

## DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS OF AMERICA

Papers, 1972-1983  
(predominantly 1979-1981)

2.75 linear feet

Accession Number 1161  
L.C. Number MS

The Papers of the Democratic Socialists of America were placed in the Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs in January of 1984 and were opened for research in April of 1990.

The Democratic Socialists of America, also known as DSA, received its name in 1982 after the merger of the Democratic Socialists Organizing Committee, also known as DSOC, and the New American Movement, also known as NAM. The 1982 merger was not without debate, and resolution among members of DSOC. The collection is indicative of the mandate of the DSA, as well as their stand on social issues and labor issues, and reflects the general workings of the Detroit local before, during and after the merger, showing the evolution of the group.

The collection also reflects, to a letter degree, the views of the volunteers working within the DSA at both the National and Local levels.

Important subjects covered in the collection are:

- The 1982 DSOC/NAM merger
- Pole town
- The Latin American Dilemma
- City of Detroit Task Force on Room and Board Homes 1981-1982

Among the important correspondents are:

- Raymond E. Majerus Irving
- Bluestone Michael
- Harrington Jim Chapin

An index to subjects and correspondents will be found on p. 9

-2-

Contents

6 manuscript boxes

Series I, Published and Unpublished Materials, 1972-1983

Sub series A: Published Materials, 1972-1983, boxes 1-2.

Journal, newspaper and magazine articles, advertisements, newsletters, and serials concerning democratic socialism and related issues.

Sub series B: Unpublished Materials n.d., box 2.

Speeches regarding the democratic socialistic movement, class struggle, the labor movement and other related issues.

Series II, Organizational Files, 1974-1982, box 3.

Sub series A: Detroit Local Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee (DSOC), 1974-1981

Meeting agendas, minutes, reports, and other committee files.

Sub series B: National DSOC, 1977-1982

Meeting agendas, minutes, reports and other committee files.

Sub series C: Democratic Agenda, 1980-1982

Reports, resolutions and proposals on the Democratic Agenda and Politics in the U.S.

Sub series D: Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee/New American Movement (DSOC/NAM), 1980-1982

Reports, correspondence, merger ballots, and newsletter regarding the merger of the DSOC and NAM, including conflicts and resolutions between the two groups.

Sub series E: Democratic Socialists of America, 1982

Series II cont.

Correspondence, newsletters, and invitations regarding this new group consisting of the merged DSOC and NAM.

Sub series F: Bylaws and Constitutions, 1979

Bylaws and constitutions of the Detroit DSOC and the Michigan DSOC, the Constitution of the Youth Section (DSOC) and the proposed changes in the constitution and Bylaws regarding merger.

Series III, General Office Files, 1973-1983, boxes 4-6.

Sub series A: Correspondence

Correspondence relating to DSOC locals, membership and other matters regarding general management.

Sub series B: Conferences/Conventions, 1979-1982

Records, forms and other materials relating to conferences and conventions at both the local and national levels.

Sub series C: General, other

Other files relating to DSA\*

Non-manuscript materials:

1 photograph relating to the Debs-Thomas Dinner Award (Raymond E. Majerus) has been placed in the Archives Audio-Visual Collection. Numerous serials and newsletters received with this collection are available in the Archives Library. Also, 2 photographs of a DSOC rally, taken something before the ERA bill lost.

\*DSA = formerly DSOC/NAM, formerly DSOC

-4-

Series I  
Published and Unpublished Materials, 1972-1983  
Boxes 1-2

This series is divided into the following two sub series:

Sub series A: Published Materials, 1972-1983, Box 1

Articles from journals, newspapers and magazines, advertisements, newsletters and serials concerning democratic socialism and related issues. Files are arranged alphabetically, and then chronologically within the files.

Sub series B: Unpublished Materials n.d., Box 1

Speeches regarding the democratic socialistic movement, class struggle, the labor movement, and other related issues.

Sub series A: Published Materials, 1972-1983

Box 1

- 1-2. Ads, Forms, Flyers, n.d.
- 3-7. Articles: Journal, newspaper, magazine, 1972-1981
- 8-14. Newsletters, 1977-1983

Box 2

- 1. Newsletters/Serials: Other, 1981-1982
- 2-7. Serials, 1979-1983

Sub series B: Unpublished Materials, n.d.

Box 2

- 8. Speeches, n.d.

- 5 -

Series II  
Organizational Files, 1974-1982 (not inclusive)  
Box 3

This series is divided into the following six sub series:

Sub series A: Detroit Local Democratic Socialist Organizing  
Committee (DSOC), 1974-1981 (not inclusive), Box 3

Meeting agendas, minutes, reports, and other  
committee files. Files are arranged  
alphabetically and then chronologically.

Sub series B: National DSOC, 1977-1982 (not inclusive), Box 3

Meeting agendas, minutes, reports and other  
committee files. Files are arranged  
alphabetically and then chronologically.

Sub series C: Democratic Agenda, 1980-1982, Box 3

Reports, resolutions and proposals on the  
Democratic Agenda and Politics in the U.S.

Sub series D: Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee/New  
American Movement (DSOC/NAM), 1980-1982, Box 3

Reports, correspondence, merger ballots and  
newsletter regarding the merger of the DSOC and  
NAM, including conflicts and resolutions between  
the two groups. Files are arranged alphabetically  
and then chronologically.

Sub series E: Democratic Socialists of America, 1982, Box 3

Correspondence, newsletters and invitations  
regarding this new group consisting of the merged  
DSOC and NAM.

Sub series F: Bylaws and Constitutions, 1979, Box 3

Bylaws and constitutions of the Detroit DSOC and  
the Michigan DSOC, the constitution of the Youth  
Section (DSOC) and the proposed changes in the  
constitution and Bylaws regarding merger.

Sub series A: Detroit Local Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee (DSOC),  
1974-1981

Box 3

- 1-2. Elections, 1981, 1982
- 3-4. Meetings: Agendas, Minutes, 1974-1982, 1980-1983
5. Office Committee, 1981
6. Treasurers Reports, 1979-1980
7. Youth Section Nov 1980-Aug 1982

Sub series B: National DSOC, 1977-1982 Box 3

8. Meetings: Agendas, Minutes, 1978-1982
- 9-12. Committee reports, 1980-1982, 1978-1981, 1981-1982
13. Other reports, 1977-1982

Sub series C: Democratic Agenda, 1980-1982 Box 3

14. Democratic agenda, 1980-1982

Sub series D: Democratic Socialists Organizing Committee/New American Movement  
(DSOC/NAM), 1980-1982

Box 3

- 15-16. Merger documentation, 1980-1982

Sub series E: Democratic Socialists of America, 1982

Box 3

17. Democratic Socialists of America file, 1982

Sub series F: Bylaws and Constitution, 1979

Box 3

18. Bylaws and Constitutions, 1979

- 7 -

Series III  
General Office Files, 1973-1983  
Boxes 4-6

This series is divided into the following three sub series:

Sub series A: Correspondence, 1978-1982, Box 4

Correspondence relating to DSOC locals, membership and other matters regarding general management. Files are arranged chronologically by category.

Sub series B: Conference/Conventions, 1979-1982, Boxes 4-5

Records, forms and other materials relating to conferences and conventions at both the local and national levels. Files are arranged alphabetically.

Sub series C: General, other, Boxes 5-6

Other files relating to DSA. Files are arranged alphabetically.

Sub series A: Correspondence, 1978-1982

Box 4

- 1-6. Correspondence: DSOC Locals
- 7. Correspondence: Michigan DSOC News, 1981
- 8-9. Correspondence: Membership, 1973-1980, 1981-1983
- 10-13. Correspondence: Other, 1978-1982
- 14. Correspondence: Key list, 1978-1982

Sub series B: Conferences/Conventions, 1979-1982 Box 4

- 15. Conferences, 1981-1982
- 16. Conferences and Conventions, 1980
- 17-22. Conventions, 1982

Box 5

- 1. Conventions, 1982
- 2. Convention/Conference: Other 1982

Sub series C: General other Box 5

3. Americans for Democratic Action (A.D.A.)/ 1980
4. Amnesty International, 1980
5. Bernstein, Jules, 1980
6. Carr, Bob: Articles on Congressman Jim Dunn, n.d.
7. Chapin, Harry, 1981
8. Challenge '80
9. Citizen Soldier, 1980
10. Citizens Concerned About A Healthy Economy, n.d.
11. Citizens Party: Michigan, 1981
12. Committee Against Registration and the Draft, 1981
13. Debs-Thomas Dinner Committee, 1980-1982
14. Detroiters for a Democratic Agenda, 1981
15. DSOC/NAM Merger Ballots, 1982
16. Feminist Commission, 1981-1982
17. Friends of the Family, 1982-1984
18. Funding Sources, n.d.
19. Gay/Lesbian Task Force, 1981
20. In These Times, 1980-1981
21. Institute for Democratic Socialism, 1981
22. Irish National Caucus, 1981
23. Labor Notes, 1980
- 24-26. Latin America, 1981
27. Michigan Avenue Community Organization (MACO), 1981
28. Mobilization Against the Draft (MAD), n.d.
29. National Organization for Women (NOW), 1980-1981
30. Pole town, 1980
31. Public Relations, n.d.

Box 6

- 1-2. Seniors, 1978-1982
3. Socialist Publications Commission, 1980-1981
4. Solidarity Day, 1981
5. Southeast Michigan Coalition on Occupational Health and Safety (SEMCOSH), 1978; 1981
6. Student Peace Mobilization Project, n.d.
- 7-8. Unions, 1980, 1981
9. Workers Resource Center, 1980
- 10-11. Youth for Seniors, 1980-1982



Index to Subjects

Bluestone, Irving, 5:8, 5:13  
Democratic Agenda, 3:8, 3:9, 3:14, 3:15, 4:22, 5:14  
DSOC/NAM Merger, 3:16, 4:22, 5:1, 5:13, 5:15  
El Salvador, 1:4, 5:24  
E.R.A., 5:16, 5:29  
Fermi II, 1:2  
Guatemala, 1:4, 5:25  
Majerus, Raymond E., 5:13, photo  
Nicaragua, 1:4, 5:26  
Poletown, 5:30  
Seniors, 6:1, 6:2, 6:10, 6:11  
War/Weapons, 1:2, 4:22, 5:9, 5:12, 5:28, 6:6  
Youth, 3:13, 3:18, 4:15, 6:10, 6:11