



University of Missouri Fortnightly Club Records (C3670)

Collection Number: C3670

Collection Title: University of Missouri Fortnightly Club Records

Dates: 1894-2022

Creator: Fortnightly Club (Columbia, Mo.)

Abstract: The records of the Fortnightly Club, a women's organization for wives of University of Missouri faculty and female faculty members, which consist of materials surrounding membership and recruitment, finances, board meetings, committees and interest groups, and events and trips. Also included are bulletins and newsletters published by the group.

Collection Size: 4.4 cubic feet, 34 oversize volumes, 2 card files, 1 video cassette, 3 audio cassettes
(77 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *University of Missouri Fortnightly Club Records* (C3670); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The records were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by various members of the University of Missouri Fortnightly Club from 1939-2022. See reference staff for more details.

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the *University of Missouri Fortnightly Club Records* can be found in the following collections:

[Doris Crump Bradshaw Papers, \(C3303\)](#)

[University of Missouri, College of Agriculture, Resident Wives Club Records, \(C4436\)](#)

[University of Missouri Fortnightly Club Records \(CA6677\)](#)

Processed by: Processed by Rob Smith on July 13, 1981. Finding aid revised by Aleksandra Kinlen on August 17, 2021, and by Elizabeth Engel on September 6, 2022.

Historical Note:

The Fortnightly Club was formed on October 12, 1891, as a group of University of Missouri professors' wives. Mrs. Edward A. Allen was chosen the first chairman and Mrs. Richard H. Jesse, the wife of the president of the university, was made honorary president. The club met on alternate Wednesday afternoons, thus the name "Fortnightly Club," and had twenty members in its inaugural year. The club formulated its constitution and bylaws in 1895, with an objective to unite ladies of the faculty of the University of Missouri in practical culture work and to interest itself in the social and moral welfare of the students at the university. The second goal was soon clarified to be a concern with the welfare of female students. In addition to the wives of junior and full professors, membership was broadened to include ladies who were members of the faculty, wives of the members of the board of curators, and female relatives of the unmarried men on the faculty. The wife of the university president continued to serve as the honorary president of the Fortnightly Club, while the chairman was elected by the members.

Early program topics included Shakespeare's plays, the role of women in the world, notable citizens of other countries, and the crisis of the World War I. The Fortnightly Club established three scholarships for female students between 1910 and 1927, and they began the University of Missouri Fortnightly Club Loan Fund in 1932. An important social event was the fall reception, held at the home of the president of the university. Gala parties or "fun fairs" were held occasionally, such as the 1936 "Le Jardin Public" in which Read Hall was converted into a Parisian park. Programs were also held jointly with the University Club, which included the husbands of Fortnightly members.

From 1907 to the spring of 1939 Read Hall housed the Fortnightly Club; however, when the university began to remodel the building for a student union, the women met in a variety of locations until settling in Memorial Union in 1963. The Fortnightly Club joined the State Federation of Women's Clubs in 1893 and the General Federation of Women's Clubs in 1904. In 1899, the State Federation held its annual meeting in Columbia with Fortnightly Club as joint host; however, in 1939, after several years of debate, the Fortnightly Club withdrew from the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

In 1935, the Newcomers' Division was formed for new members of Fortnightly. According to the history of the Fortnightly Club, "from the first, newcomers seemed more socially minded (in both senses of the term) than the parent group." The new division was organized for those in their first two years of club membership and some control was exercised over its activities by senior Fortnightly officers and committees. Numerous interest groups evolved from the Newcomer' Division and were formalized as open to all Fortnightly members.

Developments in the 1960s included the addition of the university chancellor's wife as honorary president alongside university president's wife and a new constitution was adopted in 1967. Among the activities of the club throughout this period were a "Faculty Fiesta," "Station EMLER-TV" and "A Night at the Opera." The diamond jubilee year of Fortnightly was celebrated with a "Parade of 75 Years of Fashions" in 1968. In 1992 they celebrated their hundred-year anniversary with a special gala. Since its founding, the Fortnightly Club has

remained a prestigious, active, and highly organized women's organization and continues to be so today.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following four series:

Records
Scrapbooks
Card Files
Audiovisual

Scope and Content Note:**Records**

This series includes the bulk of the records from the club, such as information regarding newcomers, membership, and recruitment; bulletins; finances; correspondence, board meetings and minutes; governance and reports; committees and interest groups; and events and trips. The records are arranged chronologically by academic year (i.e., 2010-2011, 2011-2012, etc.). Between the 1890s and the 1940s, when records are not abundant enough to warrant organizing by each academic year, records are arranged by decade. Ledgers and small notebooks in this series that cover more than one year are placed according to the decade of the first entry.

Of note are following materials: f. 27, which covers the diamond jubilee and includes copies of the 1892-1967 history; f. 61 and f. 62 that showcase the immense preparation and results of the highly successful fundraising gala in February 2006; f. 63 that includes the Fortnightly Favorites cookbook; f. 70 that holds a copy of the 1967-2012 history; and f. 74 and f. 76-77 that contain the 2013-2014 and the 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 scrapbooks/photo books, respectively.

Scrapbooks

This series consists of 34 scrapbooks created by club historians from 1959-2013 and includes albums from the Gourmet Study Group as well as the main organization. The Gourmet Study Group albums are v. 5 (1968-1971), v. 6 (1968-1973), v. 8 (1974-1983), v. 11 (1983-1992), and v. 14 (1992-1996) and contain calendars and event information, recipes, correspondence, membership rules and member lists, menus, committee information, photographs, and announcements.

The remainder of the albums record the overarching organization and contain information regarding interest groups, events and trips, scholarship recipients, members and meetings, bylaws and chairpersons, newsletters, and photographs. These albums also include clippings, especially in the earlier years of the organization when board meetings were announced in local papers. Of note are v. 4 (1966-1967) and v. 13 (1992-1993), which include the 75th and 100th anniversary celebrations, respectively. The scrapbooks are arranged chronologically by start date, since some ranges overlap (e.g., v. 1 1959-1965 and v. 2 1963-1976).

Card Files

The series contains a set of two card file boxes, which indicate cumulative membership information from the 1930s-1980s.

Audiovisual

This series contains one video cassette, which provides footage of the October 16, 1992, centennial gala and April 27, 1993, spring luncheon skit. Further, there are three audio cassettes containing oral history interviews with various members reminiscing about club history recorded on September 12, 1996, and March 13, 1997.

Container List:

Records Series

- f. 1 1890s-1900s, programs, membership, articles, constitution, and by-laws
- f. 2 Record books, 1907-1909, 1923-1924, includes membership, minutes, and dues
- f. 3 1910s, programs, treasurer reports, financial statements
- f. 4 1920s, membership
- f. 5-7 1920s, Minute books
- f. 8-11 1930s
 - f. 8 Membership, correspondence, programs, financial statement, 1937, executive meeting minutes, 1939
 - f. 9 Minutes, 1935
 - f. 10 Minutes, 1936-1942
 - f. 11 Membership book, 1935-1942
- f. 12-16 1940s
 - f. 12 Financial statement, treasurer reports, programs, committee reports, petitions, Annual Report of the Newcomer Division, 1949
 - f. 13 Minutes, 1941-1945
 - f. 14 Minutes, 1942-1949
 - f. 15 Minutes, 1945-1957
 - f. 16 Minutes, 1949-1957, Treasurer's Report, 1949-1955
- f. 17-23 1950s
 - f. 17 Financial statements, committee reports, programs, annual reports of the treasurer, 1950-1954
 - f. 18 Annual reports of the treasurer, minutes, 1955, correspondence, committee reports, programs, membership, 1954-1959
 - f. 19 Membership, constitution, annual report, committee reports, 1959-1960
 - f. 20 Treasurer's ledger, 1955-1972, Newcomer's report, 1950-1955
 - f. 21 Newcomer's Division ledger, 1957-1979
 - f. 22 Membership, 1957-1958, Record book, 1942-1959-includes membership, treasurer reports, annual reports
 - f. 23 Membership book including treasurer reports and annual reports, 1959-1974
- f. 24-29 1960s

- f. 24 Membership, programs, financial statements, committee reports, vice-president reports, 1960-1963
- f. 25 Membership, committee, treasurer, director and president reports, programs, 1963-1965
- f. 26 Membership, programs, treasurer report, committee and president reports, amendments to by-laws, 1965-1967
- f. 27 Membership, Diamond Jubilee, Treasurer report, Constitution and by-laws, committee reports, 1967-1968, and "Fortnightly Club, 1892-1967"
- f. 28 Membership, committee reports, budget, 1968-1969
- f. 29 Membership, articles of incorporation, committee reports, budget, Board meeting minutes, committee assignments, president report, 1969-1970
- f. 30 Meeting minutes, membership, 1960s (ledger)
- f. 31-39 1970s
- f. 31 Membership, Fortnightly Club's Newsletter, board meeting minutes, committee reports, budget, programs, 1970-1971
- f. 32 Newcomer Division, Fortnightly Club's Newsletter, budget, board meeting minutes, treasurer's report, committee reports, programs, 1971-1972
- f. 33 Membership, Fortnightly Club's Newsletter, budget, committee reports, board meeting minutes, programs, 1972-1973
- f. 34 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, board meeting minutes, committee reports, programs, 1973-1974
- f. 35 Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, board meeting minutes, committee president reports, 1974-1975
- f. 36 Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, board meeting minutes, committee reports, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, board meeting minutes, committee reports, report of vice-president, 1975-1976
- f. 37 Scholarship report, budget, By-Laws, annual report, 1976-1978
- f. 38 Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, annual meeting, committee reports, treasurer's report, 1978-1979
- f. 39 Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, treasurer report, committee reports, board meeting minutes, 2nd vice-president report, By-Laws, 1979-1980
- f. 40-45 1980s
- f. 40 Newcomers, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, annual report, vice-president report, committee reports, 1980-1981
- f. 41 Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, annual report, committee reports, 1981-1982
- f. 42 Membership, Newsletter, Oct. 10, 1982, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, 2nd vice-president report, program committee, 1982-1983
- f. 43 Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, business meeting, 2nd vice-president report, board meeting minutes, 1983-1984; 1987-1988
- f. 44 Membership, budget, board meeting minutes, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, treasurer's report, committee reports, 1988-1989

- f. 45 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, executive and regular board meeting minutes, annual report, 1989-1990
- f. 46-55 1990s
- f. 46 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, treasurer's report, executive and regular board meeting minutes, committee reports, 1990-1991
- f. 47 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, proposed by-law changes, annual reports, 1991-1992
- f. 48 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, treasurer's duties and report, board meeting minutes, 100th birthday gala report, membership chair cuties, historian report for centennial year, 1992-1993
- f. 49 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, committee reports, vice-president report, 1993-1994
- f. 50 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, vice-president's report, annual report, 1994-1995
- f. 51 Membership, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, annual report, president's report, committee reports, 1995-1996
- f. 52 Membership, budget, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, annual meeting, fall reception, 1996-1997
- f. 53 Membership, by-laws and articles, budget, treasurer's report, annual business meeting, board meeting minutes, committee reports, 1997-1998
- f. 54 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, board meeting minutes, , annual business meeting, committee reports, 1998-1999
- f. 55 Membership, budget, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, committee reports, 1999-2000
- f. 56-67 2000s
- f. 56 Membership, budget, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, committee reports, vice-president report, 2000-2001
- f. 57 Membership, budget, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, committee reports, Fortnightly reception, 2001-2002
- f. 58 Membership, budget, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, committee reports, annual report of the secretary, 2002-2003
- f. 59 Membership, budget, income and expenses, board meeting minutes, business meeting, 2003-2004
- f. 60 Membership, income and expenses, board meeting minutes, committee reports, location and listing of Fortnightly items, 2004-2005
- f. 61 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, income and expenses, board meeting minutes, annual business meeting, recommended changes to by-laws, committee reports, 2005-2006
- f. 62 Scholarship event and gala, 2006-2007
- f. 63 Fortnightly Favorites cookbook, 2006
- f. 64 Newcomers welcome tea and reception, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, treasurer's report, board meeting minutes, committee reports, 2006-2007

- f. 65 Membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, income and expense, board meeting minutes, committee reports, 2007-2008
- f. 66 Fall reception and welcome tea, membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, income and expense, board meeting minutes, Scholarship reports, annual reports, communications report, 2008-2009
- f. 67 Fall reception and tea, membership, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, income and expenses, board meeting minutes, membership meeting, oath for officers, articles, vice-president report, committee reports, 2009-2010
- f. 68-77 2010s
- f. 68 Membership, brochure, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, budget, income and expense, board meeting minutes, annual business meeting, committee reports, job descriptions, vice-president report, 2010-2011
- f. 69 Membership, fall welcome reception, Fortnightly Club Bulletin, audit of financial records, board meeting minutes, committee reports, annual business meeting, 2011-2012
- f. 70-71 Membership, "Fortnightly" 1967-2012 publication, job descriptions, minutes, 2012-2013
- f. 72 Board meeting minutes, 2013-2014
- f. 73 Newsletters, 2013-2014
- f. 74 Officers and committees, reports, audit, photo book, 2013-2014
- f. 75 Membership, newsletters, budget, board meeting minutes, reports, 2014-2015
- f. 76 Membership, "In Memoriam" lists, photo books, 2016-2020
- f. 77 Photo books, 2020-2022

Scrapbooks

- v. 1 1959-1965
- v. 2 1963-1976
- v. 3 1965-1966
- v. 4 1966-1967, 75th Anniversary
- v. 5 1968-1971, Gourmet Study Group
- v. 6 1968-1973, Gourmet Study Group
- v. 7 1969-1971
- v. 8 1974-1983, Gourmet Study Group
- v. 9 1977-1981
- v. 10 1981-1985
- v. 11 1983-1992, Gourmet Study Group
- v. 12 1985-1992
- v. 13 1992-1993, 100th Anniversary
- v. 14 1992-1996, Gourmet Study Group
- v. 15 1993-1994
- v. 16 1994-1995
- v. 17 1995-1996
- v. 18 1996-1997
- v. 19 1997-1998
- v. 20 1998-1999

v. 21	1999-2000
v. 22	2000-2001
v. 23	2001-2002
v. 24	2002-2003
v. 25	2003-2004
v. 26	2004-2005
v. 27	2005-2006
v. 28	2006-2007
v. 29	2007-2008
v. 30	2008-2009
v. 31	2009-2010
v. 32	2010-2011
v. 33	2011-2012
v. 34	2012-2013

Card Files Series

c.f. 1	Membership, A-S, 1930s-1980s
c.f. 2	Membership, T-Z, 1930s-1980s

Audiovisual Series

v.c. 1	October 16, 1991, centennial gala and April 27, 1993, spring luncheon skit
a.c. 1-3	September 12, 1996, and March 13, 1997, oral history interviews

Index:

Index Terms	Folders	Other	Image
Allen, Priscilla A., 1850-1947	f. 4-16		
Columbia (Mo.). University--Societies, etc.	f. 1-77	v. 1-34; c.f. 1, 2; v.c. 1; a.c. 1-3	
Curtis, Marian Hitchcock	26		
Defore, Cora Eitzen	12		
Ellis, Ruth C., 1902-2000		v. 1, 3, 4	Yes
Faurot, Mary F., 1906-2004	f. 4-16		
Faurot, Mary F., 1906-2004		v. 1	Yes
Fortnightly Club (Columbia, Mo.)--History	f. 1-77	v. 1-34; c.f. 1, 2; v.c. 1; a.c. 1-3	
General Federation of Women's Clubs	f. 1-7		
Middlebush, Catherine P., 1891-1975	f. 4-16		
Mott, Vera I., 1885-1964		v. 3	Yes
Rabjohn, Dora T., 1914-2005		v. 1, 4	Yes
State Federation of Women's Clubs (Mo.)	f. 1-7		
Women--Societies and clubs	f. 1-77	v. 1-34; c.f. 1, 2; v.c. 1; a.c. 1-3	