

**Finding Aid to
Elmira Brechtel's Lawrence Welk Show Performers Letters**

Brechtel, Elmira, 1908-1999

Lawrence Welk Show Performers Letters, 1972-1992

.2 linear ft.

Collection number: Welk Collection 1

[Biography](#)

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OVERVIEW

Access: The collection is in off-site storage. A 24-hour turn-around is required to make the records available for use at the Institute Research Room. The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

Provenance: Donated by Elmira Brechtel, 1993-1994 (Acc. 93-2, 93-36, 94-16).

Property rights: The Institute for Regional Studies owns the property rights to this collection.

Copyrights: Copyrights to items in this collection are held by the creator.

Citation: [Identification of item]. Elmira Brechtel Lawrence Welk Show Performers Letters (Welk Coll. 1), Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

BIOGRAPHY

Elmira Landry was born January 6, 1908 and a native of Brusly, Louisiana. She was a longtime employee of the *State-Times* and *Morning Advocate* newspaper of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and former owner of Jenco Products. She married Fredrich Roch Brechtel Jr. and they had three children. Mrs. Brechtel died July 21, 1999 at Baton Rouge.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Elmira Brechtel Collection consists of correspondence from performers with the Lawrence Welk Orchestra sent to Ms. Brechtel in response to letters and cards that she sent to various members of the Lawrence Welk Show. Sending birthday cards has been a hobby of Mrs. Brechtel for over sixty years. The correspondence covers about twenty years, 1972-1992. The Lawrence Welk Show members who sent the most correspondence include: Ava Barber (Sullivan), Bobby Burgess, Johnny Zell, and Bob Smale. The collection consists of postcards, Christmas cards, letters, photographs, fan club and newsletters received from the performers. There are also two Welk programs and the Lawrence Welk's Champagne Music Makers Personal Data Guide (1970).

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Content
1/1	Finding aid
	Correspondence Series
1/2	Anacani, 1974
1/3	Barber, Ava (Sullivan), 1974-1986
1/4	Burgess, Bobby, 1973-1985
1/5	C-G –
	Cuesta, Henry, 1977
	Curtiss, Barbara, 1973-1985
	Delo, Ken
	Farrell, Gail, 1972-1975
	Fenney, Joe, 1987-?
	Floren, Myron, 1974-1986
	Griffiths, Sandi, 1975-1977
1/6	H-N –
	Harris, Charlotte, 1975?-1976
	Holt, Laroon, 1974
	Hopper, Larry
	Hovis, Guy & Ralna, 1972-1980
	Metzger, Mary Lou, 1973-1976
	Netherton, Tom, 1976-1978
1/7	Ralston, Bob, 1972-1978
1/8	Redman, Michael, 1981-?
1/9	S-T –
	Semonshi Sisters, 1976
	Smale, Bob, 1972-1992

	Trimble, Kenny, 1973?-1976
1/10	Welk, Lawrence, 1972-1992
1/11	Zell, Johnny, 1974-1989
1/12	Zimmer, Norma, 1973-1984
1/13	Programs and Guide, 1970-1983