



BHC-MSS 0254
Guide to Papers of the Garcia Family
By E. Van Tuyl
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Garcia Family

Title: Papers of the Garcia Family

Dates: 1942 -2001, bulk 1942-1980

Quantity: 1 document box; 2 oversize boxes with newspapers

Abstract: Papers of Luciano Fausto Garcia and his daughter, Diane Del Carmen Garcia, of Bridgeport, Connecticut. Materials span two generations and include items from the Jenkins Brothers company, St. Stephens Church and School (Bridgeport, Conn.), personal photographs, and newspapers published in Cuba or in the U.S. for a Cuban-American readership.

Collection: BHC-MSS 0254

Language: English; Spanish

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical Information or Administrative History

Luciano Fausto Garcia and Caridad “Cachita” Utria Garcia emigrated from Cuba in 1942, moving first to Ansonia, Connecticut, where Caridad’s sister, Emilia, and her husband, Ramiro Arias lived, then later settling in Bridgeport, on Prospect Street. In 1942 Bridgeport industries were fully engaged in war-time production and factory jobs were plentiful. The couple were married by a Justice of the Peace in Ansonia in 1943. Eventually, the Garcias lived with their two children, Diane and Fausto, in the City’s West End, where the family attended St. Stephen’s Church and School. Finally, they bought a house on North Anthony Street and Diane attended Central High School.

Luciano, known as Fausto, spent his entire career at the Jenkins Brothers Company. His wife, Caridad, worked at Jenkins Brothers, too, but she was a seamstress and worked at several other Bridgeport factories and businesses, including the American Fabrics Company, throughout her tenure in Bridgeport. The couple were long-time members of Bridgeport’s Cuban Club and Fausto served as its president for many years. The Garcias retired to Hialeah, Florida where they lived for 25 years before moving back to Bridgeport. Luciano died in 2011 and Caridad in 2008.

Caridad's mother, Carmen Sera Utria, also came from Cuba to Bridgeport and worked at Jenkins Brothers, but moved back and forth between Cuba and the United States, settling permanently in Connecticut and later Florida in late 1961 when restrictions then prevented her from returning to Cuba. Emilia and Ramiro Arias also moved to Hialeah, Florida. Luciano's and Caridad's daughter, Diane, has remained in Bridgeport for her entire adult, working life and has a career in the health insurance industry.

Scope and Content Note

This is a small collection that consists mostly of a few paper items from Luciano Garcia's work at Jenkins Brothers along with photographs from company outings and events. There are three Jenkins Brothers employee identification badges for Luciano and Caridad Garcia and Carmen Utria, Caridad's mother, in good condition. Mr. Garcia's portion of the collection also includes personal photographs and a small collection of postcards. In addition to the Jenkins Brothers items, of particular note, is a collection of both U.S. and Cuban-published, Spanish language newspapers, a book, and a periodical. Newspaper titles include *Diario de la Marina*, *El Avance Criollo*, *Zig-zag libre*, *Revolucion*, and *Norte*. The book is a history of Cuba published after the revolution.

Garcia also kept individual issues of widely available, mainstream U.S. newspaper and periodical titles such as *Time*, *Look*, *Saturday Evening Post*, and *Life* magazines, the *New York Daily News* and *New York Times*, *Bridgeport Post* and *Telegram*, and the *Miami Herald*. These publications and clippings were mostly dated from the 1960s through the early 2000s and reflected Garcia's interest in baseball, the Vietnam War, the Cold War and U.S.-Soviet relations, communism in Latin America, the Jonestown massacre in Guyana, and the Elion Gonzales case. Unfortunately, these items were in poor condition and had to be discarded.

Arrangement Note

The collection consists of two series. Series I is devoted to Luciano Garcia's papers and Series II is devoted to Diane Garcia's materials. There are no subseries; items are grouped by general type or genre.

Name and Subject Tracings

Personal names

Garcia, Luciano Fausto Fernando

Garcia, Diane Del Carmen

Garcia, Caridad "Cachita" Utria

Utria, Carmen Sera

Arias, Ramiro

Arias, Emilia Utria

Corporate names

Jenkins Brothers (Bridgeport, Conn.)

St. Stephen's Church (Bridgeport, Conn.)

Subject headings

Cuba

Cubans

Hispanic Americans

Latin Americans

Cubans--Florida--Newspapers

Latin Americans--Newspapers

Clubs

Church Schools

Administrative Information

Preferred citation

Papers of the Garcia Family, BHC-MSS 0254, Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Provenance: Diane Garcia donated these family items to the BHC; ACC.# 2024.10

Detailed Description of Records/Container List

Box 1

Series I- Luciano Fausto Garcia

1. Papers, certificates, programs, letters
2. Vital records
3. Photographs
4. Newspaper clippings
5. Postcards
6. Slides
7. Jenkins Brothers employee identification badges
8. Book on Cuban history, 1966
9. Certificate of attendance, public evening schools for Caridad Garcia
10. Accrual, October 2024 – L. Garcia papers, mixed media

Series II – Diane Garcia

11. Photographs – St. Stephen's School
12. Certificates – St. Stephen's School and Church

Box 2

Series I – Luciano Fausto Garcia

1. *Cuba*, 1963, vol. II, no. 14
2. *Norte*, January 9, 1959, vol. vii, no. 194
3. *Norte*, January 13, 1959, vol vii, no 197
4. *Norte*, January 16, 1959, vol. vii, no. 200
5. *Norte*, January 8, 1959vii., no 193
6. *Norte*, January 17, 1959, vol. vii., no. 201
7. *Norte*, January 18, 1959, vol. vii, no. 202
8. *Revolucion*, January 13, 1959, vol. 1, no. 10
9. *Revolucion*, January 4, 1959, vol. 3
10. *Revolucion*, November 14, 1959
13. *Diario de la Marina*, January 16, 1959, vol. cxxvii, no. 13
15. *Parade: Bridgeport Sunday Post*, May 26, 1963

Box 3

Series I

11. *Zig-Zag Libre*, date undetermined
12. *Zig-Zag Libre*, January 9, 1959
13. *El Avance Criollo*, January 8. 1959

Accrual, August 2024

Box 1, folder 9 – Certificate of attendance, public evening schools for Caridad Garcia

Accrual, October 2024

Box 1, folder

- 1) Cuban passport, Garcia, Caridad Del Carmen Utria Sera [before marriage to Garcia]
- 2) Selective Service System, certificate of fitness (rejected), Luciano Fausto Garcia, 03-30-1944
- 3) Selective Service, classification cards, 1943-1945
- 4) Hand written list of Luciano and Caridad Garcia's employers: Jenkins Bros for Luciano F. Garcia. Caridad lists many jobs. L. Garcia wrote in a figure on the far right of the list that appears to be their yearly income.