Scope and Content: The collection contains the minutes from the Association’s annual conventions. The minutes cover the years 1950 through 1996, ordered chronologically. Intermixed are the resolutions, committee lists, and reservations lists for several of the years. Following the convention minutes are notes and minutes from the Executive Committee meetings for the years 1951-1971. There is also a collection of photographs at the end of the meeting minutes. Following the photographs are the copies of The Georgia Peace Officer, the Association’s quarterly publication. The majority of the years are full runs, though there are a few that are missing, which are in the process of being acquired. These publication runs are from 1950 through the current issue of 2013.

Topics in the minutes range from concerns solely of the Peace Officers Association, such as their death benefits and scholarship programs, to national issues, such as the believed connections between the Communist Party and the NAACP. These latter issues are prevalent in the earlier convention speeches, and are typically addressed by the noted speakers attending the convention. These speakers include
Eugene and Herman Talmadge and Ernest Vandiver. Exact speeches are included in their respective years.

The Peace Officers Association of Georgia of oral history project is hosted on Digital Commons. It includes videos and transcripts of oral history interviews with retired and active duty law enforcement officers. Faculty and Students (undergraduate and graduate) from the Georgia Southern History Department conducted the interviews from 2014-18. The goal of the oral history project was to document the evolution of law enforcement in Georgia and to educate the public.

Subject Terms: Peace officers -- Georgia -- History -- 19th century; Police officers -- Georgia -- History; Peace officers -- Georgia -- Biography;

Contents Listing:
Box 1: 0200106836030

- Folder 1: History of the Peace Officers Association of Georgia (2 copies)
- Folder 2: 1950 Annual Convention Minutes, Atlanta, GA, October 20, 1950
- Folder 3: 1952 Annual Convention Minutes, Macon, GA, October 15-16, 1952
- Folder 4: 1953 Annual Convention Minutes, Savannah, GA, October 13-14, 1953
- Folder 5: 1954 Annual Convention Minutes, Augusta, GA, November 9-10, 1954
- Folder 6: 1955 Annual Convention Minutes, Cedartown, GA, October 7, 1955
- Folder 7: 1956 Executive Committee Meeting and Annual Convention Minutes, Atlanta & Savannah, GA, October 15, 23-24, 1956
- Folder 8: 1957 Annual Convention Minutes, Augusta, GA, October 29-30, 1957
- Folder 10: 1959 Annual Convention Minutes, Atlanta, GA, August 17-19, 1959
- Folder 11: 1959, Safety Awards for 1958
- Folder 15: 1963 Annual Convention Minutes, Columbus, GA, September 23-25, 1963
- Folder 16: 1964 Annual Convention Minutes, Savannah, GA, September 21-23, 1964
- Folder 17: 1965 Annual Convention Minutes, Macon, GA, November 8-10, 1965
- Folder 19: 1966 Investigative Committee Meeting
- Folder 21: 1968 Annual Convention Minutes, Macon, GA, October 6-8, 1968

Box 2: 0200106836048

- Folder 3: 1971 Annual Convention Minutes, Macon, GA, October 10-12, 1971
- Folder 6: 1953 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 7: 1954 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 8: 1955 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 9: 1956 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 10: 1957 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 11: 1958 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 12: 1959 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 13: 1960 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 14: 1961 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- (Hardbound) 1963 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 15: 1964 *The Georgia Peace Officer*

**Box 4: 0200106625540**

- Folder 1: 1965 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 2: 1966 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 3: 1967 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 4: 1968 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 5: 1969 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 6: 1970 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 7: 1971 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 8: 1972 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 9: 1973 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 10: 1974 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 11: 1975 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 12: 1976 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 13: 1977 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 14: 1978 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 15: 1979 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 16: 1980 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 17: 1981 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 18: 1982 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 19: 1983 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 20: 1984 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 21: 1985 *The Georgia Peace Officer*

**Box 5: 0200106625557**

- Folder 1: 1986 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 2: 1987 *The Georgia Peace Officer*
- Folder 3: 1988 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 4: 1989 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 5: 1990 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 6: 1991 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 7: 1992 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 8: 1993 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 9: 1994 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 10: 1995 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 11: 1996 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 12: 1997 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 13: 1998 *The Peace Officer*

Box 6: 0200106625565

- Folder 1: 1999 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 2: 2000 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 3: 2001 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 4: 2002 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 5: 2003 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 6: 2004 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 7: 2005 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 8: 2006 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 9: 2007 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 10: 2008 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 11: 2009 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 12: 2010 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 13: 2011 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 14: 2012 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 15: 2013 *The Peace Officer*

Box 7: 0200106625573

- Folder 1: 2014 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 2: 2015 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 3: 2016 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 4: 2017 *The Peace Officer*
- Folder 5: 2018 *The Peace Officer*
- Loose item: Interview of Johnny L. Dixon (mini DVD-R)

See also: [PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA ORAL HISTORIES](#)