

GUIDE TO THE PETER J. ZWERLEIN PAPERS

Collection Abstract: The Peter J. Zwerlein Papers are comprised of photographs, newspaper clippings and other items collected by Peter Zwerlein during his years as a member of Protection Engine Company No. 1 and as Chief of the Port Washington Fire Department (1989-1991). Also included are personal items relating to community organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, Lions and Rotary Clubs, and Cow Neck Peninsula Historical Society.

Collection Title: THE PETER J. ZWERLEIN PAPERS

Inclusive Dates: 1969-1991

Size: Boxes (9 l.f.)

Source: Gift of Peter J. Zwerlein, 2005

Prepared by: Carol L. Clarke, 2005

Repository: Port Washington Public Library Local History Center

PETER J. ZWERLEIN PAPERS

INTRODUCTION:

Peter J. Zwerlein, a lifelong resident of Port Washington and graduate of Paul D. Schreiber High School, joined the Port Washington Fire Department in 1969. The son of William C. and Ruth Zwerlein, he is a third generation member of the Department. Along with his father, uncle and brothers, William G. and Robert L. (deceased), he is a member of Protection Engine Company No. 1. His grandfather, Charles Zwerlein, was a member of Atlantic Hose and Ladder Company No. 1. Beginning with his election to 2nd Assistant Engineer in 1971, Zwerlein rose through the ranks, becoming Captain of Protection Engine Company in 1978, and serving as Chief of the Department between 1989 and 1991. In addition to his involvement with the fire service, Zwerlein has received awards from the Rotary Club of Port Washington and the Port Washington Chamber of Commerce, and served as Director of the Port Washington Water Pollution District. He has also been active in the Lions' Club and Cow Neck Peninsula Historical Society.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The collection is comprised primarily of photographs and newspaper clippings relating to Zwerlein's fire department activities between 1969 and 1991. Included in the collection are invitations and programs for a variety of Company and Department celebrations, as well as invitations from other local Fire Departments to their events. Other items include awards and citations received by Zwerlein, along with realia, such as insignia, badges, name tags and ribbons.

ORGANIZATION:

The collection is arranged into 3 series:

SERIES I: Personal (1968-2005)

SERIES II: Port Washington Fire Department (1975-1992)

SERIES III: Community and Professional Involvement (1983-1991)

OTHER SUBJECTS:

Avianca Airlines Flight 52 (Plane Crash)

Dayton, Robert

Lion's Club of Port Washington

Port Washington Fire Department

Sowle, Ingrid

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS:

Series I: Personal (1968-2005; bulk dates: 1985-1992)

This series includes personal correspondence and photographs, awards and citations received by Peter Zwerlein, notes and drafts of speeches, as well as newspaper clippings and mementos pertaining to members of the Zwerlein family. Also included are scrapbooks compiled by Peter and other members of the Zwerlein family, and Fire Department badges, pins and insignia.

Series II: Port Washington Fire Department (1975-1992)

This series includes an extensive collection of invitations and programs for installations and other events sponsored by the various companies of the Port Washington Fire Department, including Atlantic Hook and Ladder No. 1, Flower Hill Hose No. 1, Protection Engine No. 1, Fire Medics and the Port Washington Exempt Firemen's Benevolent Association. Invitations and programs from other Fire Departments are also included. In addition, there are photographs dating from 1969 through 1991 (some undated) of department members and events. Correspondence and an extensive collection of newspaper clippings pertaining to the Fire Department, concerning fires and other incidents, and notable events such as the 1990 crash of Avianca Flight 52 in Oyster Bay and the deaths of department members Robert Dayton (1988) and Ingrid Sowle (1990) are also included.

Series III: Community and Professional Involvement (1983-1991)

This series contains items pertaining to the Lion's Club of Port Washington, including copies of the organization's newsletter, "The Lion's Raw" [sic], and related correspondence during the time of Zwerlein's editorship (1983-1984).

BOX LIST:

Box Folder Content

Series I: Personal

1	1	Schreiber High School Experiment in Outdoor Education, 1968
	2	U.S. Navy Swearing In, 1970 - Newspaper clipping
	3	Correspondence, 1985
	4	Correspondence, 1988
	5	Correspondence, 1989
	6	Congratulatory cards and letters, May 1989
	7	Correspondence, 1991-1992
	8	Awards and Citations
	9	Personal stationery, c. 2005
	10	Photographs, 1969-1970 (3)
	11	Photograph, 1981 (1)
	12	Photographs, c. 1987 (7 + contact sheet)
	13	Photographs, 1990 (4)
	14	Zwerlein, Robert L. – Photograph (1)
	15	Zwerlein, Robert L. – Newspaper clippings
	16	Zwerlein family – Newspaper clippings
	17	Zwerlein family – Mementos
	18	Speech - February 22, 1989 (Lion's Club)
	19	Speech – May 20, 1989 (Installation as Chief of P.W. Fire Dept.)
	20	Speech – May 29, 1989 (Memorial Day)
	21	Speech – May 29, 1989 – Photographs (2)
	22	Speech – March 1991 (Handwritten notes)
	23	Speech – March 2, 1991 (Hometown Rally for Desert Storm Troops)
	24	Speech – April 4, 1992 (Protection Engine Co. No. 1 Dinner)
2	flat	Badges, Pins and Insignia
3	flat	Badges, Pins and Insignia
4	flat	Scrapbook (2)
5	flat	Scrapbook (1)
8	flat	Awards and Citations (Oversize)

Box Folder Content

Series II: Port Washington Fire Department

1	25	Correspondence, 1977
	26	Correspondence, 1986; 1988
	27	Correspondence, 1989
	28	Correspondence, 1990
	29	Correspondence, 1990 – Avianca Flight 52
	30	Correspondence, 1991
	31	Writings - “Signal 77” (newsletter), June 1988
	32	Writings - Incident Command System (memo), May 1990
	33	Writings – “Preparing for Disaster,” <u>Firehouse</u> , June 1991
	34	Drawings and cartoons (undated)
	35	Oath of Office
	36	Fire Truck Specifications, c. 1987
	37	Annual Fire Marshal’s Report, 1990
	38	Letter to Residents (undated)
	39	Photographs, 1975 (5)
	40	Photographs, 1976 (16)
	41	Photographs, 1978 (5)
	42	Photographs, 1979 (2)
	43	Photographs, 1980 (Softball Team) (1)
	44	Photographs, 1983 (2)
	45	Photographs, 1985 (24)
	46	Photographs, 1986 (4)
	47	Photographs, 1986 (Publisher’s Clearing House fire) (11)
	48	Slides, 1986 (Automobile Accident, Roslyn West Shore Road) (37)
	49	Slides, 1986 (Sands Point Bath Club) (8)
6	1	Photographs, 1987-1998 (19)
	2	Photographs, 1989 (6 + contact sheet)
	3	Photographs, 1989 (Bobby Dayton Award) (4)
	4	Photographs, 1991 (Memorial Day Ceremony) (1)
	5	Photographs, 1991 (Hometown Rally for Desert Storm Troops) (1)
	6	Photographs, undated (of hydrants)
	7	Clippings from William C. Leiber Scrapbook (photocopies)
	8	Newspaper Clippings, 1967-68
	9	Newspaper Clippings, 1971
	10	Newspaper Clippings, 1983
	11	Newspaper Clippings, 1985
	12	Newspaper Clippings, 1986
	13	Newspaper Clippings – Sands Point Bath and Raquet Club, 1986
	14	Newspaper Clippings, 1987
	15	Newspaper Clippings – Softball Team (1986-87)
	16	Newspaper Clippings, 1988

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Content</u>	
6	17	Newspaper Clippings – Robert “Bobby” Dayton (1988)	
	18	Newspaper Clippings, 1989	
	19	Newspaper Clippings, 1990	
	20	Newspaper Clippings – Avianca Flight 52 Crash (1990)	
	21	Newspaper Clippings – Ingrid Sowle (1990)	
	22	Newspaper Clippings, 1991	
	23	Newspaper Clippings, 1992	
	24	Newspaper Clippings – Fires and Other Responses (1985-91)	
	25	Newspaper Clippings (undated)	
	26	“Fire Focus” (Port Washington News column)	
	27	Port Washington North Newsletter, Oct-Nov-Dec 1989	
	28	Invitations and Programs – Atlantic Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1	
	29	Invitations and Programs – Fire Medics	
	30	Invitations and Programs – Flower Hill Hose Co. No. 1	
	31	Invitations and Programs – Protection Engine Co. No. 1	
	32	Invitations and Programs – Protection Engine Co. No. 1 Anniversary Celebration (1992)	
	33	Invitation – P.W. Exempt Firemen’s Benevolent Association	
	34	Invitations and Programs – P.W. Fire Department	
	35	Invitations – Albertson Hook & Ladder	
	36	Invitations – East Williston Fire Department	
	37	Invitations – Great Neck Fire Department (Alert)	
	38	Invitations – Great Neck Fire Department (Vigilant)	
	39	Invitations – Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department	
	40	Invitations – Williston Park Fire Department	
	41	Invitations – Other events	
	42	Chamber of Commerce Award, 1991	
	43	Chamber of Commerce Award, 1991 – Photograph	
	44	Rotary Club Award, 1990 – Newsletter article	
	45	Rotary Club Award, 1990 – Photograph	
	7	1	Elections – Sample Ballots
		2	Road Runners Drill Team
		3	Road Runners Drill Team – Photographs, 1970
		4	Nassau County Fire Commission - Avianca Flight 52 Crash Critique (1990)
		5	Nassau County Fire Commission – Booklets
		6	Nassau County Fire Commission – Programs, 1989-1990
		7	“71 Strong” (Nassau County Fire Marshal publication), c. 1987

Box Folder Content

Series III: Community and Professional Involvement

7	8	Cow Neck Peninsula Historical Society – Correspondence, 1991
	9	Lion’s Club of Port Washington, 1983-1984
	10	“The Lion’s Raw” [sic] (newsletter), 1983-1984
	11	“The Lion’s Raw” [sic] – Correspondence, 1983-1984
	12	“The Lion’s Roar” (newsletter), 1989
	13	Port Washington Water Pollution Control District – Correspondence and Clippings, 1990, 1993, 1999