



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT
**Game and Fish Division: Warden Service Section: Firearm
Safety Section**

An Inventory of Its Records

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Agency:** Minnesota. Division of Game and Fish. Firearm Safety Section.
- Series Title:** Firearm safety program records,
- Dates:** 1955-1960
- Abstract:** Subject and correspondence files of directors Lee Kuluvar (1955-1959) and J. P. Liemandt (1960), documenting the section's activities.
- Quantity:** 2.75 cu. ft. (2 boxes and 1 partial box).
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for box locations.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE FIREARM SAFETY SECTION

The Firearm Safety Section began operation in August, 1955, after the legislature passed a law establishing a statewide program of instruction in the safe use of firearms (Laws 1955 c704). The law forbade all persons under the age of 16 to carry a firearm for hunting purposes unless they completed a course in firearm safety. The course was not given to persons under age 10. The commissioner of conservation appointed a director of hunting safety from the personnel of the Game and Fish Division.

The section was part of the Warden Service Section of the Game and Fish Division. The director was an assistant to the chief warden. Hundreds of volunteer instructors were trained by game wardens to teach firearm safety to thousands of youths in the state each year.

The Warden Service Section was established as a separate division under the title Enforcement and Field Service in 1967 (Laws 1967 c905 s3). The firearm safety program was augmented in 1968 with the addition of a series of television programs and film strips which were used as training aids. The division and its programs continued following the name change to Department of Natural Resources in 1971. By the mid-1970s a snowmobile safety program was also part of the Enforcement and Field Service Division. Six safety training specialists, one located in each of the department's regions and the St. Paul office, are in charge of training the volunteer instructors for the Firearm and Snowmobile Safety Section of the Enforcement Division.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

Subject and correspondence files kept by directors Lee Kuluvar (1955-1959) and J. P. Liemandt (1960). Correspondence, reports, advertising materials, and administrative records document the section's various activities, particularly its relationship with the county-based instructional programs. Other topics covered in the files include firearms accidents; firearms manufacturers; organizational sponsors of the county programs, such as the American Legion, Boy Scouts, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Elks', Lion's, Rotary, and sportsmen's clubs; the Governor's Conference on Minnesota Volunteer Firearms Safety Instructors; directors' meetings; requests for information about the program; and appointment of county program chairs. There are also lists of certified instructors.

INDEX TERMS

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

- Corporate sponsorship--Minnesota.
- Firearms industry and trade--Minnesota.
- Firearms--Minnesota--Accidents.
- Firearms--Safety measures--Study and teaching--Minnesota.
- Hunting and fishing clubs--Minnesota.
- Hunting--Safety measures--Study and teaching--Minnesota.
- Snowmobiling--Safety measures--Study and teaching --Minnesota.

Organizations:

- American Legion--Minnesota.
- Boy Scouts of America--Minnesota.
- Elks (Fraternal order)--Minnesota.
- Lions International--Minnesota.
- Minnesota. Dept. of Conservation.
- Minnesota. Dept. of Conservation. Enforcement and Field Service Division.
- Minnesota. Dept. of Natural Resources. Enforcement and Field Service Division.
- Minnesota. Dept. of Natural Resources. Firearm and Snowmobile Safety Section.
- Minnesota. Division of Game and Fish. Warden Service Section.
- National Association of Rotary Clubs of America--Minnesota.
- Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States--Minnesota.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited item and folder title here]. Minnesota Dept. of Conservation: Game and Fish Division: Firearm Safety Section. Records Minnesota Historical Society. State Archives.

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

Accession number(s): 372

Processing Information:

Processed by: Cheri Thies

Agency history: PALS ID No.: 0800009143 RLIN ID No.: MNHV91-A347

Records: PALS ID No.: 0900021279 RLIN ID No.: MNHV88-A118

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below.

Location	Box	
103.F.5.7B	1	Subject Files of Director Lee Kuluvar, 1955-1959: A. Accident reports. Accident statistics. Affidavits. American Legion. Association of Mutual Agents. B. Boy Scouts. C. Casualty reports. Caswell Target Company (Anoka). Centennial (1958). Chicago Embroidery Company (patches). College (on program). Colt's Patent Firearms Manufacturing Company, Inc. Complaints. Cooperating organizations. Color file (red vs. change to yellow, etc.). County boards. Crosman Arms. D. Daisy Manufacturing Company, Rogers, Arkansas. Directors' meetings. 5 folders.

Location	Box	
103.F.5.7B	1	Subject Files (cont) Elk's clubs. F. Federal Cartridge Corporation. Films and TV. Firearms safety activity report. Fishing clinic. Game warden list. General information on program. Gopher Shooter Supply. Governor's Conference on Minnesota Volunteer Firearms Safety Instructors: 1956. 3 folders. 1957. 4 folders. 1958. 4 folders. Gun company replies. H. I. Ideas. Improper targets. Instructors: List of all. Interoffice (education). Izaak Walton League. J. Jaycees. K. L. Letters sent in answer to requests on the program. Letters regarding appointment of county directors. Lists of men certified by state (misc.). Lions clubs. M. Minnesota Firearms Association. Marlin Firearms Manufacturing Company. Minnesota Optometrists Association (Dr. Lindquist). Minnesota Power and Light Company. Minnesota Safety Council. N. National Safety Council. National Sporting Goods Association (Chicago). News releases forms and pictures. Northwest Sportsmen's Show. O. Olin Mathisson Chemical Corporation. Outdoor Life.

Location	Box	
103.F.5.7B	1	Subject Files (cont): Out of state information on the program. P. Patches. Pfeiffer Brewing Company. Publicity. R. Red Head Brewing Company. Red Wing Shoe Company. Remington Arms Company. Rotary clubs. S. Schools. Sportsmen's clubs. Sportsmen's service bureaus. Stearns Manufacturing Company. Stencil originals. New TV show (KTCA). Tee Nee Trailer Company.
Location	Box	
103.F.5.8F	2	U. Veterans of Foreign Wars. Vision. W. Wahl Arms Company. Water safety. Western Union (telegrams). Y. Youth activities fair. County Correspondence Files, 1955-1959. Arranged alphabetically by county. Mainly correspondence between the director and the individual county program chairpersons, covering such topics as meetings, supplies, and activities of the county programs. There are also letters concerning the appointments of individual county chairs, and reports and newsletters from the various counties. Aitkin – Pipestone. 60 folders.
103.F.5.9B	3	Ramsey – Yellow Medicine. 26 folders.

Location	Box	
103.F.5.9B	3	Alphabetical Files, 1960. 24 folders. Files of Assistant Chief Warden J. P. Liemandt. Arranged alphabetically by correspondent's name. Continues the correspondence with individual county chairs. Also contains letters from individuals requesting information about the program and requesting replacement of lost badges and certificates.