

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

Douglas Island Women's Club (Douglas, Alaska)

Records of the Douglas Island Women's Club, 1915-1974

MS 099

7 boxes
4.8 linear ft.

Processed By: Verda Carey
December 1989

Provenance: Verda Carey, former president of DIWC, stored these records in her home through 1987, when she gave them to the Alaska Historical Library.

Access: The collection is unrestricted.

Copyright: Request for permission to publish material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

Processing: Verda Carey volunteered her time to process this collection.

INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

On May 4, 1915, a group of Douglas, Alaska, women organized the Douglas Island Woman's Club. The club was to play an active role in the community until the early 1970's. Throughout the years, its aim was to give women an opportunity to get acquainted with the community and each other, to exchange ideas and discuss problems, and to sponsor and promote projects to make the community a better place to live.

The Douglas Island Woman's Club was affiliated with state and national organizations. In 1917, the Alaska Federation of Women's Clubs was organized and the Douglas Club became a

member. During the same year the club also joined the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

In pursuing its goals as an organization supporting both personal and community well-being, the Douglas Island Women's Club engaged in many activities. During both World War I and II, club members helped with Red Cross projects. After the disastrous fires of 1926 and 1937, members donated money for fire victims. Civic activities which received continuing support were the annual spring clean-up; the Fourth of July float; Operation Big-Sweep, a statewide cleanup effort; and the monitoring of state legislation of interest to women. Annual social events included the get-acquainted tea and a party for legislative wives and women legislators.

Over the years, community improvement projects included the following:

Organizing of a public library, 1943

Devising a house numbering system, 1955 - 1956

Assisting in the renovation of the Juneau Receiving Home, 1962 - 1963

Publishing a Douglas City Directory, 1956-1959

Purchasing playground equipment for the Gastineau Elementary School, 1960

With the growth of other clubs and activities for women and the trend toward women working outside of the home, interest in club activities began to decline in the early 1970's. The club did not so much disband as die out. In the last recorded meeting of November 11, 1974, at Mamie Jensen's home, nine members formally discontinued the by then inactive Douglas Island Woman's Club.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

These papers of the Douglas Island Woman's Club are organized under three major series:

1. Douglas Island Woman's Club: activities, 1915 - 1974 (Box 1 - 5)

This material relates directly to the DIWC, including minutes, correspondence, treasurer's reports, press releases, scrapbooks of club activities, annual reports and project booklets.

2. Alaska Federation of Women's Clubs. (Box 6)

Materials received, including correspondence, newsletters, statewide convention material, reports, received by DIWC, 1953 -1972.

3. General Federation of Women's Clubs. (Box 7)

Materials received, including correspondence, officers, convention-related items, club project information such as plans for community improvement, convention materials, and a few publications, 1953 - 1970.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	<u>Contents and Dates</u>
Series 1: Douglas Island Woman's Club		
1	1-1	Correspondence, 1951 - 1954
	1-2	Correspondence, 1965 - 1966
	1-3	Correspondence, 1966 - 1967
	1-4	Correspondence, 1967 - 1968
	1-5	Correspondence, 1968 - 1988
	1-6	Press Releases, 1962 - 1970
2	2-1	Minutes, September 1927 - May 1940
	2-2	Minutes, September 1951 - May 1957
	2-3	Minutes, September 1957 - May 1965
	2-4	Members and membership survey: 1934 - 1968
	2-5	Ways and means; parliamentary procedures; meeting agendas, 1965 - 1966, Greater Juneau organization list, 1965.
	2-6 to 2-8	Financial records, including Ledger 1950-1951; Treasurer's Reports, 1954 - 1971 (broken); savings accounts, budgets for 1963-1964 and 1965 - 1966, correspondence, 1964 - 1970, cancelled checks.
	2-9	The Teen Age Club in Juneau Alaska. Meetings of Boards of Trustees. Director's Report (Zach Gordon), November 12, 1959 - October 15, 1964.
3	3-1	Douglas Island Woman's Club Annual Reports: 1956-1958; 1961-1964; 1966.
	3-2	Decade: 1920s-1950s; Club history, 4 undated editions.
	3-3	Program: Ideas, correspondence, printed material, 1915-1916 booklet.
	3-4	Social Events.
	3-5	Club Projects: Douglas clean-up; 4th of July, 1965; and 1967 Purchase Centennial events.
	3-6	Club Projects: Douglas Directories.
	3-7	Club Projects: C.I.P. (Community Improvement Project) printed information, 1958-1968.
	3-8	Club Projects: C.I.P. entries, 1955-1956.
	3-9	Club Projects: C.I.P. entries, 1958-1960 and 1960-1962 (two copies of each).
	3-10	Club Projects: C.I.P. entries, 1964-1966 and 1968-1970; 1966-1968 information and award.
	3-11	Club Projects: Shell Oil Education project and Mildred Hermann Scholarship award contest.
	3-12	Club Projects: Outstanding Young Woman contest, 1965-1967; C.A.R.E. Program, 1961-1968; Keep America Beautiful program, 1968.

- | | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| 4 | Scrapbook 1 | Clippings, meeting notice, party invitation, photos, greeting cards, convention program, 1939-1950. |
| | Scrapbook 2 | Newspaper clippings of club news, photos of club members and friends, convention program, etc. 1950-1958. |
| 5 | Scrapbook 3 | C.I.P. and C.A.R.E. awards, newspaper clippings of club events, photographs of club members, local, state and national, 1958-1967. |
| | Guest Register | Guests at special club events, 1962-1974. |

Series 2: Alaska Federation of Women's Clubs

- | | | |
|---|------|---|
| 6 | 6-1 | State president's communications to local clubs, correspondence: 1962-1963, 1967-1970 official stationery. |
| | 6-2 | Lists of federal, state and local officers, 1953, 1964-1965, 1968-1970. 1967 club reports from college Fairbanks and Hamilton Acres (Fairbanks); newspaper clippings, 1968, 1970; 1966-1968 citations for "Club Woman" subscriptions. |
| | 6-3 | Newsletters, 1953, 1956, 1964-1969; Directories 1961-1964, 1966-1968, 1969; "Alaska Clubwoman", 1970-1972. |
| | 6-4 | Department Reports: C.A.R.E., C.I.P. and Conservation. |
| | 6-5 | Department Reports: Education and Fine Arts |
| | 6-6 | Department Reports: International Affairs and Legislation. |
| | 6-7 | Minutes of Board of Directors meetings: May 1958, May and September, 1962. |
| | 6-8 | State Convention Material:
1955 1st annual: Constitution and By-Laws. |
| | - | 1956 1st Biennial: official call, minutes, program, resolutions. |
| | - | 1958 Program |
| | - | 1960 Official Call |
| | - | 1962 Program, amended constitution and By-Laws |
| | - | 1964 Official Call, program, registration information. |
| | 6-9 | State Convention Material:
1966 Program, list of delegates, board of director's meeting and convention minutes. |
| | - | 1968 Official Call, program, president's report, convention minutes, newspaper clipping. |
| | - | 1970 Official Call and program. |
| | - | 1972 Official Call. |
| | 6-10 | District Meetings |
| | - | Southeast District 1965 Program, related correspondence. |
| | - | 1967 Minutes, Douglas Island Woman's Club report to the meeting. |
| | - | 1969 Official Call, registration information, program, minutes, pre-meeting correspondence, clipping, photo. |

- Central District 1967 Minutes.

Series 3: National Federation of Women's Clubs

- | | | |
|---|-----|--|
| 7 | 7-1 | Correspondence, officer lists, guides: 1958-1967 collect; literacy for clubwomen; "Club Woman" subscriptions by state, 1966-1968. |
| | 7-2 | Call to Convention, 1966-1969; Convention Handbook, 1967; Convention Resolutions to 1970; Constitution and By-Laws, 1957 and 1964. |
| | 7-3 | Sponsored Projects: C.I.P.; outstanding Young Women of America; Clean Air; Literacy; Education; Mass Media; U.N.I.C.E.F.; Radio Free Europe; C.A.R.E.; Business for Beauty; Clean Up-Paint Up-Fix Up; Art; Family; Senior Citizens, and "Pap" Tests. |
| | 7-4 | Printed material and program suggestions. |
| | 7-5 | Western States Conferences, 1968-1970.
Unity In Diversity, The History of the General Federation of Women's Clubs by Mildred White Wells, 1953. |