



## Boone County (Mo.) Muleskinners Records (C4781)

**Collection Number:** C4781

**Collection Title:** Boone County (Mo.) Muleskinners Records

**Dates:** 1985-2015

**Creator:** Boone County Muleskinners

**Abstract:** Assorted records which include programs, meeting minutes, press releases, membership lists, correspondence, newsletters, and annual reports of the Boone County, Democratic organization.

**Collection Size:** 0.4 cubic feet, 1 audio cassette  
(10 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](https://www.shsmo.org/research-center-columbia). If you would like more information, please contact us at [columbia@shsmo.org](mailto:columbia@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

**Restrictions on Use:** The donor has given and assigned to the Society all rights of copyright, which the donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Boone County (Mo.) Muleskinners Records* (C4781); 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 Diane Booth on January 28, 2010 (Accession No. CA6228). Additional material was donated by Leslie Clay on March 21, 2013 and May 23, 2017.

**Processed by:** Processed by Jacob Neal, December 19, 2025.

### Historical Note:

The Muleskinners, a Democratic party support group, was started in 1974 by Harold Riback as a way for local democrats not associated with the Central Committee to meet and promote the

party. The group originally met monthly at the former Tiger Hotel, where the members would have lunch and listen to a speaker. One of the first Muleskinners presidents was Warren Welliver, who later became a State Senator and Missouri Supreme Court judge. Other early members included former State Representatives Bob Smith, Larry Woods, and Margot Patterson, and former State Senator Vanlandingham.

The early Muleskinners contributed to the successful election of Democratic county officials in 1976 and 1978 including Richard Farmer, Roger Wilson, Kay Murray, Joe Mosely, Bettie Johnson, and Chris Kelly. After the death of Harold Riback, the Muleskinners became less active until they stopped meeting in 1979.

In 1983, the Muleskinners were revived through the combined efforts of Boone County Democrats and local elected officials including Chris Kelly, Ken Jacob, Wendy Noren, Viva Spier, Norma Robb, and Hazel Riback. They host forums that highlight Democratic candidates for office. In addition, programming focuses on providing relevant information on government, public administration, and public policy. Over the years, it has been commonplace for Boone County's Democratic candidates to announce their candidacies at Muleskinners meetings.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following series:

Records

**Scope and Content Note:****Records**

This series contains schedules, meeting notes, newspaper clippings, program flyers and candidate support, correspondence, press releases, resolutions, meeting agendas, bylaws, member mailing lists, stump speaking book, history of the organization, and speeches. The records were kept in their original order and are arranged by date. Included is one micro audio cassette tape of a speech given by Margot Patterson Lubensky.

**Container List:**

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| f. 1   | Records, 1985-1992   |
| f. 2   | Bylaws for Boone County Muleskinners, 1987-2007                  |
| f. 3   | Muleskinners Mailing Database, 1989-2004                         |
| f. 4   | 1976 Boone County Stump Speaking Book, June 7, 1990              |
| f. 5   | Records 1993-2000  |
| f. 6   | Records, 2000-2004   |
| f. 7   | Records, 2004-2007   |
| f. 8   | Records, 2007-2009   |
| f. 9   | Records, 2010-2011   |
| f. 10  | Records, 2012-2015   |
| a.c. 1 | Margot Patterson Lubensky – Speech to Muleskinners, June 3, 2005 |

**Index:**

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Boone County Democratic Central Committee	1-10
Boone County Democrats	4-7, 10
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