

C Hughes, Lena, Papers, 1951-1989
4114 .5 cubic feet, 4 audio cassettes

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

INTRODUCTION

The papers of Lena Hughes contain newspaper clippings, photographs, awards, letters, and diaries documenting her life and experiences. The newspapers portray Lena and her husband Jake's accomplishments as fiddlers and preservers of old time music. Lena's diaries document the weather, gardening, financials, and personal events. There are a number of documents regarding Lena and Jake's participation in fiddling contests and organizations.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Lena Hughes on 11 January 1992 (Accession No. 5121).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Lena Fay Hughes was born on May 29, 1904, in Ray County, Missouri, to John Henry Jones and Mary Emma Jones. Lena attended school through the eighth grade, at which time she began working. Lena learned to play the guitar at a young age from her father, and would later take up the banjo and fiddle. After marrying Samuel Jacob "Jake" Hughes on September 8, 1923, Lena devoted her life to playing and preserving old time music. Lena and Jake participated in the organization of the Missouri Old Time Fiddlers Association and the Midwest Old Time Fiddlers Association. They often sat as judges at fiddle contests, and taught old time music to younger generations. Lena won more than forty-eight prizes playing the fiddle, banjo, and guitar throughout the country. Jake Hughes died November 14, 1980, and Lena Fay Hughes passed away on March 4, 1998, in Chillicothe, Missouri.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Lena Hughes papers are divided into two series: **Miscellaneous papers and diaries**, and **Audio Cassettes**. The **Miscellaneous papers and diaries** series contains newspaper clippings and documentation of Lena and Jake's fiddling careers as well as Lena's personal diaries detailing her day to day life. The **Audio Cassettes** series includes fiddle tunes by Cyril Stinnett, Amos Chase, and Dwight Lamb.

FOLDER LIST

Miscellaneous Papers and Diaries series

- f. 1 Fiftieth Anniversary papers of Jake and Lena
- f. 2 Newspapers, letters, articles, fiddling awards and papers
- f. 3 Articles, pamphlets, fiddling awards
- f. 4 Diaries, 1951-1970

- f. 5 Diaries, 1970-1984
 f. 6 Photo of Jake, photo of Lena, diary, 1985-1989

Audio Cassettes series

- a.c. 1 Cyril Stinnett, side 1 and 2
 a.c. 2 Cyril Stinnett and Dwight Lamb, side 1 and 2
 a.c. 3 Amos Chase, side 1 and 2
 a.c. 4 Cyril Stinnett, side 1 and 2

INDEX TERMS

subject	folders	other	image
Chase, Amos		a.c. 3	
The Devil's Box, 1970	3		
Fiddlers--Missouri	1-6		
Hughes, Lena Fay (1904-1998)	1-6		
Hughes, Lena Fay (1904-1998)	6		y
Hughes, Samuel Jacob "Jake" (1901-1980)	1-6		
Hughes, Samuel Jacob "Jake" (1901-1980)	6		y
Lamb, Dwight		a.c. 2	
Midwest Oldtime Fiddlers Association	2-3		
Missouri State Old Time Fiddlers Association	2-3		
Stinnett, Cyril		a.c. 1, 2, 4	