



BHC-MSS 0186  
Guide to the Lyman Thunfors Collection  
by Meg Rinn  
February 2022

**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Thunfors, Lyman

**Title:** Lyman Thunfors Collection

**Dates:** 1942-1989

**Quantity:** 1.3 linear feet

**Abstract.** Lyman Thunfors was born in Muskegon, Michigan and was an industrial executive best known for his time as the Executive Vice President at Jenkins Brothers. The collection contains photographs of the company in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century along with some documents.

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Bridgeport History Center

**Biographical History:**

Lyman Thunfors was born in Muskegon, Michigan and was an industrial executive. While he is best known in Bridgeport as the Executive Vice President of Jenkins Brothers – a valve company – he previously served as the General Manager of Rensselaer Inc. in Troy, New York and in a similar position at Richmond Radiator. Thunfors worked at Jenkins Brothers for 18 years before he retired in the 1970s.

Thunfors was active in professional organizations including the National Manufacturers Association, and was involved in local business outreach such as Junior Achievement. He was also socially active, with memberships at the Brooklawn Country Club, Rotary, and both Black Rock and Fayerweather Yacht Clubs.

He married Frances Anderson. Together they had three daughters and one son.

Thunfors died January 2, 1989.

**Scope and Content note:**

The bulk of the material pertinent to Jenkins Brothers is located in the photo albums and scrapbooks, which contain extensive images and documents assembled over the years. Documents are scant, although the War Production Board clippings provide valuable insight into World War II manufacturing in Bridgeport and the surrounding area.

**Arrangement Note:**

Series I contains paper material arranged chronologically, series II contains scrapbooks and photo albums. Series III contains three-dimensional objects.

**Administrative information:**

**Provenance:** 2021.56, gift of Patricia Dann.

**Preferred Citation:**

Lyman Thunfors Collection (BHC-MSS 0186), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

**Names and Subject Tracings**

*Personal names*

Thunfors, Lyman

*Corporate names*

Jenkins Brothers

*Subject tracings*

Industry

**Detailed box/folder listing**

Box 1

Series I, Documents

1. War production board clippings, 1942
2. Correspondence, 1959-1975
3. Diamond Digest, [Jenkins Bros. newsletter]1962-1966
4. Press release for National Alliance of Businessmen, 1975
5. Additional material, 1972, undated
6. Obituaries, 1989

Series II, Scrapbooks and photo albums

7. Additional photographs from Jenkins Brothers photo album, c. 1960s

Box 2

1. Photo album, c. 1960s
2. Scrapbook, 1942-1989

Series III, Three dimensional material

3. Junior Achievement award, 1963
4. Hackley Manual training School and Foundry medal, undated