

**Merl E. Eisenhart Collection**  
**Adams County Historical Society**

**ACCESSION #:** 8744

**LOCATION:** Room 203 – Rack 3 – Shelf C

**PREFACE**

The Adams County Historical Society was established to “foster interest in the history of Adams County and vicinity, conduct research, preserve records and objects, mark sites, and pursue such activities as may be related to the history of the community”. The Society’s collections are privately held, maintained, and made available to the public for research purposes at the discretion of the governing authority of the institution and its staff.

**INTRODUCTION**

The Merl E. Eisenhart Collection was acquired by the Adams County Historical Society in 1999 from Mae Kuntz. It was processed by Julian Newton Weiss in 2013.

The collection would be useful for researching how the Boy Scouts of America rewards its lifetime members and leaders, or the practices of the BSA during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**ACCESS**

This collection is open for research, and viewing access to the materials is unrestricted. However, restrictions apply concerning the use, duplication, or publication of items. Please consult research room staff for specific information regarding the Society’s policies.

**PREFERRED CITATION**

Merl E. Eisenhart Collection, Adams County Historical Society, Gettysburg, PA.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Merl Eugene Eisenhart (6 October 1922 – 25 August 1997) was born in York Springs to Nellie Mae Huff and Curtis Eisenhart. He lived at 2845 Old Carlisle Road in Gardner’s. Merl served in the US Air Force in World War II, and soon after his return married Esther Romaine Arnsberger on 3 May 1946 in Biglerville. Merl worked at the Mechanicsburg Naval Depot until his retirement in 1979. He was a member of the Christ Lutheran Church, Aspers, the Ira E. Lady American Legion Post 262, Biglerville, the National Association of Retired Federal Employees, the Biglerville Historical and Preservation Society, the York Springs Senior Citizens, and the Aspers Fire Company. He worked his way up in Troop 75 of the Boy Scouts of America to become Scoutmaster between 1959 and 1985. Upon his death he had two sons, Gregory L.

Eisenhart and Daniel E. Eisenhart, and three granddaughters. He was buried in the Wenksville Cemetery, and requested donations to be sent in his honor to the Boy Scouts of America, York-Adams Area Council.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection contains pictures, awards, and personal artifacts relating to the Boy Scouts of America from 1962 – 1985 in one series and one box.

## **SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Series I – Plaques and certificates.**

This series consists of a Merl's effects pertaining to the Boy Scouts and Troop No. 75. It contains several plaques, tiles, and certificates for training, winning, and attending events for the BSA. It also contains one picture of what is presumably Jesus and his personal neckerchief, and a craft ceramic arrowhead.

## **CONTAINER LISTING**

### **Box #1**

#### **Folder #1**

- 1-1.1** Certificate for completion of the Scouter's Key Training Recognition Plan, 1962
- 1-1.2** Certificate for completion of Wood Badge Training, 1963
- 1-1.3** Certificate for participation in Boy Scout Leader Instruction Training, 1967
- 1-1.4** Painting of Jesus looking out over a body of water
- 1-1.5** Picture of Merl E. Eisenhart and Raymond Edward Zartman holding Silver Beaver awards, 1972
- 1-1.6** Neckerchief

#### **Misc. Items**

- 1-1.7** Ceramic Craft Arrowhead, inscripted 12 – P2 Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, N.M.
- 1-1.8** Tile, ceramic, inscripted York-Adams Area Council Golden Anniversary, 1917 1967
- 1-1.9** Plaque, wood, BSA – Be Prepared to Merl E. Eisenhart For His Dedication as Scoutmaster of Troop No. 75 For Many Years

**1-1.10** Picture with stand, “In grateful recognition of services rendered to Scouting,” on back  
“Presented for Winning 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in Gateways During Seovy Centennial by Black Walnut  
District,” 1963

**1-1.11** Plaque on wood for Recognition of Services to Boy Scout Troop No. 75 from 1958 - 1985