

Alaska State Library  
Historical Collections

**Guide to Collection**

Ebersole, D. Orville

**Hunting in Alaska with Oscar Vogel, 1954-1976**

MS 267

1 Box  
11 folders  
37 photographs  
Letters, brochures, pamphlets

Processed by: Gayle Goedde,  
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**ACQUISITION:** Collection was donated by Elaine Ebersole Conrad, May 19, 2011 (Accession number 2012-006).

**ACCESS:** The collection is open to research.

**COPYRIGHT:** Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

**PROCESSING:** Photographs were sleeved in Mylar; letters, organized by author and by date, were filed in folders; a map, travel brochures, and pamphlets for Oscar Vogel's Stephan Lake Hunting Camps were organized in folders.

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

In 1940, Daniel Orville Ebersole married Ruth M. Ebersole in Claysburg, Pennsylvania, where they had an Electric Service and Sporting Goods business. D. Orville Ebersole died in 1990, and his wife, Ruth, died in 1999. Their daughter, Elaine M. Conrad is the donor of the collection. D. Orville Ebersole brought hunters from Pennsylvania to Alaska for hunts guided by Oscar Vogel, and it is their correspondence and shared photographs that form the bulk of this collection.

Oscar Vogel, according to an article in *Alaska* magazine on "Guiding in Alaska," was one of Alaska's finest big game guides, "known for producing huge trophies on quality hunts." Hunters from all over the world came to his headquarters at Stephan Lake to go on hunts lasting from 14 to 30 days. Traveling among remote camps on foot, most hunters went after the "Big Four": a ram, a grizzly, a moose, and a caribou. Oscar Vogel guided his first hunt out of Stephan Lake in 1935 and his last in 1969; in 1977, Vogel was honored by the Alaska Professional Hunters Association for his life-long adherence to principles of fair chase hunting.

## SCOPE AND CONTENTS

The photographs, many with verso notes, show hunters and hunting trophies, including moose and caribou antlers, sheep horns, and bear hides. Verso notes indicate the points scored by several of the trophy antlers and the place they ranked in the record books. Hunters identified in the photographs include Max Harshberger, Kenny Tozer, Ed "Red" Beeman, "Tex" Eubank, Robert Moller, Dave Bell, Rocky Seago, Benny Brousard, Dick Digrajay, L. H. Waltersdorf, and Bob Leighty.

The letters are largely written to D. Orville Ebersole, from Oscar Vogel, Johnny Luster, and David Bell. There are also several letters written to D. Orville Ebersole from his wife and children and miscellaneous others. There is also a copy of a letter written by Oscar Vogel in response to a man named "Wade" who had complaints about his hunt.

Following the letters is a small diary notebook and loose-leaf notes kept by Ebersole on his Alaska hunts. There is a partial draft of an article titled "Alaska Dream Hunt" by D. Orville Ebersole, and there are color copies of photographs taken on a hunt. Finally, there is a folder of travel brochures and pamphlets, and a folder with two newspaper articles and the article from *Alaska* magazine (May 1979).

## INVENTORY

### Box 1

- Folder 1      Photographs of hunters and hunting trophies
- Folder 2      Annotated topographical map showing location of Stephan Lake and the hunting camps used by Oscar Vogel on guided hunting trips; also, brochures for the Stephan Lake hunting camps
- Folder 3      Letters from Oscar Vogel to D. Orville Ebersole
- Folder 4      Letters from Johnny Luster to D. Orville Ebersole
- Folder 5      Letters from David G. Bell to D. Orville Ebersole
- Folder 6      Miscellaneous correspondence addressed to D. Orville Ebersole
- Folder 7      Letters to D. Orville Ebersole from his wife and children
- Folder 8      Letter to Oscar Vogel from Joseph R. Good and letter from Oscar Vogel to "Wade" in regard to complaints about a hunt
- Folder 9      Notes, draft, and color copies of photographs: "Alaska Dream Hunt" by D. Orville Ebersole
- Folder 10     1957-58 Alaska Game Commission Regulations; travel brochures for Northwest Orient Airlines, hunting camps, and African safaris
- Folder 11     Newspaper articles about hunts led by Oscar Vogel  
Magazine article about Oscar Vogel added to collection by Historical Collections