

## Guide to the Richard Allen "Al" Moorman Collection 2 – 2013.29

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**Reference code** US CoGrCGM 2013.29  
**Title:** Richard Allen "Al" Moorman Collection 2  
**Processed by** Caroline Blackburn  
**Finding aid prepared by** Caroline Blackburn

**Name and location of repository** Hazel E Johnson Research Center  
Greeley History Museum  
714 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Greeley, CO 80631  
Phone: (970)351-9219  
Email: museums@greeleygov.com  
URL: <http://greeleymuseums.com/>

### Collection Summary

**Dates** 1929-1980  
**Bulk dates** 1971-1980  
**Level of description** Collection  
**Extent** .25 cubic feet  
**Creator(s)** Richard Allen "Al" Moorman and family

### Administrative/Biographical History

Richard Allen "Al" Moorman was born at Smith Center, Kansas on September 7, 1901 to Edgar Daniel and Mattie Fay (Curry) Moorman. He spent his early years as a growing musician. In 1923, he played and wrote music for a circus band. Later, he played with a group called "The Moonlight Serenaders". Al attended Kansas State University from 1921 to 1923 to get a degree and learn music. On March 8, 1925 he married Gertrude G. Gates at Kingman, Kansas. The ill health of his wife brought them to Colorado in 1938 where he taught music in Nederland. The couple moved to Denver in 1940 and then came to Greeley in 1959, where he taught in various Weld County schools. He played with the Clay Taylor Band for twelve years and taught private students on clarinet, flute and saxophone. Al worked for several years with disabled children, had a rhythm band at Kenton Manor, was a member of the Swingin' Seniors group, and conducted the Kitchen Band at Bonell Retirement Community and a "Flying Squadron" group at Fairacres Manor. He was a member of the Musicians Association. He died November 3, 1980.

### Scope and Content

This collection comprises of photographs and documents related to the life of Al Moorman. The majority of the materials focus on the early life of Moorman and his music career. Specific objects contained in the collection are photographs, a funeral program, scrapbooks, a short autobiography, concert programs, a newsletter, correspondence, membership cards and newspaper clippings.

**System of arrangement** As no original order could be established, materials from this collection have been interfiled in an imposed order and organized by object type.

**Conditions governing access** There are no restrictions on the access of this collection.

**Conditions governing reproduction and use** There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

**Languages and scripts of the materials** English

**Custodial history** The materials in this collection were most likely created and assembled by the Moorman family, although this is unclear.

**Immediate source of acquisition** The collection was donated by Ernest Covington.

**Related archival materials** 2008.13

**Notes** Preferred citation: City of Greeley Museum's Permanent Collection, #2013.29

**Names** Moorman, Gertrude G., 1902-1964  
Moorman, Richard Allen, 1901-1980

**Places** Greeley (Colo.)

**Subjects** Music  
Music ensembles  
Music stores  
Musicians  
Orchestras and Bands

**Document forms**      Correspondence  
                                 Documents  
                                 Newsletter  
                                 Newspaper Clippings  
                                 Photographs  
                                 Programs  
                                 Scrapbooks

**Contents**

**Series I: Photographs**

Primarily portrait photographs of Al Moorman and one of Gertrude Moorman. Also contains images of the Clay Taylor Band..

**Series II: Personal Documents**

Contains a memorial program for Al Moorman, two pieces of correspondence, and three membership cards for Al Moorman.

**Series III: Scrapbooks**

Five scrapbooks and some loose scrapbook pages created by Al Moorman. Titles of the scrapbooks are “The Weld County Arthritis Club”, “School Daze”, “How It All Began, Letters of a Ham Musician to His Ma!”, “Autobiography of a Ham Musician Part I, My Home Town”, and “Aftermath, Maverick Band, Volunteer Work”.

**Series IV: Programs**

Concert programs for the Greeley Recreation Adult Band and the Franklin School.

**Series V: Newsletter**

*The Musicians Newsletter* for August 1977.

**Series VI: Newspaper Clippings**

Two newspaper clippings; one regarding the Clay Taylor and His Band, and one regarding the Greeley Swinging Seniors.

**Container List**

**Series I: Photographs**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder(s)</b>
1	1

**Series II: Personal Documents**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder(s)</b>
1	2, 11, 12

**Series III: Scrapbooks**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder(s)</b>
1	3-8

**Series VI: Programs**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder(s)</b>
1	9

**Series V: Newsletter**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder(s)</b>
1	10

**Series VI: Newspaper Clippings**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder(s)</b>
1	13