



THE CENTER FOR POPULAR MUSIC, MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY,
MURFREESBORO, TN

DOUG SEROFF COUNTRY MUSIC COLLECTION

10-034

Creator:

Seroff, Doug

Type of Material:

Manuscript Materials, Photographs, Trade Catalogs, Serials

Physical Description:

1 linear foot of manuscript material, including 100 photographs and 12 fan club newsletters

Dates:

circa 1950-2010

Abstract (Descriptive Summary):

The collection consists of promotional materials and photographs of country, bluegrass, and western swing artists. Artists include Jimmy Dean, The Statler Brothers, Randy Wood, Lakeland Sisters, Sons of the Pioneers, Johnny Cash, Bob Wills, Leon Rausch, and A'nt Idy Harper, among others. Also included in the collection are correspondence and Chet Atkins Fan Club newsletters.

Access/Restrictions:

The collection is open for research use. *All materials in this collection are subject to standard national and international copyright laws. Center staff are able to assist with copyright questions for this material.*

Provenance and Acquisition Information:

Donated by Doug Seroff on March 7, 2011. Some of the material was acquired by the donor from the estate of Bob Pinson.

Subjects/Index Terms:

Country music.
Western swing (Music)
Atkins, Chet
Country music fan clubs
Pinson, Bob

Agency History/Biographical Sketch:

Doug Seroff, born February, 21st, 1947 in Newark, NJ, and currently residing in Greenbrier, TN, has been involved in recording, researching, and promoting African American vernacular music since the 1970s. He has written a number of books on the subject, as well as many liner notes for reissues of older music. Mr. Seroff has also been a consultant with television and radio documentaries about the gospel quartet tradition, as well as a promoter of gospel quartet performances.

Bob Pinson (April 29, 1934 - Sept 4, 2003) was a pioneering country music scholar and record collector. Pinson worked as researcher and reference librarian at the Country Music Hall of Fame from 1973 to 2001. He served on the original board of advisors for the John Edwards Memorial Foundation.

Scope and Content:

This collection is comprised of one linear foot of materials. The majority of the materials relate to country, bluegrass, and western swing styles, circa 1950s-1990s. This collection includes twelve original copy issues of "Gallop'n' Guitar," the Chet Atkins Fan Club newsletter.

Collection Contents (Box/Folder List):

Box #	Folder #	Description
Box 1	Folder 1	Various Promotional Materials
	Folder 2	Western Swing
	Folder 3	Small Print Photographs
	Folder 4	Photographs from Bob Pinson
	Folder 5	Correspondence (Bob Pinson)
	Folder 6	Chet Atkins Fan Club newsletters (listed below)
12 mimeographed editions of the Chet Atkins Fan Club newsletter circa 1950s.		
	A.	Gallop'n' Guitar News, February 1954, Issue No. 6. Letters from fan club president and Chet Atkins. Articles about the Davis Sisters, Bernie Smith, record reviews and photos of Atkins, Pee Wee King, Grady Martin, Billy Byrd, etc.
	B.	Gallop'n' Guitar News, June 1954, Issue No. 7. Letters from fan club president and Chet Atkins. Record reviews, letter from Ginger Callahan, West Coast News, photographs of Chet Atkins, etc.
	C.	Gallop'n' Guitar News, 1954, Issue No. 8. Letters from fan club president and Chet Atkins. Articles on Carl Smith, "Ask Chet," postcard photos.
	D.	Gallop'n' Guitar. February 15 th , 1955, Issue No. 9. Articles about Chet Atkins, Pee Wee King, Wilburn Brothers, "Ask Chet," and photographs.
	E.	Gallop'n' Guitar News. February 1955, Issue No.11. Letters from fan club president and Chet Atkins. Articles on "West Coast News," "Just Ask Me" with Hawkshaw Hawkins and Chet Atkins, record reviews, etc. Photographs and postcard images of Atkins and Jo Davis.
	F.	Gallop'n' Guitar. February 1956, Issue No. 12. Letters from fan club president, and Chet Atkins. "Just Ask Me" featuring Chet Atkins, Arlie Duff, record reviews, West Coast news, short bio on Bennie Martin, etc. Photographs of Chet and

- Leona Atkins, Doug Kirkum, Floyd Cramer, Harry Floyd, and others.
- G. Gallopin' Guitar News. (No date. [1956]), Issue No. 13. Sixth anniversary issue. Articles by fan club members, letters from Steve Sholes, Jimmy Atkins, Chet Atkins, Red Foley, Jerry Byrd and others. "Ask Chet" feature.
 - H. Gallopin' Guitar News (No date. [1956]) Issue No. 14. Letters from fan club president and Chet Atkins. Record reviews, Opry reviews "Just Ask" feature with Jerry Byrd, photographs.
 - I. Chet Atkins Fan Club (No date. [1952] Vol. 1 Issue #2. Articles about fan club members, Webb Pierce etc. Opry performance reviews, record reviews, letters from Chet and Leona Atkins.
 - J. Chet Atkins Fan Club, April 6, 1953. Articles about fan club members and Chet Atkins
 - K. Merry Christmas-Chet Atkins Fan Club (No date. [Winter 1953] Letters from fan club president and Chet Atkins. West Coast News, "Ask Chet", Jimmy Bryant biography, Maddox Brothers and Rose biography, short Chet Atkins discography, photographs of Chet Atkins and fan club officers. Folder also contains two loose covers from another issue of the newsletter.
 - L. Chet Atkins Fan Club (No date. [1953-54]). Letter from president. News about Chet Atkins. Autobiographical article by Merle Travis, short obituary for Django Reinhardt, articles about Martha Carson, The Louvin Brothers, Faron Young, Noel Boggs etc.

Materials Cataloged Separately:

Per Center policy, certain formats are filed and cataloged separately for accessibility. Examples of these materials from this collection include 15 trade catalogs. [For a complete list of separated materials, please contact the archivist.]

Arrangement:

Original order of the materials has been maintained in so far as possible. In the case where there was no obvious order, the processor devised the basic organizational scheme for the collection, reorganizing the materials within component groups where necessary.

Location:

These materials are located in the manuscripts section of the archival stacks, filed chronologically by accession number.

Related Materials:

Other related materials in the Center collections include the Bill Harrison Collection (97-050), Lance LeRoy Collection (14-008), Jesse Austin Morris Collection (13-070), Doug Seroff African American Gospel Quartet Collection (10-026), Doug Seroff Black Gospel Disc Collection (89-009), Doug Seroff Collection of Negro Harmony Singing (89-031), Doug Seroff Film Collection (95-055), and Doug Seroff Master Tapes of Negro Quartet Singing (94-087).

Collection processed and finding aid written by John Fabke, April 2011; updated by Olivia Beaudry, 2017. Revised by Rachel K. Morris, December 2020.