



Collection 3056

**Roxborough Turners
Records**

1873-1981 (bulk 1873-1975)

14.5 boxes, 56 volumes, 3 flat files, 15.75 lin. feet

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Abstract

Founded in 1873 in the Philadelphia neighborhood of Roxborough, the Roxborough Turners follow theories common to the *Turnverein* movement, which was founded in Germany in 1811. *Turnvereins*, which literally translate as “gymnastics clubs,” or “unions,” dedicated themselves to physical health through athletics and gymnastics. The Roxborough Turners arose from the merger of *Turnvereins* in two adjacent neighborhoods—Roxborough and Manayunk—and originally took the name *Germania Turn-Verein of Roxborough und Manayunk*, changing to the current name in 1954. The organization was a social and athletic club with their own hall, containing a bar, library, gymnastics and athletic programs for both adults and children, and entertainment and meeting space for rent or members’ use. As of November 2004, the organization is still active, and is located at 418 Leverington Avenue in Philadelphia.

The records contained in this collection include a complete run of minutes, detailed financial and membership records, correspondence, certificates of achievement and diplomas, visitor and library registers, programs and pamphlets, and several uncataloged photographs. The collection is in English and German, with earlier records maintained in the old German script.

Background note

The *Turnverein* movement was founded in Germany in 1811 by Friedrich Ludwig Jahn, and soon commanded a sizable following, particularly among socially and politically active student groups. Jahn himself was a high school teacher who advocated physical health as a necessary part of a complete life, best summarized by the slogan that came to represent the Turners: “A Sound Mind in a Sound Body.” The *Turnverein* movement’s political underpinnings included support for Pan-German national unification and democratic reform, the latter of which was particularly appealing to student adherents of the movement. Their vocal activism, as well as participation in the failed revolution of 1848, led to repression and exile for many *Turnverein* supporters, of whom a large percentage emigrated to the United States in the years following the revolution.

These “Forty-eighters” brought the *Turnverein* concept to the States, founding local clubs, or *Turnvereins*, in cities with large German immigrant populations, where they built their own halls and established gymnastics and physical culture exhibitions and competitions. Through these means, and their 1907 establishment of a college to train physical education teachers—the Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union—Turners contributed to the development of the culture of physical health in the United States. In addition, they strongly advocated physical education classes in American public schools.

Many *Turnverein* groups also supported liberal activist causes in the United States, having close ties with Freethinkers (a German movement in favor of Enlightenment rationalism as opposed to traditional religious dogma) and often offering their halls as meeting places for socialists and labor organizers. However, at the height of the *Turnverein* boom in the United States—from the 1890s through the early twentieth century—and in particular following the First World War and concurrent anti-German sentiments, the Turners increasingly distanced themselves from their previous politics, adopting official “pro-American” platforms while maintaining their emphasis on liberty and equality.

Prior to 1850, the *Turnverein* in the United States operated on a local basis. In 1850, however, a congress of groups meeting in Philadelphia led to the creation of a national organization—the *Sozialistischer Turnerbund*—which was reorganized under the name *Nordamerikanischer Turnerbund* (also referred to as the North American Gymnastic Union) following the American Civil War. This organization is still active today, having been renamed the American Gymnastic Union in the beginning of the twentieth century, the American Turnerbund in 1922, and the American Turners—in 1938.¹

At the movement’s apex in the 1890s, approximately forty thousand members belonged to more than three hundred *Turnverein* registered or affiliated with the national organization.² The movement was particularly strong in the Philadelphia area: not only did the city host the 1850 inception of the national organization, it also saw the creation of twelve different *Turnverein* in the metropolitan area over the course of a century. Perhaps most representative of the movement’s influence in Philadelphia was the second official American *Turnverein* and the largest in the Philadelphia area, the *Philadelphia Turngemeinde*, which was founded in 1849. At its most populous, in 1925, the *Turngemeinde* contained 2400 members—a significant contrast to the combined membership of the four other local *Turnverein*, which was four hundred.³ In addition, the *Philadelphia Turngemeinde* is best known for having hosted the 1854 *Turnfest*, which was marred by an anti-immigrant riot led by nativist gangs. The *Turngemeinde*, the only other Philadelphia *Turnverein* to survive past the 1930s, appears to have finally closed in the 1960s.⁴

The Roxborough Turners, the longest lived of the Philadelphia-area *Turnverein*, was created through a merger of the *Turnverein von Manayunk*, founded 1866, and the *Unabhängige Turner*

¹ Library of Congress Authorities “American Turners (Organization) MARC record, 670 field,” <http://authorities.loc.gov> (accessed November 8, 2004).

² Pumroy and Rampelmann, *Research Guide to the Turner Movement in the United States*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1996

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 223-226, 321-322.

⁴ *Ibid.*

von Roxborough, founded 1872. The two merged in 1873, creating the *Germania Turn-Verein von Roxborough und Manayunk*, which adopted the current name following the Second World War.⁵ Founding members included Charles and Louis Boehret, August Goldbeck, Paul Tharan, and Charles Vogt. The organization acquired its own hall in 1878, was incorporated in 1888, and operated much as did other *Turnverein* across the country, serving as a community center, social club, and library for its members. The *Germania Turn-Verein* offered members and their guests a place to socialize in German; numerous social events, such as dinners, dances, picnics and clam bakes; and various cultural diversions. They also offered athletic programs for men, women, and children, which included gymnastics, basketball, volleyball, and fencing, among other sports. Other features of the *Turnverein* were a choir, or *Gesang* section; a women's auxiliary group, which appears to have been dismantled after the organization went co-ed in 1968; and a bar featuring live music, a jukebox, cards, darts, shuffleboard, and a billiards table, along with sandwiches and snacks.

A Board of Officers, elected annually and meeting monthly, regulated the Roxborough *Turnverein*. This board was responsible for maintaining and altering bylaws, reviewing financial management, determining club policy, and planning events. Various committees, such as the House Administration committee, the Bar Committee, and the Building Committee, regularly reported to the Board. Interestingly, included in the list of elected officers were Chief and Assistant Gymnasts, responsible for teaching the gymnastics classes.

In addition to the monthly board meetings, there occurred a monthly members meeting, at which membership issues were discussed and debated. Topics of discussion ranged from ideas for events, donations, and scholarships, to new club policies; from censure of those behaving in “a manner unbecoming a member,” to the nomination and election of new members and officers.

The membership was initially restricted to men, and predominantly consisted of German immigrants and their descendants. Women initially participated through the Women's Auxiliary, formed in 1937, which consisted of the wives of members, and appears to have organized and provided food for social events as their main activity. The Roxborough Turners began admitting women as full members in 1968, with three women joining at that time. An overwhelming majority of *Germania*, and later Roxborough, members were from the class of skilled craftsmen—with a large number being employees of various local factories. During the early years of the organization German appears to have been the dominant language, as the minutes are in German until 1929, after which point they switch to English. In the 1940s a large number of Italian and Irish surnames began to appear in the membership rolls.

While the *Turnverein* movement was largely centered on physical health and activity, with gymnastics at its heart, the focus of the Roxborough Turners was not always entirely athletic. Periods of increased stress for the organization, seen during the Great Depression and the World War II years, often correlated with a growth in social pursuits and a decrease in athletic participation, although gymnastics did not ever entirely disappear from the club's

⁵ Ibid.

activities. During the World War II-era, one finds that most member and board discussions focused instead on the war, dinners and picnics, and the bar.

The bar historically constituted an important part of the Turners' organization: it served as a social gathering place for members and their guests, offered food and entertainment, in addition to alcohol, and contributed to the financial well-being of the organization. The documents present in this collection indicate that the bar continued to operate through the Prohibition years, obtaining annual alcohol permits from the city. It is presumed that the organization applied for these permits to serve alcohol on a medicinal basis, as was provided for in the Volstead Act.

Roxborough's declining participation in competitions during the 1930s and 1940s led the American Turners to chastise Roxborough in an April 14, 1942 letter, "It is now four years that the *Germania* Turners have failed to participate in Turner activities....Roxborough for almost a century was a leader in the Turner movement, but in the past decade has, from all reports, become merely a social honky-tonk...." Consequently, the Roxborough Turners discussed ceasing their association with the American Turners—a debate which continued for a number of years. Tensions with the national organization were eventually smoothed, and the Roxborough Turners vastly expanded their athletic programs in the late 1940s, adding basketball, baseball, volleyball, and bowling. Their participation in gymnastics competitions, particularly the children's teams, appears to have increased significantly in the 1960s and 1970s.

Although the World War II years appear to have affected the Roxborough Turners, the club did not suffer the same decline and demise as did many other *Turnverein* organizations in the United States. During the war, membership in Roxborough actually increased. Curiously, applications for membership rose ten-fold after the March 1939 German invasion of Czechoslovakia. Whether this increase was due to anti-German sentiment in the city, which perhaps may have led German immigrants to rally together for support, or was a result of pan-German nationalism is unclear, but the organization was clearly ruffled by these global events, as evidenced by the July 25, 1939 "rule and regulation" stipulating that "...There will not be allowed any political, religious, or profanity in the bar room or hall (sic)." In addition, the club participated in various war efforts, buying war bonds, taking collections for small monetary gifts to its members who joined the armed services, and mounting a plaque dedicated to members serving in the war.

Following the war, membership meetings repeatedly discussed changing the organization's name. In 1954, the name was finally changed from *Germania Turn-Verein von Roxborough und Manayunk* to the anglicized Roxborough Turners.

Scope & content

This collection documents the structure and activities of the *Germania Turn-Verein of Roxborough and Manayunk*, established in 1873 and renamed the Roxborough Turners in 1954. The materials within the collection record more than a century worth of activity, as well as offer some information on various members over the nearly 110 years represented in the collection. The *Turnverein's* athletic activities are well documented, through discussion in each

series regarding events hosted or attended by the Roxborough Turners, in addition to equipment purchases for the various classes and programs. The organization's gymnastics and track and field activities are also evidenced throughout, in particular through the mention of gymnastics mat purchases, seen in several locations in the *Financial* series; the images of a pommel horse, parallel bars, an archery target, barbells, a javelin, a high-jump bar, fencing foils, and a balance beam depicted on several competition certificates; and the photos of the girls' gymnastics class, in which some members are holding Indian clubs.

The benevolent aspect of the organization is represented through materials indicating donations to charities, scholarships to local high school students, small cash presents to the Turners called to duty during World War II, and the purchase of war bonds. The structure and operations of the society are well-documented, as are the business operations of the bar. The anti-German atmosphere in the United States during both world wars is not directly addressed in the materials. The collection includes a small amount of material from the national organization, the American Turners, as well as from other *Turnverein* and the Normal College.

The collection dates span from 1873 to 1981, with the bulk of the materials falling between 1873 and 1975. Earlier materials are recorded in old German script, but the bulk of the minutes and correspondence switch into English by 1929. Original order has been maintained throughout the majority of the collection. The series represented include 1. *Administrative*, 2. *Membership and dues*, 3. *Financial*, 4. *Correspondence*, 5. *American Turners and other Turnverein groups*, and 6. *Photographs*.

Series 1 *Administrative*, consists of five subseries, divided by material type. Included are several copies of charters, bylaws, and the organization's constitution; extensive and complete minutes ledgers, which form the heart of the collection, and several committee reports; licenses, permits, and hall rental agreements; liquor and entertainment regulations, correspondence, reference information, and applications; and insurance materials.

Series 2 *Membership and dues* is divided into six subseries: *Membership lists and addresses*, which consist of membership lists for the whole organization; *Turnverein sections*, which consist of three smaller sections of the club; *Dues and membership data*, which are ledgers containing lists of members, applicants, suspended members, and dues paid; *Events and activities*, which include brochures, programs, flyers, and tickets to events; *Certificates and diplomas* from competitions and for distinguished members; and other *Miscellaneous* materials, which include the library bookkeeping register and the visitors sign-in register.

The various divisions represented in the aforementioned subseries b, *Turnverein sections*, are the *Baeren*, or senior citizen members of the *Turnverein*, the *Gesang*, or choir group, and the Women's Auxiliary group. As each section maintained membership records separate from the larger organization's list, these materials are arranged by section within the subseries.

Series 3, *Financial*, nearly exhaustive in the detail of the records, offers a unique window into the *Turnverein's* activities and events. There are eight subseries, including: *Audits and financial reports*, which include reports from several of the various club committees; *Income, expenses, and bank transactions*, with meticulous ledgers for both the society and the bar; *Bills and receipts*;

Inventories, which are primarily inventories of the bar stock; *Checkbooks and cashbooks*; *Taxes*; and *Miscellaneous*, which includes a factory payroll ledger of unknown origin and Building Fund Bond materials. The two items in subseries 3f, *Payroll ledgers*, are restricted until 2027 and 2045, respectively.

Series 4, *Correspondence*, contains both incoming and outgoing letters discussing the spectrum of *Turnverein* events and programs, business activities, and membership pursuits. Included are memos, routine business correspondence, letters regarding membership affairs, and exchanges with the American Turners and other Turner societies.

Series 5, *American Turners and other Turnverein Institutions*, is composed of three subseries: *American Turners national materials*, which include booklets of general principles and statutes in German and English, selected annual reports and minutes, and a few copies of the magazine *Turner Topics*; *Other Turner societies*, containing anniversary brochures from *Turnverein* in other cities, and the 1935 Philadelphia Turn District convention minutes; and *Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union*, which holds catalogs, guidebooks, yearbooks, and an alumni bulletin from the college.

Series 6, *Photographs*, the majority of which are oversized, contains photos of various Roxborough Turner athletic and gymnastics teams, generally unidentified and undated; a photo of a framed and be-wreathed display of a certificate commemorating the North-American Turner Bund Golden Jubilee in June of 1900; and a photo of the National Turnfest Squad from *Germania Turn-Verein von Roxborough und Manayunk*, from 1900, including labels identifying the participants by name. The majority of this series is housed in flat files (FF).

Overview of arrangement

| | | |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|
| Series 1 | Administrative, 1873-1971, n.d. | 2 boxes, 14 vols., flat file #1 |
| | a. Charter, bylaws, and constitutions, 1888, 1893, 1967, n.d. | 3 folders, 1 vol., FF#1 |
| | b. Minutes and reports, 1873-1971, n.d. | 1.5 boxes, 13 vols. |
| | c. Licenses and rental agreements, 1926, 1931, 1953-1969, n.d. | 3 folders |
| | d. Liquor and entertainment regulations, 1934-1967, n.d. | .5 box, FF#1 |
| | e. Insurance materials, 1943-1965, n.d. | 2 folders |
| Series 2 | Membership and dues, 1873-1979, n.d. | 2.5 boxes, 28 vols., FF#1, 2 |
| | a. Membership lists and addresses, 1917, 1937-1938, 1949, n.d. | 4 folders, 1 vol. |
| | b. <i>Turnverein</i> sections, 1882-1892, 1907-1908, 1916, n.d. | .5 box, 11 vols. |
| | c. Dues and membership data, 1873- 1933, 1974-1979, n.d. | 1 box, 13 vols. |

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| | d. Events and activities, 1893, 1925, 1935, 1969-1977, n.d. | .5 box, FF#1 |
| | e. Certificates and diplomas, 1884-1904, 1916-1925, n.d. | 2 folders, FF#1 |
| | f. Miscellaneous, 1887-1919, 1946-1963, n.d. | .5 box, 3 vols., FF#2 |
| Series 3 | Financial, 1891-1977 | 7 boxes, 14 vols. |
| | a. Audits and financial reports, 1935-1944, n.d. | 3 folders |
| | b. Income, expenses, and bank transactions, 1891-1977, n.d. | 3 boxes, 10 vols. |
| | c. Bills and receipts, 1929-1945, 1963-1974, n.d. | 3 boxes |
| | d. Inventories, 1912-1944, n.d. | 2 folders, 2 vols. |
| | e. Checkbooks and cashbooks, 1929-1939 | 3 folders, 1 vol. |
| | f. Payroll ledgers, 1946-1952, 1951-1970 | 2 folders |
| | Closed until 2027 and 2045, respectively | |
| | g. Taxes, 1936, 1941, 1954-1971, n.d. | 2 folders |
| | h. Miscellaneous, 1924, 1965, n.d. | 2 folders, 1 vol. |
| Series 4 | Correspondence, 1892, 1935-1980, n.d. | 1 box, FF#2 |
| Series 5 | American Turners and other <i>Turnverein</i> institutions, 1916-1975, n.d. | 1.5 boxes |
| | a. American Turners, 1919, 1938-1942, 1964-1969, n.d. | 5 folders |
| | b. Other Turner societies, 1916, 1925-1938, 1975, n.d. | 5 folders |
| | c. Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union, 1917-1927 | 4 folders |
| Series 6 | Photographs, 1900, 1981, n.d. | 1 folder, FF#3 |

Series description

Series 1. Administrative, 1873-1971, n.d. (Boxes 1-2, volumes 1-14, FF#1)

- a. Charter, bylaws, and constitutions, 1888, 1893, 1967, n.d.

This subseries includes a volume containing the constitution and the bylaws of the *Germania Turn Verein of Roxborough and Manayunk*, written in German in 1888, and translated into English at an unspecified later date; and several undated copies of the organization's charter, bylaws, and constitution.

The constitution and bylaws specify the aims of the organization as being "...to impart to its members a thorough gymnastic training, and for that purpose the association shall arrange and have gymnastic exercises and tournaments, exercises in marching, [the] German mode of fencing, and besides, social enjoyments."

Membership was open to "any person of unblemished character of the full age of

twenty-one years, who is a citizen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and who subscribes to and declares to abide by the provisions of the constitution and bylaws....” Candidates for membership were to be nominated by a current member, and after a four week period, should there be no member objections to their joining, they would be “declared admitted,” and charged the monthly membership fee.

The bylaws stipulated the Board of Officers was to consist of the standard list of officers, chief and assistant gymnasts, and a “Master of Implements.” A list of approximately thirty-five names and addresses, assumed to be the first members of the organization, is included at the end of the various versions of the constitution and bylaws.

Also included are an updated set of bylaws and a new constitution, from 1967, which add cultural activities to the mission of the organization; add women to the description on membership requirements and dues; require members to be United States citizens, or at least “soon to become one”; add the posts of librarian, steward (bartender), and recording and financial secretaries to the Board of Officers; and declare that longstanding members—those with twenty-five or more years with the club—are exempt from paying dues. All materials in this subseries are organized chronologically.

b. Minutes and reports, 1873-1971, n.d.

The heart of the collection, this subseries includes a complete and detailed run of meeting minutes from 1873 to 1971, as well as reports from both the Board of Officers and the membership meetings, which alternated every two weeks. In addition, there are meeting minutes and reports from several of the various committees serving the Roxborough membership, including the House Administration, Bar, School, and Building Fund Committees. There are also several board and membership resolutions, and annual statistical reports.

As previously mentioned, meeting minutes reflect both the routine business affairs of the *Turnverein* and special events, issues, or controversies affecting the club. The Board of Officers meetings appear to have dealt most often with official policy, as well as building improvement, financial management, and dues payments; membership application review; member censure; and deactivating members for failure to pay dues—an action that was particularly common during the Depression years.

The membership meeting minutes offer the most detailed picture of the daily affairs of the club and its members. Typical of these discussions were announcements to members, such as that regarding the 1948 postage stamps commemorating the American Turners, as well as often lively discussions of issues of concern to club members. Among these issues were debates regarding the name change and association with the American Turners; building repair and improvement ideas; conflicts between members; planning sessions for social events and parties, such as the “Family Frolics” planned in 1930; and planning and the purchase of various diversions for the bar and club, such as an evening orchestra on weekends, a piano,

fencing foils, games for children's activities, and even a color television in 1970. Other regular activities of the organization included clam bakes, Christmas and New Year's parties, and a "Beef and Beer" night.

World War II-era discussions included blackout preparations and policy; the October 1940 suspension of dues requirements for drafted fighting men; a January 6, 1942, motion regarding donations to "each one of our boys [who] went away to serve under our flag"; the commissioning of a plaque dedicated to the *Turnverein* members serving in the war, to be placed in the front yard; and the purchase of war bonds, discussed and implemented in both 1942 and 1943.

New sports to be added to the club's repertoire were also discussed at these meetings, such as the formation of a basketball team in 1947, baseball in 1948, softball in 1957, and bowling in 1961. Upcoming gymnastics competitions, as well as the games and matches of the different teams—often against regional "neighbors" such as the Philadelphia, New Jersey, or Wilmington teams—were often announced.

In the 1950s, the minutes indicate that the Roxborough Turners began offering an award and small scholarship to one boy and one girl student at Roxborough High School. In April of 1960, one of the students in the girls' class participated in qualifying tryouts at the Olympics.

On May 2, 1967, a motion for the inclusion of female members was passed, and three women were admitted shortly thereafter. While the organization's membership remained mostly male, several new female members were admitted each year, and one particular woman was frequently nominated for officer positions, including that of vice president.

For information on building construction and maintenance, the researcher would also be well-advised to review the committee minutes and reports belonging to the Building Fund and House Administration committees, as well as the resolutions contained in this subseries.

Finally, the *Minutes and reports* subseries also includes a volume of minutes from the *Deutscher Volksfest Verein*, which appears to have been a folk festival the Roxborough Turners participated in or sponsored. The "Hand-in-Hand Cornet Band" is mentioned as part of the entertainment for this festival. The materials in this subseries are arranged by board or committee, then chronologically within.

- c. Licenses and rental agreements, 1926, 1931, 1953-1969, n.d.
The materials in this subseries consist of licenses and permits to operate a bar, club, and "dance hall." Also present are several contracts completed with other organizations and individuals, providing use of the *Turnverein* hall for meetings, dances, and other events. The licenses in this subseries are arranged alphabetically by type of license, then chronologically within. The rental agreements are arranged chronologically.

- d. Liquor and entertainment regulations, 1934-1967, n.d.
This series consists of booklets outlining city regulations for bars and social clubs, texts of the statutes pertaining to these concerns, applications by the Roxborough Turners for liquor and entertainment licenses, a notice from the Bureau of Internal Revenue regarding sales of alcohol, and official notices announcing officers and stewards, or bartenders, of the organization. The Pennsylvania Liquor Board required organizations such as the Roxborough Turners to keep them informed of any staffing changes. The resulting updates include the list of officers with their official title, address, citizenship status, length of Pennsylvania residence, and occupation. Attached to two notices from the 1960s are photos of the stewards. All materials are arranged chronologically.
- e. Insurance materials, 1943-1965, n.d.
This small subseries contains insurance surveys, estimates, underwriter's certificates, policy contracts, notice of loss forms, and related correspondence. From these materials one may learn that the club held insurance policies with the Germantown Fire Insurance, Franklin Fire Insurance, and the Firemen's Fund Insurance companies. In addition, they held policies with the Home Insurance Company of Philadelphia and the Manufacturer's Casualty Insurance Company. For further information on insurance-related issues, see subseries 3c, *Bills and receipts*, for insurance invoices and related correspondence. Also see series 4, *Correspondence* for information on particular claims. The materials in this subseries are arranged chronologically.

Series 2. Membership and dues, 1873-1979, n.d. (Boxes 3-5, volumes 15-42, FF#1, 2)

- a. Membership lists and addresses, 1917, 1937-1938, 1949, n.d.
This subseries is composed of a membership address book from 1917, a list of members and their addresses from 1949, a list of the Board of Officer members from 1938, and a January 1938 list of suspended members. All materials are arranged chronologically. For more lists of members and their addresses, refer to the membership dues ledgers in subseries 2c, *Dues and membership data*.
- b. *Turnverein* sections, 1882-1892, 1907-1908, 1916, n.d.
The *Turnverein sections* subseries contains materials belonging to several of the smaller sections within, or associated with, the Roxborough Turners organization. These sections consist of the senior members section, known as the *Baeren*; the choir, known as the *Gesang* section; and the Women's Auxiliary group attached to the club. The items include minutes for each of the three sections, volumes of German songs for both the *Baeren* and *Gesang* sections, and sheet music for the *Gesang* group. This subseries is arranged by section, then chronologically within.

The *Baeren* minutes are particularly entertaining, as each member of the section is given the name of a type of bear, for example, Grizzly Bear, Iron Bear, and Water Bear. It is unclear whether these were officially established titles, or merely in good fun. The meeting minutes contain similarly amusing passages, such as "The Head Bear growled the meeting to order." This volume includes both minutes and lists of

active and inactive members. The song lyrics included with these materials appear to belong to a special *Baeren* section song.

The *Gesang* materials include minutes from 1892 to 1898, sheet music of various German songs, including folk songs, and choral books with music for several songs sung in four-part harmony.

The materials belonging to the Women's Auxiliary consist of minutes written in old German script, from 1895 to 1916.

- c. Dues and membership data, 1873-1933, 1974-1979, n.d.
Included in this subseries are thirteen volumes of membership dues ledgers, several of which also include lists of members' addresses. For more complete lists of members and their addresses, see subseries 2a, *Membership lists and addresses*.

Two of the dues and membership volumes concern membership dues for the Ladies Auxiliary, from 1887 to 1933. The remainder relate to the Roxborough Turners as a whole. Additionally, there are several incarnations of the membership application forms and certificates, several of which have been filled out by members or applicants. Application forms include applicant name, age, address, occupation, employer, membership application fees paid, date proposed, and sponsor. Some forms also include questions regarding citizenship and original nationality; health and marital status; the "apparent character" of the applicant; whether they had children, and their ages; whether the member had ever previously belonged to a Turner society, and whether they were ever rejected for membership, suspended, or expelled from another society; and whether they were acquainted with the principles of the society. The series is rounded out by blank gymnasium scholar registration forms. All materials are arranged chronologically. It is unclear why there is a small overlap between several of the membership and dues ledgers.

- d. Events and activities, 1893, 1925, 1935, 1969-1977, n.d.
This subseries includes items related to the social and gymnastics activities of the Roxborough Turners, as well as fundraising events. These consist of an 1893 notice of an upcoming "*Stiftungsfest*," which was a celebration of the founding of the local organization; tickets and invitations to dances and fundraisers, spanning from 1925 to 1935; programs for the Annual Banquet, from 1969 to 1977; and a blank competition scoresheet for the *Germania Turnverein*. All materials in this subseries are arranged chronologically.
- e. Certificates and diplomas, 1884-1904, 1916-1925, n.d.
The certificates and diplomas mostly pertain to gymnastics competitions in which Roxborough Turners participated. These include honor certificates from the Philadelphia *Turnbezirk* athletic competition; the North American Turnerbund, and the American Gymnastics Union. In 1903, the *Germania Turnverein* took second place in the Philadelphia *Turnbezirk* competition, followed by sixth place the following year.

In addition to the gymnastics diplomas and certificates are diplomas presented to the *Gesang* section, and diplomas issued by the Roxborough Turners themselves to members who had contributed extraordinary services. All materials are in chronological order. The majority of the items in this subseries are oversized materials housed in Flat File #1 (FF#1).

- f. Miscellaneous, 1887-1919, 1946-1963, n.d.
Contained within this subseries are materials relating to the Turners' library, visitors, and specific members. The library materials consist of a library register book, dated 1887 to 1919, which contains a list of the books held, and records of their circulation to members. This register has a list of 205 books, and indications of up to 253 titles from an earlier library *Verzeichniss*, or catalog. Among the authors represented are Goethe, Schiller, Heine, and Thomas Paine. Titles of interest include *My Native Land (The United States: its Wonders, its Beauties, and its People; with Descriptive Notes, Character Sketches, Folk Lore, Traditions, Legends and History, for the Amusement of the Old and the Instruction of the Young)*, by James Cox; a biography of William Penn; Hoyle's Book of Games; *Deutscher Radicalismus, Kommunismus & Sozialismus*; *Garterlaube* magazine; and a report from the State Board of Health.

Also included in this subseries is one small pamphlet of poetry, entitled *Wilde Blüthe*, and written by Emil Querner, a German Canadian writer of some renown.

Other materials include a poster commemorating the club's move from a previous location; a visitors register; a few preservation photocopied newspaper clippings featuring the society; and a memorial poster honoring Charles Vogt, one of the founding members.

Series 3. Financial, 1891-1977 (Boxes 5-12, 15, volumes 43-56)

- a. Audits and financial reports, 1935-1944, n.d.
This series includes financial audits of the organization's books from 1938 to 1944, final reports from the Entertainment Committee treasurer from 1935 to 1938, and treasurer's monthly reports for a four-month period in 1941.

From the 1941 audit, one learns that the organization obtained war damage insurance in case of bombing, and awarded ten dollars to each Turner who entered the armed services, of which there were thirteen in 1941, nine in 1942, and eight in 1943. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

- b. Income, expenses, and bank transactions, 1891-1977, n.d.
Nearly comprehensive in documentation and quite orderly in arrangement, both this subseries and subseries 3c, *Bills and receipts*, offer a detailed view of the activities of the Roxborough Turners. The materials in this subseries include bound income and expense ledgers, spiral-bound notepads, weekly balance sheets, and bank deposit slips, all pertaining to the economic activities and management of the Roxborough Turners from 1891 through 1977. There are a few minor gaps in the documentation of the earlier years. There is some unexplained overlap of dates within the income

and expense ledgers, generally of one year in each case. The organization's materials are placed first, followed by those maintained by the bar, and arrangement is chronological within this order.

This subseries contains materials pertaining to the organization as a whole, as well as financial records for the bar, and an Oktoberfest celebration held by the society. The information in this subseries runs the gamut from monthly consolidated reports to weekly summaries. One may find information on the overall financial status of the organization and the bar, dues collected, items and services purchased, repairs and improvements to the hall, and events sponsored and attended by the Turners.

The weekly balance sheets consist of packets each representing one week's worth of cash paid slips, a summary balance sheet, and bank deposit slips. There are occasional receipts attached to these materials. It is uncertain why these receipts were included with the weekly summaries, rather than with the materials housed in subseries 3c, *Bills and receipts*. For a larger concentration of receipts, see the following subseries.

- c. Bills and receipts, 1929-1945, 1963-1974, n.d.
This subseries contains all bills and invoices sent to the Turners, as well as receipts for payment, all arranged in chronological order. Among goods and services commonly indicated by these receipts were utilities, printing services, sports equipment, toys for childrens' activities, food, coal, and ice. In addition to documents stemming from the club as a whole, there are separate receipts pertaining to liquor purchases from 1963 through 1966, a Turner picnic held in 1971, and insurance invoices. For additional receipts, the researcher is advised to review subseries 3b, *Income, expenses, and bank transactions*; for general information on insurance, please see subseries 1e, *Insurance*, and series 4, *Correspondence*, for related correspondence.
- d. Inventories, 1912-1944, n.d.
The items in this subseries consist of stock inventories for the bar, arranged chronologically. While the goods sold in the bar varied over the years, they consistently included beer, whisky, juice, and cigars throughout the period represented by these inventories. In addition, cider, seltzer in siphon bottles, wine, sherry, bitters, and other liquors were often kept in stock. The inventories indicate that the *Turnverein* regularly received monthly shipments of one thousand cigars throughout much of the period covered in volume 53 (1912 through 1936).
- e. Checkbooks and cashbooks, 1929-1939
This small subseries includes one checkbook and two cashbooks covering a ten-year date range. These items contain checkstubs with information as to the recipient of cash or a check, amount, and date paid.
- f. Payroll ledgers, 1946-1951, 1951-1970 **Closed until 2027 and 2045, respectively**
The materials in this subseries consist of loose sheets, which may have once belonged to a ledger, and which list payroll information for Roxborough Turners

employees. Included on each page are employee names, addresses, and personal data. Due to the sensitive nature of this information, the ledger in box 12, folder 6 is closed to researchers until 2027, and the ledger in box 12, folder 7 is closed until 2045.

- g. Taxes, 1936, 1941, 1954-1971, n.d.
The *Taxes* subseries includes tax forms and receipts pertaining to various city event taxes, such as the City Amusement Tax form for the January 31, 1936, Radio Party and Dance. Additional materials include handwritten summaries of the organization's tax payments, dues, and tax stamps, or permits, for "Amusement Devices," "COAD," and retail liquor dealers. All materials are arranged chronologically.
- h. Miscellaneous, 1924, 1965, n.d.
This subseries is comprised of a payroll ledger, materials pertaining to the Building Fund Bond, and an undated list of contributors to the "Save the Club Fund." The payroll ledger is labeled "Factory payroll ledger," and contains entries for a three month period in 1924. Listed are the names of both male and female employees, and their salaries for those months. It is unclear what factory is represented by this volume, or how it came to be included in the Roxborough Turners collection.

The Building Fund Bond materials include a completed "Roxborough Turners Rebuilding Program Campaign pledge" filled in for the amount of one hundred dollars, from 1965, and an undated bond contract payment booklet for the fund. Also enclosed is a pledge for U.S. Treasury Defense Savings Bonds, which was inserted in the bond contract booklet.

The "Save the Club Fund" contains a list of twenty-seven members and their donations, ranging from ten to fifty dollars.

Series 4. Correspondence, 1892, 1935-1980, n.d. (Boxes 12-13, FF#2)

The correspondence series contains both incoming and outgoing letters, with related correspondence attached. The materials include some internal memos, resignations of board members, incoming thank-you letters, routine business correspondence and bids on contracts for physical improvements to the hall, discussions of infringements of membership policies or codes of honor, planning discussions regarding upcoming events and competitions, and communication with city licensing bureaus. Also included is correspondence with the national organization, the American Turners, as well as other Turner societies, generally concerning placing advertisements in each others' anniversary programs. Materials are arranged chronologically.

Of note is the September 15, 1972, invitation sent to Philadelphia Mayor Rizzo and his wife, welcoming them to the 100-year anniversary of the Roxborough Turners organization. This invitation was respectfully declined.

Of further note is the February 23, 1938, invitation from a member of the *Turn-Bezirk* of New York, who would be leading the American Turners in a *Deutsches Turn & Sportfest*, in Breslau, Germany, from July 23rd to the 31st of that year.

Series 5. American Turners and other *Turnverein* societies, 1916-1975, n.d. (Boxes 13-14)

- a. American Turners, 1919, 1938-1942, 1964-1969, n.d.

The American Turners, the national organization with which the Roxborough Turners were associated, are represented in this subseries through an assortment of materials, arranged chronologically. These items reflect the various names held by the national organization through the years covered by this collection, including the *Nordamerikanischer Turnerbund*, the American Gymnastic Union, and the American *Turnerbund*.

Included in the subseries are pamphlets of the organization's General Principles and Statutes from 1919, in both English and German; annual reports from 1938 and 1942; National Executive Committee minutes from 1941 and 1942; three copies of the journal *American Turner Topics* from the 1960s; and a folder of miscellaneous materials. These include a list of the proposed exercises for the National Junior *Turnfest* of 1938, American Turners stamps for December 1956, and blank accounting sheets for an undated "Saturday Night Oyster and Bull Roast."

- b. Other Turner societies, 1916, 1925-1938, 1975, n.d.

The materials from other *Turnverein* societies primarily consist of programs and anniversary booklets from the Louisville, Kentucky; Union City, New Jersey; and New York, New York societies. These booklets contain greetings and messages of congratulations from the Turner societies, as well as advertisements from local businesses in each city.

In addition to the anniversary booklets are a pamphlet from the meeting of the 1916 Philadelphia *Turnbezirk* Diet, and brief minutes from the 1935 thirty-fifth convention of the Philadelphia Turn District. The materials in this subseries are arranged alphabetically by society, then chronologically within.

- c. Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union, 1917-1927

The Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union was founded in Indianapolis in 1907 to educate and train gymnastics and athletics instructors. Turners thus contributed to the expansion of physical education in the United States, by providing a cadre of professional educators focused on physical health. In addition, Turners were active proponents of establishing physical education classes in American public schools. The college operated independently until 1941, when it was absorbed by Indiana University. The school was renamed the Indiana University School of Physical Education and Tourism Management in 1972.⁶

This subseries consists of several yearbooks of the Normal College, ranging from 1923 to 1927; college catalogs and guidebooks from 1917 and 1920; and an alumni bulletin from 1923. These items are arranged chronologically. It is unknown exactly

⁶ School of Physical Education and Tourism Management, IUPUI. "School History," <http://www.iupui.edu/~indyhper/schoolhistory.html> (accessed December 9, 2004)

how these materials came to constitute a part of this collection, however it is presumed this was through the efforts of a Turner member associated with the college.

Series 6. Photographs, 1900, 1981, n.d. (Box 14, FF#3)

The photographs in this series are arranged chronologically, where possible, and include oversized images of a men's athletic team, circa the late nineteenth century; a large group of men in street clothing; a men's group presumed to be the *Gesang* section; the girls' athletic and gymnastic team and coach, also circa late 1800s, and the National *Turnfest* Squad of the *Germania Turnverein von Roxborough und Manayunk*, from 1900, on which the members are identified by name. There are also smaller undated photographs, some of which depict items held within the collection, including a three-dimensional shadowbox display of a certificate of the North-American Turner Bund Golden Jubilee, in June of 1900, complete with ribbons and a wreath; the girls' athletic and gymnastic team and coach; and various books that have been transferred to the HSP library. For more information regarding the books, please see the separation report.

Separation Report

A large number of books were accessioned with the Roxborough Turners records, and were separated from the collection and transferred to the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies Library at the time of accession. After the merger of the Balch Institute with the HSP in 2002, these materials were placed in the HSP Library. The materials include both hardbound and paperback books, in German and English, and hardbound and paperback children's books, in German. For a complete list of these materials, please see the collection folder.

Related materials

For other *Turnverein* materials at HSP, please see the following:

- Riverside *Turnverein* Records (Collection 3057), The Historical Society of Pennsylvania
- Wilmington Turners Records (Collection Mss 172), The Historical Society of Pennsylvania
- *Constitution der Social-demokrat. Turngemeinde in Philadelphia*. Philadelphia: W. Rosenthal, 1857
- Pumroy and Rampelmann, *Research Guide to the Turner Movement in the United States*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1996

For additional materials on Philadelphia *Turnvereins*, see:

- American Turners Collection, IUPUI Special Collections and Archives
- Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union, Athenaeum Turners Collection, IUPUI Special Collections and Archives
- *The First Hundred Years, 1849[-]1949, Philadelphia Turners, The Second Oldest Turner Society of the American Turners*. Philadelphia: Weiss Printing House, 1949

Subjects

Acrobatics—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia—19th Century
Acrobatics—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia—20th Century
Acrobatics Training—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
American Gymnastic Union
American Gymnastic Union. Normal College
American Turnerbund
American Turners (Organization)—History—20th Century
American Turners (Organization). Songs and music
Athletic clubs—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
Bars (Drinking establishments)—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia—19th Century
Bars (Drinking establishments)—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia—20th Century
Choirs (Music)—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
Folk music—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
Germania Turn-Verein of Roxborough and Manayunk
German Americans—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia—Societies, etc.
German Americans and libraries—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
German Americans. Social life and customs

Gymnastics for children—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
Gymnastics for men—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
Gymnastics for women—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
Gymnastics—Tournaments—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
North American Gymnastic Union
Physical education and training—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia
Recreation centers—Pennsylvania—Philadelphia

Boehret, Charles
Boehret, Louis
Goldbeck, August
Tharan, Paul
Vogt, Charles

Administrative Information

Restrictions

The payroll ledger materials located in box 12, folders 6 and 7 are closed to researchers until 2027 and 2045, respectively.

Acquisition information

The collection was donated by Thomas A. Johnson on behalf of the organization in 1992.

Accession number 1992- 17

Preferred citation

Cite as: [Indicate cited item or series here], Roxborough Turners Records (Collection 3056), The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

Processing note

Several volumes in this collection have been cleaned and treated for mold. These items are indicated by a special label on both the folder and box. Persons allergic or extremely sensitive to mold may wish to use gloves and a mask when handling these items.

Box and folder listing

Series 1. Administrative a. Charters, Bylaws, and Constitutions

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-----|--------------|
| Constitution and bylaws | 1888, 1893 | 1 | 1, Vol. 1 |
| Charters, Bylaws, and Constitutions | 1967, n.d. | 1 | 2 |
| Constitution | n.d. | 1 | 3 |
| Constitution and Bylaws | n.d. | n/a | FF#1 |

Series 1. Administrative b. Minutes and reports

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---|------------------------------------|-----|----------------|
| Board and membership minutes | 1873-1888 | n/a | Vol. 2 |
| Board and membership minutes | 1888-1894 | n/a | Vol. 3 |
| Board and membership minutes | 1895-1900 | n/a | Vol. 4 |
| Board and membership minutes | 1901-1914 | n/a | Vol. 5 |
| Board and membership minutes | 1914-1927 | n/a | Vol. 6 |
| Board and membership minutes | 1928-1945 | n/a | Vol. 7 |
| Inserts from volume 7 | 1942, 1944, 1949, 1953, n.d. | 1 | 4 |
| Board and membership minutes | 1945-1953 | n/a | 5 |
| Board and membership minutes | 1954-1962 | n/a | Vol. 8 |
| Inserts from volume 8 | 1955, 1958- 1959 | 1 | 6 |
| Board and membership minutes | 1962-1971 | 1 | 7-8 |
| House Administration Committee minutes | 1888-1892 | 1 | 9, Vol. 9 |
| Inserts from volume 9 | 1891, n.d. | 1 | 10 |
| House Administration and Bar Committee minutes, and bar inventory | 1902-1904 | n/a | Vol. 10 |
| Inserts from volume 10 | 1903-1904 | 1 | 11 |
| House Administration and Bar Committee minutes | 1904-1911 | n/a | Vol. 11 |
| Inserts from volume 11 | 1905-1910 | 1 | 12 |
| Building Committee minutes | 1888-1892 | 1 | 13, Vol. 12 |
| School Committee minutes | 1889-1898 | 1 | 14, Vol. 13 |

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|----------------|
| Deutscher Volksfest Verein minutes | 1886-1890 | 1 | 15, Vol. 14 |
| Inserts from volume 14 | 1888, 1890 | 1 | 16 |
| Notes on meetings | 1935-1956, n.d. | 2 | 1 |
| Board and membership resolutions | ca. 1935- 1969 | 2 | 2 |
| Entertainment Committee Chairman's Report | August 1937 | 2 | 3 |
| Annual Statistical Reports | 1935-1940 | 2 | 4 |

Series 1. Administrative c. Licenses and rental agreements

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----|--------|
| Licenses and permits: A-E | 1953-1969 | 2 | 5 |
| Licenses and permits: L-S | 1954-1969 | 2 | 6 |
| Rental agreements | 1926, 1931, n.d. | 2 | 7 |

Series 1. Administrative d. Liquor and entertainment regulations

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|--|------------------------------------|-----|--------|
| Club liquor license regulation booklets | 1936, 1937, 1957, 1962, 1965 | 2 | 8 |
| Texts of acts pertaining to liquor and club operations | 1937, 1951, 1952 | 2 | 9 |
| Regulations, applications, bonds, and related materials | 1934-1936 | 2 | 10 |
| Regulations, applications, bonds, and related materials | 1937-1941 | 2 | 11 |
| Regulations, applications, bonds, and related materials | 1942-1949, n.d. | 2 | 12 |
| Regulations, applications, bonds, and related materials | 1950-1956 | 2 | 13 |
| Notice: U.S. Treasury, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Notice to Retail Liquor Dealers | Aug. 1935 | | FF#1 |
| Notice to liquor board of changes to club officers | 1938-1954, n.d. | 2 | 14 |
| Notice to liquor board of changes to club officers | 1955-1967 | 2 | 15 |

Series 1. Administrative e. Insurance

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----|--------|
| Insurance materials | 1943-1951 | 2 | 16 |
| Insurance materials | 1954-1965, n.d. | 2 | 17 |

Series 2. Membership and dues a. Membership lists and addresses

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----|----------------|
| Members Address book | April 1, 1917 | 2 | 18, Vol. 15 |
| Inserts from volume 15 | 1937-1938, n.d. | 3 | 1 |
| Membership list and addresses | 1949 | 3 | 2 |
| Board of Officers list | 1938 | 3 | 3 |
| Suspended members list | January 1938 | 3 | 4 |

Series 2. Membership and dues b. Turnverein sections

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---|------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------|
| <i>Baeren</i> members and minutes ledger | 1882-1887 | n/a | Vol. 16 |
| <i>Baeren</i> members and minutes ledger | 1888-1892 | 3 | 5, Vol. 17 |
| <i>Baeren</i> song lyrics | n.d. | 3 | 6 |
| <i>Baeren</i> song boards | n.d. | 3 | 7 |
| <i>Gesang</i> section minutes | 1892-1898 | n/a | Vol. 18 |
| <i>Gesang</i> section: compiled collection of songs, and sheet music insert | 1881, n.d. | n/a | Vol. 19 |
| <i>Gesang</i> section: sheet music, lyrics, and programs | 1891, 1907, 1908, 1916, n.d. | 3 | 8 |
| <i>Gesang</i> section: compiled collection of songs | 1900 | 3 | 9, Vol. 20 |
| <i>Gesang</i> section: Folk songs for mixed choir | n.d. | 3 | 10, Vol. 21 |
| <i>Gesang</i> section: Songbooks, in four-part harmony | n.d. | 3 | 11, Vols. 22-23 |
| <i>Gesang</i> section: Songbooks, in four-part harmony | n.d. | 3 | 12, Vols. 24-25 |
| Women's Auxiliary Section minutes | 1895-1916 | 3 | 13, Vol. 26 |

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|---|----|
| Inserts from volume 26 | 1917-1920 | 3 | 14 |
|------------------------|-----------|---|----|

Series 2. Membership and dues c. Dues and membership data

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---|---------------------------|-----|---------------|
| Membership dues and income register | 1873-1888 | n/a | Vol. 27 |
| Membership dues and income register | 1880-1887 | 4 | 1, Vol. 28 |
| Membership dues register | 1887-1890 | n/a | Vol. 29 |
| Inserts from volume 29 | 1889, n.d. | 4 | 2 |
| Membership dues register | 1891-1894 | n/a | Vol. 30 |
| Membership dues and members' address register | 1893-1897 | n/a | Vol. 31 |
| Inserts from volume 31 | 1897 | 4 | 3 |
| Membership dues and members' address register | 1898-1905 | n/a | Vol. 32 |
| Membership dues register | 1906-1920 | n/a | Vol. 33 |
| Membership dues register | 1921-1924 | n/a | Vol. 34 |
| Membership dues register | 1925-1935 | n/a | Vol. 35 |
| Membership dues register | 1929-1933 | 4 | 4, Vol. 36 |
| Membership dues register | 1974-1979 | 4 | 5, Vol. 37 |
| Ladies auxiliary membership dues | 1887-1917 | 4 | 6, Vol. 38 |
| Ladies auxiliary membership dues | 1917-1933 | | Vol. 39 |
| Inserts from volume 39 | n.d. | 4 | 7 |
| Gymnasium scholar's registration blank | n.d. | 4 | 8 |
| Membership applications and certificates | 1904, 1934, 1938, n.d. | 4 | 9 |

Series 2. Membership and dues d. Events and activities

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---|---------------------|-----|--------|
| "Stiftungsfest:" Notice of impending celebration of the founding of <i>Germania Turn Verein</i> | 1893 | n/a | FF#1 |
| Tickets and invitations to dances and fundraisers | 1925, 1935, n.d. | 4 | 10 |
| Annual Banquet programs | 1969-1971 | 5 | 1 |
| Annual Banquet programs | 1973-1974, 1977 | 5 | 2 |
| <i>Germania Turnverein</i> competition scoresheet | n.d. | 5 | 3 |

Series 2. Membership and dues e. Certificates and diplomas

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|--|------------------|-----|--------|
| Philadelphia Turnbezirk diploma | Apr. 1884 | n/a | FF#1 |
| <i>Germania Turn Verein Gesang</i> Section diploma: honorary conductor | 1897 | n/a | FF#1 |
| <i>Germania Turn Verein</i> : honor certificate presented to A. Charles Vogt | Jul. 1897 | n/a | FF#1 |
| North American Turnerbund: diploma presented to women's group in honor of their services | 1903 | n/a | FF#1 |
| North American Turnerbund: diploma presented to <i>Germania Turn Verein</i> for 2 nd place in Philadelphia Turnbezirk contest | 1903 | n/a | FF#1 |
| North American Turnerbund: Philadelphia Turnbezirk award presented to <i>Germania Turn Verein</i> for 6 th place in Squad Contest | 1904 | n/a | FF#1 |
| <i>Germania Turn Verein</i> : honor diploma | Jul. 1916 | n/a | FF#1 |
| North American Turnerbund: Honor diploma presented to women's group | 1917 | n/a | FF#1 |
| <i>Germania Turn Verein</i> : diplomas of honor to members of the Junior class, Annual Gymnastics Contest | Jun. 5, 1924 | 5 | FF#1 |
| American Gymnastics Union: diploma of honor for 4 th place in the Society Competition | Jun. 19-21, 1925 | n/a | FF#1 |
| American Gymnastics Union: diploma for 5 th place in the Society Competition, Class B of the Eastern Circuit Tournament | Jun. 19-21, 1925 | n/a | FF#1 |
| <i>Germania Turn Verein</i> : blank diplomas for 1924-1925 terms | n.d. | 5 | 4 |

Series 2. Membership and dues f. Miscellaneous

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---|----------------------|-----|------------|
| Library bookkeeping register | 1887-1888, 1918-1919 | 5 | 5, Vol. 40 |
| Inserts from volume 40 | 1896, 1897, n.d. | 5 | 6 |
| Library book: Querner, Emil. <i>Wilde Blütbe: Gedichte.</i> | n.d. | 5 | 7, Vol. 41 |
| Poster: Memorial poem commemorating <i>Germania Turn Verein</i> 's move to a new hall | Jun. 7, 1890 | n/a | FF#2 |
| Visitors' register | 1901-1912 | n/a | Vol. 42 |
| Newspaper clippings | 1946-1963 | 5 | 8 |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|-----|------|
| Memorial poster A. Charles Vogt | n.d. | n/a | FF#2 |
|---------------------------------|------|-----|------|

Series 3. Financial a. Audits and financial reports

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|--|--------------------|-----|--------|
| Audits | 1938-1944, n.d. | 5 | 9 |
| Entertainment Committee Treasurer's final report | 1935-1938, n.d. | 5 | 10 |
| Treasurer's monthly reports | Mar.-Jun. 1941 | 5 | 11 |

Series 3. Financial b. Income, expenses, and bank transactions

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|--|----------------------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Income and expenses | Nov. 1891- Mar. 1896 | n/a | Vol. 43 |
| Income and expenses, with a listing of dues paid | 1898-1907 | n/a | Vol. 44 |
| Income and expenses | 1906-1917 | n/a | Vol. 45 |
| Income and expenses | 1907-1931 | n/a | Vol. 46 |
| Income and expenses | 1918-1938 | n/a | Vol. 47 |
| Inserts from volume 47 | n.d. | 5 | 12 |
| Income and expenses | 1932-1934 | n/a | Vol. 48 |
| Inserts from volume 48 | 1932-1933 | 5 | 13 |
| Income and expenses balance sheets | 1933-1935, 1937-1938, n.d. | 5 | 14 |
| Income and expenses | 1935 | 5 | 15, Vol. 49 |
| Inserts from volume 49 | 1935, n.d. | 5 | 16 |
| Income and expenses | 1936-1945 | n/a | Vol. 50 |
| Inserts from volume 50 | n.d. | 5 | 17 |
| Income and expenses | 1943-1947 | 5 | 18, 19, Vol. 51 |
| Bar Income and expenses | 1926-1941 | n/a | Vol. 52 |
| Inserts from vol. 52 | 1940 | 5 | 20 |
| Oktoberfest Income and expense report | October 1974 | 5 | 21 |
| Expenses | Jul.-Dec. 1941 | 6 | 1 |
| Expenses | Dec. 1959- Dec. 1961 | 6 | 2 |

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Expenses | Jan.-Dec. 1962 | 6 | 3 |
| Account books: monthly bar report | Jan. 1949- Dec. 1951 | 6 | 4 |
| Weekly account slips and bank deposit slips | Jul. 1941- Feb. 1943 | 6 | 5 |
| Weekly account slips expense sheets and bank deposit slips | Mar. 1943- Oct. 1944 | 6 | 6 |
| Weekly account slips and bank deposit slips | Nov. 1944- Jun. 1945 | 6 | 7 |
| Weekly account slips and bank deposit slips | Jul. 1945- Dec. 1945, 1976-1977 | 6 | 8 |
| Weekly account books | Oct. 1949- May 1952 | 6 | 9 |
| Weekly account books | Jul. 1952- Jan. 1957 | 7 | 1 |
| Weekly account books | Aug. 1956- Jul. 1958 | 7 | 2 |
| Weekly account books | Jan. 1957- Jan. 1959 | 7 | 3 |
| Weekly account books | Mar. 1959- Jun. 1960 | 7 | 4 |
| Weekly account books | Jan. 1960- Mar. 1961 | 7 | 5 |
| Weekly account books | Jan. 1961- Jul. 1962 | 7 | 6 |
| Weekly account books | Feb. 1962- Oct. 1963 | 8 | 1 |
| Weekly account books | Aug. 1962- Mar. 1964 | 8 | 2 |
| Weekly account books | Oct. 1963- Aug. 1965 | 8 | 3 |
| Weekly account books | Aug. 1965- Oct. 1966 | 8 | 4 |
| Weekly account books | Oct. 1966- Jul. 1967 | 8 | 5 |
| Bank statements | 1965 | 8 | 6 |

Series 3. Financial c. Bills and receipts

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----|--------|
| Bills and receipts | 1929, 1933- 1936 | 8 | 7 |

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----|---|
| Bills and receipts | Jul.-Aug. 1941 | 8 | 8 |
| Bills and receipts | Sept.-Oct. 1941 | 9 | 1 |
| Bills and receipts | Nov. Dec. 1941 | 9 | 2 |
| Bills and receipts | Jan.-Feb. 1942 | 9 | 3 |
| Bills and receipts | Mar.-Apr. 1942 | 9 | 4 |
| Bills and receipts | May-Jun. 1942 | 9 | 5 |
| Bills and receipts | Jul.-Aug. 1942 | 9 | 6 |
| Bills and receipts | Sept.-Oct. 1942 | 9 | 7 |
| Bills and receipts | Nov.-Dec. 1942 | 9 | 8 |
| Bills and receipts | Jan.-Feb. 1943 | 10 | 1 |
| Bills and receipts | Mar.-Apr. 1943 | 10 | 2 |
| Bills and receipts | May-Jun. 1943 | 10 | 3 |
| Bills and receipts | Jul.-Aug. 1943 | 10 | 4 |
| Bills and receipts | Sept.-Oct. 1943 | 10 | 5 |
| Bills and receipts | Nov.-Dec. 1943 | 10 | 6 |
| Bills and receipts | Jan.-Feb. 1944 | 10 | 7 |
| Bills and receipts | Mar.-Apr. 1944 | 10 | 8 |
| Bills and receipts | May-Jun. 1944 | 10 | 9 |
| Bills and receipts | Jul.-Sept. 1944 | 11 | 1 |
| Bills and receipts | Oct.-Dec. 1944 | 11 | 2 |
| Bills and receipts | Jan.-Mar. 1945 | 11 | 3 |
| Bills and receipts | Apr.-Jun. 1945 | 11 | 4 |
| Bills and receipts | Jul.-Sept. 1945 | 11 | 5 |

| | | | |
|--|--|----|----|
| Bills and receipts | Oct.-Dec. 1945 | 11 | 6 |
| Bills and receipts | Nov.-Dec. 1966, 1973- 1974, n.d. | 11 | 7 |
| Bills and receipts: Liquor Bills | 1963-1966 | 11 | 8 |
| Bills and receipts: 'Turners' Picnic: August 22, 1971 | August 1971 | 11 | 9 |
| Insurance invoices and related correspondence | 1941-1945 | 11 | 10 |

Series 3. Financial d. Inventories

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----|---------|
| Bar inventory | 1912-1936 | n/a | Vol. 53 |
| Inserts from volume 53 | 1932 | 11 | 11 |
| Bar inventory | 1936-1941 | n/a | Vol. 54 |
| Bar inventory sheets | 1938, 1944, n.d. | 12 | 1 |

Series 3. Financial e. Checkbooks and cashbooks

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|--------------|-----------|-----|---------------|
| Checkbook | 1935-1937 | 12 | 2, Vol. 55 |
| Cashbook | 1929-1931 | 12 | 3 |
| Cashbook | 1938-1939 | 12 | 4-5 |

Series 3. Financial f. Payroll ledgers

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|--|-----------|-----|--------|
| Roxborough Turners payroll Closed until 2027 | 1946-1952 | 12 | 6 |
| Roxborough Turners payroll Closed until 2045 | 1951-1970 | 12 | 7 |

Series 3. Financial g. Taxes

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---|---------------------------|-----|--------|
| Tax forms, receipts, and summary sheets | 1936, 1941, 1954, n.d. | 12 | 8 |

| | | | |
|------------|-----------|----|---|
| Tax stamps | 1954-1971 | 12 | 9 |
|------------|-----------|----|---|

Series 3. Financial h. Miscellaneous

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-----|---------|
| Factory payroll ledger | Oct.-Dec. 1924 | n/a | Vol. 56 |
| Building Fund Bond materials | 1965, n.d. | 12 | 10 |
| Save the Club Fund | n.d. | 12 | 11 |

Series 4. Correspondence

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-----|--------|
| Correspondence | 1892, 1935- 1936 | 12 | 12 |
| Correspondence | 1937-1939 | 12 | 13 |
| Correspondence | 1940-1942, 1945 | 12 | 14 |
| Correspondence: Air raid proclamation | ca. 1941 | n/a | FF#2 |
| Correspondence | 1946-1969 | 13 | 1 |
| Correspondence | 1970-1972 | 13 | 2 |
| Correspondence | 1973-1974 | 13 | 3 |
| Correspondence | 1975-1976 | 13 | 4 |
| Correspondence | 1976-1980 | 13 | 5 |
| Correspondence | n.d. | 13 | 6 |

Series 5. American Turners and other *Turnverein* societies a. American Turners

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|--|---|-----|--------|
| American Gymnastics Union General Principles and Statutes, in English and German | 1919 | 13 | 7 |
| American Turnerbund/American Turners Annual Reports | 1938, 1942 | 13 | 8 |
| National Executive Committee minutes and related items | 1941, 1942 | 13 | 9 |
| <i>American Turner Topics: Official Publication of the American Turners</i> | Jul.-Aug. 1964, Sept.- Oct. 1968, May-Jun. 1969 | 13 | 10 |
| Miscellaneous | n.d. | 13 | 11 |

Series 5. American Turners and other *Turnverein* societies b. Other Turner societies

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|---|------------|-----|--------|
| Kentucky: Louisville, Kentucky Diamond Jubilee booklet | 1925 | 14 | 1 |
| New Jersey: Union Hill <i>Turnverein</i> (Union City, New Jersey) Gymnastic and Athletic Tournament | June 1938 | 14 | 2 |
| New York: New York, New York 125 th Anniversary booklet | 1975 | 14 | 3 |
| Pennsylvania: Philadelphia "Turnbezirk" Diet | 1916 | 14 | 4 |
| Pennsylvania: Philadelphia Turn District, 35 th Convention minutes | 1935, n.d. | 14 | 5 |

Series 5. American Turners and other *Turnverein* institutions c. Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|-------------------------------|------------|-----|--------|
| College catalog and guidebook | 1917, 1920 | 14 | 6 |
| Yearbooks: <i>Gymnast</i> | 1923, 1925 | 14 | 7 |
| Yearbooks: <i>The Gymnast</i> | 1927 | 14 | 8 |
| Alumni Bulletin | 1923 | 14 | 9 |

Series 6. Photographs

| Folder title | Date | Box | Folder |
|--|------------|-----|--------|
| Photographs: photo of three-dimensional display of North-American Turner Bund Golden Jubilee, June 1900; various books, n.d.; the girls' athletic and gymnastic team and coach, n.d.; and a game of horseshoes, 1981 | 1981, n.d. | 14 | 10 |

| | | | |
|---|------------|-----|------|
| Photographs: men's athletic and gymnastic team, n.d.; group of men in street clothing, n.d.; men's group (<i>Gesang</i> section?), n.d.; girls' athletic and gymnastic team and coach, n.d.; and National <i>Turnfest</i> Squad of <i>Germania Turnverein</i> of Roxborough and Manayunk, Philadelphia, 1900 (members identified). | 1900, n.d. | n/a | FF#3 |
|---|------------|-----|------|