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Summary Information

Repository       Norman Rockwell Museum Archives - Reference Center Collection
Title            Boys' Life periodical collection
Date             Dec 1912-Mar 1971
Extent           10.0 Linear feet
Contact          Norman Rockwell Museum Archival Collections, The Norman Rockwell Museum, 9 Glendale Road, Route 183 Stockbridge, MA 01262, 413-931-2251 Venus@nrm.org
Language         English
Abstract         This collection consists of ten linear feet of Boys’ Life magazines, dating from 1912 to 1971. All of these magazines feature Rockwell artwork. Many have Rockwell covers.

Preferred Citation
Boy’s Life Periodical Collection, Norman Rockwell Archives, Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, Massachusetts.
Historical note

Boys’ Life is the monthly magazine of the Boy Scouts of America. It began publication in 1911 and is still published today.

In January 1911, George S. Barton of Somerville, Massachusetts, founded, and published the first edition of Boys’ Life magazine. He called it Boys' and Boy Scouts' Magazine. Five thousand copies were printed of that first issue, although very few of those copies actually reached the public. The first widely accepted edition was published on March 1, 1911.

Boys’ Life is aimed at boys ages six to eighteen and features a variety of content, including comics, short stories, Boy Scout news, and articles covering topics such as camping and fitness. In 1912, the Boy Scouts of America purchased the magazine, making it an official BSA magazine.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains approximately 60 issues of Boys’ Life Magazine dating from December 1912 to March 1971. It includes numerous issues with Rockwell illustrated covers, including his first for Boys’ Life, “Scout at Ship’s Wheel.” Other issues contain Rockwell illustrations and advertisements, including ones for Fisk Bicycle Tires.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Norman Rockwell Museum Archives - Reference Center Collection Processed in 2011
Access

The collection is open to researchers by appointment.

Copyright

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Provenance

Materials gifted by various donors.

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- Norman Rockwell, 1894-1978

Subject(s)

- Boy Scouts of America
- Illustrators--United States.