

McLean County Museum of History

Euleo Puppets Collection

Inventoried
Summer 2011

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	One Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1960s-1998
PROVENANCE:	Cathy Knight originally donated this to the First United Methodist Church library; it was later donated to the Museum in 2011.
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	---

Brief History

Sisters Eunice Speer and Leona S. Pitzer organized a puppet theatre in the late 1960s and named it "Euleo" from their own first names. Pitzer, a Normal resident, formerly taught music in Saybrook-Arrowsmith Schools. Apparently the organizers made most of the puppets and used junior high and high school students in the theatre productions.

One participant, Elaine Knight (daughter of the donor of these materials), offered these comments:

"Junior high and high school students performed marionette programs to recorded LP (long play) records with spoken scripts. Acts included classic and traditional music, fairy tales and a full performance of Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*." Performances to local audiences with proceeds going to various charities. (Late 1960s--early 1970s)"

Scope Note

This collection includes programs, newspaper articles, and a variety of resource materials such as puppet-making instructions, copyrighted scripts for Christian education with puppets, etc.

Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Euleo Puppet Programs

1.1.1 "Euleo Puppets present 3 M Mirth Mystery Music," undated (2 copies).

Folder 2: Puppets

Instructions on making various types of puppets: hand, shadow, marionette, etc. 4 items.

Folder 3: ABCs of Creation

Production notes, puppet patterns and script for Christian's creation story.

Folder 4: Copyrighted Christian Education Scripts I

Five scripts plus introductory sales pitch, 1970s copyrights.

Folder 5: Copyrighted Christian Education Scripts I

Two sets of scripts copyright 1974.

Folder 6: Newspaper Articles

1.6.1 "Pitzer Puppets on Tap for Summer Shows," Kathy Boch in *Pantagraph*, 20 March 1968, p.10:3-5

1.6.2 "Tiny Residents Living it Up," Elaine Grabill in *Pantagraph*, 27 Nov 1981, p. C1:1-6 (Pitzer's doll house miniatures)

1.6.3 Leona Pitzer's obituary, *Pantagraph*, 25 August 1998, p 5:5-6