

Swedish Olive Lodge records #583, 1875-1987

Size: 24.25 linear ft, 54 boxes (4 oversized)

Acquisition: The collection was donated to SSIRC in 1992 by Carter Nicholson, a former member of the Swedish Olive Lodge in Moline, Illinois

Access: The collection is open for research and a limited amount of copies can be requested via mail.

Processed by: David Wise and Christina Johansson June-December 2004.

Control Num: SSIRC I/O:51

Historical Sketch

The Swedish Olive Lodge in Moline, Illinois was founded in 1875 by Job Tuffley, the Past Grand, of the Odd Fellowship in Moline and twelve of its Swedish members. The statutes for the Lodge state that only Scandinavians and people of Scandinavian descent can join the lodge, and that its official language is English.

The membership of the Swedish Olive Lodge grew rapidly during the first few decades and in 1901, the Olive Lodge purchased a lot on 13th Street and 5th Avenue in Moline to erect a building for its members. The new three story building downtown Moline was not, however, completed and ready to be occupied until 1908. The membership reached 732 in 1919, which marked the peak for the membership. After the end of WWI, the membership began to dwindle slowly. The lodge ceased to exist in 1987.

The mission of the Olive Lodge was to provide financial relief to its members during illness and to provide death benefits to beneficiaries. The Lodge also maintained a burial lot at the Riverside Cemetery in Moline for members without families in the area. In addition the Lodge eventually added a social dimension to its activities and hosted gatherings for members and owned a tavern. The Swedish Olive Lodge followed the teachings set by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) established in North America in 1819, which was to give aid to those in need and pursue projects for the benefit of all mankind.

Content note

The collection contains extensive membership information, correspondence, detailed minutes from meetings, insurance and benefit documents, annual reports and financial reports.

The membership records include a membership register from 1875-1914, which includes dates of birth, addresses, and occupations. There are also various certificates that relate to the membership of the organization such as new admittances (incl. date and place of birth), transfers, withdrawals, deaths, and dismissals.

The correspondence gives insight into the communication with the Grand Lodge and other lodges in the U.S., and members inquiring about insurances and benefits.

The minutes cover the years, 1898-1985, give vivid details from meetings including sick reports, benefits approved and paid to individuals, and any other functions the Lodge was involved with. The minutes also report on internal elections, other business transactions.

The collection also includes detailed financial reports from the inception of the lodge up to the closing in 1987.

Organization

The collection is divided into five series:

- I. History and By-Laws
 - II. Minutes
 - III. Membership Records
 - IV. Sick Benefits
 - V. Correspondence
-

Folder inventory

Series I – History and By-Laws

Box 1. folders 1-3

1. History of the Organization, various typescripts of By-Laws
2. *Ritual för Underordnad Loge under jurisdiction af den suveräna storlogen af den Oberoende Odd Fellow Orden.* (1908, 222 pages), and various Constitution and By-Laws printed 1893-1927.
3. Various printed Swedish Olive materials, Constitution, Souvenir Program, etc.

Series II - Minutes from Meetings, the Trustees and the Degree Staff

Box 2, Items 1-2

1. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1898 – 1902.
2. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1906 – 1910.

Box 3, Items 1- 3

1. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1910 – 1916.
2. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1916 – 1921.
3. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1920 – 1923.

Box 4, Items 1- 4

1. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1923 – 1925/6.
2. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1926 – 1928.

3. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1928 – 1931.
4. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1931- 1934.

Box 5, Items 1-2

1. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1934 -1942.
2. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1948 -1953.

Box 6, Items 1-4

1. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1953 -1956.
2. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1956 -1960.
3. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1961 - 1966.

Box 7, Items 1-4

1. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1966 -1972.
2. Swedish Olive Lodge Meeting Minutes 1972 -1979.

Box 8, Items 1-4

1. Swedish Olive Social Club Minutes 1939-1942.
2. Swedish Olive Social Club Minutes 1942-1944.
3. Swedish Olive Social Club Minutes 1945-1950.
4. Swedish Olive Social Club Minutes 1951-1954.

Box 9, items 1-3

1. Swedish Olive Social Club Minutes 1954 -1957.
2. Swedish Olive Social Club Minutes 1957- 1961.
3. Swedish Olive Social Club Minutes 1961-1964.

Box 9a

1. Trustees Minutes, 1938-1950
2. Degree Staff Minutes and Constitution, 1896-1909
3. Degree Staff Minutes, Constitution and By-laws 1916-1923

Series III – Membership Records

Box 10, folders 1-

1. Constitution 1875, Membership List 1875-1914.
2. Membership Register 1875-1944:Including Names, Ages, Occupations, Date of Admission & Notes.
3. List of Past Grands.
4. Membership Listing, n.d.
5. Minute Book of Swedish Olive Degree Staff, 1930 – 1955 & 1957.
6. Subordinate – Defunct.
7. Dismissal certificates

8. Certificates of Election.
9. Resolutions of Respect.
10. Transfer Certificates.
11. Visiting Certificates.
12. Withdrawal Certificates.
13. Bulletins/Newsletters misc. from 1949
14. Library Lending Register & Catalog.
15. Loose-leaf membership cards, arranged in alphabetical order by last name.

Box 11, folders 1-2

1. Loose-leaf membership applications
2. Loose-leaf membership applications

Box 12, folders 1-2

1. Loose-leaf membership applications
2. Loose-leaf membership applications

Box 13, items 1-12

The Question Books include answers to the following questions: Where do you live; What is your occupation; How old are you; Do you hold membership in, or are you suspended or expelled from any Lodge of this Order; Are you, so far as you know, in sound health; Do you believe in the existence of a Supreme Intelligent Being, the Creator and Preserver of the Universe?

1. Question Book, May 1896 – April 1901.
2. Question Book, April 1901 – November 1906.
3. Question Book, November 1906 – May 1910.
4. Question Book, September 1910 – December 1914.
5. Question Book, February 1912 – October 1916.
6. Question Book, February 1912 – February 1917.
7. Question Book, February 1917 – April 1920.
8. Question Book, sporadically used, December 1919 – February 1921, February 1922 – November 1926, and January 1929 – December 1930
9. Question Book, April 1920 – June 1930.
10. Question Book, June 1930 – March 1945.
11. Question Book, May 1945 – May 1955.
12. Question Book, November 1955 – Sept. 1978.

Box 14, folders 1-5

(Member Registers incl. names, addresses and occasional notes e.g. dropped, date of death)

1. Member Register 1930s-1940s
2. Member Register 1940s-1960s.
3. Member Register 1970s-1980s

4. Member Register 1980s
5. Member Register, n.d.

Box 15, folders 1-7

1. Roll of Officers 1906-1912
2. Roll of Officers 1912-1922
3. Roll of Officers 1922-1931
4. Roll of Officers 1932-1941
5. Roll of Officers 1941-1951
6. Roll of Officers 1952-1961
7. Roll of Officers 1962-1972

Box 16

1. Roll Book for Encampment Degree Staff 1907-1912
2. List of deceased and dropped members, 1875-1891, 1905-1917
3. Black Book, 1875-1913
4. Listing of Degree Staff, 1889-1900, 1908-1912, 1916-1938
5. Misc. address book of members (n.d.)
6. Membership dues 1927-1929, listing of dropped members 1927-1937
7. Listing of deceased members 1877-1914
8. Memorial Committee, minutes from QC area Odd Fellow lodges meetings

Box 17

1. Visitors Register, Silvis #424 and Swedish Olive Lodge #583
2. Address Book – Swedish Olive Lodge #583, 1878-, mostly undated entries
3. Address Book of persons attending various events (and fundraising?) sponsored by the Swedish Olive Lodge 1910-1917
4. Loose-leaf lists of Degree Staff, 1901-1921
5. Vice Grand's Report October 11, 1912

Box 18, 1 item

1. Membership ledger 1970s-

Box 19

Contains addresses to members, arranged alphabetically and typed on 3x5 index, n.d.

Box 20

Contains application cards, arranged alphabetically and typed on 3x5 cards, 1940s-

Box 21

Initiation cards listed alphabetically on 3x5 cards, includes date initiated into SWO, current address, and sometimes place of birth 1875-

Series IV – Sick Benefits

Box 22

1. Sick Lists and benefits paid, 1909-1912
2. Sick benefits paid, 1913
3. Sick benefits, 1914-1919
4. Sick benefits, 1919-1924
5. Sick benefits, 1925-1930
6. Sick benefits, 1928-1937
7. Sick benefits, 1920s-1934
8. Sick benefits, 1949-1955
9. Sick benefits and reports, 1955-1967

Box 23

1. Sick benefits etc., 1941-1943
2. Sick benefits etc., 1944-1945
3. Sick benefits etc., 1946-1947
4. Sick benefits etc., 1948-1949
5. Sick benefits etc., 1955-1974

Box 24

1. Visiting Committee Reports and Sick Reports & benefits, 1950
2. Sick benefits – corresp. 1951-1952
3. Sick lists and correspondence, 1950s
4. Death benefits and certificates, 1940s and 1950s
5. Death benefits and correspondence, 1940s
6. Visiting committee – Sick benefits 1949-1950
7. Misc. notebook – sick benefits or possibly dues paid (?)

Series V - Correspondence

Box 25

1. Correspondence 1941 -1942.
2. Correspondence 1943.
3. Correspondence 1943 -1945.
4. Correspondence 1946 - 1947.
5. Correspondence 1948 - 1949.

Box 26, folders 1 – 9

1. Correspondence 1950.
2. Correspondence 1951.
3. Correspondence 1952.
4. Correspondence 1953.
5. Correspondence 1954 -1955.

6. Correspondence 1956 -1957.
7. Correspondence 1958.
8. Correspondence 1959.
9. Correspondence 1960 -1961.

Box 26a, folders 1-4

1. Misc. Correspondence 1941-1948
2. Member dues and corresp. 1940s-1980s
3. IOOF Homes Corresp., 1930s 1950s
4. IOOF Homes Corresp. applicant forms and reports

Series VI - Financial Reports & Matters

Box 27, folders 1-5

1. Annual & Semi – Annual Reports 1877 -1889.
2. Annual & Semi – Annual Reports 1890 - 1899.
3. Annual & Semi – Annual Reports 1900 - 1909.
4. Annual & Semi – Annual Reports 1910 - 1919.
5. Annual & Semi – Annual Reports 1920 - 1929.

Box 28, folders 1-4

1. Annual & Semi – Annual Reports 1930 -1939.
2. Annual & Semi – Annual Reports 1940 -1949.
3. Annual & Semi – Annual Reports 1950 -1958.
4. Annual & Semi – Annual Reports 1960; 1985 -1987.

Box 29, folders 1-4

1. Financial Reports and Statements, 1921-1944
2. Financial Reports and Statements, 1945- 1984
3. Financial Reports and Statements, 1952-1961
4. Financial Reports and Statements, 1980-1986

Box 30, items 1 - 5

1. Account Ledger 1886 -1892.
2. Treasurer's Book 1880 -1895.
3. Inventory and Invoices 1877 - 1900.
4. Dues and Expenses Ledger 1875 -1878.

Box 31, items 1-5

1. Treasurer's Book 1907 - 1912.
2. Membership and Dues Ledger 1913 - 1912.
3. Receipts Book 1919 -1921.

4. Annual Report 1899 -1903.
5. Treasurer's Book 1895 -1900.

Box 32, item 1-2

1. Cash Book 1899 -1902.
- Folder 1. Cash Book and Fund Accounts 1900 -1907.

Box 33

1. Accounts 1898 – 1901

Box 34, Items 1-3

1. Accounts Book 1940-1957.
2. Accounts Book 1973-1984.
3. Cash Book 1924-1928.

Box 35, items 1 – folders 119-120

1. Finances 1893 – 1896.
2. Member dues, individual records

Box 36, items 1 – 4

1. Member List 1937 – 1941.
2. Treasurer's Account Book 1930? – 1939.
3. Income Book of SWO?
4. Member List and Dues 1921 – 1924.

Box 37, Items 1-3.

1. Expenses 1946 – 1950.
2. Disbursements 1936 – 1939.
3. Disbursements 1929 – 1932.

Box 38, Items 1-2

1. Treasurers Record 1943 – 1959.
2. Wage Book 1950.

Box 39, items 1-2

1. Financial Ledger 1965 – 1969.
2. Income Expenditure 1955 – 1984.

Box 40, Items 1 – 4

1. Financial Ledger 1982 – 1987.
2. Account Book 1980 – 1984.
3. Income Book 1975 – 1987.
4. Income – Rentals 1940's – 1979.

Box 41, items 1-5

1. Cash – Day book, 1880-1895
2. Cash – Day book, 1892-1897
3. Cash – Day book, 1897-1901
4. Cash – Day book, 1901-1903
5. Cash – Day book, 1903-1906
6. Cash - Day book, 1906-1911

Box 42, Items 1 – 2

1. Expenditure Book 1902 – 1905.
2. Expenditure Book 1905 – 1907.

Box 43, Items 1-2

1. Finance Secretary Journal 1892 – 1894.
2. Finance Ledger 1886 – 1891.

Box 44, Item 1

1. Day Book 1906 – 1911.

Box 44

1. Tavern Expenses, 1943-1945
2. Income Ledger, 1938-1948
3. Member list and ledger 1932-1937
4. Endowment Funds, 1928-1932

Box 45

1. Room Hall Rentals and general receipts, 1914 – 1928.
2. Dues and Members 1941 – 1946.
3. Tavern Expense Ledger 1942 – 1943.
4. Payroll and Tax Records.

Box 46

1. Financial Records: Capital Stock Co.
2. Financial Records: Taxes.
3. Financial Records: Treasurer's Bond.
4. Building Records: Leases, License, and Construction Bids.
5. Financial and Donations Receipt Book.

6. Financial Correspondence 1936 -1938.
7. Liquor License.
8. IOOF Memorial Committee Fund.
9. Records of Souvenirs.
10. Power of Attorney.
11. Finances 1976 -1979.

Box 47

Folder 1-4. Insurance documents, 1950s-1970s (not sorted)

Box 48, Items 1 – 2 (Oversized box)

1. Accounts 1934 –1940.
2. Accounts 1941 – 1947.

Oversized Material, items 1-11

1. Membership Ledger 1901 – 1906.
2. Expenditures Receipts 1916 – 1920.
3. Treasurer's Records 1915 – 1925.
4. Disbursements 1977 – 1984.
5. Hall Rentals 1912 – 1913.
6. Receipts Accounts 1967 – 1983
7. Financial Secretary's Ledger 1945 – 1962.
8. Income Expenditures 1932 – 1935.
9. Folkdance Record.
10. Records for 1956 – 1960.
11. Cash Book.