



Sharlot Hall Museum Library and Archives
415 West Gurley Street
Prescott, AZ 86301
www.sharlot.org

Title: John "Danny" Freeman Papers

Creator: John "Danny" Freeman

Dates: 1947-2000

Quantity: 2 ½ linear feet (5 boxes)

System of Arrangement:

- Series 1: Personal Records
- Series 2: Yavapai County Fair Materials
- Series 3: Arizona National Livestock Show
- Series 4: Society for Range Management
- Series 5: Yavapai Cattle Growers Association

Abstract: John Daniel "Danny" Freeman was born in 1911 on a cattle and wheat ranch near Tulia, Texas. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture in May 1935 from New Mexico State University. He worked for the United States Soil Conservation Service and as a Range Examiner. He did range surveys, soil erosion studies and determined capacities for area ranches in cooperation with the CCC and WPA. He became an area conservationist overseeing range management issues for five northern Arizona counties and worked with dozens of area ranchers to promote modern scientific methods of ranch management. He served in Vietnam as an agricultural advisor. He was highly involved in the Society for Range Management, the Yavapai County Fair Association, the Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo, and Cattle Growers' Association.

Identification: SHM MS-6

Language and Scripts of the Materials: English

Biographical History

John Daniel (Danny) Freeman was born on October 7, 1911 on a cattle and wheat ranch near Tulia, TX, 50 miles south of Amarillo. He graduated from Tulia High School in 1930, and enrolled in the New Mexico State University at Las Cruces in the fall of 1931. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture in May 1935.



Upon graduation, he was hired by the United States Soil Conservation Service in Safford, AZ. He worked for six years as a Range Examiner, doing range surveys, soil erosion studies and determining carrying capacities for area ranches in cooperation with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA)

He married Norita Voelker of Bisbee on July 21, 1940. They had three children, Barrie, Wendell and Judy.

In 1952, he was promoted to Area Conservationist, overseeing range management issues for five northern Arizona counties, comprised of six field offices. He worked closely with dozens of area ranchers to promote modern scientific methods of ranch management.

He volunteered to go to Vietnam from 1967 to 1972 as an Agricultural Advisor for the U.S. State Department. He worked with Vietnamese farmers to improve swine, poultry and rice production.

Mr. Freeman retired from the government in April 1973 after 38 years of service. He then became involved in a number of agricultural organizations, including the Society for Range Management, of which he was elected local president in 1954, and national president in 1956; the Yavapai County Fair Association, where he was president from 1954-55 and 1976-79; the Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo, where he was Chairman in 1963-64; the Yavapai Cattle Growers Association, which he joined in 1941; and the Arizona Cattle Growers Association, which he joined in 1954.

He became interested in the histories of these organizations, and began to write articles for their periodicals. He wrote a series of articles over the years which he entitled *A Bit of History*, which ran in the YCFA publication. These were short biographical sketches of various people involved in Arizona ranching, many of whom he knew personally from his time with SCS. He also wrote eight books which were published, including treatises on the Smoki Snake Dancers, the YCGA, the SRM, the YC Fairgrounds, and a 100-year history of the Prescott Rodeo. He also received the Pioneer Stockman award from the Arizona National Livestock Show, an honor bestowed annually to an outstanding member of the association. He was concurrently elected to the group's Hall of Fame. He considered it his proudest moment.

Mr. Freeman passed away on January 13, 2003.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of notes, correspondence and ephemera relating to the life of John "Danny" Freeman.



Restrictions

None

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Related Archival Materials & Subjects

[American Society of Range Management](#)

Area Conservationist

Arizona Living Stockman Hall of Fame

Arizona National Livestock Show

Bar U

[Civilian Conservation Corps \(U.S.\)](#)

Double O Ranch

Freeman, John "Danny", 1911- 2003

Hardgrave, Bob

Lehman Lovegrass

Long Meadow

Mizpah Ranch

Pioneer Stockman

Prescott Frontier Days

San Carlos Indian Reservation

[Society for Range Management](#)

Upper Gila River Project

[United States. Works Progress Administration](#)

Yavapai Calf Sale

[Yavapai Cattle Growers \(Association\)](#)

[Yavapai County \(Ariz.\)](#)

Yavapai County (Ariz.) Fairgrounds

Books written by John "Danny" Freeman:

[A 20 Year History of The Prescott Corral of the Westerners](#)

[A 35 Year Leadership History of the Society for Range Management](#)



A 50 Year History of the Yavapai Cattle Growers
A 50 Year History of the Yavapai Calf Sale and Barbecue
A 60th Anniversary Special Program and Brochure for the Prescott Kiwanis Club
A 72 Year History of Yavapai County Fairgrounds
A 100 Year History of Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo, World's Oldest Rodeo
History of Prescott Kiwanis Club, 1924-1990 by Taylor T. Hicks, Sr., Edited and supplemented by Danny Freeman
Twenty-One Years of Progress of Arizona Soil Conservation Districts

Bate Collection

Freeman, Danny Oral Histories tapes--711; 1377; 144a, side 1; 185a, side 1; 752, side 2; and 865

Frontier Days Collection – MS-17

Matt Culley Collection

Prescott Corral of Westerner's Collection

Smoki Collection – MS-11

Yavapai County Fair Collection

Administrative Information

Accession Number – 2010.031

Custodial History

Materials were donated to Sharlot Hall by Mona McCroskey.

Accruals: Note if any more accruals are coming or if accruals happened to the collection.

Description Control

This collection was processed by Murray Smolens using *Describing Archives: a Content Standard (DACs)* in 2010.



Container List

Title: John “Danny” Freeman Papers SHM MS-6

Dates: 1965-2000

Series Scope & Content: Miscellaneous papers, articles and correspondence prepared and collected 1965-2000. It also contains photographs from Danny Freeman’s photograph album, which have been removed from album for preservation purposes. Subjects of photos include Smoki people, ANLS images, landscapes, and others. One videotape.

Series 1: Personal Records		
Box/Folder	File/Item Description	Date(s)
1/1	Danny Freeman Biographical Data	1982, 1986, 1988, 1991
1/2	Miscellaneous Correspondence (1 of 2)	1973-1992
1/3	Miscellaneous Correspondence (1 of 2)	1993-2000
1/4	Frank Gyberg-Wayne Kessler Correspondence	1959-1987
1/5	Western Livestock Journal Articles	1962
1/6	Upper Gila River Project 30 th Anniversary Reunion	11/6/1965
1/7	“Early Day Cattle Ranching in Arizona”, Speech to Kiwani’s Club	11/18/1976
1/8	“History of Ranching” Paper	1/25/1977
1/9	State Grass Articles – Rangelands Magazine	August-December 1979
1/10	Natural Resources Conservation for AZ Youth	1980-1994
1/11	Chairman, Yavapai County Extension Board Letters	1981-1983
1/12	Prescott Frontier Days Rodeo Correspondence as Historian	1989
1/13	Lucretia Breazeale Hamilton Nomination to AZ Hall of Fame	January 1992
1/14	30 Year History, Prescott Corral of the Westerners	June 1992
2/1	Interview with Danny Freeman, By Jack Bohng (videotape)	1991
2/2	Wild Horse Racing – Prescott Rodeo	1997
2/3	Photograph Album (25 photos)	1950’s-1960’s



Title: John “Danny” Freeman Papers SHM MS-6

Dates: 1974-2000

Series Scope & Content: Contains correspondence, historical information, book correspondence, meeting minutes and superintendents for the Yavapai County Fair.

Series 2: Yavapai County Fair Materials		
Box/Folder	File/Item Description	Date(s)
2/4	Yavapai County Fair Association Correspondence, General	1979-2000
2/5	Yavapai County Fair	1974-1975
2/6	Yavapai County Fair Association, Historical Information and articles (part 1)	1981-1997
2/7	Yavapai County Fair Association, Historical Information and articles (part 2)	1998-2000
2/8	Yavapai County Fair Superintendents	1947-1984
2/9	<i>Yavapai County Fairgrounds</i> book, correspondence	1984
2/10	Yavapai County Fair Association Meetings, Correspondence (1 of 2)	1976-1977
2/11	Yavapai County Fair Association Meetings, Correspondence (2 of 2)	1977-1978
2/12	Yavapai County Fair Association Meetings, Correspondence and Data (1 of 2)	1979
3/1	Yavapai County Fair Association Meetings, Correspondence and Data (2 of 2)	1980-1983



Title: John “Danny” Freeman Papers SHM MS-6

Dates: 1968-2000

Series Scope & Content: Arizona National Livestock Show Ranch Histories, Correspondence, photo, lists, programs and records.

Series 3: Arizona National Livestock Show		
Box/Folder	File/Item Description	Date(s)
3/2	ANLS Ranch Histories	1984-1988
3/3	ANLS Ranch Histories, Correspondence – John and Grace Thompson	1985-1987
3/4	ANLS Ranch Histories, Correspondence, Photo	1989
3/5	ANLS Ranch Histories, Index	1990
3/6	ANLS Ranch Histories, Correspondence	1990
3/7	ANLS Ranch Histories, Correspondence (1 of 2)	1991
3/8	ANLS Ranch Histories, Correspondence (2 of 2)	1991
3/9	ANLS Ranch Histories, Correspondence	1992
4/1	ANLS Ranch Histories, Correspondence	1992
4/2	ANLS Ranch Histories, Correspondence`	1993
4/3	ANLS Ranch Histories – Lists	1994
4/4	ANLS Ranch Histories – Lists	1995
4/5	ANLS Ranch Histories – Lists	2000
4/6	ANLS Ranch Programs	1968-1998
4/7	ANLS Pioneer Stockman Day Programs and Records	1986-1987, 1999



Title: John “Danny” Freeman Papers SHM MS-6

Dates: 1967-2000

Series Scope & Content: Society for Range Management articles, awards, recognitions, presidents, lifetime membership certificate and annual meeting.

Series 4: Society for Range Management		
Box/Folder	File/Item Description	Date(s)
4/8	Danny Freeman Article on SRM	1967 (published 1991)
4/9	SRM Certificate of Life Membership	1973
4/10	Parade of Secretaries Article	1977
4/11	Patricia G. Smith: Range Management and Editor Extraordinaire	1984
4/12	Frederic G. Renner Award – SRM Correspondence	1982 1983-1987
4/13	SRM Annual Meeting and Expenses	1984
4/14	SRM Correspondence	1984-2000
4/15	Bohning-Freeman Award, Outstanding SRM Section Recognition	1986
5/1	Society for Range Management (SRM) Presidents	1948-1984
5/2	SRM Annual Meeting	1985
5/3	“One Square Foot Award”	1988



Title: John “Danny” Freeman Papers SHM MS-6

Dates: 1964-2000

Series Scope & Content: Yavapai Cattle Grower’s Association newsletters, correspondence, ranch tours and memorials.

Series 5: Yavapai Cattle Grower’s Association		
Box/Folder	File/Item Description	Date(s)
5/4	A Bit of History – YCG Newsletters	1996-2000
5/5	YCG/AZCG Correspondence	1982-2000
5/6	YCG 33 rd Annual Meeting	3/7/1964
5/7	YCG Memorial for those who died serving Yavapai County	1984
5/8	YCG Ranch Tours	1979
5/9	YCG Ranch Tours	1982
5/10	YCG Ranch Tour	1983
5/11	YCG Ranch Tour	1984
5/12	YCG Ranch Tours	1986-1987
5/13	YCG Ranch Tours	1988-1992
5/14	YCG Ranch Tours	1995
5/15	YCG Ranch Tour	1999
5/16	YCG Ranch Tour	1982