

Guide to

MS 15

S.H. Bowyer Collection, 1921–1928

Bulk Dates 1950-1970

½ linear foot

Prepared By Lisa Gezelter
July 2009 (Updated)

Donation by Gene Parker, on April 1, 1978.

Citation: S.H. Bowyer Collection, 1921-1978, MS 15, Library and Archives, Central Arizona Division, Arizona Historical Society.

Library and Archives
Arizona Historical Society
Central Arizona Division

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Shadwell Bowyer was born in London, England on August 5, 1886. He went to school at the Charter House School in London, and in 1903 he emigrated to Tucson, Arizona. He worked as a cowhand at Oracle, Arizona and in 1910 opened the first automobile house in Tucson. During his early years in Tucson, he operated the Blue Bar Taxi and Transfer Company, the first taxi cab company in that city. Soon after, he ran Tucson's Cadillac Dealership. Bowyer became a citizen in 1915 and joined the U.S. Army. He served overseas as an intelligence officer in France. In 1920 he organized and became president of the Tucson Motor Trades Association. Later, he became president of the Southern Arizona Automobile Dealers' Association and in 1923 he founded Bowyer Motors in Tucson. In 1926, he moved to Phoenix, Arizona to run the Packard Motor Car Company. Three years later he was elected President of the Arizona Automobile Dealer's Association. During the 1920s he began selling American La France fire engines. In 1933 he began expanding his professional activities to include national groups. During the 1940s he served as Administrator of the Phoenix War Transportation Committee. During the 1950s and 1960s he sold Mercedes Benz automobiles. His wife's name was Gladys and they had two children, Robert H. and Elizabeth Anne.

Bowyer served on the Tucson City Council and as Director of the Southwestern Bankhead Highway Association. He also became a charter member of the Tucson Rotary club and Director of the Tucson Chamber of Commerce as well as the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce. He was a life member of the Arizona Polo Association and served as president of the Phoenix Rotary Club.

(Taken from original finding aid prepared in 1978).

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers document Bowyer's personal and professional activities in both Phoenix and Tucson from 1920 until the 1970s. The papers also document the activities of the Phoenix and Tucson Rotary Clubs and Bowyer's involvement with those organization. The collection lacks documents relating to Bowyer's involvement with the professional associations mentioned in the biographical note. Bowyer's involvement in sports activities, the army, with other car dealerships and the Phoenix Country club are also documented.

PROVENANCE

On April 1, 1978 Gene Parker donated the Shadwell S.H. Bowyer Papers to the Arizona Historical Society, Central Arizona Division.

RESTRICTIONS

None.

LITERARY RIGHTS STATEMENT

Permission to publish material from the *S.H. Bowyer Collection, 1921–1978* must be obtained from the Library and Archives Department at the Central Arizona Division of the Arizona Historical Society.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

- Folder 1: 1978.01 Personal and Family History, 1918–1966
- Folder 2: Newspaper Clippings, 1920–1968
- Folder 3: Political Correspondence, 1949–1969
- Folder 4: Correspondence, 1937–1965
- Folder 5: Correspondence, 1966–1967
- Folder 6: Correspondence, 1967–1973
- Folder 7: Packard-Studebaker Phoenix Motor Company, 1940–1969
- Folder 8: Arizona Automobile Dealers Association, 1937/1964
- Folder 9: Drawing of Soldiers and Horses
- Folder 10: Phoenix Country Club, 1955
- Folder 11: Phoenix Open Golf Tournament Program, 1953/1967
- Folder 12: Member of Hole-in-One Club, 1931
- Folder 13: Rotarizonian Newsletter, 1921–1977
- Folder 14: Rotary Club & Bowyer, 1961–1978
- Folder 15: Rotary International Governor's Letter, 1970
- Folder 16: Rotary International Anniversary Pamphlets, 1955/1964/1971
- Folder 17: Rotary International Conferences, 1943/1966–1970

Box 2 (Photos)

- Folder 18: 1978.01.05–1978.01.07/1978.01.10–1978.01.18 Photographs
 - 1978.01.05 Two men on roof
 - 1978.1.6 Apollo 11 on Moon
 - 1978.1.7 People boarding airplane
 - 1978.1.10 Young boy
 - 1978.1.11 Young boy
 - 1978.1.12 Old home
 - 1978.1.13 Young boy
 - 1978.1.14 Young lady
 - 1978.1.15 Two boys
 - 1978.1.16 Older man
 - 1978.1.17 Young boy
 - 1978.1.18 Young girl
- Folder 19: 1978.01.19–1978.01.28 Photographs
 - 1978.1.19 Young boy
 - 1978.1.20 Horse-drawn cart
 - 1978.1.21 Boy and dog
 - 1978.1.22 Group of men at table
 - 1978.1.23 Bowyer shaking hands
 - 1978.1.24 Bowyer receiving gift
 - 1978.1.25 Three men talking

- 1978.1.26 Men singing
- 1978.1.27 Lady seated at table
- 1978.1.28 Young Boy

Folder 20: 1978.01.29–1978.01.33/1978.01.34–1978.01.39 Photographs

- 1978.1.29 Unidentified lady
- 1978.1.30 Large group of people
- 1978.1.31 Home
- 1978.1.34 Men with ball hats
- 1978.1.35 Men at table
- 1978.1.36 Four men with drinks
- 1978.1.37 Car at Rodeo
- 1978.1.38 Bowyer eating
- 1978.1.39 Two cars

Folder 21: 1978.01.40–1978.01.49 Photographs

- 1978.1.40 Group of women
- 1978.1.41 Group of men
- 1978.1.42 Airplane
- 1978.1.43 Two men and old car
- 1978.1.44 Military airplane and crew
- 1978.1.45 Group of men
- 1978.1.46 Group of men standing
- 1978.1.47 Past presidents
- 1978.1.48 Award group
- 1978.1.49 Two men reading letter

Folder 22: 1978.01.50–1978.01.59 Photographs

- 1978.1.50 Group at formal affair
- 1978.1.51 Front of building
- 1978.1.52 Dealership
- 1978.1.53 Group with drinks
- 1978.1.54 Car dealership
- 1978.1.55 Interior of car dealership
- 1978.1.56 Air Force officer
- 1978.1.57 Group seated
- 1978.1.58 Packard dealership
- 1978.1.59 Car dealership

Folder 23: 1978.01.60–1978.01.72 Photographs

- 1978.1.60 Car dealership
- 1978.1.61 Bowyer truck dealership
- 1978.1.62 Man receiving painting
- 1978.1.63 Two golfers
- 1978.1.64 Unidentified man
- 1978.1.65 Bowyer & Rotary Club

- 1978.1.66 Mercedes-Benz Car
- 1978.1.67 Portrait of man
- 1978.1.68 Portrait of man
- 1978.1.69 Bowyer & Lady
- 1978.1.70 Aircraft carrier
- 1978.1.71 Three men & car
- 1978.1.72 Bowyer?